HISTORY, B.A. (BEHREND)

Begin Campus: Any Penn State Campus

End Campus: Erie

Program Description

The B.A. degree program in History focuses on the study of the evolution of American and European institutions. This program enables students to pursue history in the traditional mode as a study of written records.

What is History?

History offers a compelling vision of human activity and capability- from the heights of human creativity and compassion, to the depths of cruelty. It offers a unique analytical perspective on the world, too, because it brings to bear a comprehensive view that social-science disciplines seldom match. To understand history, we need to know about culture, religion, art, as well as politics and war. The study of history permits a breadth of knowledge, an understanding of trends, and many other intellectual perspectives that allow an individual to better comprehend today’s complex world.

You Might Like This Major If...

- You want your college experience to satisfy your love of history and the humanities while preparing you for future endeavors.
- You are eager to improve your knowledge of the historical background that will help you to better understand current events.
- You are looking for a foundational degree program that is useful in many different career paths.
- You are fascinated by North American, South American, Central American, European, African, or Asian history.
- You dig archaeology and anthropology.

Entrance to Major

In order to be eligible for entrance to this major, a student must:

1. attain at least a C (2.00) cumulative grade-point average for all courses taken at the University; and
2. have third-semester classification (http://www.registrar.psu.edu/registration/semester_classification.cfm).

READ SENATE POLICY 37-30: ENTRANCE TO AND CHANGES IN MAJOR PROGRAMS OF STUDY (http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/37-00-entrance-to-a-college-or-major)

Degree Requirements

For the Bachelor of Arts degree in History, a minimum of 124 credits is required:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts Requirements</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Requirements for the Major</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General Education

Connecting career and curiosity, the General Education curriculum provides the opportunity for students to acquire transferable skills necessary to be successful in the future and to thrive while living in interconnected contexts. General Education aids students in developing intellectual curiosity, a strengthened ability to think, and a deeper sense of aesthetic appreciation. These are requirements for all baccalaureate students and are often partially incorporated into the requirements of a program. For additional information, see the General Education Requirements (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/baccalaureate-degree-general-education-program) section of the Bulletin and consult your academic adviser.

The keystone symbol appears next to the title of any course that is designated as a General Education course. Program requirements may also satisfy General Education requirements and vary for each program.

Foundations (grade of C or better is required.)

- Quantification (GQ): 6 credits
- Writing and Speaking (GWS): 9 credits

Knowledge Domains

- Arts (GA): 6 credits
- Health and Wellness (GHW): 3 credits
- Humanities (GH): 6 credits
- Social and Behavioral Sciences (GS): 6 credits
- Natural Sciences (GN): 9 credits

Integrative Studies (may also complete a Knowledge Domain requirement)

- Inter-Domain or Approved Linked Courses: 6 credits

3 of these 45 credits are included in the Requirements for the Major.

University Degree Requirements

First Year Engagement

All students enrolled in a college or the Division of Undergraduate Studies at University Park, and the World Campus are required to take 1 to 3 credits of the First-Year Seminar, as specified by their college First-Year Engagement Plan.

Other Penn State colleges and campuses may require the First-Year Seminar; colleges and campuses that do not require a First-Year Seminar provide students with a first-year engagement experience.

First-year baccalaureate students entering Penn State should consult their academic adviser for these requirements.

Cultures Requirement

6 credits are required and may satisfy other requirements

- United States Cultures: 3 credits
- International Cultures: 3 credits

Writing Across the Curriculum

3 credits required from the college of graduation and likely prescribed as part of major requirements.

Total Minimum Credits

A minimum of 120 degree credits must be earned for a baccalaureate degree. The requirements for some programs may exceed 120 credits. Students should consult with their college or department adviser for information on specific credit requirements.
Quality of Work
Candidates must complete the degree requirements for their major and earn at least a 2.00 grade-point average for all courses completed within their degree program.

Limitations on Source and Time for Credit Acquisition
The college dean or campus chancellor and program faculty may require up to 24 credits of course work in the major to be taken at the location or in the college or program where the degree is earned. Credit used toward degree programs may need to be earned from a particular source or within time constraints (see Senate Policy 83-80 [http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#83-80]). For more information, check the Suggested Academic Plan for your intended program.

B.A. Degree Requirements
Foreign Language (0-12 credits): Student must attain 12th credit level of proficiency in one foreign language. See the Placement Policy for Penn State Foreign Language Courses [http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information/#advisingandplanningadegreeprogramtext].

B.A. Fields (9 credits): Humanities, Social and Behavioral Sciences, Arts, Foreign Languages, Natural Sciences, Quantification (may not be taken in the area of the student’s primary major; foreign language credits in this category must be in a second foreign language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the first language)

Other Cultures (0-3 credits): Select 3 credits from approved list. Students may count courses in this category in order to meet other major, minor, elective, or General Education requirements, except for the General Education US/IL requirement.

3 of these 24 credits are included in the Requirements for the Major, General Education, or Electives and 0-12 credits are included in Electives if foreign language proficiency is demonstrated by examination.

Requirements for the Major
This includes 3 credits of General Education GWS courses.

Each student must earn at least a grade of C in each 300- and 400-level course in the major field.

To graduate, a student enrolled in the major must earn a grade of C or better in each course designated by the major as a C-required course, as specified by Senate Policy 82-44 [http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/82-00-and-83-00-degree-requirements/#82-44].

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 1</td>
<td>Western Civilization I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>or HIST 10</td>
<td>World History to 1500</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Select three of the following:</td>
<td></td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 1</td>
<td>Western Civilization I</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 2</td>
<td>The Western Heritage II</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 10</td>
<td>World History to 1500</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 11</td>
<td>World History since 1500</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 20</td>
<td>American Civilization to 1877</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 21</td>
<td>American Civilization Since 1877</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 202A</td>
<td>Effective Writing: Writing in the Social Sciences</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Program Learning Objectives
1. Master chronological thinking.
2. Master historical comprehension.
3. Master historical and historiographic analysis and written interpretation.
4. Demonstrate historical research capabilities built upon the analysis of primary and secondary sources.
5. Demonstrate skills in effective written communication.
6. Demonstrate skills in effective oral communication.

Academic Advising
The objectives of the university’s academic advising program are to help advisees identify and achieve their academic goals, to promote their intellectual discovery, and to encourage students to take advantage of both in-and out-of class educational opportunities in order that they become self-directed learners and decision makers.

Both advisers and advisees share responsibility for making the advising relationship succeed. By encouraging their advisees to become engaged in their education, to meet their educational goals, and to develop the habit of learning, advisers assume a significant educational role. The advisee’s unit of enrollment will provide each advisee with a primary academic adviser, the information need to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY [http://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy]

Erie
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Suggested Academic Plan
Erie Campus
The course series listed below provides only one of the many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The University may make changes in policies, procedures, educational offerings, and requirements at any time. This plan should be used in conjunction with your degree audit (accessible in LionPATH as either an Academic Requirements or What If report). Please consult with a Penn State academic adviser on a regular basis to develop and refine an academic plan that is appropriate for you.
**First Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Year Seminar</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>CAS 100†‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENGL 15†‡</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>HIST 10, HIST 2, or 21</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 11, HIST 1, or 20</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Foreign Language Level Two</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foreign Language Level One</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>1.5</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>16</td>
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**Second Year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>European History Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>ENGL 202A or 202B†‡</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 20, HIST 1, or 11</td>
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<td>HIST 21Y (or HIST 11 or HIST 2)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Language Level Three</td>
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<td>HIST 21, HIST 2, or 10</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Non-Western History or Anthropology Course</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td>16</td>
<td>18</td>
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**Third Year**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 301W*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>400-level HIST course*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American History Course</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>400-level HIST or ANTH course*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
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<td>3-4</td>
<td>General Education</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>General Education</td>
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**Fourth Year**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Fall</th>
<th>Credits</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>400-level HIST or ANTH course*</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>400-level HIST or ANTH course*</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA Knowledge Domain</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>BA Knowledge Domain</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>BA Knowledge Domain</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Cultures</td>
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<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 127-128

* Course requires a grade of C or better for the major
† Course requires a grade of C or better for General Education
# Course is an Entrance to Major requirement
†‡ Course satisfies General Education and degree requirement

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W, M, X, and Y are the suffixes at the end of a course number used to designate courses that satisfy University Writing Across the Curriculum requirement.

GWS, GQ, GHW, GN, GA, GH, and GS are abbreviations used to identify General Education program courses. General Education includes Foundations (GWS and GQ) and Knowledge Domains (GHW, GN, GA, GH, GS, and Integrative Studies). Foundations courses (GWS and GQ) require a grade of 'C' or better.

Integrative Studies courses are required for the General Education program. N is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate an Inter-Domain course and Z is the suffix at the end of a course number used to designate a Linked course.

**Bachelor of Arts Requirements:**

Bachelor of Arts students must take 9 credits in Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) Fields (Humanities; Social and Behavioral Sciences; Arts; World Languages [2nd language or beyond the 12th credit level of proficiency in the 1st]; Natural Sciences; Quantification). The B.A. Fields courses may not be taken in the area of the student's primary major. See your adviser and the Degree Requirements section (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-information/academic-information) of this Bulletin.

Bachelor of Arts students must take 3 credits in Other Cultures. See your adviser and the full list of courses approved as Other Cultures courses (http://bulletins.psu.edu/undergraduate/general-education/course-lists/ba-other-cultures).

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**Additional Notes**

**Academic Advising Notes:** The course series listed above is only one of many possible ways to move through this curriculum. The number of electives required varies per student. Please be sure to consult with an adviser about your intended plan.

**Career Paths**

Penn State Behrend has a comprehensive support system to help you identify and achieve your goals for college and beyond. Meet with your academic adviser often, talk with your history professors, and take advantage of the services offered by the Academic and Career Planning Center beginning in your first semester.

**Careers**

History is the foundation for many interesting career paths. Recent Penn State Behrend History graduates are employed in education, law, state
and local government, parks management, law enforcement, library and museum management, business, industry, ministry, the military, and information technology—a diverse and exciting set of occupations.

MORE INFORMATION (http://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-humanities-social-sciences/academic-programs/history)

Opportunities for Graduate Studies
Recent Penn State Behrend History graduates have pursued advanced education in history, law, secondary education, and library studies. The universities they’ve attended include University of Delaware, University of Minnesota, University of Virginia, University of Wisconsin, West Virginia University, University of Pennsylvania, Ohio State University, Marquette University, Michigan State University, Mercyhurst University, Duquesne University, SUNY Buffalo, University College London, and Scotland’s University of Edinburgh.

MORE INFORMATION (http://behrend.psu.edu/school-of-humanities-social-sciences/academic-programs/history)

Professional Resources
• American Historical Association (https://www.historians.org)
• National Council on Public History (http://ncph.org)
• Organization of American Historians (http://www.oah.org)
• Center for History and New Media (https://rrchnm.org)

Contact
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HumSocScl@psu.edu

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