HISTORY, MINOR (LIBERAL ARTS)

Requirements for a minor may be completed at any campus location offering the specified courses for the minor. Students may not change from a campus that offers their major to a campus that does not offer their major for the purpose of completing a minor.

Program Description

The minor in history is designed to complement a wide range of social studies and humanities majors by affording students the opportunity to examine change and development in human societies over time. Students are free to select courses in the topics (military history, social history, cultural history, etc.), geographical areas (the United States, Latin America, Europe, Asia, and Africa), and time periods that most suit their needs and interests. The requirements for entering the minor are fifth semester standing (eligible courses taken previously will count toward the minor) and having already declared a major.

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 Program If...

- You want to learn to assess the credibility of sources; in today’s media-rich environment, you will put this skill to work every day.
- You want to gain a deeper understanding of complex causalities; as a history student you will practice thinking about the significance of multiple, often interlinking factors and the way they contribute to complex events.
- You’re interested in pursuing a career in law, business, or education.

Program Requirements

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Requirements for the Minor

A grade of C or better is required for all courses in the minor, as specified by Senate Policy 59-10 (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/59-00-minors-and-certificates/#59-10). In addition, at least six credits of the minor must be unique from the prescribed courses required by a student’s major(s).

| Code | Title                                                                 | Credits |
|------|                                                                      |         |
|      | Supporting Courses and Related Areas                                  |         |
|      | Supporting Courses and Related Areas: Require a grade of C or better  |         |
|      | Select 12 credits of HIST courses                                    | 12      |
|      | Select 6 credits of 400-level HIST courses                           | 6       |

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 needed to plan the chosen program of study, and referrals to other specialized resources.

READ SENATE POLICY 32-00: ADVISING POLICY (https://senate.psu.edu/policies-and-rules-for-undergraduate-students/32-00-advising-policy/)

University Park

Liberal Arts Academic Advising
814-865-2545
Use the Liberal Arts Majors and Minors web page (https://www.la.psu.edu/current-students/undergraduate-students/education/majors-and-minors/) to see the contact information for the specific adviser(s) of this program

Abington

Friederike Baer
Program Chair
1600 Woodland Road
Abington, PA 19001
215-881-7593
fbaer@psu.edu

Altoona

Douglas D. Page
Associate Teaching Professor, History
Hawthorn Building 210
3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5171
ddp2@psu.edu

Shenango

Philip Nash
Associate Professor
147 Shenango Avenue
147 Shenango Avenue
Shenango Avenue
Shenango, PA 16146
724-983-2978
pxn4@psu.edu

World Campus

Undergraduate Academic Advising
301 Outreach Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-863-3283
advising@outreach.psu.edu
Career Paths

Penn State History students have enjoyed success in a wide variety of fields. They are found in careers that relate to the major, such as historic preservation, museum work, and education; a healthy representation of our majors go on to law school and graduate school. However, it is not unusual to find former history students in areas that might not immediately come to mind. Penn State history students can be found in architecture, software development, web development, banking, federal government work, and the Peace Corps, to name just a few. They tend to do well because their basic skills are sound.

Careers

- Law
- Secondary Teaching
- Historic Preservation
- Governmental Organizations
- United Nations Organizations
- Non-Governmental Organizations
- Industry Leaders

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT POTENTIAL CAREER OPTIONS FOR GRADUATES WITH A MINOR IN HISTORY (http://la.psu.edu/current-students/current-students/cen/)

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATE STUDIES (https://history.la.psu.edu/graduate/)

Contact

University Park
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
108 Weaver Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-1367
bdw150@psu.edu

https://history.la.psu.edu

Abington
DIVISION OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES
1600 Woodland Road
Abington, PA 19001
215-881-7593
fbaer@psu.edu

http://abington.psu.edu/history

Altoona
DIVISION OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES
Hawthorn Building 210
3000 Ivyside Park
Altoona, PA 16601
814-949-5171
ddp2@psu.edu

http://altoona.psu.edu/academics/bachelors-degrees/history/request-information

Shenango
147 Shenango Avenue

World Campus
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
108 Weaver Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-1367
bdw150@psu.edu

http://shenango.psu.edu/las

http://shenango.psu.edu/las

310C Sharon Hall
Sharon, PA 16146
724-983-2978
pxn4@psu.edu

http://shenango.psu.edu/las

World Campus
DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
108 Weaver Building
University Park, PA 16802
814-865-1367
bdw150@psu.edu

https://www.worldcampus.psu.edu/degrees-and-certificates/history-minor/overview