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Graduate Program in History

Master of Arts

The program leading to the M.A. in History is designed both for individuals wishing to enhance their knowledge of and skills at the study of the past and for those intending to pursue a doctorate in a related field. Thus, students seeking the M.A. in History have two options, a “research” or a “professional” option. Students with plans for doctoral study should choose the research option.

Students in the research option must complete thirty-six semester hours of course work, demonstrate reading proficiency in an approved foreign language, and successfully complete a master’s thesis.

Core Course (3 hours)

HIST 5311 Historiography

Students are expected to complete this course as early as possible in their programs.

Electives in History (HIST) or History of Ideas (HUHI) (24 hours)

Twenty-four hours chosen from graduate courses in HIST or HUHI, at least fifteen of which must be in HIST courses. Normally no more than six hours of independent study are applicable to the degree plan.

Elective Course (3 hours)

Three hours in any organized course outside of History (HIST) and History of Ideas (HUHI), but normally in the Humanities Graduate Program.

Thesis (6 hours)

HIST 8398 Master’s Thesis

Having completed thirty hours of course work, students must write and present a thesis in history for evaluation by a master’s committee.

Students in the professional option in History must complete thirty-six semester hours of course work, including HIST 5311 and normally all in organized HIST and HUHI courses. They are not required to complete a thesis or meet a foreign-language requirement, and they receive a terminal degree.