

HISTORY, PHD

REQUIREMENTS

MINIMUM GRADUATE SCHOOL REQUIREMENTS

Review the Graduate School minimum degree requirements (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#requirements>) and policies (<https://guide.wisc.edu/graduate/#policies>), in addition to the program requirements listed below.

MAJOR REQUIREMENTS MODE OF INSTRUCTION

Face to Face	Evening/ Weekend	Online	Hybrid	Accelerated
Yes	No	No	No	No

Mode of Instruction Definitions

Accelerated: Accelerated programs are offered at a fast pace that condenses the time to completion. Students typically take enough credits aimed at completing the program in a year or two.

Evening/Weekend: Courses meet on the UW–Madison campus only in evenings and/or on weekends to accommodate typical business schedules. Students have the advantages of face-to-face courses with the flexibility to keep work and other life commitments.

Face-to-Face: Courses typically meet during weekdays on the UW–Madison Campus.

Hybrid: These programs combine face-to-face and online learning formats. Contact the program for more specific information.

Online: These programs are offered 100% online. Some programs may require an on-campus orientation or residency experience, but the courses will be facilitated in an online format.

CURRICULAR REQUIREMENTS

Requirement Detail	
Minimum Credit Requirement	51 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	32 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	26 credits must be graduate-level coursework. Refer to the Graduate School: Minimum Graduate Coursework (50%) Requirement policy: https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244 (https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1244/).
Overall Graduate GPA Requirement	3.25 GPA required.
Other Grade Requirements	n/a

Assessments and Examinations In order to receive the History PhD, all students must pass the preliminary exam and the PhD dissertation defense.

Preliminary Examination: Each field of study has its own exact requirements for prelims, but all include written exams and an oral defense of the student's research proposal and knowledge of the field.

PhD Dissertation Defense: Two-hour oral exam focusing on the student's written dissertation.

Language Requirements The history department requires all students to demonstrate, at a minimum, reading knowledge of at least one language other than English. The fields of study may set additional requirements, and each field determines which languages may be used to satisfy its requirement

Graduate School Breadth Requirement All doctoral students are required to complete a doctoral minor or graduate/professional certificate. Refer to the Graduate School: Breadth Requirement in Doctoral Training policy: <https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200> (<https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-1200/>).

REQUIRED COURSES

Code	Title	Credits
Core		
HISTORY 701	History in a Global Perspective	1
HISTORY 800	Research Seminar in History (or an equivalent research seminar in the student's field of study) ¹	3
Electives		
Students work with advisor to complete 26 credits of graduate-level courses.		26
HISTORY courses (https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/history/)		
Breadth		9
Language Requirement		
Students must complete any additional language requirements specific to their field of study prior to taking the preliminary examination.		
Research		
After passing the preliminary examination, students register for the following course each semester until they deposit their dissertation.		
HISTORY 990	Research and Thesis	1-9
Total Credits		51

¹ Alternative course options: HISTORY 855 Seminar in Japanese History for students studying East Asian History, HISTORY 861 Seminar-The History of Africa for students studying African History.

Recommended Courses

Students are also recommended to take HISTORY 999 Independent Work and HISTORY 710 Professional Development Seminar.