

HISTORY, PHD

With some 130 graduate students and over 60 faculty members, the Department of History is home to one of the oldest, most distinguished, and most comprehensive graduate programs in the U.S., renowned for its long and valued tradition of collegiality and openness. We offer separate graduate degrees in History and in the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology. Our internationally recognized faculty (<https://history.wisc.edu/people-main/faculty-listed-alphabetically/>) has been mentoring distinguished historians since 1893 (<https://history.wisc.edu/our-graduate-program/doctorates-awarded/>).

The degree program in History is designed to meet the needs of the PhD candidate, and we offer funding (<https://history.wisc.edu/graduate/prospective-students/funding/>) only to students who intend to pursue the PhD. However, we also welcome applications from students who wish to earn only the MA if they have external funding.

Graduate training in the History degree program is organized by primary fields of study. Although most of our students are trained in a single field of study, students whose research interests span more than one field have the option to craft an individual plan of study (<https://history.wisc.edu/graduate/individual-plan-of-study/>).

We offer the following primary fields (<https://history.wisc.edu/fields-programs/>) in the History degree program:

- African History
- East Asian History
- European History—Ancient, Medieval, Early Modern, and Modern
- Latin American and Caribbean History
- Middle East and North African History
- South Asian History
- Southeast Asian History
- U.S./North American History

Within their primary field, students also have the opportunity to organize their studies thematically. The faculty's thematic strengths are in the following areas:

- Borderlands and diasporas
- Environmental history
- Gender and Women's History (<https://history.wisc.edu/fields-programs-and-working-groups/program-in-gender-and-womens-history/>)
- History of Science, Medicine, and Technology (<https://history.wisc.edu/fields-programs-and-working-groups/history-of-science-medicine-and-technology/faculty-associates-affiliates/>)
- Intellectual and cultural history
- Jewish History (<https://history.wisc.edu/fields-programs-and-working-groups/program-in-jewish-history/>)
- Labor and political economy
- Race, ethnicity, and indigeneity
- Religion and ritual
- War in Society and Culture (<https://history.wisc.edu/fields-programs-and-working-groups/war-in-society-and-culture-program/>)

Our faculty train resourceful researchers, committed teachers, and engaged public intellectuals. We offer a rigorous course of study that

combines independent and collaborative work and emphasizes scholarly and intellectual connectedness. The department strongly supports the Wisconsin Idea (<https://www.wisc.edu/wisconsin-idea/>), the principle that education should influence and improve people's lives beyond the university classroom. For more than 100 years, this idea has guided the university's work. Students pursue a variety of careers, both inside and outside the academy.

OTHER DEGREE OPTIONS INCLUDE:

BRIDGE PROGRAM WITH UW-MADISON'S AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

This academic partnership allows students to complete the MA in African American Studies and the PhD in History. It enables African American Studies students who specialize in History to meet the basic requirements of the History MA while completing a degree in African American Studies. Students may apply simultaneously to the two departments or may apply to the Department of History after they begin their graduate program in the Department of African American Studies, usually in the fall of the first or second MA year.

For details, see The Bridge Program (<https://history.wisc.edu/our-graduate-program/bridge-program/>) or contact the Graduate Program Manager.

JOINT PHD IN HISTORY AND HISTORY OF SCIENCE

Students who wish to obtain a joint PhD in History and the History of Science, Medicine, and Technology are initially admitted to one of the degree programs, and should indicate interest in the joint PhD program at that time. After completion of a master's degree in History or History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, the student applies for admission to the other degree program and, at the same time, to a standing committee of the two programs for admission to the joint program.

Having been admitted to the other degree program and to the joint PhD program, the student then applies to the Graduate School for approval of the joint PhD (See the Graduate School's academic policy regarding joint degrees (<http://grad.wisc.edu/acadpolicy/>) for more information and deadlines.) The student's application to the standing committee should take the same form as required by the Graduate School and should be prepared in close consultation with department faculty/staff.

Students in the joint PhD program are assigned a home degree program and follow the regulations of that degree program with regard to seminar requirements, language requirements, financial aid, and regulations for satisfactory progress. Since the joint PhD meets the doctoral minor requirement of the Graduate School, no minor is required for students receiving a joint PhD. However, students who wish to have a minor field recorded on the transcript may complete a regular Option A or Option B minor, or the internal minor of the department.

The joint PhD student's work is supervised by a committee consisting of three faculty members (two from the home degree program). The preliminary examinations test the student's competence in both history and history of science, medicine, and technology, balancing the material and fields between the two departments (e.g. two in each, or three in one and two in the other). The number of prelim fields must equal the number required of students majoring exclusively in History or in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, plus one. Preparation of the PhD dissertation is guided by the student's supervising committee.

Satisfactory completion and defense of the dissertation constitute the final requirements for the joint PhD degree.

JOINT PHD WITH OTHER DEGREE PROGRAMS

History students who wish to pursue a joint PhD (one degree, two majors) with another degree program must first be admitted to the other degree program. The proposal for the degree must be approved by the Department of History's Graduate Council before it is submitted to the Graduate School. Students admitted to a joint PhD will satisfy all the normal requirements of their field in History except the minor requirement.

For more information on joint PhD options, please contact the graduate program coordinator.