

HISTORY OF SCIENCE, MEDICINE AND TECHNOLOGY, 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 program requires proficiency in a foreign language and either a second foreign language or the use of an analytical tool as described below. Students who are working toward a degree as part of a combined MD/PhD program only need to demonstrate proficiency in one foreign language.

Students must demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English in order to pass the Second-Year Review. Students must also demonstrate proficiency in either a second language other than English or the use of an analytical tool (e.g. statistical methods, visual culture methods, ethnography) before achieving dissertator (ABD) status.

If a student chooses the option of an analytical tool, the student must submit a proposal to be approved by the HSMT faculty. Once approved, the student must complete 9 credits appropriate to gaining competency in the use of this set of tools. Students must make at least a 3.0 (B grade or better) in these courses. Credits taken towards a graduate minor may not be used towards the completion of the analytical tool option.

Dissertator status, with its attendant reduction in tuition, is contingent upon satisfying these two requirements.

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
HIST SCI 720	Proseminar: Historiography and Methods	3
HISTORY 800	Research Seminar in History	3

Six Distribution Areas

Students must complete courses in each of the following distribution areas. Courses may fulfill more than one distribution area.

12

Temporal

1. Pre 1800

2. 1800 to the Present

Topical

3. Science/Technology

4. Medicine/Public Health

Geographic

5. Global/Non-Western

6. Euro-American

Electives

Students work with advisors to complete additional elective credits in courses numbered 700 and above.

11

Seminars

Students must complete two seminars numbered 700 and above.

Breadth

9

Language Requirement

Students must gain proficiency in a second foreign language prior to taking the preliminary examination. Courses are chosen in consultation with advisor.

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

Recommended Courses

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

Distribution Areas

Temporal Distribution Area Courses

Code	Title	Credits
1. Pre 1800		
HIST SCI/ HISTORY 323 & HIST SCI 623	The Scientific Revolution: From Copernicus to Newton and Studies in Early Modern Science	4
HIST SCI/ S&A PHM 401	History of Pharmacy	2
HIST SCI 903	Seminar: Medieval, Renaissance, and 17th Century Science (Early Modern Translation)	3
HIST SCI 911	Seminar-Eighteenth Century Science (Early Modern Translation)	3
HIST SCI/ MED HIST 919	Graduate Studies in Medical History (Flesh and Metal: A History of Bodies, Race, Labor, and Capital)	3

2. 1800 to the Present

HIST SCI 404	A History of Disease	3-4
HIST SCI/HISTORY/ MED HIST 508	Health, Disease and Healing II	3-4

HIST SCI/ AFROAMER/ MED HIST 523	Race, American Medicine and Public Health	3
HIST SCI/GEN&WS/ MED HIST 531	Women and Health in American History	3
HIST SCI/GEN&WS/ MED HIST 532	The History of the (American) Body	3
HIST SCI/HISTORY/ MED HIST 564	Disease, Medicine and Public Health in the History of Latin America and the Caribbean	3
HIST SCI/ MED HIST 509	The Development of Public Health in America	3
MED HIST 753 & MED HIST/ HIST SCI/ POP HLTH 553	International Health and Global Society and International Health and Global Society	4
HIST SCI 555	Undergraduate Seminar in History of Science (Digital Capitalism)	3
PHARMACY 563	Drug History: Dangerous Drugs and Magic Bullets	2
PHARMACY 564	Psychedelic History: Sacred Plants, Science & Psychotherapy	3
HIST SCI 907	Seminar: History of Technology (Technology, Power, and Democracy)	3
HIST SCI/ MED HIST 919	Graduate Studies in Medical History (Life and Death in American History)	3
HIST SCI/ MED HIST 919	Graduate Studies in Medical History (Foucault for Historians)	3
HIST SCI 921	Seminar-Special Topics (Science from the South)	3
HIST SCI 921	Seminar-Special Topics (Science and Empire)	3
HIST SCI 921	Seminar-Special Topics (Science, Race and Nature)	3

Topical Distribution Area Courses

Code	Title	Credits
3. Science/Technology		
HIST SCI/ HISTORY 323 & HIST SCI 623	The Scientific Revolution: From Copernicus to Newton and Studies in Early Modern Science	4
HIST SCI 555	Undergraduate Seminar in History of Science	3
PHARMACY 564	Psychedelic History: Sacred Plants, Science & Psychotherapy	3
HIST SCI 903	Seminar: Medieval, Renaissance, and 17th Century Science (Early Modern Translation)	3
HIST SCI 911	Seminar-Eighteenth Century Science (Early Modern Translation)	3
HIST SCI 907	Seminar: History of Technology (Technology, Power, and Democracy)	3
HIST SCI 921	Seminar-Special Topics (Science and Empire)	3

HIST SCI 921	Seminar-Special Topics (Science from the South)	3
HIST SCI 921	Seminar-Special Topics (Science, Race, and Nature)	3

4. Medicine/Public Health

HIST SCI/ S&A PHM 401	History of Pharmacy	2
HIST SCI 404	A History of Disease	3-4
HIST SCI/HISTORY/ MED HIST 508	Health, Disease and Healing II	3-4
HIST SCI/ MED HIST 509	The Development of Public Health in America	3
HIST SCI/ AFROAMER/ MED HIST 523	Race, American Medicine and Public Health	3
HIST SCI/GEN&WS/ MED HIST 531	Women and Health in American History	3
HIST SCI/GEN&WS/ MED HIST 532	The History of the (American) Body	3
MED HIST/HIST SCI/ POP HLTH 553 & MED HIST 753	International Health and Global Society and International Health and Global Society	4
PHARMACY 563	Drug History: Dangerous Drugs and Magic Bullets	2
HIST SCI/HISTORY/ MED HIST 564	Disease, Medicine and Public Health in the History of Latin America and the Caribbean	3
HIST SCI/ MED HIST 919	Graduate Studies in Medical History (Life and Death in American History)	3
HIST SCI/ MED HIST 919	Graduate Studies in Medical History (Flesh and Metal: A History of Bodies, Race, Labor, and Capital)	3
HIST SCI/ MED HIST 919	Graduate Studies in Medical History (Foucault for Historians)	3

Geographic Distribution Area Courses

Code Title Credits

5. Global/Non-Western

HIST SCI/ HISTORY 323 & HIST SCI 623	The Scientific Revolution: From Copernicus to Newton and Studies in Early Modern Science	4
HIST SCI/ S&A PHM 401	History of Pharmacy	2
MED HIST/HIST SCI/ POP HLTH 553 & MED HIST 753	International Health and Global Society and International Health and Global Society	4
HIST SCI/HISTORY/ MED HIST 564	Disease, Medicine and Public Health in the History of Latin America and the Caribbean	3
HIST SCI 903	Seminar: Medieval, Renaissance, and 17th Century Science (Early Modern Translation)	3
HIST SCI 911	Seminar-Eighteenth Century Science (Early Modern Translation)	3

HIST SCI/ MED HIST 919	Graduate Studies in Medical History (Flesh and Metal: A History of Bodies, Race, Labor, and Capital)	3
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HIST SCI 921	Seminar-Special Topics (Science from the South)	3
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HIST SCI 921	Seminar-Special Topics (Science and Empire)	3
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HIST SCI 921	Seminar-Special Topics (Science, Race, and Nature)	3
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6. Euro-American

HIST SCI 404	A History of Disease	3-4
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HIST SCI/HISTORY/ MED HIST 508	Health, Disease and Healing II	3-4
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HIST SCI/ MED HIST 509	The Development of Public Health in America	3
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HIST SCI/ AFROAMER/ MED HIST 523	Race, American Medicine and Public Health	3
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HIST SCI/GEN&WS/ MED HIST 531	Women and Health in American History	3
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HIST SCI/GEN&WS/ MED HIST 532	The History of the (American) Body	3
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HIST SCI 555	Undergraduate Seminar in History of Science	3
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PHARMACY 563	Drug History: Dangerous Drugs and Magic Bullets	2
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PHARMACY 564	Psychedelic History: Sacred Plants, Science & Psychotherapy	3
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HIST SCI 907	Seminar: History of Technology (Technology, Power, and Democracy)	3
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HIST SCI/ MED HIST 919	Graduate Studies in Medical History (Life and Death in American History)	3
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HIST SCI/ MED HIST 919	Graduate Studies in Medical History (Foucault for Historians)	3
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History of Medicine Pathway¹

This pathway is intended for students with doctoral training in one of the health professions.

Code Title Credits

Core

Students must complete the following courses.

HIST SCI 720	Proseminar: Historiography and Methods	3
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HIST SCI/HISTORY/ MED HIST 508	Health, Disease and Healing II	3-4
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HIST SCI/ MED HIST 509	The Development of Public Health in America	3
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STS 901	Science, Technology and Medicine in Society	3
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Additional History of Medicine Course 3

Electives

Students must complete 9 credits of electives. Medical History (MED HIST) courses satisfy this requirement. 9

Seminars

Students must complete two seminars numbered 700 and above.

Breadth

9

Language Requirement

Students must gain proficiency in a second foreign language prior to taking the preliminary examination. Courses are chosen in consultation with advisor.

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
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Total Credits

51

Recommended Courses

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

¹ These pathways are internal to the program and represent different curricular paths a student can follow to earn this degree. Pathway names do not appear in the Graduate School admissions application, and they will not appear on the transcript.