

HISTORY, MA

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	30 credits
Minimum Residence Credit Requirement	24 credits
Minimum Graduate Coursework Requirement	22 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	3.00 (3.25 after 4th semester of full-time study)
Other Grade Requirements	n/a

Assessments and Examinations In order to receive the Master's Degree in History, students must pass the Second-Year Review (SYR). A passing review requires that students: complete an article-length research paper, fulfill one language requirement, clear all incompletes, fulfill any additional requirements for their specific field of study, submit a list of prelim fields along with a timeline for completing prelims, and receive a positive endorsement from the three faculty members on the review committee.

Language Requirements All students must demonstrate, at a minimum, reading knowledge of at least one language other than English. Each field of study determines which languages may be used to satisfy the language requirement; see below for details.

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		
Work with advisor to complete 26 credits of graduate-level courses		26
HISTORY Courses (https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/history/)		
Total Credits		30

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.

ADDITIONAL MA REQUIREMENTS BY FIELDS OF STUDY¹

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.

African History

Course Requirements: Each student must enroll in a seminar or proseminar (if available) every semester of residence. In their first year, they may enroll in History lecture courses in their area of specialization. Undergraduate lecture courses may not be taken for credit after the first year of graduate study. With approval, students can take African Cultural Studies (AFRICAN (<https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/african/>)) courses.

Language Requirements: Students must fulfill their MA language requirement with an African language.

Central Asian History

No special field requirements. Students should choose courses in consultation with their advisor in History (HISTORY (<https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/history/>)) numbered 300 or above and with the "Grad 50%" attribute. The language requirement varies according to the student's research interest.

East Asian History

Course Requirements: Students must complete four graduate courses in East Asian history. These can be upper-division lecture courses or graduate seminars/colloquia (taken for a minimum of 12 credits). At least two of these courses should be in the major field, and at least one should be outside the major field. **NOTE:** Students should also begin fulfilling the course requirements that must be completed prior to taking preliminary examination. They are required to take one semester each of Chinese, Japanese, and Korean history. They may fulfill this requirement by taking a graduate seminar or an upper-division lecture course. They may also fulfill the requirement by serving as a TA in either an introductory or upper-division course. Students are also required to take HISTORY 703 History and Theory.

Language Requirements: Students must complete the eighth semester in their main language (Chinese, Japanese, or Korean) by the time they either undergo the Second-Year Review or complete their fourth semester of coursework.

European History

Language Requirements: Students in Medieval History must demonstrate proficiency in two foreign languages, usually one medieval and one modern.

Latin American and Caribbean History

Course Requirements: Each student must enroll in a seminar or proseminar (if available) every semester of residence. Other courses will include History (HISTORY (<https://guide.wisc.edu/courses/history/>)) graduate seminars or similar courses in the culture area of specialization. Undergraduate lecture courses may not be taken for credit unless a faculty advisor or co-advisor approves.

Middle East and North African History

Proficiency in two languages, at least one of which must be a language of the Middle East or North Africa, is required. There are no other specific special field requirements; students choose courses in consultation with their advisor.

South Asian History

Course Requirements: Each student must enroll in a seminar or proseminar (if available) every semester of residence. In lieu of a History graduate course, they may substitute an independent study in History or a graduate seminar in another department. In their first year, they may enroll in History lecture courses in their area of specialization. Undergraduate lecture courses may not be taken for credit after the first year of graduate study.

Language Requirements: Students must complete two years of study in one South Asian language (or demonstrate equivalent proficiency by examination).

Southeast Asian History

Course Requirements: MA students shall take six credits of graduate seminar in Southeast Asian history each academic year or, if not available, substitute credits of independent study with a faculty specialist in Southeast Asian history.

Language Requirements: Students must complete two years of study (or demonstrate equivalent proficiency by examination) in a Southeast Asian language or, with the approval of the Southeast Asian faculty, in a relevant colonial/imperial language.

United States History

Course Requirements: Students must take:

- The core seminar, HISTORY 900 Introduction to History for U.S. Historians, in the fall semester of their first year. This seminar introduces students to the U.S. History faculty and their fields of research and teaches students the core skills of professional historians.
- Three three-credit seminars that cover a significant portion of the seventeenth and/or eighteenth centuries, the nineteenth century, and the twentieth century, respectively. If a seminar falls into more than one category, the student may choose the single category for which they will receive credit.

In exceptional circumstances, student may, with the consent of their advisor, take up to six credits in upper-level undergraduate courses. The instructors of such courses have the prerogative to refuse admission to graduate students.

Note that prior to completing their preliminary examination, students may use no more than six credits of HISTORY 999 Independent Work to meet the requirements of the major field. Students will probably find it useful to preserve most, if not all, of their six credits of HISTORY 999 for preliminary examination preparation.

Program in Gender and Women's History Concentration

Course Requirements: Students must meet the requirements of their primary field of study; take HISTORY 752 Seminar in Transnational Gender History; and take at least two additional History graduate seminars that are gender-specific, i.e., that have at least a 50% focus on issues and analyses of gender, women, or sexuality.