

HISTORY, BS

THREE-YEAR PLAN

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This Sample Three-Year Plan is a tool to assist students and their advisor(s). Students should use it –along with their DARS report, the Degree Planner, and Course Search & Enroll tools – to make their own three-year plan based on their placement scores, credit for transferred courses and approved examinations, and individual interests.

Three-year plans may vary considerably from student to student, depending on their individual preparation and circumstances. Students interested in graduating in three years should meet with an advisor as early as possible to discuss feasibility, appropriate course sequencing, post-graduation plans (careers, graduate school, etc.), and opportunities they might forgo in pursuit of a three-year graduation plan.

DEPARTMENTAL EXPECTATIONS

Students planning to graduate within three years with a History major should enter the University with a minimum of 18 advanced standing credits, and have satisfied the following requirements with course credit or via placement examination:

- Communication Part A
- Quantitative Reasoning Part A
- 18 combined credits of Humanities, Social Science, Natural Science, or elective coursework
- 4 units of foreign language

This plan also assumes that History major coursework at UW-Madison will satisfy 6 credits of Humanities breadth (the Humanities credits that are not Literature) and 9 credits of Social Science breadth. Most History majors pursue the BA in History, but it is also possible to complete the BS and History major requirements in three years.

This plan assumes that students will complete a total of 9 credits over three summers. Summer is an opportunity to make progress toward various requirements. UW-Madison's summer course offerings include a large number of online courses, which give students more flexibility for their summer schedules. For students on an accelerated path, summer is also great time to study abroad.

First Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
History Breadth ¹	4 HISTORY course with the Ethnic Studies designation (complete within 1st 60 credits) ³	4 Elective or Course for Second Major	3
History Breadth	4 Elective or Course for Second Major ⁴	4	

Biological Science Breadth	3 Quantitative Reasoning Part B (Intermediate or Advanced COMP SCI, MATH, or STAT if BS)	3	
Foreign Language (if pursuing retroactive credit) ²	4 Literature Breadth	3	
	HISTORY 300 (optional or Elective) ⁵	2	
	15	16	3

Second Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
HISTORY 201	4 History Breadth	4 Elective (Intermediate or Advanced level) or Course for Second Major	3
HIST SCI 211 (may be taken instead of History 201)	History Breadth or Elective	4	
Social Science Breadth	3 Physical Science Breadth	4	
Intermediate or Advanced COMP SCI, MATH, or STAT (if BS)	3 Elective (Intermediate or Advanced level) or Course for Second Major	4	
Elective or Course for Second Major	4		
HISTORY 301 (optional or Elective)	1		
	15	16	3

Third Year

Fall	Credits Spring	Credits Summer	Credits
HISTORY 600 ⁶	3 History Elective	3 Elective (Intermediate or Advanced level) or Course for Second Major	3
HIST SCI 555 (may be taken instead of History 600)	Literature Breadth	3	
Science Breadth	4 Science Breadth	3	

Electives (Intermediate or Advanced level) or Courses for Second Major	8 Electives (Intermediate or Advanced level) or Courses for Second Major	7	
	15	16	3

Total Credits 102

- ¹ The History Breadth requirements are very flexible. Students should refer to the Requirements page for the History major for details on approved overlap between types of breadth in the major.
- ² Even though students with 4 units of foreign language do not need to complete additional foreign language coursework, UW-Madison's retroactive credit policy (<https://kb.wisc.edu/lis/23736/>) can be very helpful for those pursuing an early graduation.
- ³ Some examples of History courses that count toward the Ethnic Studies Requirement are: HISTORY/CHICLA 152, ASIAN AM/HISTORY 160, & JEWISH/HISTORY 213.
- ⁴ History is a flexible major and can be combined with a wide range of other majors and certificates. For students hoping to double major and graduate early, it is especially important to work closely with academic advisors in both majors. We encourage all students to be thoughtful in how they approach their elective credits, whether that means pursuing an additional major or creating an individual plan of study that draws from multiple disciplines.
- ⁵ History offers two optional careers courses that expose students to, and prepare them for, the wide range of careers pursued by history majors: HISTORY 300 & HISTORY 301. History at Work: Professional Skills of the Major (HISTORY 300) connects students to History alumni in different fields and helps develop essential career skills related to the value of the major. History at Work: History Internship Seminar (HISTORY 301) allows students to receive credit toward their major requirements for work associated with an internship.
- ⁶ HISTORY 600 or HIST SCI 555 may be taken at any point after a student has completed either HISTORY 201 The Historian's Craft or HIST SCI 211 The Historian's Craft: Science, Medicine, and Technology. History 600s and History of Science 555 are offered on a variety of topics every semester; each course provides students with the rich experience of a small, faculty-led seminar. These seminars may be taken for credit more than once as long as the topics are different. Students who choose to pursue Honors in the History major should complete HISTORY 600 or HIST SCI 555 in Year Two so that they can write a Senior honors thesis in Year Three.