

Minnesota State University Mankato

Department of History Undergraduate Student Handbook 2021-2022



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Welcome

Welcome to the Department of History at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

Our faculty seek to develop a broader, deeper understanding of the past by offering a globally-oriented curriculum that introduces students to the methods and processes used by professional historians to make informed, accurate conclusions about the past.

Our faculty emphasize that history stretches beyond the borders of the United States. Students at Minnesota State Mankato will explore the histories of North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia, and they will study with scholars who have lived and worked in these regions. The diverse backgrounds of both instructors and students will make for lively classroom discussions with multiple points of view.

Our dynamic curriculum will be informed by our faculty's own life experiences, by our research, by our engaged participation within scholarly communities, and by the partnerships which we develop and maintain both within, and beyond, the University community.

As scholars, teachers, and developers of creative pedagogies, the history faculty provides foundational skills indispensable to multiple careers and to informed, active citizenship. Our faculty emphasize that historical analysis is focused on compiling and assessing the quality of evidence and data from varied types of sources. In doing so, we facilitate analytical and critical thinking skills, research and writing skills, speaking and presentation skills, and skills that develop cultural awareness and empathy. We prepare students to conduct research in original sources, to read and think critically, to convey their conclusions verbally and in writing, and to use their contextual understanding of the past to make decisions in the present.

"Small class sizes in upper level history courses enable students to develop great relationships with their professors. Professors become mentors and help guide students through the academic challenges that a history major presents. Conquering these challenges will prepare students for real-world problems. Graduating as a history major at Minnesota State Mankato demonstrates to employers or graduate schools that you are ready to take on complex problems that require well thought out solutions."

Austin Lee - B.S., 2012 JD, Stanford University Lawyer for Cravath, Swaine, and Moore, LLP

Who to contact with questions

Every history major is assigned a faculty advisor who can answer questions and address concerns. You may also contact the following individuals in the department and college with administrative or advising questions:

Undergraduate Coordinator: Dr. Jameel Haque, jameel.haque@mnsu.edu

Social Studies Director: Dr. Kyle Ward, kyle.ward@mnsu.edu

Department Chair: Dr. Tao Peng, tao.peng@mnsu.edu

Student Resource Coordinator: Mel Iverson, melissa.iverson@mnsu.edu

Academic Advisor: Jodie Ward, jodie.ward@mnsu.edu

Faculty

- Dr. Justin Biel, British & Imperial History, justin.biel@mnsu.edu
- Dr. Angela Jill Cooley, U.S. Constitutional History, angela.cooley@mnsu.edu
- Dr. Christopher Corley (Interim Dean of Library and Learning), European History, christopher.corley@mnsu.edu
- Dr. Jameel Haque, Middle Eastern History, jameel.haque@mnsu.edu
- Dr. Lori Ann Lahlum, U.S. Western History, Iori.lahlum@mnsu.edu
- Dr. H. Matthew Loayza (Dean, College of Social and Behavioral Sciences), US Foreign Affairs, matt.loayza@mnsu.edu
- Dr. Chad McCutchen, Latin American History, chad.mccutchen@mnsu.edu
- Dr. Agnes Odinga, African History, agnes.odinga@mnsu.edu
- Dr. Tao Peng, Chinese/East Asian history and U.S-East Asian Relations, tao.peng@mnsu.edu
- Dr. Kyle Ward, Social Studies Education, kyle.ward@mnsu.edu

Program Learning Outcomes

- B.A.: The Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in History program is designed for history majors who plan to pursue a professional degree or a graduate degree in History or a related discipline. It develops the foreign language, critical analysis, communication, and research skills needed by students who plan to work in administration or want to go into foreign service, international business, international law, or government service.
 - Outcome 1: Students will articulate basic themes in the development of diverse US and global societies.
 - Outcome 2: Students will demonstrate a lucid, critical, deliberative, and coherent communication style.
 - Outcome 3: Students will retrieve, interpret, and contextualize sources in a manner that represents ethical and effective information literacy.
 - Outcome 4: Students will generate substantive, open-ended questions about the past and develop research strategies to answer them.
 - Outcome 5: Students will identify and critique the theories, concepts, and/or assumptions of existing scholarship and its use of evidence.
 - Outcome 6: Students will craft well-supported historical narratives, arguments, and reports of research findings in a variety of media for diverse audiences.
 - Outcome 7: Students will apply professional standards and ethics to take responsibility for their intellectual property, cite sources of evidence, and acknowledge intellectual debt.
 - B.S.: The Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in History program is designed for history majors who want to pursue a general degree in History that will develop the information literacy, critical analysis, and writing skills needed for a variety of careers, including libraries and archives, management, education, sales, entrepreneurialism, law and legal-related fields, museum work, social activism, military, and public service, among others. Social Studies Education majors who double major in History can get more experience with historical research and writing methods.
 - Outcome 1: Students will articulate basic themes in the development of diverse US and global societies.
 - Outcome 2: Students will demonstrate a lucid, critical, deliberative, and coherent communication style.

Outcome 3: Students will retrieve and interpret sources in a manner that represents ethical and effective information literacy.

Outcome 4: Students will evaluate the relevance, credibility, and differing points of view manifested in historical sources in the interest of constructing balanced, evidence-driven arguments.

Outcome 5: Students will identify and critique existing theories and assumptions about history.

Outcome 6: Students will craft well-supported historical narratives, arguments, and reports of research findings for diverse audiences.

Outcome 7: Students will apply professional standards and ethics in the practice or teaching of history in a public forum.

Outcome 8: Students will gain experience in the practice or teaching of history.

"In an age where more information is available more quickly to more people than ever before, we must have the critical thinking skills to sort the bogus from the believable. This is what history majors get, and it's something that is highly sought after in all kinds of employment."

Joe Schiller - B.A., 2012 Graduate Student in History, University of Oklahoma

History majors

The Department of History offers a Bachelor of Arts (51 credits) and a Bachelors of Science (36 credits). Both the B.A. and B.S. require a minor. The B.S. requires four credits of practicum. The B.A. requires eight (8) credits in a modern foreign language and three (3) credits in readings for Honors. Curricula and four-year plans for these degree options are on the following pages.

Students who want to teach history at the secondary school level should major in social studies teaching, which has different policies for admission to the major and a different curriculum. Prospective teachers should contact Dr. Kyle Ward in our department to discuss their curriculum.

All history majors should meet with the undergraduate coordinator to develop an academic plan and with their faculty advisor each semester to make sure they are implementing their plan and satisfying the curriculum appropriately.

Curriculum: History B.A.

Major Common Core:

HIST 390: Readings for Honors: United States History (1) HIST 391: Reading for Honors: European History (1) HIST 392: Reading for Honors: World History (1)

HIST 495W: Senior Seminar (4)

Major Restricted Electives:

Survey Sequence - Choose 8 Credit(s).

Students must take one of the survey sequences (World History, European History, or United States History)

HIST 170: Ancient World Civilization to 1500 (4)

HIST 170W: Ancient World Civilization to 1500 (4)

HIST 171: World Civilization, 1500-Present (4)

HIST 171W:World Civilization, 1500-Present (4)

HIST 180: European History to 1648 (4)

HIST 180W: European History to 1648 (4)

HIST 181: European History: 1648 to the Present (4)

HIST 181W: European History: 1648 to the Present (4)

HIST 190: United States to 1877 (4)

HIST 190W: United States to 1877 (4)

HIST 191: United States Since 1877 (4)

HIST 191W: United States Since 1877 (4)

Europe

Choose one course (4 Cr) from the following (Courses may not double-count between categories): HIST 401-424, HIST 431

United States

Choose one course (4 Cr) from the following (Courses may not double-count between categories): HIST 430, HIST 436, HIST 452-488

World

Choose one course (4 Cr) from the following (Courses may not double-count between categories):

HIST 302, HIST 402, HIST 432-442, HIST 446, HIST 466, HIST 476, HIST 478

Major Unrestricted Electives

Upper-Division Electives - Choose 12 Credit(s). Courses may not double-count between categories. HIST 300 - 499

General Electives

Choose 4 Credit(s).

Courses may not double-count between categories. HIST 100 - 499

Other Graduation Requirements

Choose 8 credit(s):

Take one series - Language

Four-Year Plan: History B.A.

	Fall	Spring
Year 1	15-16 credits History survey, 4 credits Goal Area 3 course, 3-4 credits ENG 101, 4 credits MATH 112, 4 credits	14-16 credits History survey sequence course, 4 credits Goal Area 5 course, 3-4 credits Goal Area 1B course, 3-4 credits Goal Area 3 course, 4 credits
Year 2	16-18 credits Goal Area 6 course, 3-4 credits Goal Area 7 course, 3-4 credits Goal Area 8 course, 3-4 credits Goal Area 11, 1 credit History elective, 200-400-level, 4 credits	14-17 credits Goal Area 6 course, 3-4 credits Writing Intensive course, 3-4 credits Gold or Purple diversity course, 3-4 credits Goal Area 11, 1 credit History upper-division elective, 4 credits
Year 3	15-17 credits Goal Area 9 course, 3-4 credits Goal Area 10 course, 3-4 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits HIST 390, 391, or 392, 1 credit Language, 4 credits	14 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits HIST 390, 391, or 392, 1 credit History upper-division elective, 4 credits HIST 390, 391, or 392, 1 credit Language, 4 credits
Year 4	14-16 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits HIST 495W, 4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits	14-16 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits.

Curriculum: History B.S.

Major Common Core:

HIST 495W: Senior Seminar (4)

Major Restricted Electives:

Courses may not double-count between categories.

Introductory - Choose 8 Credit(s).

HIST 100 - 299

Practicum - Choose 4 Credit(s).

HIST 497: Internship (1-12)

SOST 450: Teaching Social Studies Secondary School (4)

Upper-Division World

Choose one course (4 Cr) from the following (Courses may not double-count between categories):

HIST 302, HIST 401-424, HIST 431-446,

HIST 466, HIST 476, HIST 478

Upper-Division U.S.

Choose one course (4 Cr) from the following (Courses may not double-count between categories):

HIST 430, HIST 436, HIST 452-488

Major Unrestricted Electives

Upper-Division Unrestricted

Choose 8 Credit(s).

HIST 300 - 499: Consult with advisor

Unrestricted

Choose 4 Credit(s).

HIST 100 - 499: Consult with advisor

Four-Year Plan: History B.S.

	Fall	Spring
Year 1	15-16 credits HIST 1xx-2xx, 4 credits Minor course, 3-4 credits ENG 101, 4 credits MATH 112, 4 credits	13-15 credits HIST 1xx-2xx, 4 credits Goal Area 1B, 3-4 credits Goal Area 3, 3 credits Goal Area 6, 3-4 credits
Year 2	14-17 credits Minor course, 3-4 credits Goal Area 3, 4 credits Goal Area 5, 3-4 credits Goal Area 6, 3-4 credits Goal Area 11, 1 credit	14-17 credits History elective, 4 credits Minor course, 3-4 credits Goal Area 8, 3-4 credits Goal Area 11, 1 credit Writing Intensive course, 3-4 credits
Year 3	13-16 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits Goal Area 7, 3-4 credits Goal Area 9, 3-4 credits	14-16 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits HIST 497, 1-4 credits Gold or Purple Diverse Cultures course, 3-4 credits Goal Area 10, 3-4 credits
Year 4	14-16 credits HIST 495W, 4 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits General elective, 3-4 credits General elective, 3-4 credits	13-16 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits General elective, 3-4 credits

History minors

The Department of History offers three minors: history, Latin American studies, and Middle Eastern studies & the Islamic World. History majors may minor in Latin American studies or Middle Eastern studies & the Islamic World. All minors should consult an advisor in the history department. Dr. Chad McCutchen is the Latin American Studies Coordinator. Dr. Jameel Haque is the Middle Eastern studies and Islamic World Coordinator. The curriculum for our minors is set forth below.

History minor (20 credits)

12 credits from the following:

HIST 100-499

8 credits from the following:

HIST 300-499

Latin American studies minor (16 credits):

Foundation courses: choose 6-8 credits

ANTH 430: Peoples and Culture of Latin America, 3 credits

GEOG 445: Latin America, 3 credits HIST 442: Modern Latin America, 4 credits

SPAN 356: Latin American Civilization, 1-4 credits

Extended study courses: choose 9-10 credits

ANTH 412: Archaeology of Latin America, 3 credits

ENG 473: Latina/o Literature, 2-4 credits HIST 441: Colonial Latin America, 4 credits POL 444: Latin American Politics, 3 credits

SPAN 403W: Topics in Spanish American Literature, 1-4 credits

SPAN 494: Individual Study Abroad: Topics in Spanish American Literature, 1-6 credits SPAN 496: Individual Study Abroad: Topics in Spanish American Culture, 1-6 credits

WLC 310: Portuguese for Spanish Speakers, 4 credits

No more than two courses can come from a single discipline. Other offerings may be substituted with permission of the Latin American studies faculty.

Middle Eastern studies & the Islamic World minor (16 credits):

Core course:

HIST 232: Islamic Civilizations, 4 credits

Restricted electives: choose 12 credits

ANTH 335: People and Cultures of Sub-Saharan Africa, 3 credits

ART 467: Art of the Islamic World, 3 credits ART 477W: Modern Islamic Art, 3 credits ENG 412W: Arab American Literature, 4 credits

HIST 402: Foundations of Judaism, Christianity, & Islam, 4 credits

HIST 446: Modern Middle East, 4 credits POL 443: Middle East Politics, 3 credits

Other offerings may be substituted with permission of the Middle Eastern studies faculty.

All history majors should meet with the undergraduate coordinator to develop an academic plan and with their faculty advisor each semester to make sure they are implementing their plan and satisfying the curriculum appropriately.

Transfer students

Transfer students should meet with the undergraduate coordinator to have their transfer credits reviewed prior to registration for classes. You will need to provide syllabi in order to substitute transfer classes for our department's curriculum. Students who transfer from a community college in the Minnesota State System with an Associate's degree should follow the History Transfer Pathways program at the community college and the Transfer Pathways academic map for their respective degree at Minnesota State Mankato. You should also be sure to meet with your faculty advisor.

Residency requirement: All transfer students majoring in history are required to take at least 8 credits in the Minnesota State University, Mankato Department of History. All transfer students minoring in history are required to take at least 4 credits in our department.

Degree Requirements: History Transfer Pathway

Typical Course Title	Course Credits	MnTC Goal	
Required courses intended for the major			
Survey Sequence US History I and US History II, or World History I and World History II, or Western Civ/European History I and Western Civ/European History II	6	5 & 7/8	
Restricted range of electives that will apply to	o the major		
An additional history course will transfer as an unrestricted elective in the major.	3	5 & 7/8	
MnTC courses			
Communications	9	1	
Critical Thinking	6	2	
Natural Sciences (one class must include a lab)	6	3	
Mathematical/Logical Reasoning	3	4	
History and the Social and Behavioral Sciences	6	5	
Humanities and Fine Arts	9	6	
Human Diversity	3	7	
Global Perspectives	3	8	
Ethical and Civil Responsibility	3	9	
People and the Environment	3	10	
Total number of credits	60	5 & 7/8	

Transfer Pathways Academic Map: History B.A.

	Fall	Spring
Year 1	15-16 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits Language, 4 credits	14-16 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits Language, 4 credits HIST 390, 1 credit
Year 2	15-16 credits HIST 495W, 4 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits HIST 391, 1 credit	13-16 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits Gold or Purple Diverse Cultures course, 3-4 credits HIST 392, 1 credit

Transfer Pathways Academic Map: History B.S.

	Fall	Spring
Year 1	14-16 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits Gold or Purple Diverse Cultures course, 3-4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits	14-16 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits
Year 2	14-16 credits HIST 495W, 4 credits HIST 497, 1-4 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits General elective, 3-4 credits	13-16 credits History upper-division elective, 4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits Minor upper-division course, 3-4 credits General elective, 3-4 credits

Policies

Admission to the major

Students are admitted to the major when they declare a history major, which can be done in person in the department office or online. Admission to the major allows students to register for upper-division (300- and 400-level) classes.

Grade point average

A minimum cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 is required in the major.

Pass/No Credit

Most undergraduate history courses may be taken either Pass/No Credit (P/N) or for a letter grade with the exception of the following courses, which are P/N only: HIST490 (Workshops), HIST497 (Internships), and HIST499 (Individual Study). History majors and minors must take all history courses for a letter grade except for courses that are offered as only P/N. In such cases, no more than 9 credits in a history major may be taken P/N, and no more than 5 credits in a history minor may be taken P/N.

Academic good standing

History majors are expected to meet the academic standards set by the University and to demonstrate satisfactory progress toward earning a degree. Students remain in good standing by maintaining the minimum Minnesota State Mankato (local) cumulative GPA, depending on the number of credits earned, and a cumulative completion rate of 66.67%. For students with 0-30 earned credits, the minimum GPA is 1.7; for students with 31-59 earned credits, the minimum GPA is 1.85; and for students with 60 credits or more, the minimum GPA is 2.0. Transfer credits are not included for purposes of calculating GPA but are included for purposes of calculating the number of earned credits. Completion rate is determined by dividing the total number of earned credits by the number of total attempted credits. Transfer credits are included for purposes of calculating completion rate.

Students who fall below these standards for one semester are put on academic warning and a registration hold is put on their account. To remove the hold, students on academic warning must meet with an academic advisor in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences to develop an academic plan and their History faculty advisor to determine how to implement this plan. Academic warning will be removed once the student meets the standards for academic good standing. A student who does not meet academic good standing requirements while on academic warning will be suspended.

Suspension prohibits students from further enrollment until the requirements for academic reinstatement are met. A student who has been placed on academic suspension may be reinstated after completing one year not enrolled at the University and submitting an Application for Reinstatement from Academic Suspension online. Under certain circumstances, students may qualify for early reinstatement. Students should speak with an academic advisor to determine eligibility for early reinstatement.

A student who is academically reinstated will be placed on academic probation. A student may continue on academic probation if he/she achieves a semester GPA of 2.5 and a semester completion rate of 66.67%. Failure to meet these semester requirements will result in academic suspension. For more information, see the University policy for Academic Standing for Undergraduate Students as revised on May 3, 2019, available online at www.mnsu.edu/atoz/policies/finalacademicstanding2019.pdf.

Other curriculum

General education

History majors are required to satisfy the general education curriculum as well as the university's writing intensive and diverse cultures requirements. History majors can find this curriculum and identify courses that satisfy these requirements online and can discuss appropriate classes with their faculty advisor. Detailed information can be found at:

mankato.mnsu.edu/academics/academic-catalog/undergraduate/graduation-requirements/

Writing intensive

All students, except for certain transfer students, must take two different writing intensive courses in two different disciplines. Writing intensive courses are identified with a W after the course number. All students majoring in history will take the required course HIST495W: Senior Seminar, which will satisfy one writing intensive course. Students will need to take one other writing intensive course from a different discipline in order to satisfy the requirement.

Diverse cultures

All history majors, except for certain transfer students, must take one purple (content) diverse cultures course and either one gold (experiential or reflective) diverse cultures course or another purple course. Students must take courses from at least two different disciplines to satisfy the Diverse Cultures Graduation Requirement. History majors who take HIST 171, HIST 171W, HIST 190W, HIST 191H, HIST 191W, HIST 260, HIST 260W, or HIST 477 will satisfy one purple diversity course and must take either a gold or purple course in another discipline. History majors who take HIST 232 or HIST 280 will satisfy one gold diversity course and must take a purple course in another discipline.

Transfer information

Transfer students who completed the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC) will satisfy the University's general education requirement. Transfer students who have completed 30 credits or more elsewhere or completed an Associate's degree will satisfy their writing intensive requirement with the Senior Seminar. Transfer students who have taken between 30 and 59 credit hours elsewhere only need to satisfy one purple or gold requirement. Transfer students who have taken 60 credits or more elsewhere have already satisfied the University's diverse cultures requirement.

Minors

History majors are required to have a minor unless they double major; students can select any minor except for the history minor. Students who want to become secondary education teachers often double major in social studies education and history. Students should consult with their faculty advisor for help with selecting a minor.

Recommended minors:

Latin American studies
Middle Eastern studies and the Islamic World
anthropology
business administration
computer information science
creative writing
English
film studies

gender & women's studies geography

human-animal studies

mass media
nonprofit leadership
political science
recreation

humanities

Scandinavian studies sexuality studies sociology "As an attorney, I use the research, reading, and writing skills I developed during the pursuit of my history degree on a daily basis."

Drew Kuettel - B.S., 2012 JD, University of Minnesota Associate Attorney, Perkins Coie, LLP

Benefits of studying history

Smaller classes

Enrollment in upper-division history classes ranges from 10 to 22 students. Smaller classes allow for greater discussion and enable students to develop relationships with their classmates and professors. Professors enjoy the opportunity to get to know their students outside the classroom during office hours and at department activities. These relationships can help students progress academically and professionally and enable professors to write stronger recommendation letters on their behalf.

International perspective

History stretches beyond the borders of the United States, and at Minnesota State Mankato, you will explore the histories of North and South America, Europe, Africa, and Asia. Diverse backgrounds of both instructors and students make for lively classroom discussions with multiple points of view. History majors are prepared to become global leaders and teachers. By unraveling the events of the past, you will develop a better understanding of our current world situation and the ability to look to the future.

Scholarships and grants

The department offers several scholarships and grants to help students fund their education and research experiences. There is an annual deadline in the Spring semester to apply for most scholarships. Students apply for scholarships using Scholarship Finder, which you can sign into using your StarlD and password. Scholarship Finder will identify funding opportunities available from the department, college, and university for which the student is qualified, but it is the responsibility of the student to submit all applications by the deadlines and to satisfy all requirements for each scholarship.

The department offers the following scholarships and grants:

The Department of History Scholarship is an award of up to \$1500 that goes to a sophomore or junior majoring in history or social studies (with a history emphasis). Applicants must have earned the equivalent of 8 semester credits in history at Minnesota State University, Mankato. The awards will be made on the basis of the highest GPA earned in history. In the case of a tie, the overall GPA will be considered. If necessary, the final decisions on the awards will be made through an interview process. The awards will be in the form of tuition payments for the following academic year.

The David Montgomery History Scholarship supports one scholarship for \$2000. David Montgomery (Accounting, '80), currently the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Duluth, Minnesota, is a lifelong student of history. He funds this scholarship in support of students who share his passion. His scholarship is awarded to a returning student who has declared a major in history. The scholarship will be awarded to the student based on their application and answer to an essay question. This award will be in the form of a tuition payment for the following academic year.

The David Taylor Scholarship Fund supports an annual scholarship of up to \$1500. The scholarships will be awarded to either a first-year student who has declared a major in history or an outstanding history major. In addition to the Application for History Scholarship form, the student must submit an essay explaining why they chose history as their major (about 250 words). This award will be in the form of a tuition payment for fall and spring semesters of the following academic year or can be received in the form of a cash grant. These scholarships have been established by the family and friends of Professor David Taylor in order to honor the memory of one who exemplified the highest ideals of historical scholarship and college teaching. Professor Taylor was a member of the History Department from 1969 to 1985.

The M. Bruce Gordon Scholarship (\$1500) is awarded based on the financial need of History students. The scholarship was created by Richard Bliss in honor and memory of his good friend Bruce Gordon, a 1970 History graduate from Mankato State University and a lifelong learner obtaining two additional Master's degrees from Portland State University. They met while attending Mankato State, living together for three years in McElroy dorms and creating a lifelong friendship. Bruce Gordon lived in Portland, Oregon, for most of his life while Richard Bliss lived in the metro area of Minnesota. However, both were avid readers and book collectors, owning tens of thousands of books between the two of them. Because of the passion they both hold towards learning and dedication to education, this scholarship will support students in the Department of History.

The department awards the William E. Lass Student Research and Writing Scholarship to students conducting and presenting original research. Professor Emeritus Lass taught history to Minnesota State University students for 42 years. During his prolific career, Dr. Lass published dozens of articles and seven books. His prodigious teaching, research, and writing enabled him to become the state's leading expert on Minnesota history. Dr. Lass established this research and writing fund to help students with the cost of historical research and writing, a passion he keeps alive during his retirement from teaching. Students can apply for a Lass Writing and Research Grant throughout the academic year based on deadlines established by the department using a separate application process. Information about the Lass Writing and Research Grant application can be found on the history department website.

Lass Writing and Research Grants may be used to support undergraduate and graduate student research and presentations at conferences. Students may use their grants for travel reimbursement, per diem expenses (meals and hotels), as well as purchasing copies, supplies, or other materials. Examples of research projects include: the Senior Seminar paper, the Alternate Plan Paper, or the Master's Thesis as well as any other significant research project. Grants will be awarded during the academic year. Students may apply during both semesters (regardless of whether they were awarded a grant previously). Grants will be made throughout the year. It is expected that students awarded scholarships will attend the spring convocation in order to be recognized for their work.

Internship Opportunities

Students are encouraged to participate in internships that provide real-world opportunities. Students can complete an internship for 1-4 credit hours in the fall, spring, or summer semesters. Internships require 40 hours per credit of meaningful employment at a partner institution (such as an archive or historical society) and assignments as required by the undergraduate coordinator. You can contact your faculty advisor or the department's undergraduate coordinator to arrange an internship. To begin an internship, students will complete an internship contract with the partner institution and a syllabus with the undergraduate coordinator.

"The success of my company is dependent on our ability to analyze and understand how our products helped patients in the past and then determine what improvements need to be made to better their lives in the future. The analytical, research and communication skills I learned while earning my history degree were essential in preparing me to support my colleagues with finding this information and making business critical decisions that will ultimately help improve our patients' lives."

Megan Turok - B.S., 2008 MLS, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Senior Marketing and Communications Supervisor, Medtronic

Courses

The department provides a number of courses to satisfy major and general education requirements. Courses numbered 100-299 are lower-level classes that help satisfy restricted and unrestricted electives for the major and minor, general education, and writing-intensive requirements. Courses numbered 300-499 are upper-division and help satisfy restricted and unrestricted electives for the major and minor, a core requirement for the major, and the university requirement of 40 upper-division credits. History undergraduates generally take 24-28 semester credits in upper-division courses for the major and must take at least 12-16 upper-division courses in their minor, general education, or general electives. All history courses are 4 semester credits. The following provides a description of courses offered.

Surveys

Surveys are lower-level courses designed to provide students with a broad overview of U.S., European, or world history. Surveys generally focus on breadth—span long periods of time and cover wide geographical areas—instead of depth. The department offers 12 different survey classes including writing intensive and online options. History B.A. students are required to take one geographical sequence. History minors should not take more than two different survey courses. All surveys help satisfy two general education goal areas. The department teaches survey courses during the fall and spring semesters and may teach surveys during the summer semester depending on student demand.

IMPORTANT: Students must take both courses in the sequence in order to satisfy the survey sequence for the B.A. degree.

The sequences are as follows:

World Civilization

HIST170/170W: Ancient World Civilization to 1500—A history of the physical, political, cultural, social, and economic foundations of world civilizations to 1500. Partially satisfies goal area 5. Satisfies goal area 8. Students may not take both HIST 170 and HIST 170W for credit.

HIST171 / 171W: World Civilization, 1500-Present—Review of major changes in world civilizations since 1500. Partially satisfies goal area 5. Satisfies goal area 8. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement. Students may not take both HIST 171 and HIST 171W for credit.

European History

HIST180/180W: European History to 1648—A survey of European civilization from Egypt to the end of the Thirty Years War. Partially satisfies goal area 5. Satisfies goal area 10. Students may not take both HIST 180 and HIST 180W for credit.

HIST181 / 181 W: European History, 1648-Present— A survey of European history from the end of the Thirty Years War to the present. Partially satisfies goal area 5. Satisfies goal area 9. Students may not take both HIST 181 and HIST 181 W for credit.

United States History

HIST190/190W: United States to 1877—This course is designed to provide an overview of America's political, social, economic, and cultural development from earliest colonization to 1877. Partially satisfies goal area 5. Satisfies goal area 7. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement. Students may not take both HIST 190 and HIST 190W for credit.

HIST 191 / 191 W: United States since 1877— A survey of American History from the end of Reconstruction to the present with a special emphasis on political and social developments. Partially satisfies goal area 5. Satisfies goal area 7. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement. Students may not take both HIST 191 and HIST 191 W for credit.

200-level courses

200-level courses are lower-level topic classes that help satisfy unrestricted electives in the major and minors and various general education goal areas. These classes go into greater depth of various topics than the surveys, and they encourage advanced student learning outcomes. The department currently offers the following lower-level topics courses:

HIST232: Islamic Civilizations—This course provides an historical and interdisciplinary approach to the study of the Islamic world. The course examines Islam and Islamic cultures within a global context, from its beginnings through the contemporary period. Partially satisfies goal area 5. Satisfies goal area 7. Satisfies the gold diverse cultures requirement. HIST 232 is a core class for the Middle Eastern studies and Islamic World minor. It also serves as an unrestricted elective for the major.

HIST250: Riot and Revolution—Through a series of historical simulations, students develop communication and oral reasoning skills by researching, writing, and participating in debates about key global political events that changed the course of history. Students will study primary and secondary sources related to the historical events. Students will draft, rewrite, and defend oral arguments based on their research, and they will conduct debates with other students in class. Satisfies goal areas 1B and 9.

HIST155: History of the Family—This course is designed to provide an overview and analysis of the historical experiences of the family in the United States from earliest settlement to the present in order to aid students in understanding the contemporary situation of the family in American society. (3 credits)

HIST260/HIST 260W: Introduction to Traditional East Asian Civilization—A general survey of pre-modern East Asian civilizations—particularly China and Japan—from the beginning to 1800. Topics include the formation and development of East Asian civilizations and the evolving East Asian engagement with the natural environment before the nineteenth century. Partially satisfies goal area 5. Satisfies goal area 10. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement.

HIST268: History of Law and Citizenship—Students will develop their communication and oral reasoning skills through historical role-playing exercises that interrogate what it means to be a citizen. The class will focus on specific historical periods and events. Students will read sources related to the period and research the events and characters of the era to give presentations and speeches. At times students will play the role of a historical character from the period. Our goal is to better understand the history of law and citizenship and to improve student rhetorical, speaking, research, and writing skills.

HIST280: History in Black and White—This class traces the evolving history of race from its creation in early modern Europe to political uses of this history in the twenty-first century United States, Students will learn about whiteness and blackness as social constructions that implicated the trans-Atlantic slave trade, patterns of imperialism, systems of oppression, and notions of beauty in western society. Students will also be involved in historical commemoration and/or racial justice projects involving communities of color in Minnesota to reflect on how the historical context informs these activities and how history continues to be used politically. Satisfies goal areas 9 and 11. Satisfies the gold diverse cultures requirement.

Upper-division courses

Upper-division courses go into greater depth of specific topics and emphasize higher-level cognitive skills including analysis, synthesis, and research. None of our upper-division courses have prerequisites. These courses partially satisfy the University's upper-division requirement of 40 credits. History majors generally need 12-16 additional upper-division courses to satisfy this University requirement. Some upper-division courses may satisfy general education goals, be offered online, or provide writing intensive credits. Most upper-division courses satisfy the regional upper-division restricted electives in European, United States, and/or world history. All region-based courses also satisfy the unrestricted elective requirement for the major. The following list includes upper-division courses the department teaches on a regular basis:

HIST402: Foundations of Judaism, Christianity, & Islam—A history of western monotheistic religions and their interactions with the secular world and each other from the beginnings of Judaism to the Crusades.		
HIST406: Renaissance and Reformation Europe—European history from the later Middle Ages to the end of the Thirty Years' War (c. 1300-1648). Students will examine the intellectual, religious, and cultural developments in Western Europe, with special attention given to social life and popular culture.		
HIST408: Women and Gender in European History—A history of women from Classical Greece and Rome to the modern era. An analysis of the changing concepts of gender relations within a study of women as individuals and as members of socio-economic, ethnic, kin, and religious groups.		
HIST414: Early England to 1603—England from ancient times to the death of Elizabeth I.		
HIST415: England since 1603—Political, social, and economic development of England and Great Britain since the death of Elizabeth I.		
HIST431: European History, Selected Topics—This seminar course will deal with a specific aspect of European history as announced by the department.		
United States upper-division electives		
HIST436: History of East Asian Relations with the United States—History of relations of major East Asian countries with the United States from the late eighteenth century to the present.		

HIST452: Minnesota History—This course HIST459: U.S. History 1861-1900-This will examine Minnesota's social, political, and course will explore the immediate causes and economic development from the earliest human consequences of the Civil War as well as the habitation to the present. rise of an industrial/urban United States. Major issues to be covered include: causes of the Civil War, the war itself, Reconstruction, the Gilded Age, and Populism. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement. HIST 446: Modern Middle East—This course HIST466: History of U.S. Foreign Relations will start with an introduction to the Middle in the Twentieth Century—An examination East and its history and the misconceptions that of the major factors influencing U.S. are attached to it. It will then proceed from the diplomacy since 1900. Students will examine late 18th century to the revolutionary events how influential policy makers defined their of recent years dubbed the Arab Spring and diplomatic goals, and how both domestic and their aftermaths. The goal is to both to unlearn external factors have contributed to America's misconceptions and to create an accurate reaction to wars and revolutions around the world. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures representation of the region. requirement. HIST468: U.S. Constitutional History to HIST469: U.S. Constitutional History from 1896—This course examines U.S. constitutional 1896—This course examines U.S. constitutional history from its English foundations to 1896. history from 1896 to the present. Students will Students will read and analyze court decisions read and analyze court decisions and discuss and discuss how legal history reflects American how legal history reflects American society, society, culture, politics, and economics during culture, politics, and economics during this this period. period. HIST471: 20th Century American West— HIST477: African American History—This This course looks at the social, political, and course surveys African American history from economic developments that transformed the slavery to the twenty-first century. We will twentieth century American West. Satisfies a explore the history of enslavement, black purple diverse cultures requirement. resistance, African American culture, freedom, migration patterns, and black political thought and participation as well as how historians have interpreted and reinterpreted this history. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement. HIST478: America in Vietnam—This course HIST481W: Civil Rights in the Twentieth Century—This course will examine the long will examine the Vietnam War. Students will civil rights movement throughout the twentieth discover how and why the U.S. became involved in Vietnam, examine the specific century. The course will focus on the African problems faced by American diplomats and American freedom movement including military officials, and how the war affected strategy and tactics, massive resistance by American society. Satisfies a purple diverse southern white supremacists, and federal and cultures requirement. This is also a required state responses. The course may also address course for the Military Science/Army ROTC the civil rights struggles of other marginalized program and serves as a restricted elective in populations. This class is taught online. the Military Science minor. HIST485: History of American Immigration HIST486: American Environmental History and Ethnicity—A historical study of the This course will examine the interaction between immigration and ethnic experience in America. humans and the American environment from Includes an examination of political, social, and pre-Columbus to the present. economic changes that resulted in population movements to the U.S. and of the development of immigration laws in response to the arrival of outsiders. Attention is given to the rise of anti-immigrant movements at various times in American history.

World upper-division electives	
HIST302: World History, An Overview— Review of World History as a field of study. This course is required for social studies education students. History majors can take it as a restricted elective that satisfies the world requirement or as an unrestricted elective.	HIST402: Foundations of Judaism, Christianity, & Islam—A history of western monotheistic religions and their interactions with the secular world and each other from the beginnings of Judaism to the Crusades.
HIST432: World History, Selected Topics— This seminar course will deal with a specific aspect of world history as announced by the department.	HIST434: East Asian History, 1800-1945—A comparative history of the Chinese and Japanese nations from the nineteenth century to 1945.
HIST435: East Asian History, 1945 – The Present—A comparative history of the rise of the Chinese and Japanese nations from 1945 to the present. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement.	HIST436: History of East Asian Relations with the United States—History of relations of major East Asian countries with the United States from the late eighteenth century to the present.
HIST437: African History to 1800— Investigation of historical developments across the African continent from pre-history through the eighteenth century. Topics will include ancient empires of West Africa, the Swahili coast, the spread of Islam, the trans-Atlantic slave trade and the formation of South Africa's multi-racial society. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement.	HIST438: Modern African History— Investigation of historical developments in Sub-Saharan Africa during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Topics will include trade with Europe and America, European colonization and African resistance, life in colonial Africa, independence movements, South Africa's apartheid state and the Rwanda genocide. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement.
HIST441: Colonial Latin America—This course traces the rise and fall of the Spanish and Portuguese Empires in America. Specific focus is given to the interactions between the European, African, and indigenous populations as they formulated societies in the Americas. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement.	HIST442: Modern Latin America—This course traces the history of Latin America from the late colonial period through the present as the various countries in the region attempted to transcend their colonial past and confront the pressures of modernization and globalization. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement.
HIST446: Modern Middle East—This course will start with an introduction to the Middle East and its history and the misconceptions that are attached to it. It will then proceed from the late 18th century to the revolutionary events of recent years dubbed the Arab Spring and their aftermaths. The goal is both to unlearn misconceptions and to create an accurate representation of the region.	HIST466: History of U.S. Foreign Relations in the Twentieth Century—An examination of the major factors influencing U.S. diplomacy since 1900. Students will examine how influential policy makers defined their diplomatic goals, and how both domestic and external factors have contributed to America's reaction to wars and revolutions around the world. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement.

HIST 478: America in Vietnam—This course will examine the Vietnam War. Students will discover how and why the U.S. became involved in Vietnam, examine the specific problems faced by American diplomats and military officials, and how the war affected American society. Satisfies a purple diverse cultures requirement. This is also a required course for the Military Science/Army ROTC program and serves as a restricted elective in the Military Science minor.

Unrestricted electives

HIST300: Study Abroad/Study Away Historical Tour—Historical study tours provide students with the opportunity to study at an off-campus location in a tour or program organized by a history professor. In addition to the off-campus experience, the course may also include readings, assignments, and class meetings on campus before or after the tour. Check with your professor to see if this course can be substituted for an unrestricted elective based on region.

HIST497: Internship—Students will apply historical skills and knowledge through a practical work experience at a non-profit organization, governmental agency, for-profit business, or other institution. P/N only, 1-12 credits

HIST499: *Individual Study*—Advanced independent study and research P/N only, 1-4 credits.

Core requirement

HIST495W: Senior Seminar—This course is required for all history majors. This seminar course will include a discussion of the history of the discipline of history, an introduction to research methodologies, and the nature of historical writing. Each student will write a research paper as part of the course. Permission of department and instructor required. This course partially satisfies the university's writing-intensive requirement.

As a history major I developed skills in critical thinking, argument analysis, respectful disagreement, understanding the beliefs and opinions of others, weighing claims against evidence, research to learn and to prove as well as the ability to write. A big benefit is the history classes at Mankato were taught by professors in sizes benefiting discussion and personalized learning."

Matthew M. Collie - BS, 2006 Public Health Analyst at Wisconsin Department of Health

Teaching methods

History professors at Minnesota State Mankato use various teaching methods to meet course learning objectives and maintain student interest.

Class discussion: Students and professors engage in class discussion to further understand readings and lecture material.

Research and writing: Many of our courses involve research in primary sources and scholarly secondary sources and promote academic writing that encourages critical analysis.

Digital history: Many of our faculty assign digital history projects that involve some type of work online, such as creating documentaries and websites or GIS mapping. Digital history is at the forefront of historical scholarship. It requires many of the same skills as traditional research and writing, such as asking questions, analyzing primary sources, and making historical arguments, but partners those proficiencies with technology to tell new types of stories and reach broader audiences.

Historical simulations: Many of our professors engage in role-playing, historical simulations, and other types of games in the classroom. Games can provide students with a different perspective on historical topics and introduce students to new historical characters. It also takes a good deal of research and analysis as well as full class participation and individual commitment to make these simulations work in the classroom.

Lectures: Traditional lectures provide content information that provides a context for critical analysis, role playing, and research.

Online courses and activities: Many of our classes are completely or partially taught online. Online classes and/or assignments allow for more flexibility for both students and professors but require students to remain committed to the course even without regular class meetings.

Public or applied history: Public and applied history may include creating historical exhibits, conducting oral history, or contributing to a similar project or research that reaches out to the general public. Most of our students get this type of experience through internships at a local historical society or museum, but some of our classes may incorporate public or applied history into the curriculum.

Co-curricular activities

The department provides a variety of co-curricular activities that supplement course work and allow students to network with other students, professors, staff, and community members. Students are encouraged to engage in these activities. The following are a few such opportunities available each academic year:

History Club: History Club meets every two weeks during the fall and spring semesters. The purpose is to promote the study of history by encouraging research, good teaching, publication of materials, and the exchange of learning and ideas among historians; to provide ideas outside of the classroom for students interested in historical study and debate; and to expand opportunities for students. The Minnesota State Mankato History Club offers opportunities to network with other students in your field of interest, participate in historical field trips, build your resume, and many other opportunities. Membership is open to all students.

History Day: History Day is a national contest for middle and high school students to engage in historical research and skill development. Competitions take place at the regional, state, and national level with top projects at each competition advancing to the next level. The Minnesota State Mankato Department of History hosts the annual South Central Regional History Day competition, and students have the opportunity to volunteer as judges, mentors, and coordinators gaining valuable experience in historical research, project management, and community service.

Phi Alpha Theta: Phi Alpha Theta is a national honor society for students and professors of history. Its mission is to promote the study of history through the encouragement of research, good teaching, publication and the exchange of learning and ideas among historians. The honor society seeks to bring students, teachers, and writers of history together for intellectual and social exchange, which promote and assist historical research and publication by its members. The Society publishes *The Historian*, a distinguished quarterly journal discussing interests in all fields of history. Members have the opportunity to subscribe to and publish in *The Historian*. Minnesota State Mankato students majoring in history who have a GPA of at least 3.1 in history and 3.0 overall are invited to join Phi Alpha Theta. Inductees pay a one-time initiation fee, which is partially subsidized by the department, and are inducted at the department's annual History Convocation in the spring semester.

History Forum Lecture Series: The History Forum Lecture Series is a series of historical lectures the department sponsors during the fall and spring semesters. These lectures are opportunities for students, professors, staff, and community members to learn about the latest historical research from local, regional, and national scholars. Students can learn about lectures in class, on the department website, and on posters across the campus. Lectures are free and open to the public.

Career planning

Students can use the skills and knowledge they develop as history majors to work in a variety of careers, including business, entrepreneurism, public history, and law. Some of these options may involve post-graduate education. The Department of History encourages students to think about career planning throughout their time at Minnesota State Mankato. The department and University provide many opportunities and resources for career planning.

Career Development Center: The staff of the Career Development Center (CDC) is dedicated to providing high-quality services to current students, new graduates, and alumni. The primary objective of the CDC is to provide services and resources to assist students and graduates with career planning and the search for employment. This includes a comprehensive range of services from career and choice of major assistance, to help finding part-time jobs and internships, to extensive job support and guidance. We strongly encourage students to take a proactive role in charting the course of their career path through involvement with the CDC early in their college education. You can find more information on the website: www.mnsu.edu/cdc/.

The CDC sponsors regular Career Fairs that allow students to meet with potential employers, have professional photographs taken, and expand networking opportunities. Career Day is an opportunity for all students in the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences to attend a career fair for jobs, internships, and learn more about career opportunities. To explore your career potential and find out how our graduates have developed their careers over time, you can also attend Career Day panels featuring history alumni. Find more information on Career Day at www.sbs.mnsu.edu/careerandinternshipday.html.

American Historical Association: The American Historical Association has created a guide for history students as they explore career options. Please visit: www.historians.org/teaching-and-learning/why-study-history/careers-for-history-majors

Internships and volunteerism: History students should consider formal internships and volunteer opportunities at local historical societies, state parks, and other organizations that might relate to future career goals. The department internship coordinator can help students to plan and apply for internships and identify volunteer opportunities.

Resources

The department encourages students to take advantage of the following resources to help them with curricular requirements, class instruction, and overall wellbeing.

Campus resources

Academic Catalog, 2020-2021: https://admin.mnsu.edu/academic-affairs/university-calendars/Accessibility Resources: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/university-life/campus-services/accessibility-resources

Academic Advising: https://sbs.mnsu.edu/advising

Apply for Graduation: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/academics/course-planning-and-registration/registration-and-academic-records/current-students-registration-resources/transcripts-and-verifications/graduation-application-and-diploma-replacement/

Campus Hub: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/university-life/campus-services/campushub

Career Development Center (CDC): https://mankato.mnsu.edu/university-life/career-development-center/

Center for Academic Success: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/academic-success-center

College of Social and Behavioral Sciences: https://sbs.mnsu.edu/

Counseling Center: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/university-life/health-and-safety/counseling-center/

Fellowship Opportunities: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/fellowships

Honors Program: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/academics/academic-catalog/undergraduate/honors-program/

Kearney International Center: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/international

LGBT Center: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/lgbtc/ Memorial Library: https://library.mnsu.edu/

Nontraditional Student Center: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/university-life/activities-and-

organizations/nontraditional-student-Resources

Recognized Student Organizations: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/university-life/activities-and-organizations

Scholarship Finder: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/university-life/campus-services/campushub/financial-aid/scholarships

Undergraduate Research Center (URC): https://research.mnsu.edu/undergraduate-researchcenter/

University Archives: https://library.mnsu.edu/archives

Veterans Resource Center: https://www.mnsu.edu/veterans/resource_center/

Women's Center: https://mankato.mnsu.edu/wcenter/

World Languages and Cultures: https://carts.mnsu.edu/academics/world-languages-and-cultures

Community resources

Blue Earth County Historical Society: https://blueearthcountyhistory.com/

Greater Mankato Diversity Council: https://www.mankatodiversity.org/

Mankato city bus routes: https://www.mankatomn.gov/city-services-a-z/bus-routes

Nicollet County Historical Society: http://www.nchsmn.org/

YWCA Mankato: https://www.mankatoywca.org/

Discipline-related resources

American Historical Association (AHA): https://www.historians.org/

Minnesota Historical Society: https://www.mnhs.org/

National History Day: https://www.nhd.org/

Northern Great Plains History Conference: https://www.ngphconference.org/

Organization of American Historians (OAH): https://www.oah.org/

Western History Association (WHA): https://westernhistoryassociation.wildapricot.org/

CONTACT

Department of History
Armstrong Hall 110B
Minnesota State University, Mankato
Mankato, MN 56001

history@mnsu.edu 507-389-1618 www.mnsu.edu/history



f History Department, Minnesota State University Mankato

"I would encourage anyone to get a history degree or minor because we live in a global world. Students today are needing to develop more complimentary skills to compete in the global economy. Innovation is what the market is looking for and in my current career I am challenging the next generation of students to think about that change."

Don Thomas II - B.S., 2013 MS, Counseling and Student Personnel, Minnesota State Mankato Health Occupations Educational Planner, Green River College





Minnesota State University, Mankato A member of Minnesota State

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