Bachelor of Arts

INTRODUCTION TO THE MAJOR

History is at the foundation of everything we do. We cannot understand the world or hope to improve it without serious attention to the historical processes that created it. Our faculty’s teaching and research cover almost the entirety of recorded history and span most of the globe. We are internationally respected for our expertise in many subfields of the discipline, including cultural, political, economic, religious, intellectual, urban, and imperial and world history, as well as histories of science and sexuality, among others. Faculty have won the most prestigious awards our profession has to offer, from MacArthur “Genius Grants” to Berkeley’s own Distinguished Teaching Award. Whether you choose to major or minor, we hope that you will join our community of historians and add your talents and strengths to ours.

THE HISTORY CURRICULUM

History at Berkeley is a highly flexible major that prizes and prioritizes original research. Students develop their own field of concentration while taking four lower division classes (emphasizing breadth) and eight upper division classes (emphasizing depth). In office hours, lectures, and particularly the two required small seminars (History 103 and 101), students work closely with our faculty to conceptualize, research, and write a capstone thesis.

AMPLIFY YOUR MAJOR

- Join a History student organization such as Phi Alpha Theta or Clio’s Scroll.
- Connect with current students and faculty at the annual Faculty Student Dinner.
- Apply for the History Undergraduate Research Grant.
- Present your capstone project at The 101 Circus undergraduate research showcase.

“Examining historical texts in collaboration with fellow students and a professor is an inspiring experience. It made me see directly how doing good historical research can build and strengthen communities.”

– Walker Laughlin ‘20
**HISTORY UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA**

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**DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY**

**FIRST YEAR**

- Meet with your major and college advisor to discuss your academic plans.
- Review major and college requirements, and consult the History Major Handbook.
- Enroll in History survey courses to meet the lower division requirements.

**SECOND YEAR**

- Declare the major after completing three courses in the department, including at least two lower division courses.
- Research sample fields of concentration and start thinking about your own historical fields of interest.
- Review major guidelines for study abroad and look into history-related programs.

**THIRD YEAR**

- Review your degree progress with your major and college advisor.
- Enroll in HISTORY 103 (proseminar) and consider applying for a one-year thesis project.
- Submit your Field of Concentration Form.
- Attend workshops at the Office of Undergraduate Research.

**FOURTH YEAR**

- Do a degree check to ensure you are on track to graduate.
- Enroll in HISTORY 101 (research seminar) and complete your senior thesis.
- Complete any "bucket list" courses and remaining major, college, and campus requirements.

**WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR?**

History alumni have gone on to a variety of successful careers in research, communications, education, law, business, public service, and many other professions.

**Jobs and Employers**

- Admissions Specialist, App Academy
- Analyst Consultant, Mercer
- Accrue, Defense Language Institute
- Asst. Editor, China Digital Times
- Communications Manager, Google
- Director, San Joaquin County Historical Museum
- English Teaching Assistant, Fulbright
- Executive Team Leader, Macy's
- Law Clerk, US District Court San Diego
- Marine Officer, US Marine Corps
- Operations Research Analyst, Kinetix
- Patent Agent, Genentech
- Recruiter, Zendrive
- Research Associate, Harvard University
- Software Engineer, Twitter

**Graduate Programs**

- Creative Writing, Masters
- Education, Masters
- Engineering Physics, PhD
- History, Masters, PhD
- International Relations, Masters
- Journalism, Masters
- Law, JD
- Political Science, Masters
- Public Administration, Masters
- Public Policy, Masters
- Secondary Education, Masters

**Examples gathered from LinkedIn and the First Destination Survey of recent Berkeley graduates.**