**HISTORY**

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.

**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.

**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.

**Examing 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

**CONNECT WITH US**

**Cal Day**
Come to UC Berkeley’s annual Open House in April for a special orientation for prospective students and their families, as well as a faculty presentation.

**Golden Bear Orientation**
Join your peers in the campus-wide UC Berkeley orientation program for all new students. The History department also holds an annual orientation/welcome for new and continuing students in late August.

**Events**
Attend department events with students, faculty, and staff.

**ADVISING**

Students can schedule an appointment with the History undergraduate advisor or send an email to history-undergradadvising@berkeley.edu. Visit history.berkeley.edu/undergraduate/advising for advising hours and appointment signups.

**HOW TO USE THIS MAP**

Use this map to help plan and guide your experience at UC Berkeley, including academic, co-curricular, and discovery opportunities. Everyone’s Berkeley experience is different and activities in this map are suggestions. Always consult with your advisors whenever possible for new opportunities and updates.

Visit ue.berkeley.edu/majormaps for the latest version of this major map.
DESIGN YOUR JOURNEY

HISTORY Bachelor of Arts

**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.
- Review major guidelines for study abroad and look into history-related programs.

**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.

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**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**


**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.**

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**EXPLORE YOUR MAJOR**

- Connect and build community
- Discover your passions
- Engage locally and globally
- Reflect and plan your future

**Step-by-Step**

- See graduate and professional school options with Berkeley Study Abroad
- Explore study, internship, and research abroad
- Find service opportunities through the student activities fair and Attend the Calapalooza
- Learn about research opportunities with Berkeley Study Abroad.
- Work with a community organization in an American Cultures Engaged Scholarship course.
- Go on a service-learning trip with the Alternative Breaks Program.
- Brush up on your foreign language(s) or learn new ones, especially if conducting archival research for your senior thesis.
- Experience life at another UC or college on a visitor and exchange program.
- Study and intern in Washington D.C. with UCDC or Cal in the Capital. If you’d rather stay in California, look into Cal in Sacramento or UCSC.
- Consider a Berkeley Global Internship in the United States or abroad.
- Update your resume and LinkedIn profile.
- Discuss post-graduation options with advisors and professors.
- Attend career and graduate school fairs.
- Ask professors and graduate student instructors for recommendation letters. (See the History Major Handbook for “Advice for Requesting Letters of Recommendation”).

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