**History program**

**Master of Arts (M.A.) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Program Admission Deadlines:**

**Fall:** January 15

Fall admission only

**Minimum Total Hours:** 30

**Program Level:** Masters

**CIP Code:** 54.0101

**Dept. Code:** HTY

**Program (Major/College):** HTY AS

**Approved:** 1969

**Concentrations:**

American History (AHY)

Ancient History (AHS)

European History (EHS)

Latin American History (LAH)

Medieval History (MHS)

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**College:** Arts and Sciences

**Department:** History

**Contact Information:** [www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu)

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

The Department of History offers the M.A. degree. Members of the graduate faculty in History have earned recognition as teachers, scholars, and contributors to the community. The Department offers a Master of Arts degree organized around the following fields:

Field 1: American History to 1877

Field 2: American History since 1877

Field 3: Ancient History

Field 4: Medieval History

Field 5: Early Modern Worlds

Field 6: Modern Europe since 1789

Field 7: Latin America

Across these fields, students can request, in consultation with their major professor, concentrations organized thematically or geographically.

**Accreditation:**

Accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of College and Schools.

**ADMISSION INFORMATION**

Must meet University requirements (see Graduate Admissions) as well as requirements listed below.

**Program Admission Requirements**

* **GPA** of at least 3.00
* **GRE** Scores of at least 160 (85th percentile) Verbal, 144 (18th percentile) Quantitative, and 4.5 (80th percentile) in writing. Only current scores within the last 5 years will be accepted.
* **Letters of Recommendation:** Two letters of recommendation on behalf of the applicant are required. These letters should come from academic sources familiar with the quality of the applicant’s college-level work and indicate his/her graduate program potential. Once the online application is completed, requests for recommendations will be emailed to recommenders.
* **Statement of Purpose:** A two-page statement is required that delineates historical and intellectual areas of interest, proposed fields of study, educational and professional goals, the faculty with whom the applicant is potentially interested in working, and why the applicant sees him/herself as a good fit with our program.
* **Writing Sample:** A sample of written work which indicates the applicant’s ability to write effectively and preferably, to conduct historical research and analysis must be submitted. The sample should be approximately 15 pages in length. Appropriate examples include a term paper, research paper, or thesis chapter.

A B.A. in history is preferred. The Department will consider applicants without a recent background in undergraduate history, but they may be required to complete Theory of History (HIS 4104) as well as some upper division and/or graduate level courses in relevant fields with a grade of “B” or higher. These will be determined in consultation with the Graduate Program Director or Major Professor.

**DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

Total Minimum Hours: 30

Core Course – 3 hours

Concentrations – 21 hours

Thesis/non-thesis – 6 hours

**Core Course Requirement (3 hours)**

HIS 6112 3 Analysis of Historical Knowledge

**Concentrations (21 hours)**

Students may select from the following Concentration areas:

**American History (AHY)**

**Ancient History (AHS)**

**European History (EHS)**

**Latin American History (LAH)**

**Medieval History (MHS)**

Students complete coursework for the Major and Minor fields, in the concentration they choose.

**Major Field (15 hours – any combination of the following):**

HIS 6939 3 Seminar in History

HIS 6925 3 Colloquium in History

**Minor Field (6 hours – any combination of the following)**

HIS 6939 3 Seminar in History

HIS 6925 3 Colloquium in History

**Other Requirements**

Of the 30 hours required for the Master of Arts, at least 20 must be in formal, regularly scheduled course work. A minimum of 16 must be at the 6000 level. Subject to the satisfaction of above requirements, courses at the 5000 level are acceptable as part of a planned degree program. Students may take a maximum of 6 hours in HIS 6914 Directed Research and/or HIS 6908 Independent Study and a maximum of 6 hours in HIS 6925 Colloquia.

After beginning course work, M.A. students select an advisor in their anticipated major field of study. Students arrange their programs and schedules of appropriate courses with their major professor. Additionally, the student in consultation with the major professor asks on or two other members (normally one from the major and one from the minor fields) to serve on a supervisory committee. The student is required to have completed successfully at least 3 credits of course work with each member of his/her committee. Students with two unresolved “Incomplete” grades (of any credit total) will not be permitted to register for additional history courses until at least one “Incomplete” grade is resolved.

Students may opt to do either a thesis or non-thesis tract.

**Thesis** (6 hours)

HIS 6971 6 Thesis

**Non-Thesis** (6 hours)

Any combination that totals six hours:

HIS 6939 3 Seminar in History

HIS 6925 3 Colloquium in History

HIS 6914 3 Directed Research

HIS 6908 3 Independent Study

**Comprehensive Examinations:**

A six-hour written comprehensive examination will consist of answering two questions in a major field and one in a minor field. In addition, at the discretion of the committee, an oral examination may be administered. The examination questions and student answers will form part of the student’s Department file. A student must have no “incomplete” grades and be enrolled for a minimum of two (2) hours during the term the comprehensive examination is taken.

**Language Requirements:**

M.A. students must demonstrate a reading proficiency in one foreign language most applicable to a student’s field of research (as determined by the Major Professor). The language requirement will be fulfilled in one of two ways:

1. A two-hour examination administrated by the Department. The student will be expected to translate satisfactorily a 500-word passage, with the assistance of a dictionary.
2. With the approval of the major professor, the student may take two semesters of an intermediate level foreign language. In order to fulfill the foreign language requirement, the student must receive a “B” or above in each semester’s course. Those students who have met these requirements as an undergraduate may have the language requirement waived by petitioning the Graduate Committee.

Students with a major field in American History and with a thesis topic that does not require the use of a foreign language may substitute quantitative methods for the language requirements. The quantitative methods option will be fulfilled by successful completion with a grade of at least “B” in one of the following courses:

ANG 5486 3 Quantitative Methods in Anthropology

EDF 6407 4 Statistical Analysis in Educational Research

POS 6736 3 Political Research Methods

MAT 5932 3 Selected Topics

**Graduation and Master’s Thesis:**

* A satisfactory performance in the core course, two fields, and the completion of a comprehensive examination are required of all M.A. students for graduation.
* In order to graduate, a student must apply for graduation through OASIS using their Net ID and self –assigned password by the deadline noted in the Academic Calendar for the term during which graduation is anticipated.
* Students selecting the thesis option must follow the final submission process in the Office of Graduate Studies to be considered for graduation. For information refer to the Office of Graduate Studies website [www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu)
* Students may not participate in commencement unless all requirements have been satisfactorily completed.
* All requirements for master’s degrees must be completed within five (5) calendar years from the student’s date of admission for graduate study.

**COURSES**

See <http://www.ugs.usf.edu/course-inventory/>