**history program**

**Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) Degree**

**DEGREE INFORMATION**

**Program Admission Deadlines:**

**Fall:** December 1

Fall admission only

**Minimum Total Hours:** 72 (post-bachelor’s)

42 (post-masters)

**Program Level:** Doctoral

**CIP Code:** 54.0101

**Dept. Code:** HTY

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

**Approved:** 2009

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**College:** Arts and Sciences

**Department:** History

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

**PROGRAM INFORMATION**

The History Department's nationally and internationally recognized faculty creates a dynamic learning environment that fosters close interaction between students and professors. Our Ph.D. program features an innovative model of doctoral education designed to insure broad interdisciplinary connection with related disciplines. We pride ourselves on training students to be scholars and teachers at all levels of education, while also offering preparation for careers outside academia in government agencies, historical societies, libraries and museums. The addition of training and internship opportunities in digital humanities is also designed to introduce students to tech industries as well.

Our faculty have expertise in a wide range of period, regional, and thematic specializations. Students may organize their major and minor fields around traditional chronological and regional specialties such as Ancient, Medieval, and Early Modern Worlds; Colonial through Modern U.S.; Latin America; and Modern Europe, but they may also build their fields around themes in such areas as digital humanities, gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, regional history, science and medicine, comparative empires, and public history.

**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**

The minimum requirements for consideration for admission to the Ph.D. program in history include:

* **Graduate Coursework and Grade Point Average**: Applicants must have completed at least 18 hours of graduate credit before entering the PhD program and should have earned at least a 3.50 in their history courses as demonstrated by official transcripts.
* **Letters of Recommendation**: Applicant must solicit three letters of recommendation on his/her behalf. These letters should come from academic sources familiar with the quality of the applicant’s scholarly work and indicate his/her doctoral program potential. The online application must be completed before the system will send requests to submit to recommenders.
* **Statement of Purpose**: The applicant must submit a statement that indicates his/her historical and intellectual areas of interest, outline proposed fields of study, educational and professional goals, names the faculty with whom the applicant is potentially interested in working, and explains why the applicant sees him/herself as a good fit with our program.
* **Sample of Writing**: Applicants must submit a sample of written work that indicates the applicant’s ability to conduct primary source based research and to write effectively. The sample may include a publication, seminar paper, or a thesis chapter but ought not be longer than 30 pages.
* **Language:** Applicants will provide evidence of proficiency in the foreign language(s) of their primary field of study.

**Students Advancing directly into the Doctoral Program from the Master’s Degree Program**

After completing a minimum of 18 graduate hours, an admitted MA student may apply for the doctoral program with the consent of his/her major professor (must be the major professor and not simply the initial advisor).  The standard University application process and fees apply. When the student applies to the Ph.D. program, the application is then reviewed by the Graduate Committee via the established application process, and recommendations are made regarding admission to the program and funding.

**DEGREE PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

Total Minimum Hours: 72 -post-baccalaureate (42 hours post-masters)

Core Requirements – 6 hours

Major and Minor Fields – 39 hours

Capstone – 3 hours

Dissertation – 18 hours

**Plan of Study**

In addition to the general requirements of the University as explained in the USF Graduate Catalog, a candidate is required to complete a total of 72 post-baccalaureate credit hours. The following distribution assumes that the applicant has already earned an MA or completed 30 credit hours of post-baccalaureate coursework. Up to 30 hours of M.A. level work may may be counted towards the total 54 hours of required coursework. Students must petition the Graduate Director for an MA level course audit to determine which courses will be counted against the 54 hours. These 30 hours must be from structured coursework and students must have earned at least a 3.0 in each. Adjustments will be made for MA students who have not yet finished their degrees:

**Core Requirements – 6 hours**

HIS 7937 Interdisciplinary Ph.D. Pro-Seminar3 hours

This course is as an Introduction to the interdisciplinary nature of this unique Ph.D. program, and will offer new students to the History program the opportunity to engage with their colleagues in Government and International Affairs and Sociology. This *Pro-Seminar* is organized around one common theme and focuses on the methodologies and theories of these related disciplines to educate students as to the complementary aspects of these fields.

**HIS 6112 Analysis of Historical Knowledge** 3 hours

*Analysis of Historical Knowledge* examines both the theories behind and the practical

methodological approaches in historical research. If a student has satisfactorily completed HIS 6112 Analysis of Historical Knowledge before admission into the PhD program, it will be waived. If the student has taken a similar course elsewhere, this requirement may be waived subject to the approval of the Graduate Director.

**Major and Minor Field Studies – 39 hours**

Students will complete at least five courses devoted to their major and minor fields of study. A student must have a minimum of 6 History credit hours in her major historical field and 3 in her minor. The remaining 3-6 hours may be filled by either by the HIS 7289 Seminar in Comparative Studies course or with 6000 or 7000 level courses from outside the Department, or by a combination of these courses. The electives must be selected in consultation with the student’s Major Professor and approved by the Graduate Director.

**Major Field Studies**: 24 credit hours in the following variable topic courses that pertain to the student’s major:

HIS 6935 Graduate Reading Seminar in History 3 hours

HIS 6939 Seminar in History 3 hours

HIS 7939 Selected Topics for Doctoral Students 3 hours

**Minor Field Studies:** 15 credit hours in the following variable topic courses that pertain to the student’s minor:

HIS 6935 Graduate Reading Seminar in History 3 hours

HIS 6939 Seminar in History 3 hours

HIS 7939 Selected Topics for Doctoral Students 3 hours

**Electives:** 6 hours of any combination of the following.

XXX XXXX Graduate level elective 3 hours

This course must not be offered by History department and should be selected in conjunction with Major Professor and approved by the Graduate Director.

HIS 7289 Seminar in Comparative Studies 3 hours

This course compares issues such as globalization, imperialism, identity, urbanization, etc. as expressed through a range of historical period and regions.

**HIS7938 Ph.D. Capstone Seminar** 3 hours

Students in this course will develop their dissertation prospectus in consultation with their Major Professor. History, School of Interdisciplinary Global Studies and Sociology faculty members will take turns teaching the course each year.

**Language Requirement for Ph.D. Students**

Students must demonstrate proficiency in their primary language of research by the end of the first year of study. In fields where more than one language is required, students must complete their language exams before they can take the comprehensive exam. Language requirements must be fulfilled before students can progress to the dissertation stage. Written examinations to test a student’s language proficiency will be administered either by the History Department or through the USF Dept. of World Languages. The precise format of the exam and the level of language competency needed to pass will be determined in each case by the student’s advisor.

**Field Language (s) Required**

Ancient Classical Greek, Classical Latin, French, and German

Byzantine Byzantine Greek, Latin, French, and German

Early Modern Europe Primary European language of research plus one additional European language (Latin may be required in some cases)

Modern Europe Primary European language of research plus on additional European languages

Latin America Spanish and Portuguese

Medieval Europe Medieval Latin, plus two additional European languages

Middle East Primary Middle Eastern language of research plus one additional language

United States Foreign language most pertinent to research agenda

With the approval of their Major Professor, students may fulfill their foreign language with the successful completion (a “B” or above) in a quantitative methods course. This course will not count towards the required 54 hours of coursework. Any one of the following courses will satisfy the requirement.

ANG 5486     Quantitative Methods in Anthropology 3

EDF 6407      Statistical Analysis in Educational Research 4

POS 6736      Political Research Methods 3

MAT 5932     Selected Topics 3

**Comprehensive Exam**

* Before taking comprehensive exams, student must have completed a majority of their coursework.
* Exams will be conducted by the student’s Supervisory Committee. The oral exams shall be taken within one week after the written exams have been completed. Exams may be retaken once if necessary.

**Dissertation Proposal**

Students must complete an oral dissertation defense with the members of the dissertation committee. Dissertation committees must be composed of a minimum of four faculty members, one of whom may be drawn from an academic institution other than USF. Faculty from fields other than History may serve on dissertation committees upon approval of the Graduate Program Director.

**Dissertation Writing Hours 18 hours**

These hours are intended to give students the opportunity to work closely with their dissertation committee and focus on research, writing, and revision.

**Timeframe**

All requirements must be completed within the university-mandated time frame after admission to the Ph.D. program.

**COURSES**

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