

MA IN HISTORY (SPECIALIZED OPTION)

Total units required for the MA: 30

Program Description

The Master of Arts program in History introduces students to the use of the historical method, the critical investigation of problems in historical study, and the analysis and interpretation of primary source material. These skills are valuable in many professions, especially to students interested in pursuing graduate study culminating in the doctorate in History, experienced teachers of history in public schools, students who wish to teach in California Community Colleges, and to students seeking employment in archival management, oral history, consulting, and public sector historical research.

California State University, Sacramento is well situated to offer rich historical resources in several fields of study. The California State Archives, the California State Library and the Sacramento Archives and Museum Collection Center offer unique opportunities for the study of Western and California History. The presence of many state and community agencies dealing with historic preservation offers possibilities for stimulating internships, and the history graduate program is also able to draw upon rich materials in a number of areas of United States, European, and world history located in the Sacramento State Library.

Admission Requirements

Admission as a classified graduate student in the Standard and the Public History programs requires:

- a baccalaureate degree;
- an undergraduate major in History, **OR** a minimum of 27 semester units in History, or a closely related field, approved by the Graduate Coordinator. Fifteen of the units must be upper division and include one seminar from the HIST 192 series (or equivalent) and one seminar from HIST 197 series (or equivalent); and
- a minimum 3.0 GPA in the last 60 units attempted and a minimum 3.25 GPA in History courses.

Students who have deficiencies in admission requirements that can be removed by specified additional preparation may be admitted to the degree program with conditionally classified graduate status. Any deficiencies will be noted on a written response to the admission application. The department Graduate Coordinator will specify courses to be taken by students with fewer than 27 units of history and/or without the required seminars. Work taken to remove such deficiencies may not be counted toward the master's degree.

Admission Procedures

Applicants should file two applications: one to the Sacramento State Office of Graduate Studies for admission to the University, and the other to the Department of History for classified status in the History master's program. Please check with the Department office for the official deadline.

All applicants, including Sacramento State graduates, must file the following with the Office of Graduate Studies, River Front Center 215, (916) 278-6470:

- an online application for admission; and
- two sets of official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended, *other than Sacramento State*.

For more admissions information and application deadlines please visit <http://www.csus.edu/gradstudies/>.

Applicants must also file the following with the Sacramento State History Department:

- a Department Application for Admission (available through the History Department office or Web site);
- a statement of purpose of at least 250 words. This statement should include reasons for applying to the master's program, career objectives and an explanation of how the program will help achieve them, relevant professional training, experience, internships, or volunteer activities, and any non-academic skills, interests, or notable accomplishments that may be pertinent to the application;
- two letters of recommendation. Letters should ideally come from university instructors, but if these are not available, any other credible source who can address qualifications will be acceptable (i.e., work supervisor, clergy, or community leader);
- a set of transcripts from all colleges attended, including Sacramento State (unofficial transcripts will suffice);
- academic writing sample (optional but highly encouraged).

Applicants will be informed of the Admission Committee's decision within six weeks of the Department's application deadline.

Minimum Units and Grade Requirements for the Degree

Units required for the MA: 30

Minimum Cumulative GPA: 3.0

Advancement To Candidacy

Each student must file an application for Advancement to Candidacy, indicating a proposed program of graduate study. This procedure should begin as soon as the classified graduate student has:

- removed any deficiencies in admission requirements;
- completed at least 12 units in the graduate program with a minimum 3.0 GPA, including at least one 200-level course;
- determined with the History Graduate Coordinator whether to attempt the thesis, examination, or project (Public History and Specialized Options only) as the Culminating Requirement;
- determined which department faculty member will supervise the student's work and act as his/her History advisor;
- filed and received departmental approval of a Petition for Approval of Thesis/Examination/Project (only in the Public History and Specialized Options); and
- taken the Writing Placement for Graduate Students (WPG) or taken a Graduate Writing Intensive (GWI) course in their discipline within the first two semesters of coursework at California State University, Sacramento or secured approval for a WPG waiver.

Students must file their Advancement to Candidacy in the semester prior to enrolling in HIST 500, Culminating Experience.

Advancement to Candidacy forms are available on the Office of Graduate Studies website. The student fills out the form after planning a degree program in consultation with his/her History advisor. The completed form

is then returned to the Graduate Coordinator and the Office of Graduate Studies for approval.

Note: A foreign language is not a degree requirement. However, students who plan further graduate study in History are encouraged to study French, German, or another foreign language since proficiency in two foreign languages is usually required in doctoral programs.

Program Requirements

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses (18 Units)		
HIST 200	History and Theory 	3
Select one of the following:		3
HIST 201	Interpreting World History	
HIST 202	Interpreting U.S. History	
Select one of the following:		3
HIST 209A	Research and Writing in US History	
HIST 209B	Research and Writing in the History of the American West	
HIST 209C	Research and Writing in World History	
Select three of the following:		9
HIST 280A	Reading Seminar in African or Asian History	
HIST 280B	Reading Seminar in Ancient or Medieval European History	
HIST 280C	Reading Seminar in Modern European History	
HIST 280Z	Reading Seminar: Topics in World History	
HIST 281A	Reading Seminar in Colonial or Early US History	
HIST 281B	Reading Seminar in Nineteenth Century US History	
HIST 281C	Reading Seminar in Modern US History	
HIST 281Z	Reading Seminar: Topics in United States History	
Electives (9 Units)		
Select 9 units ¹		9
Culminating Requirement (3 Units)		
HIST 500	Culminating Experience ²	3
Total Units		30

¹ Elective courses in History (graduate seminars or upper division courses) and up to 3 units from related fields, as approved by the Graduate Director. HIST 280 and HIST 281 series courses may be repeated and counted in this area if the course topic is different.

² Students may not enroll in HIST 500 until all "Incomplete" grades received up to that point are completed. Students who receive "Incomplete" grades in coursework after enrolling in HIST 500 will not receive final approval on thesis, examination, or project until a passing grade has been assigned to incomplete coursework.

No more than 9 units of supervisory courses (see the following) may be counted toward the degree.

Code	Title	Units
HIST 295	History Internship	3
HIST 297	Advanced Internship	3
HIST 299	Special Problems	1 - 3
HIST 400	The Teaching of History in College	3
HIST 500	Culminating Experience	3