

HISTORY, BA: GENERAL HISTORY

The Department of History offers a variety of courses dealing with the political, social, diplomatic, intellectual, economic, and cultural history of the Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, from the early medieval period to the present. The History Major gives undergraduates both specific mastery of particular times, places, and aspects of the human condition and the critical skills to think historically about both long-term and modern phenomena, emphasizing the dynamics of change and continuity over time. The History Department at the University of Pennsylvania has a long tradition of distinction, both in its scholarship and in its undergraduate teaching. Beginning as one of the first programs in the United States to offer doctoral study in history, the department continues to pioneer new areas of scholarship. History faculty have assumed a leading role in introducing and promoting new varieties of historical research and writing.

The minimum total course units (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/credits-needed-major/>) for graduation in this major is 32. Double majors may entail more course units.

8 courses must be taken in History at the University of Pennsylvania.

For more information: <http://www.history.upenn.edu/undergraduate/history-major/> (<https://www.history.upenn.edu/undergraduate/history-major/>)

For information about the General Education requirements, please visit the College of Arts & Sciences Curriculum (<https://www.college.upenn.edu/curriculum/>) page.

Code	Title	Course Units
College General Education Requirements and Free Electives		
Foundational Approaches + Sectors ¹ + Free Electives		20
Major Requirements		12
<i>Geographic Distribution</i>		
Select one distinct course in four of the six geographic regions		
United States & Canada: Attribute AHUC (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/ahuc/)		
Europe and Australia: Attribute AHEA (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/ahua/)		
Africa and the Middle East: Attribute AHAF (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/ahaf/)		
Latin America & The Caribbean: Attribute AHLA (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/ahla/)		
East Asia and South Asia: Attribute AHES (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/ahes/)		
Global Issues: Attribute AHGI (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/ahgi/)		
<i>Chronological Distribution</i>		
Select 2 Pre-1800 courses		
with: Attribute AHEM (http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/ahem/)		
<i>Seminars</i>		
Select 2 Penn History Seminars		

HIST 2000-3799

Or with: Attribute AHEM (<http://catalog.upenn.edu/attributes/ahem/>)

Research Requirement

HIST 3000-3799

HIST 4998 Senior Honors in History

Other Courses for the Major

Select 8 Additional History Electives²

ANCH 0000-4999

HIST 0000-4990

Total Course Units **32**

¹ May be taken abroad. No Major-related courses.

² A minimum of three credits must be in HIST

Honors

Required: A minimum overall GPA of 3.0 and a GPA of 3.5 in Major related courses.

Code	Title	Course Units
HIST 4997	Junior Honors in History	1
HIST 4998	Senior Honors in History	1

The degree and major requirements displayed are intended as a guide for students entering in the Fall of 2025 and later. Students should consult with their academic program regarding final certifications and requirements for graduation.