

# **HISTORY**

**(HIST – B.A., 124 Credits)**

A history major prepares students for a broad array of careers in fields that value research experience, analytical skill, and the ability to write well. History is the oldest liberal arts discipline and retains its value today in forming versatile, well-rounded individuals with the core skills needed to adapt to a rapidly changing world.

History majors at Penn State Behrend build a solid foundation in the broad sweep of American, European, non-Western history and anthropology through introductory survey courses in their first years of study. After mastering the basics, students proceed to more specialized advanced courses in which they study a specific topic or period in depth and conduct their own historical research.

The History program stresses both traditional and innovative methods of research, including the analysis of written records, material artifacts, and visual culture. Majors are encouraged to think critically, explore the fundamental determinants of human behavior, develop effective research and writing skills, and to apply digital tools and resources to study the past.

In addition to coursework, the history program offers opportunities for students to complete original research projects or gain hands-on public history experience by interning with a history-related institution. As an encouragement to student research, the best research paper is rewarded every academic year with the history program's Undergraduate Research Award.

For those who are drawn to history but choose to major in another field, an eighteen credit history minor is available. Since several of the courses for the minor also fulfill General Education requirements, it is relatively easy to design a course of study in history that will be a useful and enriching complement to a degree in another discipline.

## **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

A major in history provides students with excellent preparation for admission to professional schools and the pursuit of careers in any field where research experience, analytical skills, and good writing are important. Penn State Behrend history graduates have found employment in business, education, law, industry, pastoral ministry, state and local government, law enforcement, library and museum management, the military, and information technology.

**Program Chair: Dr. Leigh-Ann Bedal, 814-898-6070, [lx41@psu.edu](mailto:lx41@psu.edu)**  
[behrend.psu.edu/history](http://behrend.psu.edu/history)

## GENERAL EDUCATION (45 credits)

### Key to Symbols

- \* Students may complete any 9 credits of GN sciences.
- \*\* Students may complete any 3 credits of GHA as long as the total equals 3 or more credits.
- \*\*\* A student may request an exception in order to establish a focus in one area. For example, a student may opt to take *one* course in the Social and Behavioral Sciences, *two* in the Arts, and *three* in the Humanities—referred to as the 3-6-9 sequence.

Writing/Speaking Courses (9 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
ENGL 015 or 030H (GWS)		3
ENGL 202A, B, C or D (GWS)		3
CAS 100A, B, C, or H (GWS)		3
Natural Science Courses (GN)* (9 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		3
		3
		3
Quantification Courses (GQ) (6 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		3
		3
Health and Physical Activity (GHA)** (3 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		1.5
		1.5
Arts Courses (GA)*** (6 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		3
		3
Humanities Courses (GH)*** (6 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		3
		3
Social/Behavioral Courses (GS)*** (6 credits)	Your Courses	Credits
		3
		3

## Additional Graduation Requirements

### Key to Symbols

- \*\* Can also be counted toward General Education or major requirements.
- + Effective for students enrolling in or after summer session 2005.

Course Type: Additional Requirements	Your Courses	Credits
First-Year Seminar (Included in electives or general education)		1
Writing Across the Curriculum in the major (W)**		3
International Cultures (IL)**+		3
United States Cultures (US)**+		3

## Bachelor of Arts Degree Requirements (12–24 credits)

**FOREIGN LANGUAGE (0–12 credits):** students must attain 12<sup>th</sup> credit level proficiency.

This requirement is governed by a placement policy dictated by the number of levels of foreign language completed prior to admission to college.

Courses: Foreign Language	Credits
	4
	4
	4

## HISTORY REQUIREMENTS (36 credits)

History majors at Penn State Behrend must achieve an overall grade-point average of at least 2.0 and a C grade or better in all 300/400-level courses within the Prescribed, Additional and Supporting categories of the major. Students who receive grades below C in 300/400-level courses must repeat the courses or take school-approved alternatives, earning grades of C or better.

## PRESCRIBED SURVEY COURSES (12 credits)

Select 4 from HIST 001, HIST 002, HIST 010, HIST 011, HIST 020 and HIST 021. Three credits must come from HIST 001 or HIST 010.

Prescribed Survey Courses	Credits
HIST 001 or 010 (Students must take either HIST 001 or HIST 010.)	3
	3
	3
	3

## ADDITIONAL COURSES (15 credits)

In addition, select four courses from ANTH 420, ANTH 492 or any 400-level HIST.

Additional Courses	Credits
HIST 301W or 302W (Students must take either HIST 301W or 302W.)	3
	3
	3
	3
	3

Students are encouraged to give their major greater coherency by concentrating on a specific region of the world. To do this, take 400-level courses in your area of interest.

Students should consider taking an internship in the summer of their second or third year. If for course credit, sign up for HIST 495. See the history program chair for more information.

## SUPPORTING COURSES AND RELATED AREAS (9 credits)

Select one course from each of the following three areas: American History, European History and World History. These courses must be above the level of the Prescribed Survey Courses (above). They can include 400-level HIST courses, but cannot double count with the Additional Courses list above. ANTH 002, ANTH 009, and ANTH 045 count as World History. Please see your advisor for a list of all applicable courses each semester.

Supporting Courses	Your Courses	Credits
American History Course		3
European History Course		3
World History Course		3

## ELECTIVES

Electives can be history courses or any other courses in order to bring the total number of credits earned at least to 124.

Elective Courses	Credits	Elective Courses (continued)	Credits
	3		3
	3		3
	3		3

## SAMPLE SCHEDULE

This schedule is an example of the courses a history major might take. Meet with your advisor to plan your personal schedule. (To be assigned a history advisor, visit Kochel 170.)

<b>First Semester</b>	<b>Second Semester</b>
HIST 001, 011 or 020	HIST 002, 010 or 021
First-Year Seminar	CAS 100
ENGL 015 or 030	Foreign Language
Quantification	Arts
Foreign Language	Natural Science
GHA	

<b>Third Semester</b>	<b>Fourth Semester</b>
HIST 001, 011 or 020	HIST 002, 010 or 021
European HIST course	ENGL 202B
Natural Science	Quantification
Humanities	Social Science
Foreign Language	World HIST course

<b>Fifth Semester</b>	<b>Sixth Semester</b>
HIST 301W	400-level HIST/ANTH
American HIST course	400-level HIST/ANTH
Natural Science	Social Science
Humanities	Arts
Electives	GHA

<b>Seventh Semester</b>	<b>Eighth Semester</b>
400-level HIST/ANTH	400-level HIST/ANTH
Humanities/Social Science	Humanities/Social Science
Humanities/Social Science	Elective
Elective	Elective
Elective	Elective

For a full list of Faculty in the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, visit <http://psbehrend.psu.edu/school-of-humanities-social-sciences/faculty-staff-directory>

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