

HISTORY (BA)

Arts and Technologies

People study history for many reasons. Some choose it because it provides an excellent liberal arts education, a proven “training group” for diverse careers (such as, but not limited to, law, journalism, state/federal government employment, business, and industry). Our majors also have prepared themselves for careers in museums, libraries, and other fields that seem particularly “historical.” The value of a PSU history major comes through traditional courses and hands-on experiences. We offer internship opportunities in local and regional historical societies, museums, and archives; and through our partnership with the Education, Democracy and Social Change Cluster, history majors can work with future teachers on National History Day. In the Arts and Technologies Cluster, history majors become historians by constructing histories themselves—you can make documentaries, connect GIS skills to historical questions, write traditional papers, and explore “digital humanities.”

Ultimately the major gives students the valuable skills and methods of inquiry, analysis, and synthesis used by history professionals; and which constitute the proficiencies needed for numerous careers and graduate study in many fields.

Studying history provides an imaginative, intellectual, and emphatic experience similar to travel. The “destinations” may at first appear to stand still—colonial New Hampshire, colonial India, revolutionary France, Imperial China, the American Civil War, or the Great Depression—but the more deeply students investigate them, the more complex and fascinating they become. The study of history can extend across any area or artifact of past human endeavor, from policies to parades, from ballads to battles, from the whaling industry to whalebone corsets. Regardless of why you chose the major, we think you will enjoy the journey: the shock of finding familiar behavior across wide reaches of time and culture, the puzzle of trying to understand practices alien to your own, and the challenge of mastering information about human life in the past—all of these providing the kinds of insight necessary to handle contemporary concerns and build future careers.

Degree Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
Major Requirements		
HI 2011	Modern World History, 1500 to Present (GACO)	4
HI 2016	History of Modern Europe, 1300-2000	4
HI 2025	Surveying Themes in United States History	4
HI 2223	Methods, Theories, and Careers in History (QRCO,WRCO)	4
European History 3000/4000 level course (not HIDI)		4
United States History 3000/4000 level course (not HIDI)		4
World History 3000/4000 level course (not HIDI)		4
Hands-On Outward-Facing (HOOF) History course (any level) ¹		4
HI	3000/4000 level History courses (not HIDI)	8
HI 4450	History Capstone Seminar	4
Technology in the Discipline Connection		
Complete one course from the following:		4
EN 2440	Rethinking Early American Literature (DICO,TECO)	

EN 2490	Rethinking Modern British Literature, 1660-1945 (TECO)	
EN 4155	Digitalit: Storytelling in the Digital Age (TECO)	
GE 2050	GIS I: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (QRCO,TECO)	
HI 4360	Doing Public History (TECO,WRCO)	
General Education (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education)		
EN 1400	Composition	4
IS 1111	The First Year Seminar: Critical Thinking and the Nature of Inquiry	3
MA	Mathematics Foundations	3-4
CTDI	Creative Thought Direction	3-4
PPDI	Past and Present Direction	3-4
SIDI	Scientific Inquiry Direction	3-4
SSDI	Self and Society Direction	3-4
Directions (choose from CTDI, PPDI, SIDI, SSDI) ²		4-8
DICO	Diversity Connection (may be HI course)	3-4
INCO	Integration Connection (may be HI course)	3-4
WECO	Wellness Connection (may be HI course)	3-4
GACO	Foreign Language ³	6
Electives		23-27
Total Credits		120

¹ Hands-On Outward-Facing (HOOF) history includes internships, public history, digital humanities, and travel courses. This requirement may be satisfied with Doing Public History (HI 4360) or History Internship (HI 4000) or by a course approved by the program coordinator.

² Directions should total 20 credits (unless the major has a waiver for a specific Direction).

³ The foreign language requirement for all BA degrees calls for 0-6 credits: one year of one language (6 credits); or one 3000/4000 level world language course (3 credits); or being a native speaker of a language other than English (zero credit). American Sign Language I and II fulfill this requirement; however, American Sign Language does not satisfy the Global Awareness Connection.

Recommended Course Sequence

Check all course descriptions for prerequisites before planning course schedule. Course sequence is suggested but not required.

Course	Title	Credits
Year One		
EN 1400	Composition	4
IS 1111	The First Year Seminar: Critical Thinking and the Nature of Inquiry	3
MA (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/undergraduate-programs/general-education/#MATH)	Mathematics Foundations	3-4
HI 2016	History of Modern Europe, 1300-2000	4
HI 2025	Surveying Themes in United States History	4

CTDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#CTDI)	Creative Thought Direction	3-4
GACO (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/undergraduate-programs/general-education/#GACO)	Foreign Language	6
Elective		1-3
Credits		28-32

Year Two

HI 2011	Modern World History, 1500 to Present (GACO)	4
HI 2223	Methods, Theories, and Careers in History (QRCO,WRCO)	4
PPDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/undergraduate-programs/general-education/#PPDI)	Past and Present Direction	3-4
SIDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/undergraduate-programs/general-education/#SIDI)	Scientific Inquiry Direction	3-4
SSDI (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/undergraduate-programs/general-education/#SSDI)	Self and Society Direction	3-4
Directions (choose from CTDI, PPDI, SIDI, SSDI) (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education) ¹		4-8
DICO (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/undergraduate-programs/general-education/#DICO)	Diversity Connection (may be HI course)	3-4
Elective		2
Credits		26-34

Years Three and Four

HI	European 3000/4000 level History course	4
HI	United States 3000/4000 level course	4
HI	World 3000/4000 level History course	4
HI	3000/4000 level History courses (not HIDI)	8
HI 4450	History Capstone Seminar ²	4
Hands-On Outward Facing History course (any level) ³		4
INCO (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#INCO)	Integration Connection (may be HI course)	3-4
Complete one Technology in the Discipline Connection Course from the following:		4
EN 2440	Rethinking Early American Literature (DICO,TECO)	
EN 2490	Rethinking Modern British Literature, 1660-1945 (TECO)	

EN 4155	Digitalit: Storytelling in the Digital Age (TECO)	
GE 2050	GIS I: Introduction to Geographic Information Systems (QRCO,TECO)	
HI 4360	Doing Public History (TECO,WRCO)	
WECO (https://coursecatalog.plymouth.edu/general-education/#WECO)	Wellness Connection (may be HI course)	3-4
Electives		20-22
Credits		58-62
Total Credits		120

¹ Directions should total 20 credits (unless the major has a waiver for a specific Direction).

² Completion of a History Writing in the Discipline Connection (WRCO) course is the prerequisite to the History Capstone Seminar.

³ Hands-On Outwards-Facing (HOOF) history includes internships, public history, digital humanities, and travel courses. This requirement may be satisfied with Doing Public History (HI 4360) or History Internship (HI 4000) or by a course approved by the program coordinator.