

Date Submitted: 09/14/20 2:53 pm

Viewing: **HISTMA : History, Master of Arts**

Last approved: 06/19/20 12:36 pm

Last edit: 09/21/20 9:50 am

Changes proposed by: jgiganti

Catalog Pages Using
this Program

[History \(HIST\)](#)

Submitter: 575-7332 User ID: jgiganti Phone:

Program Status Active

Academic Level Graduate

Type of proposal Major/Field of Study

Select a reason for this modification

Making Minor Changes to an Existing Degree (e.g. changing 15 or fewer hours, changing admission/graduation requirements, adding/changing Focused Study or Track)

Are you adding a concentration?

No

Are you adding or modifying a track?

No

Are you adding or modifying a focused study?

No

Effective Catalog Year Fall 2021

College/School Code
Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences (ARSC)

Department Code
Department of History (HIST)

In Workflow

1. ARSC Dean Initial
2. GRAD Dean Initial
3. Director of Program Assessment and Review
4. Registrar Initial
5. Institutional Research
6. HIST Chair
7. ARSC Curriculum Committee
8. ARSC Dean
9. Global Campus
10. Provost Review
11. University Course and Program Committee
12. Graduate Committee
13. Faculty Senate
14. Provost Final
15. Provost's Office-- Notification of Approval
16. Registrar Final
17. Catalog Editor Final

Approval Path

1. 09/14/20 4:39 pm
Jeannie Hulen (jhulen): Approved for ARSC Dean Initial
2. 09/14/20 5:10 pm
Pat Koski (pkoski):

Program Code HISTMA
 Degree Master of Arts
 CIP Code

Approved for GRAD
 Dean Initial
 3. 09/21/20 9:55 am
 Alice Griffin
 (agriffin): Approved
 for Director of
 Program
 Assessment and
 Review
 4. 09/28/20 10:53 pm
 Lisa Kulczak
 (lkulcza): Approved
 for Registrar Initial
 5. 09/29/20 5:00 pm
 Gary Gunderman
 (ggunderm):
 Approved for
 Institutional
 Research
 6. 09/29/20 5:03 pm
 Jim Gigantino
 (jgiganti): Approved
 for HIST Chair
 7. 11/05/20 10:47 am
 Ryan Cochran
 (rcc003): Approved
 for ARSC Curriculum
 Committee
 8. 11/05/20 10:59 am
 Jeannie Hulen
 (jhulen): Approved
 for ARSC Dean
 9. 11/05/20 12:21 pm
 Suzanne Kenner
 (skenner): Approved
 for Global Campus
 10. 11/05/20 12:59 pm
 Terry Martin
 (tmartin): Approved
 for Provost Review

History

- 1. Mar 1, 2017 by Jim Gigantino (jgiganti)
- 2. May 3, 2017 by Lisa Kulczak (lkulcza)
- 3. May 14, 2018 by Jim Gigantino (jgiganti)
- 4. May 21, 2019 by Jim Gigantino (jgiganti)
- 5. May 18, 2020 by Jim Gigantino (jgiganti)
- 6. Jun 19, 2020 by Charlie Alison (calison)

54.0101 - History, General.

Program Title

History, Master of Arts

Program Delivery

Method

On Campus

Is this program interdisciplinary?

No

Does this proposal impact any courses from another College/School?

No

What are the total hours needed to complete the program? 30

Program Requirements and Description

Requirements

Application Prerequisites to Degree Program (with a BA): Program:

All prospective students are evaluated by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Department of History and are judged on a case-by-case basis, looking at a variety of factors including GPA, GRE scores, letters of

recommendation, statement of purpose, and the appropriateness of our current faculty and other resources to student interests.

Graduate work at the master's level presupposes an undergraduate major in history of approximately 30 semester hours, although the Graduate Studies Committee will consider outstanding applicants with undergraduate degrees in related disciplines. In the past, strong applicants have presented at least an overall cumulative undergraduate grade point average of 3.0 or a grade point average of 3.25 in the last 60 hours of undergraduate work, a verbal score in the sixty-fifth percentile on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and an Analytical Writing score of 4.0 on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). Students who present a minimum of 30 hours in history may be admitted without deficiency. Students who present between 18 and 30 hours of history may be admitted with or without deficiency, subject to the determination of the Graduate Studies Committee. Students who present less than 18 hours of history may not be admitted without deficiency. The Graduate Studies Committee will determine the nature of the deficiency requirements.

Applicants to the M.A. program in History must apply through the Graduate School. Students must submit a statement of purpose describing their goals in graduate study, a departmental application, a resume or CV, a writing sample, and three letters of recommendation. Master's applications are due February 1 each year. Details can be found on the departmental website.

Application to Degree Program (4+1 Program):

Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree: Applicants to Students seeking the MA program under the 4+1 Program ~~Master of Arts degree~~ must be a University Arkansas undergraduate pursuing a bachelor's degree, be in complete at least their junior year, ~~30 hours of history at the 5000-level~~ and must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25. ~~above.~~

All prospective students who apply through the 4+1 program are evaluated by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Department of History and are judged on a case-by-case basis, looking at a variety of factors including GPA, letters of recommendation, statement of purpose, and the appropriateness of our current faculty and other resources to student interests. GRE Scores are not required to apply to MA program through the 4+1 program.

4+1 students may take up to 12 hours of graduate coursework (5000-level or above) in their last two semesters (senior year) that will be counted toward both their B.A. and M.A. degrees. Upon completion ~~Requirements for the Master of the B.A. Arts Degree:~~ degree, those students who have at least a 3.0 GPA in HIST graduate courses will be admitted to the Graduate School and eligible to complete the M.A. program.

Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree (Thesis Option): Students seeking the Master of Arts degree through the thesis option must complete at least 30 hours of history at the 5000-level and above. These should include:

<u>HIST 7023</u>	Historical Methods	3
<u>HIST 600V</u>	Master's Thesis	6
7000-level seminar (research)		3
<u>HIST 7123</u>	Research Seminar in History	3
7000-level seminar courses (either reading or research)		9
At least nine hours of history at the 5000-level and above		9
Total Hours		30

Requirements for the Master of Arts Degree (Non-Thesis Option): Students seeking the Master of Arts degree through the non-thesis option must complete at least 30 hours of history at the 5000-level and above. These should include:

HIST 7023	Historical Methods	3
HIST 7123	Research Seminar in History	3
7000-level seminar courses (either reading or research)		12
At least 12 hours of history at the 5000-level and above		12
Total Hours		30

Only three hours of independent study may be counted towards the degree. [HIST 7043](#) Historiography can be substituted as a reading seminar to partially fulfill the seminar requirement. At least 9 of the 21 hours of seminars and electives must be in areas outside of the main field of **specialization**. **Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA in all course work for the M.A. specialization.** ~~Master’s candidates must complete and satisfactorily defend a master’s thesis in history as judged by a panel of departmental faculty. Students must maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA in all course work for the M.A. degree.~~

Master’s candidates pursuing the thesis option must complete and satisfactorily defend a master’s thesis in history as judged by a panel of departmental faculty. Master's candidates pursuing the non-thesis option, upon completion of 30 hours of coursework, must pass an oral comprehensive examination in their primary area of study as well as research methods, including a defense of an originally researched article length essay as administered by the Masters Advisory Committee.

Students should also be aware of Graduate School requirements with regard to [master's degrees](#).

Are Similar Programs available in the area?

No

Estimated Student Demand for Program 20

Scheduled Program Review Date 2024-2025

Program Goals and Objectives

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The History Department has a very strong research agenda among its faculty. Since 2005, faculty have produced 44 books, meeting or exceeding the productivity of faculties at our peer institutions nationally. This active research agenda has been supported by numerous outside grants and fellowships as well as internal awards from the department, college, and university.

The Department’s primary goal with the MA program over the next five years is to continue to cultivate a strong research culture among its graduate students, especially in the MA program where students are working towards creating and defending an individual MA thesis. The department has begun using programing from Karen Kelsky’s The Professor is In (an author and frequent Chronicle contributor) to encourage them to work towards publishing at least one article or book chapter before they complete their studies.

Learning Outcomes

Learning Outcomes

- Mastery over one field in History and training in at least one other field
- Reading proficiency in the languages required to write the M.A. thesis
- Capacity for original research as evidenced by the writing of a M.A. thesis
- Ability to communicate effectively as a participant in a graduate seminar
- Ability to write analytically at a level commensurate with graduate work in History
- Professionalization in the academy (presenting research at regional conferences, applying for University-wide or regional grants, and publishing articles)
- Participation in the academic life of the Department (seminars and public lectures)

Description and justification of the request

Description of specific change	Justification for this change
<p>1) The Dept. of History proposes to create a non-thesis option to complete the MA degree in History. This non-thesis option would require three additional hours of 7000-level seminar (versus the thesis option) and an oral comprehensive examination in the candidate's primary area of study, research methods, and a defense of an originally researched article length essay administered by the Masters Advisory Committee.</p> <p>2) The Dept. of History proposes to introduce a 4+1 program, where undergraduate students can take up to 12 hours of graduate courses and use them to fulfill the</p>	<p>1) The majority of MA students in HIST do not continue onto the PhD in HIST, therefore this alternate pathway will allow them to successfully complete the program at a faster rate as well as make the MA more relevant for their chosen career path. The vast majority of peer institutions have a non-thesis option including Alabama, Florida, Iowa State, Kansas, Kentucky, LSU, Mississippi, Mississippi State, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Texas A&M, and Vanderbilt.</p>

Description of specific change	Justification for this change
<p>requirements of both the BA and the MA. These students would apply to the department and be admitted to the 4+1 program using the same metrics as the normal admission process, though they would not have to take the GRE and must produce a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (versus 3.0 in the normal admission process). Upon completion of the BA degree and the achievement of at least a 3.0 in their graduate courses, they would be admitted to the Graduate School and complete their MA program.</p>	<p>2) The Dept. recognizes that many high achieving undergraduate students go elsewhere for their graduate degrees--this program will enable the department to attract and retain these undergraduates at UA and produce a pipeline to the MA program. This program is modeled off of other 4+1 programs in Journalism and Industrial Engineering. This type of program also exists at peer institutions including Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi State, Missouri, Texas A&M, and Vanderbilt. Other institutions the department looked at for their 4+1 programs include Maine, NYU, Cincinnati, Brown, Virginia, Yale, Tulane, Binghamton, and Arizona State.</p> <p>In terms of minimum GPA required to be considered for admission, there is a wide range of requirements from other peer very high research activity institutions. These range from "no requirement" (Virginia), to a 3.0 (Binghamton, for example), to a 3.25 (Florida, for example), a 3.3 (Arizona State, Tulane, and Cincinnati, for example), to a 3.5 (Georgia and Vanderbilt). The History Dept. is proposing to follow a lower minimum GPA than other UA programs (many are 3.5) and adopt the model several of these other R1 institutions have done and set our minimum at 3.25. This is also the cutoff for the top third of our undergraduate population.</p>

Upload attachments

Reviewer Comments

Alice Griffin (agriffin) (09/21/20 9:50 am): Inserted the comment in each of the course lists with permission from the submitted. Check the total box so that 30 hours would appear in each.

