The Department of History offers the Doctor of Philosophy in History. In view of our commitment to the doctoral program, we do not offer a terminal AM. Although the department offers doctoral training in any historical specialization covered by a tenured faculty member, it specializes in the history of 17th- through 19th-century America, 20th-century America, Africa, American Political Culture, Central Europe, Early Modern Europe, East Asia (China, Japan), International Urban History, Middle East, and Religion in the Medieval Mediterranean World.

Many of our students pursue interdisciplinary studies and have teaching opportunities in other departments and programs: African and African-American Studies; American Culture Studies; East Asian Languages and Cultures; International and Area Studies; Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures; and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. The graduate program admits only a small number of students each year in order to promote a close working relationship between students and faculty. We encourage students to develop creative, self-tailored programs of study.

Doctoral students generally devote their first three years to course work, preparing for qualifying examinations in three fields of history and producing a portfolio containing two research papers of publishable quality. Each graduate student’s need for linguistic and quantitative skills is determined during the first semester in consultation with his or her adviser. The minimum requirement is normally competence in the language of the documents or culture in which the student proposes to do dissertation research and competence either in one other language (not English) or in the practice of a quantitative or other technical skill.

In considering applications for admission, the department places great emphasis on an applicant’s fit with a particular tenured faculty member (who will serve as the student’s primary adviser), on the applicant’s proposed future research as described in the personal statement, and on the writing sample submitted with the application.

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Departmental website: http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/graduate

Chair
Peter J. Kastor
PhD, University of Virginia
Early American Republic; American Presidency; North American West

Endowed Professors

Jean Allman
J.H. Hexter Professor in the Humanities
PhD, Northwestern University
Gender, colonialism and nationalism in Africa

Daniel Bornstein
Stella K. Darrow Professor of Catholic Studies
PhD, University of Chicago
History of Christianity; Medieval and Renaissance Europe

Derek Hirst
William Eliot Smith Professor of History
PhD, Cambridge University
Tudor-Stuart period of British history

Hillel J. Kieval
Gloria M. Goldstein Professor of Jewish History and Thought
PhD, Harvard University
Modern Jewish history; East Central European history; the Holocaust

Kenneth Ludmerer
Mabel Dorn Reeder Distinguished Professor in the History of Medicine
PhD, Johns Hopkins University
History of Medicine; Reform of medical education in the U.S.

Linda Nicholson
Susan E. and William P. Stiritz Distinguished Professor of Women’s Studies
PhD, Brandeis University
Women and gender history of 20th-century western society; Feminist theory

Professors

Iver Bernstein
PhD, Yale University
19th-century U.S. history; American political culture; Civil War and Reconstruction

Margaret Garb
PhD, Columbia University
19th- and early 20th-century American history; Urban studies; African-American political history

David Konig
PhD, Harvard University
History and law in early America; Anglo-American legal history; American culture studies

Timothy Parsons
PhD, Johns Hopkins University
Social history and education in colonial Africa; Ethnicity and the creation of identity
Mark Gregory Pegg
PhD, Princeton University
Medieval European history

Assistant Professors

Monique Bedasse
PhD, University of Miami
Caribbean history

Venus Bivar
PhD, University of Chicago
Political economy; Theories and experiences of statelessness; Environmental history

Alexandre Dubé
PhD, McGill University
Early modern Atlantic world

Sonia Song-Ha Lee
PhD, Harvard University
Racial and ethnic identity constructs; Civil Rights; Urban history

Anika Walke
PhD, University of California, Santa Cruz
Russian/Soviet and European history; the Holocaust; Oral history

Associate Professors

Cassie Adcock
PhD, University of Chicago
Modern South Asian history; South Asian religious traditions; the Politics of Secularism

Elizabeth Borgwardt
PhD, Stanford University
Historical perspectives on human rights; the history of international law

Shefali Chandra
PhD, University of Pennsylvania
Indian and South Asian studies; Global transnational and world history; Post-colonial studies

Andrea Friedman
PhD, University of Wisconsin-Madison
Politics, gender and sexuality since WWII

Christine Johnson
PhD, Johns Hopkins University
Early modern Germany; Renaissance culture; European expansion

Steven B. Miles
PhD, University of Washington
Social and cultural history of early modern China

Max Okenfuss
PhD, Harvard University
Early modern Russia; Russian education and culture; European intellectual history

Nancy Y. Reynolds
PhD, Stanford University
Social and cultural history of the modern Middle East; Commerce and consumption in 20th-century Egypt; Urban and environmental history

Corinna Treitel
PhD, Harvard University
History of modern Germany; History of science and medicine

Lori Watt
PhD, Columbia University
Political and social history of 20th-century Japan; Imperialism and decolonization; Postwar and postcolonial migrations

Hayrettin Yücesoy
PhD, University of Chicago
Medieval Middle East

Degree Requirements

Requirements and Academic Assessment

Doctoral candidates ordinarily spend at least two, and more often three, full academic years in residence. Before the dissertation defense takes place, doctoral candidates must have completed 72 units of graduate credit. Over the course of their doctoral program, graduate students may not register for more than 72 units of credit without special consideration. Of the 72 required units, no more than 24 units may be transferred from previous graduate work elsewhere.

Languages and Quantitative Skills

Each graduate student’s need for linguistic and quantitative skills is determined during the first semester in consultation with his or her adviser. This determination is subject to
review by the Graduate Studies Committee. The student's examining committee will ascertain, by the time of the qualifying examination, that sufficient progress toward acquiring these skills for dissertation research has been made.

The minimum requirement is normally competence in the language of the documents or culture in which the student proposes to do dissertation research, and competence either in one other language (not English) or in the practice of a quantitative or other technical skill. Students normally demonstrate competency by successfully taking a particular course, by passing a translation examination, or by using foreign-language primary sources to write a research paper.

**Grades**

The performance of students in the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences is marked by the grades A, B, C (Conditional), and F. The grade of C indicates unsatisfactory work and will be awarded academic credit only if matched by an equivalent number of units graded A. Plus or minus grades may be given, except for grades of B– or C+. Some courses may be graded S (Satisfactory) or F.

Graduate students should expect to earn a grade of A or A– as a mark of good progress through the program. Although a grade of B+ or B will qualify a student for full credit, these should be viewed as a warning that she or he has not sufficiently demonstrated a full mastery of the course material at the doctoral level. More than one or two grades at this level carry the risk of negatively impacting a student's chances on the academic job market.

**Annual Letters of Review and the Second-year Review**

The Department of History uses annual letters of review and the second-year review to keep students informed of our expectations of their progress and to identify any problems. At the end of each academic year, except the second year, students receive annual letters of review based on the observations of all faculty members with whom they have worked during the academic year, whether as students or as teaching assistants. The letters will identify any areas in which the student needs to improve, and provide clear steps for addressing this.

In January of the second year, students receive a second-year review letter.

The department uses the second-year review to identify students who are not performing at a satisfactory level. In consultation with the student's primary adviser, the department then sets goals for that student to meet by the end of the second semester of the second year. If these goals are not met, then the student will not be allowed to proceed to the PhD qualifying examinations; instead, the student will be offered an opportunity to secure an AM degree before leaving the PhD program. In such cases, requirements for the AM degree are as follows:

- Students must have satisfactorily completed a minimum of 36 hours of credit. Since the department does not offer a separate AM degree, we do not require an AM thesis. Therefore, none of the required 36 hours will be awarded for thesis research.
- Students must have successfully completed the course, Literature of History (L22 5471).
- Students must develop expertise in two fields of historical study: one primary field and one secondary field.
- Students must pass an oral examination in these two fields of history.

**Additional History Department Requirements and Explanations**

A full-time graduate student shall not be allowed more than one incomplete per semester, and that incomplete must be removed by the end of the following semester. Within this requirement, faculty and students may wish to enter into contracts specifying conditions for the removal of the incomplete. To remain in good standing, a student should take the qualifying examinations by the first semester of the fourth year, at the very latest.

The Department of History's Graduate Studies Committee manages all departmental decisions regarding placement on probation, removal from probation, recommendations for dismissal after a probationary period, and recommendations for immediate dismissal due to extreme under-performance. The Graduate Studies Committee consists of the Director of Graduate Studies and three to four additional Department of History faculty members appointed by the Chair of the Department at the beginning of each academic year.

Otherwise, there are no additional requirements beyond those of the Graduate School of Arts & Sciences.

These guidelines will remain posted on our website, and hard copies will be distributed at the annual department orientation for new PhD students in August.