History

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, Medieval and Early Modern Europe, East Asia (China, Japan), international urban history, and the Middle East.

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.

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.

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.

Phone: 314-935-5446
Email: sjpeltz@wustl.edu
Website: http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/graduate

Faculty

Chair
Peter Kastor (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/peter_kastor)
PhD, University of Virginia
(The American Frontier and Early Republic)

Endowed Professors
Jean Allman (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/allman)
J.H. Hexter Professor in the Humanities
PhD, Northwestern University
(African History)

Daniel Bornstein (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/daniel_bornstein)
Stella K. Darrow Professor of Catholic Studies
PhD, University of Chicago
(Medieval and Renaissance Europe)

Derek M. Hirst (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/derek_hirst)
William Eliot Smith Professor of History
PhD, Cambridge University
(British History)

Hillel J. Kieval (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/hillel_kieval)
Gloria M. Goldstein Professor of Jewish History and Thought
PhD, Harvard University
(Jewish History)

Kenneth Ludmerer (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/ludmerer)
Mabel Dorn Reeder Distinguished Professor in the History of Medicine
PhD, MD, Johns Hopkins University
(Medical History)

Linda J. Nicholson (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/linda_nicholson)
Susan E. and William P. Stritz Distinguished Professor of Women's Studies
PhD, Brandeis University
(Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies)

Professors
Iver Bernstein (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/iver_bernst)
PhD, Yale University
(U.S. History and the Civil War)

Andrea S. Friedman (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/andrea_friedman)
PhD, University of Wisconsin
(U.S. Women's History)

Margaret Garb (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/margaret_garb)
PhD, Columbia University
(American Urban History)

David T. Konig (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/david_konig)
PhD, Harvard University
(Early American History and Law)

Tim Parsons (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/tim_parsons)
PhD, Johns Hopkins University
(African Military History)

Mark Pegg (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/pegg)
PhD, Princeton University
(Medieval European History)
**Associate Professors**

- **Catherine Adcock** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/cassie_adcock)
  PhD, University of Chicago
  (Modern South Asian History)
- **Elizabeth Borgwardt** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/borgwardt)
  PhD, Stanford University
  (U.S. Foreign Relations)
- **Shefali Chandra** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/chandra)
  PhD, University of Pennsylvania
  (Modern South Asian History)
- **Christine Johnson** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/christine_johns)
  PhD, Johns Hopkins University
  (16th-Century German History)
- **Sonia Song-Ha Lee**
  PhD, Harvard University
  (Modern U.S. History)
- **Steven B. Miles** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/steve_miles)
  PhD, University of Washington
  (Chinese History)
- **Max J. Okenfuss** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/okenfuss)
  PhD, Harvard University
  (Russian History)
- **Nancy Reynolds** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/nancy_reynolds)
  PhD, Stanford University
  (Middle Eastern History)
- **Corinna Treitel** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/corinna_treitel)
  PhD, Harvard University
  (Modern German History)
- **Lori Watt** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/lori_watt)
  PhD, Columbia University
  (Japanese History)
- **Hayrettin Yücesoy** (http://jinelc.wustl.edu/people/y %C3%BCcesoy_hayrettin)
  PhD, University of Chicago
  (Medieval Middle Eastern History)

**Assistant Professors**

- **Monique Bedasse** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/monique-bedasse)
  PhD, University of Miami
  (Caribbean History)
- **Venus Bivar** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/venus_bivar)
  PhD, University of Chicago
  (Modern European History)
- **Alexandre Dubé** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/alexandre-dube)
  PhD, McGill University
  (Early Modern Atlantic World)
- **Douglas Flowe** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/douglas-flowe)
  PhD, University of Rochester
  (American History)
- **Diana Montaño** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/diana-montano)
  PhD, University of Arizona
  (Latin American History)
- **Sowandé Mustakeem** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/mustakeem)
  PhD, Michigan State University
  (Atlantic Slave Trade and the Middle Passage)
- **Christina Ramos**
  PhD, Harvard University
  (Latin American History)
- **Anika Walke** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/anika-walke)
  PhD, University of California, Santa Cruz
  (European History)

**Senior Lecturer**

- **Krister Knapp** (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/krister_knapp)
  PhD, Boston University
  (U.S. Intellectual History)

**Affiliated Faculty**

- **William Bubelis** (http://classics.artsci.wustl.edu/bubelis)
  Associate Professor of Classics
  PhD, University of Chicago
  (Classics)
- **Adrienne D. Davis** (http://law.wustl.edu/faculty/pages.aspx?id=5768)
  William M. Van Cleve Professor of Law
  JD, Yale Law School
  (Law)
- **Mary Ann Dzuback** (http://education.wustl.edu/people/dzuback_mary-ann)
  Associate Professor of Education
  PhD, Columbia University
  (Education)
- **Martin Jacobs** (http://pages.wustl.edu/mjacobs)
  Professor of Rabbinic Studies
  PhD and Habilitation, Free University of Berlin
  (Jewish, Islamic and Near Eastern Languages and Cultures)
- **Zhao Ma** (http://ealc.wustl.edu/people/ma_zhao)
  Assistant Professor of Modern Chinese History and Culture
  PhD, Johns Hopkins University
  (East Asian Languages and Cultures)
Laurie F. Maffly-Kipp (http://rap.wustl.edu/bio/laurie-f-maffly-kipp)
Archer Alexander Distinguished Professor
PhD, Yale University
(Danforth Center on Religion and Politics)

Rebecca Messbarger (http://rll.wustl.edu/people/messbarger)
Professor of Italian and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
PhD, University of Chicago
(Romance Languages and Literatures)

Eric Mumford (http://samfoxschool.wustl.edu/portfolios/faculty/eric_mumford)
Rebecca and John Voyles Professor of Architecture
PhD, Princeton University
(Architecture)

Leigh Schmidt (http://rap.wustl.edu/bio/leigh-e-schmidt)
Edward C. Mallinckrodt Distinguished University Professor
PhD, Princeton University
(Danforth Center on Religion and Politics)

Mark Valeri (http://rap.wustl.edu/bio/mark-valeri)
Reverend Priscilla Wood Neaves Distinguished Professor of Religion and Politics
PhD, Princeton University
(Danforth Center on Religion and Politics)

Steven Zwicker (http://english.artsci.wustl.edu/Steven_Zwicker)
Stanley Elkin Professor in the Humanities
PhD, Brown University
(English)

Professors Emeriti

Henry Berger (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/henry_berger)
PhD, University of Wisconsin

Steven Hause (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/steven_hause)
PhD, Washington University

Gerald N. Izenberg (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/izenberg)
PhD, Harvard University

Peter Riesenberg (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/peter-riesenberg)
PhD, Columbia University

Richard J. Walter (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/walter)
PhD, Stanford University

Degree Requirements

PhD in History

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 gained essential language and quantitative skills, completed the necessary course work, and researched and written a dissertation.

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 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 courses, History 5470 Writing Historical Proposals and Prospectuses, and History 5471 Literature of History.
- 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.

These guidelines will remain posted on our website (http://history.artsci.wustl.edu/graduate), and hard copies will be distributed at the annual department orientation for new PhD students in August.