

History

Introduction

History is the study of the complex forces of the past that have created change in the human environment. These forces include ideas, political and economic developments, and social and cultural conditions. Historical investigation demands logical thinking and critical analysis as well as imagination and intuition. Students of history learn to recognize the significance of the sequential nature of events and to bring order to apparently random facts. Historical knowledge fosters an appreciation of human diversity, a global perspective, and a rich comprehension of the contemporary world and one's own experience. The history major challenges students to understand their present world by knowing the short-and long-term causes that have brought it into existence. All events, students learn, are the result of a complex linkage of forces, and students learn to differentiate between major and minor causes of events. History is the study of past civilizations and problems used to promote insight and understanding of the problems of today, preserve our great cultural heritage, and enrich our appreciation of man and his world. History broadens our perspective and allows us to discover the essential elements of human existence. This major is an excellent foundation for careers in teaching, research of all varieties, law, community service, and business, among others.

[Guilford Catalog Information](#)

Related Career Titles for History Majors

Social Studies/History Teacher
Assistant Museum Curator
Legislative Correspondent
Political Editor
Legal Assistant/Paralegal
Management Trainee
Archivist
Librarian
Lawyer
Foreign Service Worker
Art Historian
Historic Site Administrator
Anthropologist
Archeologist
Biographer
Clergy
Community Relations Director
Congressional Aide
Consumer Aide
Consumer Advocate
Counselor
Criminologist
Demographer
Economist
Editor
Psychologist
Public Relations Assistant
Research Assistant
Sociologist
FBI/CIA Agent
Foreign News Correspondent
Genealogist
Government Official

Historian
Historic Preservationist
Historic Site Tour Guide
Historical Society Staff
Indicter
Insurance Agent/Broker
Intelligence Agent
International Relations Specialist
Technical Writer
Travel Agent
Journalist
Lecturer
Lobbyist
Market Research Analyst
Media Consultant
Museum Curator
Museum Technician and Specialist
Park Ranger
Peace Corps/AmeriCorps Worker
VISTA Volunteer
Political Scientist
Urban Administrator
Urban Planner
Writer/Author
City Manager
Editorial Assistant
Human Service Worker
Public Administrator
Administrative Assistant
Demographer
Media Consultant
Underwriter

Related Major Skills

- Ability to conduct and explain research
- Desire to study and research the past
- Ability to concentrate for long periods
- Strong interest in reading and writing
- Developing projects and ideas
- Proficiency for accurate details
- Ability to collect and organize data
- Analytical thought
- Clarifying problems or situations
- Ability to assess evidence
- Ability to assess conflicting interpretations
- Understand and apply past examples of change
- Seeing relationships between factors
- Explaining the present by referring to the past
- Developing a worldview
- Examining evidence

Related Web Sites

Job Listings/Job Search

Museum Employment Resource Center <http://www.museum-employment.com/>
The Private School Employment Network <http://privateschooljobs.com/>
Action Without Borders (Nonprofit Job Listings) <http://www.idealists.org/>
Federal Government Job Listings <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/>
Jobs for Living History Specialists <http://www.alhfam.org/alhfam.jobs.html>
MonsterTRAK <http://www.monstertrak.com/>

Career Planning and Information

History-related Career Titles with Definitions http://www.utexas.edu/student/careercenter/career_ideas/history.html
Careers in History Links <http://www.una.edu/history/careers.htm>
Profiles of History Career Industries http://www.uncc.edu/colleges/arts_and_sciences/history/careers.htm
Internet Resources for History Majors <http://www.career.pdx.edu/majorhistory.htm>
Career Information for History Majors <http://www.library.csi.cuny.edu/dept/history/career.html>
Career Possibilities for History Majors <http://www.phialphatheta.org/careers.htm>
Careers for those with History Majors <http://dewey.chs.chico.k12.ca.us/hist-careers.html>
Do I Want to be a Lawyer? <http://www.artsci.lsu.edu/poli/baylor.html>
University of Richmond's Pre-Law Handbook <http://www.richmond.edu/academics/a&s/polisci/prelaw>
FAQ's about a Career in History <http://www2.ncsu.edu/ncsu/chass/history/hifaqs.html>
SUNY-Oswego's Careers in History pamphlet
http://www.oswego.edu/other_campus/student.svcs/career_svcs/resources/career_booklets/booklethistory.html

Organizations and Associations

American Historical Association <http://www.theaha.org/>
American Association for State and Local History <http://www.aaslh.org/>
US National Register of Historic Places <http://www.cr.nps.gov/nr/index.htm>
Organization of American Historians <http://www.oah.org/>
The Society of American Archivists <http://www.archivists.org/>
National Council on Public History <http://ncph.org/>
National Association of Independent Schools <http://www.nais.org/>
American Association of Museums <http://www.aam-us.org/>
The Association of Boarding Schools <http://www.schools.com/>
Social Science History Association <http://www.ssha.org/>

Miscellaneous Resources

Guilford College History Department <http://www.guilford.edu/history/>
Renaissance Society of America <http://www.r-s-a.org/>
National Archives and Records Administration <http://www.archives.gov/>

Why Study History? <http://www.theaha.org/pubs/stearns.htm>

Library of Congress <http://lcweb.loc.gov/>

Center for History and New Media <http://chnm.gmu.edu/>

Online History Index <http://www.ukans.edu/history/VL/>