

MASTER OF ARTS IN HISTORY

The Department of History offers three specializations leading to the Master of Arts in History. The first is the traditional History graduate degree with the option of completing a thesis or internship. The Public History specialization trains students in the various aspects of public, or applied, history and requires the completion of an internship. The third specialization, Historic Preservation, is interdisciplinary in nature; students have the option of a thesis or internship.

Mission Statement

The Department of History seeks to provide students with a broad knowledge base in the discipline of history and highly refined research, writing, and critical thinking skills. The Department seeks to provide a foundation for better understanding the world in which we live, to produce high quality scholarship that makes a significant contribution to the discipline, and to serve community needs by providing a source for historical information and expertise crucial to preserving the region's heritage, especially Northwest Florida.

Student Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the graduate program in History, the graduate will be able to do the following:

Content

Summarize and interpret at an advanced level the general content knowledge of history and the influential works, theories, and methods in history, public history, or historic preservation

- Recognize and apply concepts and principles in the discipline of history
- Identify key elements in understanding history, such as: historical contexts; political and social developments; cultural achievements; social, economic, and political boundaries; major figures; and events
- Demonstrate an advanced understanding of relevant historiography (influential works of historians, past and present), theories, and methods

Critical Thinking

Demonstrate advanced critical thinking through the effective application of historical research and methodology

- Critically evaluate, interpret, and synthesize secondary and primary sources
- Utilize relevant historical theories and methods to analyze evidence
- Select appropriate methods for gathering and interpreting evidence to solve a historical problem
- Analyze the historiography in the chosen area of study

Communication

Demonstrate advanced professional communication

- Communicate effectively—in written and oral modes—one’s understanding of major trends, events, and individuals that have made history.
- Demonstrate competency in the standard historical writing and citation style that is the Chicago Manual of Style and the summary by Kate L. Turabian.
- Use information/library literacy and technology effectively to conduct and present research.
- Contribute to the knowledge base of the discipline through professional scholarship, projects, and presentations.

Integrity/Values

Demonstrate advanced understanding and application of professional ethics

- Exercise academic integrity in all forms
- Adhere to professional ethical practices in the use of historical evidence and in the interpretation of historical events, as explained in American Historical Association's Statement on Standards of Professional Conduct
- Describe and adhere to the specific ethical principles in the student’s chosen area of study

Project Management

Conceptualize, design, and implement a scholarly and/or professional project. This may consist of a thesis, research seminar paper, or internship/internship report that constitutes a graduate capstone experience.

Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes

History graduate students acquire the advanced skills and knowledge that allow them to function as professional historians. They gain expertise through courses in their chosen area of focus: history, public history, or historic preservation. They are assessed in comprehensive exams and a capstone experience—thesis, research seminar paper, or internship/internship report—required at the end of their program of study. Finally, upon the completion of all degree requirements, they provide feedback on the quality of Graduate History studies at UWF.

Find Out More about History at UWF:

<http://uwf.edu/history/>