MASTER OF ARTS IN HISTORY

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
- Evaluate and apply general content knowledge on a professional level, of history as well as the influential works, theories, and methods used in the specializations of traditional history, public history, or early American studies.
- Critique concepts and principles in the general discipline of history as well as within the student’s specialization.
- Examine and apply key elements in understanding history, such as: historical contexts; political and social developments; cultural achievements; social, economic, and political boundaries; major figures; and events
- Evaluate and synthesize relevant historiography (influential works of historians, past and present), theories, and methods that relate to the student’s specialization in traditional history, public history or early American studies.

Critical Thinking
- Demonstrate advanced critical thinking through the effective application of historical research and methodology through coursework and in the capstone experience
- 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
• Distinguish appropriate influential works of historians and analyze the historiography in the chosen specialization: traditional history, public history, or early American studies.

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
• Utilize 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. Traditional history and early American studies graduate students will complete either a thesis or research seminar paper. Students in the public history specialization will complete a 300-hour internship.

Assessment Plan
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 early American studies. They are assessed directly through a capstone experience—required at the end of their program of study. Students in the traditional history and early American specializations will complete either a thesis or a research seminar paper. Both of these specializations are 33 hours but students who opt for the longer thesis (approximately 100 pages) take 6 hours of thesis credit while those who opt for the shorter research paper (40-50 pages) take only 3 hours of Master’s Research credit. Students in the public history specialization will complete 33 hours of coursework with 6 hours of Graduate Practicum hours. Finally, upon the completion of all degree requirements, students may provide feedback on the quality of Graduate History studies at UWF to represent an indirect assessment.
Job Prospects for History Majors

Opportunities abound for students who graduate with a major in history. Historians work in schools, at museums, with the media, in politics and law, and in business settings. Although the ALC and ALP jobs list is similar, some of the jobs in the ALP require an M.A. for employment. In addition, M.A. graduates often work at a higher pay grade. Although the following list includes some careers that involve graduate education, a partial list of possible occupations includes the following:

Advertising Executive               Lecturer
Analyst                             Legal Assistant
Archivist                           Legislative Aide
Business Executive                  Librarian
Campaign Worker                    Lobbyist
Consultant                          Local Government
Congressional Aide                  Military Historian
Contract Historian                  Multimedia Creator
Corporate Historian                 Museum Curator
Cultural Resource Manager           Museum Conservator
Documentary Producer                Museum Director
Editor                              Museum Educator
Foreign Service Officer             Preservation Planner
Government employee                Museum Registrar
Grant Writer                        Nonprofit Advocate
Historic Preservationist Information Personnel Manager
Specialist                          Public Relations
Instructor                          Records Manager
Intelligence Agent                  Researcher
Journalist                          Teacher
Lawyer                              Specialist Writer

For more information about graduate education in History, Please see this website:
http://uwf.edu/cassh/departments/history/