

Learning Goals for the History Major

Each student will:

1. Form a sense of his or her own position and role in the world through the study of what others have thought and done and of how people have lived under various social and political systems.
2. Develop an appreciation of the history, lives and values of societies different from our own.
3. Develop an understanding of the theory of historical research and historical research methods; develop skills in the practice of research techniques in history according to the standards of the discipline.
4. Develop skills to evaluate critically primary and secondary sources.
5. Gain a thorough knowledge and understanding of a research topic.
6. Develop skills in the practice of historical writing, including effective communication of findings, their analysis and interpretation, the use of correct English grammar and usage, and proper forms of documentation.
7. Become aware of the importance of historical perspective in understanding institutions, societies, and cultures as products of historical context and evolution.
8. Develop a life-long love of reading.
9. Become, through the study of history, the sort of college graduate who is in demand by employers, a person who can study a body of new information, grasp its significance, organize and digest it, and present a written or oral summary of its important points.