



Bachelor of Arts in History

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Why should I major in history at Cal State Fullerton?

Historians engage in the systematic study of the human past in order to discover meaning for those who live in the present. The student of history draws upon the subject matter and methods of many academic disciplines in order to inform us of how and why people have thought as they did. Thus, social history employs the methods of the social sciences, including quantitative analysis, in examining social movements and issues in the past. Likewise, cultural history uses insights from anthropology, ethnology and literary culture to understand popular culture and elite culture, as well as the development of the various areas of human intellectual and cultural activity.

The major in history at Cal State Fullerton offers:

Great Credentials – The Department of History is committed to a program of study that affirms and promotes human dignity in a diverse and complex world. CSUF offers a wide range of courses that are unmatched by most public or private universities in California.

Outstanding Faculty – Faculty members are internationally-recognized scholars who hold doctorate degrees from prestigious universities and are eager to share their enthusiasm about history with their students.

Fantastic Students – Graduates hold professional positions at schools, colleges and companies around the world. Many of our students go on to graduate studies and find themselves excelling in their chosen fields, whether history or another field of interest.

Internet Access – All students have e-mail access and our computer labs link each student to the World Wide Web.

Flexibility – Classes meet to coincide with your work schedule, both during the day and in the evening. Look into our "guaranteed four-year graduation" for those entering as freshmen.

Who is a history major?

A typical history major is a person who is intelligent, thoughtful and compassionate about the understanding of humankind as it is viewed from a holistic, evolutionary and cross-cultural perspective. Many majors choose to concentrate on a particular area of interest, thereby tailoring their learning to meet a specific field.

What career opportunities are available?

The history major is useful for students who seek a broad liberal arts education with the option to choose more specialized study by geographical region, epoch and focus of inquiry (cultural, social, etc). The degree also provides preparation for students who want to plan a career in government service including positions in United States government agencies and international organizations overseas; pursue a career in private, non-profit organizations, which may involve research and service organizations; desire to study law; intend to prepare for primary or secondary school teaching; or intend to work for advanced degrees in history in preparation for college teaching.

What courses are required for a history major?

All history majors take a total of 45 units, which are distributed as follows:

Introductory Survey Courses (12 units)

World Civilization (6 units)

History 110A World Civilization to the 16th Century (3 units)

History 110B World Civilization Since the 16th Century (3 units)

United States History (6 units)

History 170A United States to 1877 (3 units)

AND History 170B United States Since 1877 (3 units)

OR History 170A **or** History 170B **AND** History 180 Survey of American History (3 units)

OR History 170A **or** History 170B **AND** History 190 Survey of American History with Emphasis on Ethnic Minorities (3 units)

Intermediate Requirements (24 units)

History 300A Historical Thinking (3 units)

History 300B Historical Writing (3 units)

Upper Division Core Requirements

Two courses in three of the four categories (6 courses total)

Category 1. United States History

Category 2. European History

Category 3. World/Comparative History

Category 4. Non-Western History

Advanced Requirements (9 units)

Two upper-division history electives (6 units)

History 490T Senior Research Seminar (3 units)

Is there a minor available in history?

Students majoring in another field may elect to minor in history. Minors will complete a total of 24 units, in consultation with a history adviser. The selected course work should include a concentration in a general field.

Key Requirements (21 to 27 units)

Lower-division course work - 6 or 9 units (including general education)

Upper-division course work - 15 or 18 units (including History 300A Historical Thinking)

To complete 24 units, students have the option of taking the last three units either in the introductory requirements or the upper-division course work.

Please consult the university catalog for details.

How can I get involved?

History student organizations include the History Association, the History Alumni Association and Phi Alpha Theta, Cal State Fullerton's history honor society, which in the recent past, has been chosen as the outstanding national chapter. In addition to student organizations, Cal State Fullerton's Department of History has its own history student journal, the *Welebaethan*. In 1995, 1996, 1997 and 2001, the American Historical Association awarded the Gary Nash Award for best student publication in the United States to the *Welebaethan*. The *Welebaethan* also took 2nd place honors in 1999.

What is the Oral History Program?

The Center for Oral and Public History, under the sponsorship of the Department of History, is one of the most comprehensive university-based oral history programs in the nation. The center offers students courses, work experience and information about oral history. The program has conducted over 2,600 interviews on the history of Orange County, the western United States and other areas of historical study. Either transcriptions or tapes are available at the Oral History Archive for any student to use as they would any library materials. Students in the several classes offered through the Oral History Program have done most of these interviews. The program also maintains a student staff through internships, work-study or grant-supported positions. These students are credited with authorship or assistance in publications, and several alumni of the program now hold important professional positions.

Is there a teaching credential program?

The Department of History offers course work leading to a CSUF Single Subject Matter Preparation Program in History. It also participates in the Multiple Subject Matter Preparation Program. Information on requirements is available from the credential adviser or the Admission to Teacher Education Office at (714) 278-2411. Call the History Department for further information.

What kind of financial aid is available?

The university offers many types of financial aid including loans, grants and scholarships. To find out more, call the university's Office of Financial Aid at (714) 278-3125.

Who advises me?

The department undergraduate adviser can answer questions about the history program, or you may seek advisement from any faculty member. Call the office at (714) 278-3474, for advisement appointments, or visit our website at: <http://hss.fullerton.edu/history/index.htm>. The site includes the names of faculty members, course descriptions, graduation requirements and other information about the field of history. If you follow our program outline and meet with your adviser regularly, you will stay right on schedule.

Where can I learn more?

We encourage you to look us up on the Internet; however, we also suggest that you visit us in person and speak with an adviser. The department office is located in Humanities 815F. You can also write to us at: Department of History, California State University, Fullerton, P.O. Box 6846, Humanities 815F, Fullerton, CA 92834-6846, or call (714) 278-3474.

Come see what our program can do for you. Become a history major at Cal State Fullerton!