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Why Choose History?

The answer is simple: the future! The History program will prepare you for the future challenges of the 21st century. You will gain the analytical skills and the knowledge to excel in a highly competitive job market, regardless of your career path. Our students have advanced to careers in a wide variety of industries, including business, law, education, public service and administration, library and archival work, governmental organizations, journalism, broadcasting, theology, art, and even medicine.

The History program will prepare you for your future by:

- Offering a wide variety of courses that span from antiquity to the modern world and touch upon every region of the globe;
- Instilling sound research skills;
- Training you to understand the standard forms of historical expression;
- Teaching you to critique other historians’ arguments while forming your own theses;
- Developing your ability to perceive how different aspects or types of human endeavor and experience may be connected;
- Stressing the importance of the role of human choice in history.
Requirements for the History Major

The History major consists of ten (10) courses in History and one (1) in Art History. The required courses for the major (totaling 33 credits) include:

- One (1) of the specially-designated core History courses (HIS 1060-1250)
- Either HIS 2000 Investigating US History I or HIS 2001 Investigating US History II
- At least one (1) Junior Research Seminar course HIS 5001
- Either HIS 5501 Seminar in Historical Methodology or HIS 5515 Independent Research
- At least six (6) additional History courses of the student’s choice
- One (1) Art History course in an area that complements one (1) of the ten (10) History courses – please note that this course does not fulfill the core Fine Arts requirement

You must earn 27 credits in History and three (3) credits in Art History beyond the specially designated core courses – at least 18 credits (6 courses) must be completed at Villanova University.

*Please note that History majors must complete the College of Liberal Arts’ core requirements in addition to those set by the History Department.
AP Credit Policies

- Students who receive AP credit must still take one (1) of the specially designated core History courses.

- Credit will be awarded for scores of 4 or 5 on any exam in US, European, or World History.

  - **AP US History**: three (3) credits will be awarded towards either HIS 1002 or HIS 1003 for a score of 4 or 5 on the exam

    *Students who receive AP credit for US History are still required to take either HIS 2000 or HIS 2001*

  - **AP European History**: three (3) credits will be awarded towards HIS 1021 for a score of 4 or 5 on the exam

  - **AP World History**: three (3) credits will be awarded towards either HIS 1040 or HIS 1050

- You may receive a maximum of six (6) credits toward the History major’s requirements.
The Double Major

We encourage students within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences in related disciplines to consider double-majoring in History to enhance and build upon their liberal arts education. Past double-majors have included (but are not limited to) Art History, Classical Studies, Communication, Economics, Education, English, Philosophy, Political Science, Sociology, and Psychology.

The History Minor

If you wish to pursue a History minor, you must complete 18 credits of History courses, which must include one of the specially designated core courses. One (1) of the following 3-credit courses may also be taken for credit toward the History minor:

- AAH 1101  History of Art: Beginnings to Renaissance
- AAH 1102  History of Art: Renaissance to Contemporary World

History minors must complete at least half of the requirements (9 credits / 3 courses) at Villanova University.
Optional Concentrations within the History Major

Students who have a strong interest in a particular topic or area of history have the option to select one (1) of 15 concentrations within the History major, which enables them to pursue this interest in depth. A concentration consists of four (4) courses out of the total 11 required for the major and must be registered with the Department Chairperson no later than the second semester of the student’s junior year. The Department offers concentrations in:

1. Ancient and Medieval Europe
2. The Atlantic World
3. Christianity in History
4. Early Modern Europe
5. History of Asia
6. History of Gender
7. History of War and Peace
8. Modern Europe
9. Modern U.S. History
10. Modern World History
11. Public History
12. Race and Ethnicity in History
13. Science and Nature
14. US to 1877
15. Self-Designed Concentration
For more information and course requirements for each concentration, please visit, www.history.villanova.edu and click on
Academic Programs → Undergraduate Programs in History → History → Concentrations
The Mine Ener Fund for Undergraduate Research in History

The Mine Ener Fund for Undergraduate Research in History supports the research History majors undertake for their senior projects in HIS 5501 Seminar in Historical Methodology. Created to honor the teaching and scholarship of the late Middle Eastern Historian Dr. Mine Ener, it is administered by a History faculty committee and provides grants of up to $300 to History majors enrolled in HIS 5501. You must submit a one-page application describing your project and research methods and estimating the expenses you anticipate to obtain necessary primary source materials, such as the costs of travel to archives and libraries, photocopying, etc. At the conclusion of the course and successful completion of your projects, you must submit your reimbursement requests to one of the Department’s administrative assistants.

The Lepage Center for History in the Public Interest

The Lepage Center was established in 2016 and began operations in January 2017. Made possible through the vision and generosity of Mr. Albert Lepage, a History major at Villanova, ’69, the Center offers unique opportunities for students to engage with history and its intersections with contemporary societal issues, through events, special initiatives, and fellowships. Director Jason Steinhauer and Faculty Director Paul Steege lead the Center with the assistance of a Program and Administrative Specialist, Genevieve Waldman. Please contact lepage@villanova.edu for more information.
Beyond the Classroom

As a member of the History Department you will be a part of a community that extends far beyond the classroom. We sponsor a wide variety of events, lectures, trips, and other activities throughout the academic year to broaden your intellectual and social environment. We also sponsor two student organizations in which you can participate: The History Society and Phi Alpha Theta, the National History Honor Society.

The History Society is open to any undergraduate student (not just History majors and minors) and is run by students for the benefit of students. The group sponsors extracurricular activities, historical films and field trips, as well as discussions of contemporary events from a historical viewpoint. For more information, please contact the History Society Faculty Advisor, Dr. Shannen Williams.

shannen.williams@villanova.edu

Both History majors and non-majors are eligible to join the Tau Pi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta if they have completed at least 12 credits in history, have a GPA of at least 3.5 in History, and rank in the top 35% of their college class.

For more information, please contact either of the following:

Phi Alpha Theta Faculty Advisor
Rev. Joseph Ryan, OSA, PhD, joseph.ryan@villanova.edu

History Department Administrator
Franny Murphy, frances.murphy@villanova.edu
Internship Opportunities

The History Department works with the Office of Undergraduate Students’ Internship Program to offer qualified students the opportunity to integrate theory and research with practical work experience in the private and public sectors. The History Department places students in internships throughout the Delaware Valley and as far away as Washington, D.C., where they can work in various governmental organizations. For more information, please visit, www.history.villanova.edu and click on “Resources and Opportunities.”

Department Requirements

*Please note that these requirements are in addition to the Internship Program requirements:*

1. During the first two weeks of the semester, you must meet with the Chairperson to discuss the objectives of the internship and its relationship to history, and to develop a short list of readings to be done in connection with the internship.

2. By Fall/Spring Break, you must submit a one-page proposal for the research and reflection paper to the Chairperson. This proposal should describe what you intend to do and include your reading list that includes four or five books, or the equivalent in articles. Submission of this proposal is required to receive a “Satisfactory” grade for your internship at midterm.

3. At the end of the semester, you must submit a log you have been keeping regularly during the course of the internship, as well as two (2) copies of the research and reflection paper to the Internship Office.
Potential Internships

- Cliveden in Germantown
- Eastern State Penitentiary (family and education programs)
- Independence National Historical Park (postings on the way for curatorial and for research – the research is probably best for a graduate student or advanced undergrad)
- The ever-popular Valley Forge (museum or interpretation)
- Independence Seaport Museum (curatorial or archives)
- Historical Society of Pennsylvania (archives or conservation)
- National Constitution Center
- Franklin Institute
- University of Pennsylvania Press
- University of Pennsylvania Museum
- National Archives in Philadelphia
- Battleship New Jersey
- District Attorney’s Office of Philadelphia
History Department Faculty

Hibba Abugideiri, PhD, 2001, Georgetown University
  Middle Eastern History
Craig Bailey, PhD, 2004, University of London
  Irish and British History
Marc Gallicchio, PhD, 1986, Temple University
  U.S. Foreign Relations / Modern U.S. History

Department Chairperson
Eliza Gettel, PhD, 2019, Harvard University
  Ancient Greek History / Roman Empire
Judith Giesberg, PhD, 1997, Boston College
  19th Century U.S. History / Women’s History
Lynne Hartnett, PhD, 2000, Boston College
  European History / Russian History

Graduate Program Director
Maghan Keita, PhD, 1988, Howard University
  African / African-American / World History
Catherine Kerrison, PhD, 1999, College of William & Mary
  American Colonial and Revolutionary History / U.S. Women’s History
Elizabeth Kolsky, PhD, 2002, Columbia University
  South Asian History / Empire
Andrew Liu, PhD, 2014, Columbia University
  Modern Chinese History / East Asian Capitalism
Whitney Martinko, PhD, 2012, University of Virginia
  Public History / Early Republic
Timothy McCall, PhD, 2005, University of Michigan
  Italian Renaissance Art and Culture

Art History Program Director
Paul Rosier, PhD, 1998, University of Rochester
  20th Century U.S. History / Native American History / Environmental History

Mary M. Birle Chair
Rev. Joseph Ryan, OSA, PhD, 1997, American University  
American Religious History / History of American Medicine  
Faculty Advisor, Phi Alpha Theta

Cristina Soriano, PhD, 2011, New York University  
Latin America / Caribbean History

Paul Steege, PhD, 1999, University of Chicago  
Modern European History / German History

Mark W. Sullivan, PhD, 1981, Bryn Mawr College  
American Art and Architecture / History of Portraiture

Shannen D. Williams, PhD, 2013, Rutgers University  
African-American History / Women’s History / Religious History  
Faculty Advisor, The History Society

Rebecca L. Winer, PhD, 1996, U.C.L.A.  
Medieval Europe / Women’s History / Jewish History

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**Adjunct and Affiliated Faculty**

Early American / Military History

Kelly-Anne Diamond, PhD, 2007, Brown University  
Ancient Egypt / Ancient New East

Eugene McCarraher, MA, 1988, Villanova University; PhD, 1995, Rutgers University  
Modern America

Emil Ricci, MA, 1982, MA, 1988, Villanova University; EdD, 2005, Widener University  
European / World History

Gina Talley, 2005, BA, University of Pennsylvania; 2008, MA, New York University; ABD, PhD Candidate, University of Massachusetts  
Women’s History / U.S. History  
Faculty Advisor

Alexander Varias, PhD, 1986, New York University  
Modern European / French History

Michael T. Westrate, PhD, 2014, University of Notre Dame  
Russian / Eurasian History
CONTACT INFORMATION

Undergraduate Program

Chairperson: Dr. Marc Gallicchio
Administrative Assistant: Franny Murphy
Saint Augustine Center, Room 403
Phone: (610) 519-7402
Email: frances.murphy@villanova.edu

Graduate Program

Director: Dr. Lynn Hartnett
Program Coordinator: Vicki Sharpless
Saint Augustine Center, Room 403
Phone: (610) 519-4662
Email: vicki.sharpless@villanova.edu