HISTORY DEPARTMENT STUDENT MANUAL v.5 (November 1, 2013)

Welcome

In this manual, students will find information on Major options, Minor information, history major goals and objectives, general education and history major requirements, and a discussion of HIST 396 and HIST 496. There is also a discussion of the History major e-portfolio, - 3 Tc -0s,htnfnp iod sc,(rh)3.6(ar)-4.4(d)-4.4(y)-4.4(n)-4.4(a)-4.4(m)-4.4(i)-4.4(c)-4.4(s)-4.4(,)-4.4(v)-4.4(i)-4.4(s)-4.4(i)-4.4(t)-4.4(s)-4.4(,)-4.4(a)-4.4(c)-4.4(t)-4.4(i)-4.4(v)-4.4(i)-4.4(t)-4.4(i)-4.4(e)-4.4(s)-4.4(,)-4.4(v)-4.4(i)-4.4(d)-4.4(e)-4.4(o)-4.4(s)-4.4(,)-4.4(t)-4.4(i)-4.4(p

12) Senior Seminar paper and senior assessment essays

Funding your Degree

documentation. One of the key ways of thinking about what a history major prepares you to pursue after graduation is to focus on the skills one acquires as a history student. These include:

1) Effective writing skills--vital to any job requiring a college degree, effective writing means the ability to successfully and precisely communicate one's ideas in text.

2) Critical analysis skills--vital to the decision-making process for any job, critical analysis means the ability to analyze a situation and come up with creative and practical solutions.

3) Research skills--vital to any job, research skills mean the ability to understand past practices and policies and to trace the roots of any issue, to find new information which bears on that issue, and to incorporate that information into one's analysis of an issue.

4) Interdisciplinary thinking and training--vital to any position, interdisciplinary thinking and training means the ability to think about a problem in a multitude of ways, to analyze it using multiple tools, and to provide solutions which draw from different traditions of thought.

5) Curiosity and inquisitiveness--vital to any position, curiosity and inquisitiveness mean the desire to learn more and to continue learning, to examine reasons beneath issues, and to come to understand them as part of a continual, lifelong, education process.

Graduate School

History majors have an excellent record of success in graduate school. Some go into Masters and Ph.D. programs in history. Others choose to enter public policy, gender and women's studies, sociology, public health, and anthropology programs. Still others select law school, social work, and sometimes Masters in Business Administration.

For all of these paths, planning is very important. You usually apply for graduate school one year in advance of entering, typically in the fall. History faculty can help you with the process of selecting schools and getting your application materials together. You will sometimes need to take graduate school exams. These include the GRE, GMAT, and LSAT. You will also need to get letters of recommendation from faculty members

What are some of the careers that history majors commonly follow?

Historians as Educators: Many history majors go on to become educators, focusing on the communication of their ideas. Educators include teachers in K-12 education. They also include higher education on many levels, including teaching at community colleges, undergraduate colleges, and universities. But educators are also important members of other educational institutions that you may not think of as immediately as schools. These include historic sites and museums, where history majors can become docents, education directors, curators, guides, interpreters, and labor union researchers. In addition, there is work as historical consultants, contract archivists, public historians, writers, and even filmmakers.

Historians as Researchers: Many history majors go on to careers as researchers, emphasizing their skills in evaluating and analyzing documentary evidence. Historians as researchers include public historians as well as policy advisors, who serve as planners, evaluators, and policy analysts, often for state, local, and federal governments. In addition, historians often find employment as researchers for museums and historical organizations, or pursue additional specialized training to become professionals in cultural resources management and historic preservation.

Historians as Writers and Editors: Because success as a history major depends upon learning to write effectively, many historians become writers and editors. They make their living as authors of historical books, or more commonly, they work as editors. Many historians become print and broadcast journalists, and others

become documentary editors who oversee the publication of documents such as those produced by government agencies.

Historians as Information Managers: Because history majors must learn to deal with documents, many go on to a one or two-year graduate program in library studies (commonly, a Master of Library Science, or MLS, degree) or archival management and enter careers as information managers. With this additional training, they enter the fields of archives management, information management, records management, and librarianship.

Historians as Advocates: Many history majors find that historical training makes a perfect preparation for Law School, as historians and lawyers often do roughly the same thing--they argue persuasively using historical data to support their positions. Many history majors become lawyers; others undertake careers in litigation support as paralegals. Others enter public service and become policymakers, serve as legislative staff at all levels of government, work for labor unions and social justice organizations, and become officers of granting agencies and foundations.

Historians as Businesspeople: Most people overlook the value of historical studies to prepare for a career in business. Yet, historians track historic trends, an important skill for those developing products to market or engaged in corporate or financial planning. Many history majors enter banking, insurance, and stock analysis. Historians also learn how to write persuasively, and this training gives them an edge in advertising, communications media, and marketing. Finally, many industries depend on an intimate knowledge of government policies and historical trends; thus, history majors have found their skills useful in extractive industries and in public utilities.

Historians as Educators: [illegible] ***and histoinsuln howimp*** [illegible] ***utilities.***

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