

explore majors with OAAS!

The Office for Academic Advising Support
773-325-7431



Major: History, BA

History is a hands-on, apprenticeship-style major that teaches people how to research, write, think, prove, argue, and speak. Students take a series of classes with a professional historian where they learn the craft. They also form a tight-knit group who moves through the program together.

What skills do students develop in this program?

Students learn how to read quickly, carefully, and deeply; how to work with large databases and use different types of evidence; how to create chronologies; how to craft a compelling narrative; and how to write. They also learn a great deal about the world. They can synthesize large swathes of information. They understand worlds radically different than their own.

What kind of student is a good fit for History?

Historians tend to like books, libraries, and the past. They also like figuring out motivations and why things happen. They like knowing strange tidbits and have inquisitive minds.

Are there any popular classes in the program that you would suggest or recommended classes for a student who is just starting to explore the major?

We have great classes that will count towards HI Learning Domain credit like:

- HST 217: Vikings: Medieval Ambassadors of Terror, Trade, and Multiculturalism
- HST 238: Witchcraft in the Western World

If you are seriously thinking about majoring or minoring in History, then take:

- HST 298: Introduction to Historical Methods

What are examples of internships and/or research opportunities that students in this major are currently working on or have access to as majors in this program?

History students get internships at area institutions like the Chicago History Museum and the Art Institute. Donors have provided grant money so students can get paid for working at non-profits. Many of our students get jobs at Special Collections in DePaul's Richardson Library. All students do

independent research projects for their senior capstones on topics like World War One, the New Deal, and Crime and Punishment.

What are students doing after graduation?

History students can do anything. They go to law school, work as art registrars, become social workers, go to veterinary school, teach, become librarians and archivists, and become city planners. The History major teaches students a strong skill set that allows students to succeed in almost any field.

Other interesting facts about the History major?

We've got a number of different concentrations like the Pre-Law concentration and the Public History concentration. These set students up to go to law school and museum work, respectively, but we also have a standard concentration that can fit into any plan. We have just launched a new double major called the CS + HST program where students do a double major in computer science and history: know the past, program the future! If you want to talk to someone about the major, just let us know. We're always happy to talk.