

History/Social Studies, BA

2020 - 2021

What Is the Study of History/Social Studies?

The History/Social Studies major is designed to prepare students to teach history and social studies in secondary schools. In their history courses, History/Social Studies majors learn how to locate and access a wide range of sources, to analyze historical evidence, including textual and visual sources, to evaluate historical interpretations, and to develop and support their own interpretations. The quantity of writing and discussion required in history courses also helps students to develop effective communication skills. The required courses in economics, geography, and political science are intended to prepare students to teach these subjects in middle and high schools.

Why Should I Consider This Major?

If you want to teach history or social studies in a middle or high school, you should consider the History/Social Studies major. However, this major also prepares students for a wider range of careers. The knowledge students acquire and the skills they develop in their history courses and in courses in social sciences prepare them for law school, graduate programs in public policy and international affairs, and careers as journalists, government officials, and attorneys.

Secondary Education students who wish to be endorsed in Social Studies may choose this major. However, the History/Social Studies degree does not require that a student pursue a teaching certificate. History/Social Studies majors interested in Secondary certification must apply separately to the certification programs, such as those in Woodring College of Education. Students usually apply to Woodring in their senior year or after they graduate.

How to Declare:

There are no prerequisites for declaring a major in History/Social Studies. Students who have earned Advanced Placement or International Baccalaureate credit in history should not take the equivalent courses at Western. The History Department recommends that students take at least three introductory 100-level or 200-level history courses during their first year.

It is recommended that students contact a faculty advisor in the department as soon as they wish to declare a major in History/Social Studies.

Contact Information:

Department Website:

<https://chss.wwu.edu/history>

Major Information and History Department Chair:

Johann Neem

BH 360 or BH 332

(360) 650-2511

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Sample Careers:

Social Studies Teacher

Politician/Attorney

Teacher

Government Official

Law Enforcement Officer

Archivist

Museum Curator

Major/Career Resources:

<https://chss.wwu.edu/history/careers>

History/Social Studies Major Requirements: 90 credits

History (60 credits)

- 2 courses in the United States, one pre- and one post -1865
- 2 courses in 600-1450 CE period - one in Europe and one in East Asia, South Asia, Africa, and/or the Middle East
- 2 courses in period since 1450 CE. –one course in Europe and one in East Asia, South Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Canada, and/or Latin America
- 2 courses in Ancient (prior to 600 CE), covering two different continents
- History 391 (5) or 392 (5)
- History 499 (5) (WP3)
- **Electives under advisement**
- At least 30 of the 60 credits must be at the upper-division level

Social Studies (30 credits)

- ENVS 204 Human Geography (4)
- One course from: PLSC 101, 261, 271, 291(5)
- PLSC 250 The American Political System (5)
- ECON 206 (4) or ECON 446 (3) (preferred)
- ECON 207 (4) or ECON 447(3) (preferred)
- Electives in Anthro, Econ, Geograhpy, Poli Sci, Psych or Soc
- Must total 30 credits of social science other than history
- No course with a grade of less than a C (2.0) may be counted in this major. Students must achieve a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 in the courses in this major.

United States before 1865

- HIST 103 American History to 1865 (5)
*HIST 131 Going to College in America (5)
*HIST 141 History of American West (5)
HIST 262 African American History to 1865 (5)
*HIST 290 Early Modern Atlantic World (5)
*HIST 314 American & European Enlightenment (5)
*HIST 348: American Slavery (5)
HIST 350 American Colonial History (5)
*HIST 355 Health & Disease in American History (5)
*HIST 356 Gender and History (5)
HIST 360 Religion in Early America (5)
HIST 363 The American Revolution (5)
*HIST 365 Sexuality in the U.S. (5)
HIST 366 The Early American Republic (5)
HIST 367 U.S. Women to 1865 (5)
*HIST 380 Food & Environment in America (5)
*HIST 392 Tribal Sovereignty and WA History (5)
*HIST 450 Climate & Culture in America (5)
HIST 452 U.S. Intellectual History 1776-1900 (5)
*HIST 460 Am. Environmental History (5)
*HIST 469 African Slavery in Atlantic World (5)

United States since 1865

- HIST 104 American History Since 1865 (5)
*HIST 131 Going to College in America (5)
*HIST 141 History of American West (5)
HIST 158 Race/Identity in Modern America (5)
HIST 263 African Americans Since 1865 (5)
HIST 265 LGBT Exp. in U.S. History (5)
HIST 268 Introduction to Asian American History (5)
HIST 275 The Indian in American History (5)
HIST 351 The Long Crisis: US Hist 1865-1920 (5)
HIST 352 U.S. Civil War & Reconstruction (5)
HIST 353 Latinas/os in the U.S. West (5)
HIST 354 Energy in American History (5)
*HIST 355 Health & Disease in American History (5)
*HIST 356 Gender and History (5)
HIST 357 The U.S. in the Cold War (5)
HIST 358 Women of Color in the US (5)
HIST 359 America and Vietnam (5)
HIST 361 Religion in Modern America (5)
HIST 362 Civil Rights Black Power Era (5)
*HIST 365 Sexuality in the U.S. (5)
HIST 368 U.S. Women from 1865 (5)
*HIST 379 Canadian American Relations (5)
*HIST 380 Food & Environment in America (5)

- *HIST 382 The US Neo-conservatism and the Mid-East (5)
*HIST 392 Tribal Sovereignty and WA History (5)
*HIST 408 World War II: The European War (5)
*HIST 409 World War II: The Pacific War (5)
*HIST 447 History of the Sciences of Nature (5)
*HIST 450 Climate & Culture in America (5)
HIST 453 U.S. Intellectual History 1900-Present (5)
*HIST 460 Am. Environmental History (5)
HIST 461 U.S. Urban History (5)
HIST 464 *Sat. Night Live* & U.S. in the 1970s (5)
HIST 467 Self/Society in Am. 1790-1910
*HIST 474 U.S. Latin American Relations (5)
HIST 475 Topics in American Indian History (5)

Europe 600-1450 CE

- HIST 112 Western Civilization 476-1713 (5)
*HIST 232 History of the Jews (5)
HIST 315 Europe: Early Middle Ages 300-1050 (5)
HIST 316 Europe: High Middle Ages 1050-1450 (5)
HIST 318 Medieval England (5)
HIST 320 War in the Middle Ages (5)
HIST 414 The Carolingian Era (5)

East Asia, South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, 600-1450

- *HIST 232 History of the Jews (5)
*HIST 280 Intro to East Asian Civilizations (5)
*HIST 285 African History to 1800 (5)
*HIST 287 Intro to Islamic HIST Civilization (5)
*HIST 373: Yokai: Monsters & the Monstrous in Japanese History (5)
*HIST 374 Pre-Modern Japanese History (5)
HIST 405 The Traditional Middle East (5)
HIST 479 Med & Early Mod Chinese History (5)
*HIST 486 Religion in Japanese History (5)

Europe since 1450 CE

- HIST 113 Western Civilization 1713-Present (5)
*HIST 233 Modern Jewish History (5)
HIST 289 Islam in France (5)
*HIST 290 Early Modern Atlantic World (5)
*HIST 314 American & European Enlightenment (5)
HIST 321 Reformation Europe-Age of Religious Wars (5)
HIST 330 Germany in the 20th Century (5)
HIST 331 History of the Holocaust (5)
HIST 333 Imperial Russia 1689-1917 (5)
HIST 334 20th Century Russia (5)
HIST 341 France 1500-1815 (5)
HIST 342 France 1815-1945 (5)
HIST 381 Jewish Nationalisms
*HIST 408 World War II: The European War (5)
HIST 421 Gender in Early Modern Europe (5)
*HIST 447 History of the Sciences of Nature (5)
HIST 471 Piracy in the Early Mod Atlantic World (5)

East Asia, South Asia, Africa, the Middle East, Canada, and Latin America since 1450 CE

- *HIST 232 History of the Jews Before the Modern Era (5)
HIST 273 Latin America: 1492-1824 (5)
HIST 274 Latin America: 1824-Present (5)
HIST 277 Canada: A Historical Survey (5)
HIST 278 Multiculturalism in Canada (5)
HIST 281 E.A. History-Early Modern/Modern (5)
*HIST 285 African History to 1800 (5)
HIST 286 African History, 1800 to present (5)
*HIST 287 Intro to Islamic HIST Civilization (5)
HIST 288 History of Modern Middle East (5)
*HIST 290 Early Modern Atlantic World (5)
HIST 335 Women and Gender in Judaism (5)
HIST 369 Women, Gender & Sexuality in Afr Hist (5)
HIST 372 Chinese History 1800-Present (5)
*HIST 373: Yokai: Monsters & the Monstrous in Japanese History (5)
*HIST 374 Pre-Modern Japanese History (5)

- HIST 375 Modern Japanese History (5)
HIST 376 French Colonial Canada 1534-1763 (5)
*HIST 379 Canadian American Relations (5)
*HIST 382 The US Neo-conservatism and the Mid East (5)
HIST 383 Modern Iraq (5)
HIST 384 Palestine, Zionism and Israel (5)
HIST 385 West African History (5)
HIST 386 Southern Africa (5)
HIST 387 Africa since the 1960s
HIST 404 Colonialism and the Middle East (5)
HIST 406 Middle East, 1800 to the Present (5)
HIST 407 History of the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict (5)
*HIST 409 World War II: The Pacific War (5)
*HIST 469 African Slavery in Atlantic World (5)
*HIST 474 U.S. Latin American Relations (5)
HIST 477 World War 1 & Canadian Society (5)
HIST 478 History of Nationalism in French Canada (5)
HIST 480 Modern Chinese Social History (5)
HIST 481 The Chinese Revolution (5)
HIST 483 Early Modern Japan (5)
HIST 484 Women in Japanese History (5)
HIST 485 Japanese Military History: Samurai (5)
*HIST 486 Religion in Japanese History (5)
HIST 488 Modern Egypt/Libya & Nile Valley (5)

Ancient

- HIST 111 Prehistory to 476 (5)
HIST 121 World History to 500 (5)
HIST 151 Communities of the Ancient World (5)
*HIST 280 Intro to East Asian Civilizations (5)
*HIST 310 History of Ancient Mesopotamia (5)
*HIST 311 History of Ancient Egypt (5)
HIST 312 History of Ancient Greece (5)
*HIST 313 History of Ancient Rome (5)
HIST 370 Chinese History to 600 AD (5)
HIST 410 First Cities: Urbanization (5)
HIST 412 Ancient Rivers and Roads (5)

(Courses marked with a T fulfill the two-continent requirement)

Courses for areas depending on topic:

- HIST 123 World History, 1500 to Present (5)
HIST 364 Film as History: Variable Topics (5)
HIST 390 Topics in History: Variable Topics (5)
HIST 393 Introduction to Public History (5)
HIST 401 Methods of Research and Analysis (5)
HIST 470 World History of Democracy (5)
HIST 476 World Histories of the Middle Class (5)
HIST 490 Advanced Topics in History (5)
HIST 494 Public History Internship (3-5)
HIST 498 Editing History Writings for the Profession (5)

*Course may be used to fulfill only one area requirement.

Other History options:

- BA, History (60 credits)
BAE, History-Elementary (45 credits)
Minor in History (25 credits)
Minor in Foreign Cultures (see Catalog)
Minor in Public History (25 credits)
Major or minor in Area Studies: Canadian-American Studies, East Asian Studies, Latin American Studies (see Catalog)

These courses are required (or advised) for this major and may be used to satisfy General University Requirements:

HUM: HIST 103, 104, 111, 112, 113, 121, 123, 131, 151, 152, 277, 314
ACGM: HIST 232, 233, 273, 274, 280, 281, 285, 286, 287, 288, 359
BGCM: HIST 158, 262, 263, 265, 268, 275, 278, 353

Check **Classfinder** or **Online Timetable** for departmental offerings each quarter.