Program Description

The program encourages students to compare elements of their own culture with those of other cultures from other time periods. Students of history gain a sense of what is unique in, as well as generally characteristic of, individuals, groups, and national cultures in the present as well as the past. By emphasizing the link between the past and the contemporary world, the history program seeks to help students understand themselves and the times in which they live.

The History Program at the University of Illinois at Springfield offers students a wide range of courses, a highly qualified faculty and class sizes that permit faculty to give students individual attention. The online History Program allows students to actively participate in dynamic, diverse, and interactive online learning communities, and complete their degrees in their own time and at their own pace via the Internet. The web-based format enables them to complete coursework using the latest networked information technologies for increased access to educational resources, advisers, and materials.

Admission Requirements

To transfer into the undergraduate History Program students need

- A minimum of 30 credit hours at the lower-division (freshman/sophomore) level
- Three semester hours of English composition (as the minimum requirement for general university admission)
- Cumulative GPA of 2.50 (on a 4.0 scale) from an accredited college or university

Lower-division Core Requirements

To pursue a major in history, students must complete two courses from the following list of classes on historical regions and themes (6 hours total). The two courses must be from different categories of historical regions and themes. Alternately, students can transfer equivalent courses from an accredited institution. Comparative Societies courses can be used to fulfill both the Comparative Societies requirements and history lower division requirements provided students earn the 120 credit hours required for a BA degree at UIS.

Categories of historical regions and themes:

- World History - HIS 118, HIS 119 (3 hours each)
- Topics in Comparative Religion - HIS 150 (3 hours)
- Europe - HIS 202, HIS 212 (3 hours)
- United States - HIS 204, HIS 205 (3 hours)
- Middle East - HIS 160, HIS 161, HIS 211 (3 hours)
- East Asia - HIS 176, HIS 177 (3 hours each)

Total prerequisites needed: 6 credit hours
Degree Requirements

The following requirements apply to both on-campus and online History undergraduate majors. This information assumes that students have already completed the necessary lower-level courses required for Admission and matriculation into the program, and have consulted with a faculty advisor to determine which courses will best satisfy the degree requirements.

Degree Core Requirements

- HIS 301 The Historian’s Craft (3 hours)
- HIS 401 Senior Seminar (3 hours)
- Two non-U.S. history courses (8 hours)
- Upper-division history electives (19 hours)
- UIS Requirements* (10 hours)

Students will also be required to take general elective courses to meet a minimum of 120 credits required for a bachelor’s degree from UIS.

Courses from other programs may count for history credit when they support the student’s degree plan and are approved in advance.

*UIS Requirements

Students are required to complete a minimum of 10 semester hours of UIS requirements in the areas of ECCE (Engaged Citizenship Common Experience). One hour of this ECCE curriculum is a required Speaker Series course - UNI 301. The other 9 hours can be divided among the other ECCE categories (Global Awareness, US Communities, and ECCE electives). Students should consult with their advisors about completing the ECCE requirements.

Advising

Each student is assigned a faculty advisor to assist in planning an individual program of study responsive to the student’s interests and goals and designed to meet the requirements of the history program.

Grading Policy

History courses for which the student has attained a grade of full C or higher (GPA of 2.00 or higher) will be applied toward the BA degree. History courses taken as credit/no credit will be applied toward the degree if a grade of CR is attained. History majors may repeat program courses for grade improvement only once without seeking program approval.

Official degree requirements are available in the UIS catalog at www.uis.edu/uiscatalog

Program Contacts

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