

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

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Programs of the Department

The Department of History offers the following programs: the major in History; the History-Secondary Education track, for students planning to teach history at the secondary level; and the minor in History. Each of these programs encourages students to explore the study of history in depth. Students who major in History develop strong skills in writing, research, and critical thinking, abilities that are highly prized by employers in a wide variety of fields. History graduates have an excellent foundation for successful careers in most areas of business, consulting, public service and government agencies, as well as in archival management, library science, historical preservation, museology and teaching. The skills acquired can also serve as fine preparation for graduate work.

The department offers courses in the fields of American, European, Asian, African, Latin American, Middle Eastern and World history. Courses can be chronological, topical, or national in scope, and special offerings include courses in women's, ethnic, business, social and cultural history.

All courses offered encourage an appreciation of the historical past through lecture/discussion, reading, analysis and writing. Because history explores all aspects of human endeavor, history courses touch upon the insights of all disciplines from the historical perspective.

Internships and volunteering are great ways to apply what one has learned and to move toward acquiring employment after graduation. History offers many internship and volunteering opportunities including, but by no means limited to, the Maryland Historical Society, Baltimore City Archives, Baltimore Museum of Industry, Jewish Museum of Maryland, Towson University Archives, B&O Railroad Museum and the National Great Blacks in Wax Museum.

The department participates in interdisciplinary programs with International Studies, Social Sciences and Women's Studies; the minors in African and African American Studies, Jewish Studies, Ancient Mediterranean Studies and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Studies; and in Interdisciplinary Studies, tracks in American Studies, - African-American Studies, Comparative Ethnic Studies, Latin American Studies and Asian Studies.

Special Recommendations for Majors and Minors

Students must declare their majors and minors in the department. The major or minor should be declared during the second term of the freshman year or at the beginning of the sophomore year. Students will be given major/minor forms listing additional rules for a History major/minor. They will also be assigned an academic adviser who will help in preparing a program of courses. Students should consult their advisers regularly. Students also must update their records each term. A History minor who wishes to complete an internship must have completed 15 units of the required courses in History.

Transfer Credit Policy

No more than 18 units in History will be accepted toward a major or a minor from a regionally accredited four-year college. No more than 12 lower-division units in History will be accepted toward a major or a minor

from a regionally accredited two-year college. The 12 units must be in lower-division courses which have Towson University equivalents at the 100–200 level.

Advanced Placement

The department awards credit through the Advanced Placement Program of the university for scores of 4 or 5 only.

Departmental Honors and Activities

The History department sponsors the Theta Beta Chapter of the national history honor society, Phi Alpha Theta. The society presents lectures, films and other programs. Students may inquire about membership requirements at the department office.

Department awards include the Medal of the Daughters of American Colonists, presented by the Cecilius Calvert Chapter of that organization and the Disabled American Veterans Prize in History.

The Mary Catherine Kahl Prize is awarded annually to a History major or minor of outstanding promise who has not yet been graduated. An essay in History written by the nominees is submitted as an integral part of the prize competition.

The Arnold Blumberg Prize is awarded annually to the senior History major who has compiled the most outstanding record in the field of European history.

The Douglas D. Martin Sr. History Award provides scholarship support for undergraduate History majors with a minimum of 85 units who have demonstrated an interest in the study of Western U.S. history or native peoples.

Each year, under an endowment established to honor Professor Herbert Duane Andrews, an outstanding scholar will be invited to lecture at the university. The lecture will emphasize scholarly research which demonstrates the integration of History with other disciplines or which uses newer methodologies to enhance understanding of traditional areas of specialization.

The department also offers travel-study courses that in the past have introduced students to China, Japan, Mexico and several European countries.

- Major in History (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/history/history>)
- Major in History-Secondary Education (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/history/history-secondary-education>)
- Combined Major in History and Geography (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/geography-environmental-planning/combined-geography-history>)
- Minor in History (<http://catalog.towson.edu/undergraduate/liberal-arts/history/history-minor>)