

HISTORY (BA)

Offered at: San Luis Obispo Campus

In Cal Poly's History Department, students explore history as a living tradition as well as a vibrant field of study. History deepens students' understanding of different peoples and cultures, examining ideas of race, gender, class and cultural diversity. Students use research and critical tools to explore and articulate multiple perspectives on the present and future.

Program Learning Objectives

1. Analyze diverse primary and secondary sources to construct well-supported historical interpretations.
2. Communicate historical knowledge effectively through analytical writing and other modes of presentation.
3. Evaluate multiple perspectives, theoretical concepts, and historiographic debates in historical research.
4. Design and conduct original historical research that demonstrates critical thinking and analytical skills.
5. Demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of global and national historical developments and the contributions of diverse and historically marginalized groups.
6. Identify paths toward diverse careers that utilize critical thinking, research synthesis, and communication skills.

Degree Requirements and Curriculum

In addition to the program requirements listed on this page, students must also satisfy requirements outlined in more detail in the Minimum Requirements for Graduation (<https://catalog.calpoly.edu/academic-standards-policies/general-requirements-bachelors-degree/>) section of this catalog, including:

- 40 units of upper-division courses
- 2.0 GPA
- Graduation Writing Requirements (GWR)
- U.S. Cultural Pluralism (USCP)

Note: No Major or Support courses may be selected as credit/no credit. In addition, no more than 12 units of cooperative or internship courses can count towards your degree requirements.

Code	Title	Units
MAJOR COURSES		
HIST 1100	Historical Inquiry	4
HIST 1101	Learn by Doing History	3
HIST 2201	United States History to 1877 (4A) ¹	3
HIST 2202	United States History Since 1877	3
HIST 2222	World History to 1500 (4B) ¹	3
HIST 2223	World History since 1500	3
HIST 3303	Research and Writing Seminar in History	4
HIST 3304	Historiography	4
HIST 4460	Senior Project I	2
HIST 4461	Senior Project II	2
History Electives		
Select any 2000 level HIST courses		6
Select any 3000-4000 level HIST courses ^{2, 3}		8
Global Histories Electives		
Select from the following: ^{2, 4}		8
HIST 3309	Cultures of the African Diaspora	
HIST 3310	East Asian Cultures and Civilizations	
HIST 3313	Modern Middle East	
HIST 3316	Modern East Asia	
HIST 3318	The City in the Modern World	
HIST 3319	A Cultural History of Southeast Asia	
HIST 3320	The Age of Revolution in the Americas	
HIST 3337	Colonial Latin America	
HIST 3338	Modern Latin America	

HIST 4415	Modern Korea
HIST 4416	Modern Japan
HIST 4417	Modern China
HIST 4419	Southeast Asia in 20th and 21st Century
HIST 4423	The History of Vietnam
HIST 4428	The Indian Ocean
HIST 4429	Precolonial African History
HIST 4442	Questions and Issues in Latin American History
HIST 4443	Questions and Issues in Asian History
HIST 4444	Questions and Issues in African History
HIST 4457	Arabia and the Arab Gulf States
HIST 4459	Imperialism and Postcolonial Studies

SUPPORT COURSES

Select any GE Upper-Division 4 course not in HIST ¹ 3

World Languages Requirement

Select from the following: ⁵ 4

CHIN 2201	Intermediate Chinese Language and Culture I
FR 2201	Intermediate French Language and Culture I
GER 2201	Intermediate German Language and Culture
ITAL 2201	Intermediate Italian I
JPNS 2201	Intermediate Japanese I
SPAN 2201	Intermediate Spanish I
WLC 2201	Intermediate World Language and Culture I

GENERAL EDUCATION (GE)

(See GE program requirements below) 34

FREE ELECTIVES

Free Electives ^{6, 7} 26

Total Units 120

¹ Required in Major or Support; also satisfies General Education (GE) requirement.

² A minimum of two 4000-level courses is required across History electives and Global Histories electives.

³ HIST 4400 and HIST 4467 may not count towards the History Electives.

⁴ Choose two courses (8 units) that focus on regions and themes outside of the U.S. and Europe. This includes courses on Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East, as well as comparative or transregional courses that explore global themes such as urbanism, imperialism, or migration.

⁵ Additional prerequisites may be needed to complete this requirement.

⁶ If a General Education (GE) course is used to satisfy a Major or Support requirement, additional units of Free Electives may be needed to complete the total units required for the degree.

⁷ Free Electives may need to be at the 3000-4000 level to ensure completion of the required minimum of 40 units of upper-division courses.

General Education (GE) Requirements

- 43 units required, 9 of which are specified in Major and/or Support.
- If any of the remaining 34 Units is used to satisfy a Major or Support requirement, additional units of Free Electives may be needed to complete the total units required for the degree.
- See the complete GE course listing (<https://catalog.calpoly.edu/academic-standards-policies/general-requirements-bachelors-degree/#generaleducationtext>).
- A grade of C- or better is required in one course in each of the following GE Areas: 1A (English Composition), 1B (Critical Thinking), 1C (Oral Communication), and 2 (Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning).

Lower-Division General Education

Area 1	English Communication and Critical Thinking	
1A	Written Communication	3
1B	Critical Thinking	3
1C	Oral Communication	3

Area 2	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning	
2	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning	3
Area 3	Arts and Humanities	
3A	Arts	3
3B	Humanities: Literature, Philosophy, Languages other than English	3
Area 4	Social and Behavioral Sciences (Area 4 courses must come from at least two different course prefixes.)	
4A	American Institutions (Title 5, Section 40404 Requirement) (3 units in Major) ¹	0
4B	Social and Behavioral Sciences (3 units in Major) ¹	0
Area 5	Physical and Life Sciences	
5A	Physical Sciences	3
5B	Life Sciences	3
5C	Laboratory (may be embedded in a 5A or 5B course)	1
Area 6	Ethnic Studies	
6	Ethnic Studies	3
Upper-Division General Education		
Upper-Division 2/5	Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning or Physical and Life Sciences	3
Upper-Division 3	Arts and Humanities	3
Upper-Division 4	Social and Behavioral Sciences (Area 4 courses must come from at least two different course prefixes.) (3 units in Support) ¹	0
Total Units		34

¹ Required in Major or Support; also satisfies General Education (GE) requirement.

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