



We
Make
Futures
Happen

Master of Arts in History

AT SAN FRANCISCO STATE UNIVERSITY

The graduate History program at SF State's College of Liberal & Creative Arts provides students with a Master of Arts (MA) degree organized around diverse regions, periods, and themes. Our rich, flexible program allows students to customize the curriculum to meet their particular academic and career goals. Students also benefit from our accomplished and dedicated faculty, who provide individual attention and mentorship.

SF State's Graduate Program in History offers:

- » Nationally recognized MA program
- » Engaged faculty of teacher-scholars
- » Broad range of course offerings
- » Two-year MA allowing for in-depth and intensive study
- » Part- and full-time schedules
- » Support for various career goals
- » Internship program at local historical archives, societies, and museums
- » Teaching Assistant opportunities
- » Affordability

Employment Outlook

Our alumni work in a wide range of careers, including as professional historians, museum curators, public historians, teachers, librarians, archivists, editors, and in business. Other MA program alumni teach history at community colleges in the Bay Area and beyond, and some are high school teachers. For students interested in a community college teaching career, we offer a course that combines pedagogical theory with training in the classroom. Both current and future high school teachers also enroll in the MA program to deepen their knowledge and advance their careers.

Doctoral Program Placements

Some of our MA students choose to continue their study of history at the doctoral level. We are proud of our success in getting students admitted to top-ranked PhD programs across the country including Columbia, Princeton, Johns Hopkins, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Stanford, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UCLA, and UC Santa Cruz.

Faculty

History department faculty are active scholars with expertise in a number of historical periods, world regions, and thematic areas, including social justice movements, slavery and emancipation, gender and sexuality, imperialism, and religion. See individual faculty profiles at history.sfsu.edu/content/graduate-faculty.



SAN FRANCISCO
STATE UNIVERSITY

Department of History · College of Liberal & Creative Arts
history.sfsu.edu/content/graduate-program · history@sfsu.edu · 415-338-1604

Courses

Recent graduate courses have included:

- » Toward a Global History of Sexuality
- » History of Bodies, Bodies of History
- » Historical Soundscapes
- » France/North Africa, 1700–2000
- » Modernity and the Islamic World
- » The Fall of the Roman Empire
- » Interfaith Spain
- » The Old Regime and the French Revolution
- » Social and Cultural History of Africa
- » Culture and Society in Early America
- » Transition to Capitalism in America
- » Gender and Sexuality in the US
- » Race and Ethnicity in the Twentieth Century U.S.
- » The US and the Cold War
- » American Empire

Student Resources

The San Francisco Bay Area provides many opportunities for hands-on primary research at local archives and libraries, among them:

- » Labor Archives, SF State
- » California State Library – Sutro Library, SF State
- » National Archives, Pacific Sierra Branch, San Bruno
- » California Historical Society
- » Bancroft Library
- » Holocaust Center of San Francisco
- » Hoover Institution
- » GLBT Historical Society

Degree Program Requirements

The student must take a minimum of 30 units of upper division and graduate coursework. Of these units, at least 21 must be graduate level work (i.e. courses numbered 700 and above). In addition to coursework, the student must satisfy a Culminating Experience requirement (either a comprehensive examination or a master's thesis) and the Auxiliary Skills requirement.

Program Curriculum

HIST 700 History as a Field of Knowledge	3 units
HIST 705 Approaches to History (variable theme).....	3 units
HIST 710–850 Graduate seminars in US, European, or World History	12 units
Electives on advisement	9 units
Culminating experience: Comprehensive exams or thesis	3 units
	Minimum total: 30 units

Financing Your Degree

To help defray tuition costs the history department offers qualified students fellowships and employment as course graders. History MA students have also been successful in winning university and college fellowships, and many benefit from state and university aid administered by the SF State Financial Aid office.

Admissions Requirements

- » BA in History or 4 upper-division courses in history
- » GPA of 3.35 in last 60 semester units*
- » GRE analytical score of 4.0*
- » Writing sample (10–20-page research paper)
- » Official transcripts
- » Three letters of recommendation

* Conditional acceptance may be offered to students who fall below the GPA and GRE requirements if they show exceptional promise.

Ready to Apply?

For complete instructions and information on the application process and materials required, visit: history.sfsu.edu/content/apply-0.

