BACHELOR OF ARTS (BA) 

HISTORY

History is the study of past worlds and how they have changed over time. It is a way of thinking about how and why past environments, societies, governments, and beliefs were different from and similar to our own. History is not about memorizing lists of names and dates; it is instead about finding clues about the past and following those clues to craft true stories about ourselves and others.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A HISTORY DEGREE?

I COULD BE A... lawyer, politician, public servant, work for a non-profit organization, film or TV producer, journalist, editor, writer, high school teacher, museum director, heritage professional, or even a university professor, archivist or librarian.

TOP 5 REASONS TO STUDY HISTORY

1. History gives insight! As humans, we can understand our current situation by studying the conflicts, ideas, and relationships that shaped global societies over time.
2. Our students learn how to write effectively, how to do research, and how to think through complex problems.
3. Our History and Classics Undergraduate Society holds study sessions, history movie nights, and historical board game nights. Our undergraduates even publish their own research in their student-run journal, Constellations.
4. Employers are keen to hire folks able to uncover hidden information, draw connections between different kinds of evidence, and communicate those discoveries. Those are precisely the skills you develop in History courses.
5. Our History professors are passionate and creative teachers, eager to help you explore and understand the past and to develop your skills as researchers, thinkers, and communicators.

BA HISTORY (MAJOR)

- Required History Courses (Major)
- BA Basic Requirements
- Second Major, Minor(s), Certificates, Electives

OFFERS COURSES IN...
- Indigenous peoples
- Warfare and conflict
- Colonialism
- Ancient and medieval societies
- Environment
- Economics and labour
- Science, technology, and medicine
- Gender and culture
- Politics and nations
- Religious change

ENHANCE YOUR DEGREE

ASK ABOUT THE HONORS PROGRAM:
You will be mentored by a History professor who will advise you as you research, think, and write about a historical question that fascinates you.

YOU CAN STUDY ABROAD:
Do a semester abroad or a summer program in Latin America, Europe, Africa, or Asia.

ENHANCE YOUR DEGREE

Ask about the Honors Program:
You will be mentored by a History professor who will advise you as you research, think, and write about a historical question that fascinates you.

You can study abroad:
Do a semester abroad or a summer program in Latin America, Europe, Africa, or Asia.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS FOR YOUR MAJOR

Complete your major requirements and test out different classes. Design your academic plan — you’re in control!

HISTORY MAJOR COURSE REQUIREMENTS:

- There is a lot of flexibility in the History major. You need to take between 10 and 16 History courses at the 200-level or higher.
- HIST 290, Introduction to History as a Discipline. It’s best to take HIST 290 during your second year.
- Two courses at the 300 level and two at the 400 level. Our 400-level courses are small classes with lots of discussion and historical research.

To verify your Major and BA Common Requirements, check the University Calendar and speak to an advisor.

STUDENT SUPPORTS

These are services that enable you to pursue academic and personal success.

- Academic advising
- Student Ombuds
- Indigenous Student supports
- Academic support
- Health & Wellness
- Campus Food Bank
- Libraries
- International Student supports
- Accessibility Resources
- Financial Aid & Awards
- Professional & Career Development
- Mental Health Supports

WE ARE ALL TREATY PEOPLE

The University of Alberta respectfully acknowledges that we are situated on Treaty 6 territory, traditional lands of First Nations and Métis people.
Early Degree

- Expand your career options, be proactive, and test possibilities. Join a student group.
- Talk to your History undergraduate advisor, who really wants to meet you!
- Take your two required Language Other than English courses.
- Join the History and Classics Undergraduate Society.
- Volunteer, travel, get a summer job, read! Reflect on what you’re learning and practise self-care.

Mid-Degree

- Take risks, try new things, ask for and offer help to people you know and people you meet.
- Learn more about Indigenous peoples, perspectives, and worldviews.
- Design your own History research project through the Undergraduate Research Initiative or by applying to the Honors History program.
- Become a student editor with Constellations, the undergraduate History and Classics journal.

Late Degree

- Go overseas one summer to study another language, do academic coursework, or do an internship.
- Let the Career Centre support you in communicating your skills and experience to prepare for your next steps.
- Ask two or three professors to be academic references.
- Develop and revise your career story based on your values, interests, and what you learn.

LEGEND

- GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE
- GAIN EXPERIENCE
- SEEK OUT CONNECTIONS
- NAVIGATE COURSES

BA HISTORY DEGREE GUIDE

Your University experience is about what happens inside and outside of the classroom. This map is a tool to help you complement your academics with hands-on learning outside of the classroom and take advantage of student activities. Each new step will help you explore your options, take measured risks, and inform your next step. Being informed and engaged leads to a richer journey throughout your degree and beyond!