

## Introduction to the Major

**History trains us to develop empathy with people different from ourselves and to craft frameworks for thinking about the world.**

As a history major, you will uncover insights and perspectives from the past to better understand the present. Why does this matter? It provides us with a deeper understanding of ourselves and others necessary for impactful engagement in the world. At the same time, you will master critical skills — persuasive writing, interpreting data, and giving compelling presentations, among others — that will prepare you for a successful career in any field.

### Highlights

Research and analyze historical events with faculty known for their extensive work in the fields of U.S., European, and global history — including Holocaust and genocide studies, African-American history, the history of the Atlantic world, and the history of women and gender. Complete exciting internships and research projects at archives and museums in the U.S. and abroad — from the Museum of Worcester to the British Museum in London.



**"I intend to have a career as a physician-scientist, and my passion for medicine has deepened through studying history and the idiosyncrasies of the human condition."**

- Katie Gross, '22



### What can I do with my major?

#### **JOBS & EMPLOYERS**

History graduates work in a variety of fields and careers including teaching and education administration, management, law, nonprofit leadership, museums, and more.

#### **GRADUATE PROGRAMS**

History alumni go on to advanced study in history and other fields, law school, medical school, Clark's 4+1 Accelerated Master's Degree in history and teaching, and more.

### **Foundational Courses**

**All history majors are required to take ten history courses, along with two related non-history courses**

- HIST 120 - Writing History, to gain familiarity with different types of historical writing and the issues involved in researching and writing historical studies
- One course each in United States, European, and global history
- One course devoted primarily to the period before 1800
- Five courses in your chosen area of specialization
- A senior-year capstone course

# YOUR CLARK EXPERIENCE



**Discover and Demonstrate your Purpose**



**Cultivate Your Communities**



**Engage Locally & Globally**



**Develop your Professional Identity**

## Year 1



### **Explore the History major**

Take a First-Year Intensive (FYI) or an introductory course. Meet with the department chair. Check out Clark Core courses and consider transdisciplinary connections to your interest in history, such as comparative race and ethnic studies, urban studies, or women's and gender studies.



### **Learn about local history**

Visit the American Antiquarian Society (AAS), the Museum of Worcester, the Worcester Art Museum, and the Old Sturbridge Village or take a course in public history.



### **Get connected**

Identify historical institutions in your home community for possible internship or job opportunities. Make an appointment with your career adviser in the Career Connections Center.

## Year 2



### **Dig into the major**

Take introductory or 200-level lecture and discussion courses for more specialized content.

Identify faculty members who share your interests and consider asking one to become your adviser. Speak to the department chair if you need help.



### **Prepare for research**

Take history's required methods course. Consider applying to the AAS seminar or enroll in a History Department seminar for fall of your third year.



### **Go beyond the classroom**

Use Handshake to search for a summer job or internship. Consider how you can apply your historian's skills to something that matters to you.

Make an appointment with The Office of Study Abroad and Away to learn about programs for history students.

## Year 3



### **Become a researcher**

Take your first seminar in the History Department or at the AAS. Design an independent project and explore funding opportunities, such as a Steinbrecher Fellowship. Present at ClarkFEST.



### **Personalize your path**

Make an appointment with your career adviser to identify potential career paths and the skills they require. Use the summer after junior year to gain skills or experience you don't have yet.



### **Plan for senior year and beyond**

Apply for Honors, if interested. Look into the 4+1 Accelerated Master's Program.

Considering graduate school? Some programs have early fall deadlines, so plan accordingly. Identify faculty who know you well and will serve as references.

## Year 4



### **Pull it all together with your capstone**

Study abroad, research, and internship experiences are great jumping-off points for capstones and thesis projects.



### **Share what you have learned**

Present at ClarkFEST. Attend or present at an academic conference. Work as a Peer Learning Assistant (PLA). Plan a talk, presentation, or web resource for local audiences, businesses, or community groups who might be interested in your research.



### **Get ready to launch**

Update your professional profiles including LinkedIn. Work with faculty and the Career Connections Center to craft a narrative about who you are, the skills you have, and the values you hold. The Career Lab can help you prepare application materials for any opportunity.