

# Department of History

Phyllis G. Jestice, Ph.D., Chair  
118 College Drive #5047  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001  
(601) 266-4333

*Austin, Bowersox, Bristol, Chambers, Follett, Franklin, Grivno, Haley, Jestice, Kyriakoudes, La Pierre, Mackaman, Milne-Smith, C. Morgan, Neiberg, Nuwer, Smith, Stur, Tyler, S. Ural, Wiest, Zelner*

The Department of History participates in programs leading to the degrees of master of arts, master of science, and doctor of philosophy.

## General Regulations

The student is held responsible for following all graduate regulations. The student's major professor will help in any way possible, but the student is expected to know what is required and to take full responsibility. General academic and admission requirements for all graduate degrees are set forth in another section of this *Bulletin*, and general departmental requirements are listed below.

## Master's Programs

### Admission Requirements

For admission to the master's program, the department requires a 3.0 minimum grade point average on the last two years of undergraduate study, GRE general test scores, transcripts, three letters of recommendation, a statement of career objectives (250 to 500 words), and an example of written work (up to 20 pages). Letters of recommendation should be from people qualified to assess the applicant's readiness for graduate study and should be sent to the department. Normally, applicants will have taken a variety of upper-division History courses.

Students with perceived academic deficiencies may be admitted conditionally. To remove the conditional status, students must meet Graduate School requirements, which are described in the Admission Requirements section of the *Bulletin*, and they must satisfy all additional requirements stipulated by the chair and director of Graduate Studies.

In addition to the Graduate School criteria for regular admission, students whose native language is not English must score at least 550 on the TOEFL Examination (213 on the computer-based examination). The department presumes that applicants who have fulfilled these requirements possess an adequate knowledge of English. If, upon their arrival at the university, it is determined that they do not possess an adequate command of English, the department reserves the right to require appropriate remedial courses.

Members of all underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

### Retention Policy

The Department of History has a retention policy more stringent than the general policy of the graduate school. The department's policy is published in its *Handbook*. Students should consult the *Handbook* for a description of the policy.

**Continuous Enrollment Requirement:** Students must meet the requirement specified in the front section of this *Bulletin*.

### Responsible Conduct of Research Training:

All faculty holding Regular or Associate graduate faculty status, must complete RCR training modules required by the Graduate School and their departments. All graduate students must complete the RCR training modules required by the Graduate School and their departments the first semester there are enrolled in graduate school. The RCR policy and training information are found on the Graduate School web page – [www.usm.edu/graduateschool](http://www.usm.edu/graduateschool). Contact the Dean of the Graduate School if you have any questions regarding the policy of training information.

## Master of Arts

All students are expected to complete the following requirements:

1. A total of thirty (30) semester hours in History with twenty-one (21) hours in courses numbered over 600. A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation. Only one HIS 692 will count toward the degree.
2. **Plan of Study.** Students must submit their signed, official *Plan of Study Form* to the Graduate School by the end of the **first semester** they are enrolled. The *Plan of Study Forms* are available at [www.usm.edu/graduateschool](http://www.usm.edu/graduateschool).
3. HIS 710 at its first offering by the department.
4. HIS 725 and HIS 726 for those concentrating in United States History; HIS 720 and an additional seminar for those in European History; HIS 781 and HIS 782 for those in Latin American History.
5. HIS 711 or HIS 712 depending on the emphasis area. Students whose major field is Latin American History will take HIS 711 unless otherwise advised by the dean of Graduate School.
6. A reading knowledge of one foreign language. Students in Latin American History must have a reading knowledge of either Spanish or Portuguese.
7. A thesis, which will confer six (6) hours credit within the minimum hourly requirements.
8. During the spring semester of the second year, the student will take a comprehensive written examination.
9. A thesis defense is required.

## Master of Science

All students are expected to complete the following requirements:

1. A total of thirty (30) semester hours in History with twenty-one (21) hours in courses numbered above 600. A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation. Only one HIS 692 will count toward the degree.
2. **Plan of Study.** Students must submit their signed, official *Plan of Study Form* to the Graduate School by the end of the **first semester** they are enrolled. The *Plan of Study Forms* are available at [www.usm.edu/graduateschool](http://www.usm.edu/graduateschool).
3. HIS 710 at its first offering by the department.
4. HIS 725 and HIS 726 for those concentrating in United States History; HIS 720 and an additional seminar for those in European History; HIS 781 and HIS 782 for those in Latin American History.
5. HIS 711 or HIS 712 depending on the emphasis area. Students whose major field is Latin American History will take HIS 711 unless otherwise advised by the dean of Graduate School.
6. During the spring semester of the second year, the student will take a comprehensive written examination.

### Emphasis Areas

The Department of History offers the following areas of emphasis for the master of arts and master of science degrees:

- I. United States History
- II. European History
- III. Latin American History
- IV. International Studies
- V. War and Society

In the comprehensive examination, all master's students must demonstrate proficiency in one primary area of emphasis and one secondary area. Two members of the examining committee will represent the primary area, and one member will represent the secondary area. United States History, European History, and Latin American History may be selected as either primary or secondary areas. Asian History or African history may be selected only as a secondary area. The nature and scope of the material to be included from each area will be determined by the graduate committee.

The M.A. student should successfully complete fifteen (15) hours of course work in the primary area and six (6) hours in the secondary area in addition to History 710 and the 6 hours of thesis work.

The M.A. thesis must be written in the primary emphasis area. A student may write a thesis in Asian or African History if permission to do so is granted by the department.

The M.S. student should take eighteen (18) hours of course work in the primary area and nine (9) hours in the secondary area in addition to History 710.

Students planning to pursue a doctoral degree must write a thesis and should enroll in the M.A. program.

## Master of Arts or Master of Science, International Studies Emphasis

This program is intended for graduate students in History with an International Studies orientation. Students must complete the following requirements:

1. Successful completion of thirty-six (36) semester hours with eighteen (18) hours in History and eighteen (18) in Political Science (18 hours must be 600 level or higher), as follows:
  - a. Twelve (12) hours of core courses: HIS 710, HIS 720, HIS 725, HIS 726, HIS 781, or HIS 782; PS 730; PS 731; and PS 750
  - b. The remainder of course work selected from the following: HIS 711 or 712, HIS 732, HIS 733, HIS 734, HIS 736, HIS 740, HIS 745, HIS 772, HIS 774, HIS 782, PS 504, PS 508, PS 521, PS 531, PS 532, PS 535, PS 550, PS 551, PS 552, PS 556, PS 558, PS 585, PS 721, and PS 750.
  - c. With the approval of the director of Graduate Studies, students may earn up to nine (9) hours in relevant 500-level history courses and may earn six (6) hours through study-abroad programs.
  - d. Only one HIS 692 will count toward the degree.
2. **Plan of Study.** Students must submit their signed, official *Plan of Study Form* to the Graduate School by the end of the **first semester** they are enrolled. The *Plan of Study Forms* are available at [www.usm.edu/graduateschool](http://www.usm.edu/graduateschool).
3. Students seeking a Master of Arts degree must write and defend a thesis, which will confer six (6) hours of credit within the minimum hourly requirements.
4. A reading knowledge of one foreign language.
5. The student's graduate committee will consist of two members from the History Department and one member from the Political Science Department.
6. During the spring semester of the second year, the student will take a comprehensive written examination.
7. A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation.

## Master of Arts or Master of Science, War and Society Emphasis

This program is intended for graduate students in History with a war and society orientation. Students must complete the following requirements:

1. Successful completion of thirty (30) semester hours (18 hours of 600 level or higher) as follows:
  - a. Nine (9) hours of core courses: HIS 710, HIS 711 or HIS 712; HIS 720; HIS 725 and/or HIS 726; or HIS 782.
  - b. The remainder of course work selected from the following: HIS 510, HIS 511, HIS 512, HIS 513, HIS 515, HIS 516, HIS 517, HIS 530, HIS 531, HIS 532, HIS 533, HIS 534, HIS 537, HIS 541, HIS 543, HIS 544, HIS 556, HIS 558, HIS 561, HIS 563, HIS 566, HIS 573, HIS 583, HIS 585, HIS 734, HIS 736, HIS 745, and HIS 782.
  - c. Only one HIS 692 will count toward the degree.
2. **Plan of Study.** Students must submit their signed, official *Plan of Study Form* to the Graduate School by the end of the **first semester** they are enrolled. The *Plan of Study Forms* are available at [www.usm.edu/graduateschool](http://www.usm.edu/graduateschool).
3. Students seeking a master of arts degree must write and defend a thesis, which will confer six (6) hours of credit within the minimum hourly requirements.
4. A reading knowledge of one foreign language.
5. During the spring semester of the second year, the student will take a comprehensive written examination.
6. A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation.

## Dual Master's Degrees in History and Library and Information Science

In cooperation with the School of Library and Information Science, the Department of History offers a combined program leading to two master's degrees: master in Library and Information Science and master of arts in History. Students will pursue both degrees simultaneously, and neither degree will be awarded until the entire program is completed. Students who withdraw from the dual master's program in favor of one of the two disciplines will be bound by the degree requirements of that discipline. The combined program includes thirty (30) hours in Library and Information Science and thirty (30) hours in History for a total of sixty (60) hours. Students in the combined program must complete the following requirements:

1. Thirty (30) hours in Library and Information Science (18 hours at the 600 level or above).
2. **Plan of Study.** Students must submit their signed, official *Plan of Study Form* to the Graduate School by the end of the **first semester** they are enrolled. The *Plan of Study Forms* are available at [www.usm.edu/graduateschool](http://www.usm.edu/graduateschool).
3. Thirty (30) hours in History (18 hours at the 600 level or above). Only one HIS 692 will count toward the degree.
4. HIS 710 at its first offering by the department.
5. HIS 720, HIS 725, HIS 726, HIS 781, or HIS 782.
6. One of the following seminars: HIS 711, 712, 732, or 745.
7. Six (6) hours of internship.
8. A reading knowledge of one foreign language.
9. A thesis, which will confer six (6) hours credit, three in History and three in Library and Information Science; thesis defense is required.
10. A comprehensive written examination administered by a three-member committee representing both disciplines and given after satisfactory completion of the course work.
11. A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation.

Students should refer to the Library and Information Science section of this *Bulletin* for further details.

## Dual Master's Degrees in History and Anthropology

In cooperation with the Department of Anthropology, the Department of History offers a combined program leading to two master's degrees: master of arts in Anthropology and master of arts in History. Students will pursue both degrees simultaneously, and neither degree will be awarded until the entire program is completed. Students who withdraw from the dual master's program in favor of one of the two disciplines will be bound by the degree requirements of that discipline. The combined program includes thirty (30) hours in Anthropology and thirty (30) hours in History for a total of sixty (60) hours. Students in the combined program must complete the following requirements:

1. Thirty (30) hours in anthropology (18 hours at the 600 level or above).
2. **Plan of Study.** Students must submit their signed, official *Plan of Study Form* to the Graduate School by the end of the **first semester** they are enrolled. The *Plan of Study Forms* are available at [www.usm.edu/graduateschool](http://www.usm.edu/graduateschool).
3. Thirty (30) hours in History (18 hours at the 600 level or above). Only one HIS 692 will count toward the degree.
4. HIS 710 at its first offering by the department.
5. HIS 720, HIS 725, HIS 726, HIS 781, or HIS 782.
6. One of the following seminars: HIS 711, 712, 732, or 745.
7. Six (6) hours of internship.
8. Three (3) or six (6) hours of the following: HIS 605, HIS 606.
9. ANT 537.
10. A reading knowledge of one foreign language.
11. A thesis, which will confer six (6) hours credit, three in History and three in Anthropology; thesis defense is required.
12. A comprehensive written examination administered by a three-member committee representing both disciplines and given after satisfactory completion of the course work.
13. A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation.

Students should refer to the Anthropology section of this *Bulletin* for further details.

## Doctoral Program

### Admission Requirements

For admission to the doctoral program, the department requires a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on all graduate work, GRE general test scores, transcripts, three letters of recommendation, a statement of career objectives (500 to 1,000 words), and an example of written work (up to 20 pages). Letters of recommendation should be from people qualified to assess the applicant's readiness for graduate study and should be sent to the department or school. Normally, applicants will have completed an M.A. in History and written a thesis. General requirements for admission can be found in the "Academic Requirements" section of the *Bulletin*.

Exceptions to some of the above-listed requirements may be made. Students so accepted will be classified "conditional," which is removed by achieving a 3.5 grade point average on twelve (12) hours of course work during the first two semesters.

Members of all underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.

A minimum of eighty-four (84) semester hours of course credit beyond the baccalaureate degree is required, which includes historiography courses (HIS 720, HIS 725, HIS 726, HIS 781, HIS 782) relevant to the student's major and minor fields, an additional 700-level course in the student's major area, two additional courses at the 600-level or higher, and twelve hours of dissertation research. Only one HIS 692 taken before the comprehensive examination will count toward the degree. Doctoral students are prohibited from taking more than three 500-level history courses and no more than four throughout their graduate careers. Exceptions to the policy may be made only under unusual circumstances and with the approval of the department coordinator of graduate studies and the student's major professor. All doctoral students will take a qualifying examination. A 3.0 GPA is required for graduation.

### Retention Policy

The Department of History has a retention policy more stringent than the general policy of the graduate school. The department's policy is published in its *Handbook*. Students should consult the *Handbook* for a description of the policy.

### Major and Minor Requirements

The department offers the doctor of philosophy degree in United States History, in European History since 1789, and in History of the Americas. Candidates seeking a doctorate in United States History must demonstrate proficiency in United States History to 1877 and United States History since 1877. In addition, they must develop a minor field in War and Society, Medieval Europe, Early Modern Europe, Europe 1789-1870, Europe since 1870, Latin American History to 1830, or Latin American History since 1830. Doctoral candidates in United States History must also demonstrate proficiency in one of the fields not selected above or in a specialized field such as Mexican or British History. For the second minor field, they may also develop an outside minor of twelve (12) semester hours in one of the social sciences or humanities.

Candidates seeking a doctorate in European History must demonstrate proficiency in Europe 1789-1870 and Europe since 1870. They must develop a minor field in War and Society, United States History to 1877, United States History since 1877, Latin American History to 1830, or Latin American History since 1830. Doctoral candidates in European History are also required to demonstrate proficiency in one of the fields not selected above, or a specialized field such as Mexican or Southern History. For the second minor field, they may also develop an outside minor of twelve (12) semester hours in one of the social sciences or humanities.

Candidates seeking a doctorate in History of the Americas must demonstrate proficiency in Latin American History to 1830, Latin American History since 1830, as well as United States History to 1877 or United States History since 1877. Courses taken to fulfill these requirements must include HIS 513 or HIS 573, HIS 725 or HIS 726, HIS 745, HIS 781, and HIS 782. Doctoral candidates in History of the Americas must also demonstrate proficiency in one minor field appropriate to the subject of their dissertation, which may be an outside minor of twelve (12) semester hours in one of the social sciences or humanities.

Minor fields are selected after consultation with the candidate's major professor and graduate committee.

**Plan of Study.** Students must submit their signed, official *Plan of Study Form* to the Graduate School by the end of the **second semester** they are enrolled. The *Plan of Study Forms* are available at [www.usm.edu/graduateschool](http://www.usm.edu/graduateschool) - click on "Forms" and then the "Plans of Study" link.

## Qualifying Exam

Students are required to take a qualifying exam and should consult with the graduate coordinator.

## Responsible Conduct of Research Training

All faculty holding Regular or Associate graduate faculty status, must complete RCR training modules required by the Graduate School and their departments. All graduate students must complete the RCR training modules required by the Graduate School and their departments the first semester there are enrolled in graduate school. The RCR policy and training information are found on the Graduate School web page – [www.usm.edu/graduateschool](http://www.usm.edu/graduateschool). Contact the Dean of the Graduate School if you have any questions regarding the policy of training information.

## Research Tool(s)

Each prospective candidate for the doctoral degree must demonstrate proficiency in at least one foreign language. Candidates in History of the Americas must demonstrate proficiency in Spanish or Portuguese. They may also demonstrate proficiency in an appropriate second language, or, in consultation with the graduate coordinator and their major professor, they may develop a research tool, consisting of training in an appropriate discipline or research skill. Candidates in United States history must demonstrate proficiency in at least one foreign language, and they must demonstrate proficiency in a second language or develop a research tool. Candidates in European History must demonstrate a reading knowledge in two appropriate foreign languages.

## Residency

Students must meet the residency requirements specified in this *Bulletin*.

## Doctoral Committee

The student's program will be directed by a five-member graduate committee, consisting of three faculty members from the major field and two from the minor fields. This committee will approve the dissertation prospectus and conduct the comprehensive examination, which will be administered during the third year of study. Additional details are available from the Department of History.

## Dissertation

A dissertation is expected to be a mature and competent piece of writing, embodying the result of significant and original research on a subject chosen by the candidate and approved by the major professor and the graduate committee. Candidates in the History of the Americas are expected to choose a dissertation topic that details both North American and Latin American perspectives and which requires multidimensional research. Upon completion and approval of the dissertation, the candidate is expected to stand satisfactorily an examination on the dissertation and the field in which the dissertation lies.

**Continuous Enrollment Requirement:** Students must meet the requirement specified in the front section of this *Bulletin*.

# School of Mass Communication and Journalism

Christopher P. Campbell, Ph.D., Director  
118 College Drive #5121  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001  
(601) 266-4258  
[www.usm.edu/mcj](http://www.usm.edu/mcj)

*Campbell, Davies, Gentile, Jenkins, LeDuff, McDowell, M. Saunders, Sheffer, Shin, Xue*

Fei Xue, Ph.D., Graduate Coordinator  
118 College Drive #5121  
Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001  
(601) 266-5652  
[communications@usm.edu](mailto:communications@usm.edu)

The School of Mass Communication and Journalism provides graduate curricula in mass communication as part of a graduate program in communication that is shared with the Department of Speech Communication. Master of arts, master of science, and doctor of philosophy degrees