History

WHY STUDY HISTORY AT UMAINE?

Studying history at the University of Maine helps students enhance their understanding of themselves and the contemporary world by expanding their knowledge of the experiences of other peoples, both past and present. The History Department offers a wide array of chronological, geographical and thematic courses ranging from ancient times to the present, from North America to Asia, and from environmental to labor history to women’s history.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A DEGREE IN HISTORY?

History graduates find employment in a wide choice of occupations. Traditionally, they have gone into teaching and education careers in primary and secondary schools. With appropriate graduate-level training, they have taught in colleges and universities. Increasing numbers of history graduates are finding their way into private and public nonprofit organizations and agencies, such as museums, archives and libraries, research and service institutions, legislative bodies and planning agencies. Others find career opportunities in the private sector, including publishing, journalism and broadcasting, and business. History is an ideal pre-law major.

OUR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Students have the flexibility to define their major concentrations geographically, chronologically or topically. In their senior year, students take HTY 498, the seminar that affords them the opportunity to research and write history on their own. The History Department offers a greater range of courses than any other history department in the state. Advanced undergraduate students have the opportunity to take some of the graduate program seminar offerings. Students also participate in the History Club, which sponsors social events, films and lectures. Undergraduate students acquire the skills to discover and sift through information and distinguish between fact and myth, the serious and unserious; evaluate written or material evidence, closely examining evidence within a historical context and understanding change over time; organize events and ideas chronologically and explain historical trends; and recognize and apply concepts and principles in the discipline of history.

OUR GRADUATE PROGRAM

The History Department offers the Master of Arts degree in American, Canadian, European and Asian history, and has the only doctoral degree in the humanities in Maine. The Ph.D. program includes a focus on American history and Canadian-American history. The M.A. and Ph.D. programs provide clear expectations for students from the beginning of their studies, create a collegial and encouraging departmental atmosphere, generate positive and supportive advising partnerships, and provide students with opportunities to network beyond the university.

OUR FACULTY

The Department of History boasts scholars and teachers with national and international reputations in American, Canadian, European and Asian history. The 12 full-time faculty members have published more than 30 books and scores of articles and reviews in national and international journals. Professor Richard Judd, the author of several books, ranks among the nation’s preeminent researchers in environmental history. Professor Ngo Vinh Long is internationally recognized as an authority on Vietnamese and East Asian history. The department’s Canadian scholars, Professor Scott See and Professor Jacques Ferland, oversee one of the leading graduate programs in Canadian-American history in the United States. In addition, the department is home to specialists in medieval history (Dr. Joel Anderson), international history and globalization (Professor Michael
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**ABOUT UMAINE**

The University of Maine, founded in Orono in 1865, is the state’s premier public university. It is among the most comprehensive higher education institutions in the Northeast and attracts students from across the U.S. and more than 73 countries. It currently enrolls 11,286 total undergraduate and graduate students who can directly participate in groundbreaking research working with world-class scholars. The University of Maine offers doctoral degrees in 35 fields, representing the humanities, sciences, engineering and education; master’s degrees in roughly 70 disciplines; 90 undergraduate majors and academic programs; and one of the oldest and most prestigious honors programs in the U.S. The university promotes environmental stewardship on its campus, with substantial efforts aimed at conserving energy, recycling and adhering to green building standards in new construction. For more information about UMaine, visit umaine.edu.

**OPPORTUNITIES TO EXCEL**

The History Department awards nine scholarships annually. These include scholarships in Canadian, Asian, ancient and American social history.

**HOW DO I APPLY?**

Visit umaine.edu for an application, as well as information about academics and life at UMaine.

**My history major at the University of Maine allowed me to develop skills such as researching, analyzing, critically questioning, and synthesizing, all of which I found to be crucial in interviews and internships during college. Now, as I begin my career and graduate school at the University of Pennsylvania, I fully attribute my ability to work and converse with my peers from Ivy League institutions to the coursework and mentorship that I received from my professors in the UMaine History Department.”**

—Jennifer Chalmers, Class of 2014 Salutatorian, Honors College student majored in History and English