



History

at Benedictine University

Why study history at Benedictine?

Benedictine University offers you:

- A broad liberal arts education with a major in History.
- Preparation to work and live in an increasingly complex world.
- An understanding of the past, which is useful in all careers.
- Exposure to a wide perspective by studying many historical areas, periods and opinions.
- The opportunity to develop critical skills of analysis, evaluation and synthesis.
- The ability to organize a great deal of data in useful form.
- The opportunity to practice the historian's craft through primary research.
- The development of writing and researching skills.
- A superb location near the rapidly expanding high-tech corridor.
- A suburban setting with easy access to Chicago and its "living history."
- Low student-to-teacher ratio.

How does the program work?

If you major in History, you will take the following courses from the American History sequence, Converging Hemispheres, Historiography, and seven courses selected from a variety of eras and areas and produce a senior research paper. The sequence courses provide a broad background to the field of history. Historiography introduces students to the methods and theories of actually "doing" history. The senior research paper enables students to research a specific area. The remainder of the student's coursework comes from the department's other offerings. You will be advised by a history teacher who will help you develop a program designed to fit your interests.

What does a degree in History offer?

History, by itself or in combination with a minor in another area such as business, computer science, foreign language, political science or communications, will provide you with both the skills and the adaptability to pursue a wide variety of careers in the private sector or government. The History major is ideally suited for students planning to go on to law school. Many history students go on to become high school or college teachers. You may qualify for a variety of scholarships that are designated for minors and majors. We make special scholarships available to students who participate in our Scholars Program, minority students, students who are designated Illinois State Scholars and children of alumni. Departmental and arts and humanities scholarships are also available to applicants who qualify.

"Though I grew up in Chicago — the scene of tremendous cultural interaction — it was only in the more intimate environment of Benedictine University that I began to become truly aware of the influences of our own backgrounds and cultures on our personal beliefs and experiences. After years in Chicago and the dynamic atmosphere of Benedictine, as part of a constant growth and exchange of ideas between students, faculty and the religious community of St. Procopius Abbey, I began to see history itself as nothing more or less than the interplay of billions of personal experiences — as the grand interaction of our richly varied and carefully crafted beliefs, all swept along together by a powerfully unifying spirituality."

Anne Ursula Bielski, C91, author of "Chicago Haunts"

Recommended Program

Bachelor of Arts in History

FRESHMAN

Writing Colloquium	3
Mathematics (MATH 105, 108 or 110)	3
Philosophical (QPL) course	3
Historical (QHT) course	3
Modern Language	3
	15

Research Writing	3
American History Since 1865	3
Literary and Rhetorical (QLR) course	3
Religions/Theological (QRT) course	3
Modern Language*	3
	15

JUNIOR

European History	3
Anthropology/Political Science core elective	3
Life Scientific (QLS) course	3
History elective	3
Economics Core elective (ECON 102)	3
	15

American History elective	3
Non-Western History elective	3
Electives	6
Basic Speech	3
	15

SOPHOMORE

Historiography	3
Social Scientific I: Individuals, Organizations and Societies (QIO) course	3
Physical Scientific (QPS) course	3
History 240	3
Modern Language*	3
	15

Economics Core elective (ECON 101)	3
Computational, Mathematical and Analytical (QCM)	3
Artistic and Creative (QCA) course	3
History elective	3
Modern Language* or minor elective	3
	15

SENIOR

History elective	3
Electives	6
History elective (300 level)	3
Catholic and Benedictine Intellectual Traditions (IDS 201)	3
	15

Major Research Paper	3
History elective (300-level)	3
Human Dignity and the Common Good (IDS 301)	3
Electives	6
	15

*Depending on placement

If you are interested in teaching history at the secondary level, please see the Social Science major sheet. The Department of History, Philosophy and Religious Studies, suggests also pursuing a minor in Global Studies, the Languages, Political Science or Economics.

What careers have our history graduates pursued?

- Archivist/Curator
- Editor/Author/Journalist
- Genealogist
- Teacher, Social Studies
- Professor
- Document Restorer
- Attorney
- Congressional District Aide
- Management Consulting Partner
- Chair of High School Social Studies Department
- Real Estate Executives
- Law Librarian
- Dentist
- Financial Analyst/Banker/Stock Broker
- Public Relations Director
- Project Director Social Services
- Foreign Services Officer
- Director State Historical Society

The department maintains and updates job information and will work with you to develop a program best suited to your needs.