Why Study History at UMD?

The University of Maryland’s history degree enables you to delve deeply into a range of topics and to learn how we make sense of the past. You’ll examine historical sources and engage in debates about what happened and why it matters. In the process, you’ll hone intellectual and practical skills, including oral and written communication; analytical, critical and creative thinking skills; interpersonal and organizational skills; and digital media and computer skills. Our majors develop their leadership abilities through participation in departmental and student organizations. History graduates go on to work in education, law, politics, public service, journalism and more.

HISTORY CURRICULUM

The major will introduce you to the national and international debates about history and culture that shape our daily lives. You’ll be encouraged to focus your interests in a field of specialization, including geographic regions (Africa and the African Diaspora*, United States, South and East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and more), and themes (cultural and intellectual history; economies, labor and capitalism; empires and colonialism; religion and society; race and ethnicity and more). Lectures and seminars connect students to world-class faculty committed to engaging them in stimulating learning opportunities.


SAMPLE COURSE TITLES

- Colonial Encounters: Natives, Spaniards, and Africans in the New World
- Hollywood and Politics
- Reformers, Radicals, and Revolutionaries: The Middle East in the Twentieth Century
HISTORY DEGREES IN ACTION

97% of recent ARHU graduates are either working full time, interning or pursuing graduate studies.* Here's where some of our history graduates are working or studying:

- Boston Consulting Group, Analyst
- U.S. Department of the Interior, Management Services Assistant
- Huffington Post, Video Fellow
- MemoryBlue, Account Executive
- Teach for America, Teacher
- College of William & Mary, Law
- The George Washington University, Museum Education
- Vanderbilt University, Theological Studies
- University of Maryland, History, Education, Public Policy

*Placement rate is based on the May 2019 university graduation survey

TIPS FOR CAREER SUCCESS

It's never too early to start planning for your career after graduation. Make an appointment to talk with the University Career Center @ARHU. We'll work with you to assess your skills, values and interests and use them to find opportunities that meet your goals. Academic and career advisors will help you incorporate internships, living-learning programs, global experiences, research and more into your academic plan. Research shows that having one or more internships increases your ability to land a full-time position after graduation. Learn more at careers.umd.edu.

BE WORLDWISE. GET WORLDREADY. CAREER INITIATIVE

The “Be Worldwise. Get Worldready.” initiative prepares students to adapt and thrive in the workplace and shapes the kind of global citizens they can become. It creatively integrates career development in the ARHU academic experience by offering strategic career preparation and academic advising; engages faculty to develop new and reimagined courses, majors and minors; and provides opportunities to apply scholarship to practice. Students learn to communicate the real-world value of their arts and humanities degree through this initiative.

ABOUT THE COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES (ARHU)

ARHU is home to 14 departments and 79 bachelor’s degrees, minors and certificate programs, so you can tailor your degree (or double major) across various fields of study, including performing and visual arts, languages, literatures and cultures. With an 8 to 1 student to faculty ratio, ARHU offers you the benefits of a tight-knit community with access to the resources of a large, public research institution near the nation’s capital.

AMBER FERGUSON '14, HISTORY Video Editor, Washington Post

“I wanted to set myself apart in the journalism job market as a history major. I use my history degree every single day at my job. What I really learned in my classes was critical reading skills, the ability to analyze and the ability to write clearly. And those skills are invaluable in the workplace.”