

History

Curriculum

The Department of History at Oklahoma State University offers a range of courses that help students to understand people and societies throughout time. The study of history allows for an exploration of identity and gives perspective and deeper meaning to contemporary events. Courses in the Department of History give students a broad understanding of the evolution of civilizations, peoples, countries, and institutions, and an insight into the meaning of these changes. Fundamentally, a History major prepares graduates for many types of employment by teaching foundational skills like the ability to evaluate evidence, assess conflicting interpretations, and learn from past examples of change.

History majors develop the following skills

- Conduct and synthesize research
- Present information clearly
- Interpret past and present events
- Read and write carefully
- Identify long-term trends
- Assess conflicting interpretations
- Think critically and solve problems
- Organize information
- Manage complex projects
- Have ethical and social awareness
- Respect diverse peoples and ideas

Get Involved

History Club
Phi Alpha Delta (Pre-Law)
Phi Alpha Theta (History Honor Society)

A complete list of student clubs and organizations can be found online at:
<https://campuslink.okstate.edu>

College of Arts & Sciences Career Services

213 Life Science East
Tel: 405 744 5658

For appointments and resources:
<http://cascareers.okstate.edu>

Job and Internship Websites

- American Historical Association
<http://www.historians.org/>
- Museum Employment Resource
<http://www.museum-employment.com>
- Organization of American Historians
<http://www.oah.org/career-coach/>
- National Council on Public History
<http://ncph.org/cms/careers-training/>
- American Association for State and Local History
<http://about.aaslh.org/jobs/>
- Washington Internship Institute
<http://wiidc.org/>
- National Museum of American History Internships
<http://americanhistory.si.edu/getinvolved/internship>
- National Park Service
www.nps.gov
- DC Internships
<http://www.dcinternships.org/>
- American Alliance of Museums
<http://www.aam-us.org/>
- Society of American Archivists
<http://www2.archivists.org/>
<http://www2.archivists.org/groups/saa-online-career-center>
- Idealist
<http://www.idealists.org/>
- Federal Government Employment
<http://www.usajobs.gov>
- Smithsonian Office of Fellowships & Internships
<http://www.smithsonianofi.com/>
- U.S. Department of State
<http://www.state.gov/careers/>
- White House Internships
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/government/wh-intern.html>
- Library of Congress Internships
<http://www.loc.gov>
<http://www.loc.gov/hr/employment/index.php?action=Main.showFellowships>
- Oklahoma State Legislature
<http://www.okhouse.gov/Internship/>

Research: Many history majors go on to careers as researchers, emphasizing their skills in evaluating and analyzing documentary evidence. Historians as researchers include public historians as well as policy advisors, who serve as planners, evaluators, and policy analysts, often for state, local, and federal governments. In addition, historians often find employment as researchers for museums and historical organizations, or pursue additional specialized training to become professionals in cultural resources management and historic preservation.

Advocacy and Legal Careers: Many history majors find that historical training makes a perfect preparation for Law School, as historians and lawyers often do roughly the same thing; argue persuasively using historical data to support their arguments. Many history majors become lawyers; others undertake careers in litigation support as paralegals. Others enter public service and become policymakers, serve as legislative staff at all levels of government, and become officers of granting agencies and foundations.

Education: Many history majors go on to become educators, focusing on the communication of their ideas. Educators include teachers in Elementary and Secondary education. They also include Higher Education on many levels, including teaching at community and junior colleges, undergraduate colleges, and universities. But educators are also important members of other educational institutions that you may not think of as immediately as schools. These include historic sites and museums, where history majors can become docents, education directors, curators, guides, and interpreters. In addition, there are other forms of teaching than standing up in front of a classroom. These include work as historical consultants, contract archivists, public historians, writers, and even filmmakers.

Writing & Editing: Because success as a history major depends upon learning to write effectively, many historians become writers and editors. They make their living as authors of historical books, or more commonly, they work as editors at a publishing house. Many historians become print and broadcast journalists, and others become documentary editors who oversee the publication of documents such as those produced by government agencies. Information Management: Because history majors must learn to deal with documents, many pursue a one- or two-year graduate program in library studies (commonly, a Master of Library Science, or MLS, degree) or archival management and enter careers as information managers. With this additional training, they enter the fields of archives management, information management, records management, and librarianship.

Additional Career Paths:

- National Parks Service
- Museum Curator
- Foreign Service
- Intelligence Agent
- Antiques Buyer
- Anthropologist
- Archaeologist
- Conservator
- Historical Preservationist

Business: A history major prepares an intelligent person for a career in business as an historian who tracks historic trends, an important skill for those developing products to market or engage in corporate or financial planning. Many history majors enter banking, insurance, and stock analysis. Historians also learn how to write persuasively, and this training gives them an edge in advertising, communications media, and marketing. Finally, many industries depend on an intimate knowledge of government policies and historical trends; thus, history majors have found their skills useful in extractive industries and in public utilities.

Potential Employers

Think tanks	Historical societies
Foundations (Fund raising)	Scholarly publications
Legislative bodies	Trade publications
Non-profit organizations	Journals
Attorney's offices	Cultural organizations
Litigation support services	Government offices
Elementary schools	Libraries
Secondary schools	Corporations
Colleges and Universities	Federal agencies
Historic sites/ Monuments	International agencies
Museums	Consulting services
Museums and historical associations	
Cultural Resource management firms	
Historical preservation societies	
Engineering and environment companies	

Internships

The History department offers a "Jobs in History" practicum course for majors to get hands-on experience and make real-world connections. Previous partners have included art museums, oral history programs, historical archives, and more.

Henry Bellmon Scholarship

Provides financial assistance for full-time undergraduates who will be completing government internships in Washington, D.C. or at a state or federal agency in Oklahoma for the summer months.

For more information visit in 213 LSE