

History

Undergraduate Degree Programs

General B.A., 3- or 4-Year, History
Honours B.A., History
Honours B.A., History, Arts and Business, Regular
Honours B.A., History, Arts and Business, Co-op
Joint Honours with History
Joint Honours History and Political Science, Specialization in International Relations & Global Governance
Minor in History

Everything immediately or distantly past is grist for the historian's mill. The historian investigates the many aspects of life and culture, from economics to philosophy, from politics to art and music. How and why people have thought and acted as they did, where one can find the causes of change and continuity, and what aspects of the past matter for the present age are the abiding questions of history.

Training in history also hones critical skills. It sharpens judgement; it fosters imagination and originality; it broadens perspective on the past and understanding of the present; it helps develop writing and oral communication skills.

Historians are to be found wherever breadth, independence of thought and vision are prized: in politics, law, business, in cultural concerns from libraries to museums, in service organizations, in government and public service, and in all levels of education. Teaching positions, which many of our graduates have taken in the past, have opened up recently and continue to be a popular career choice.

Our History program has its main strengths in **Canadian** social, political and cultural history, in **European** intellectual, social and political traditions, in **American** social, cultural and political history, and in international studies. We take a strong interest in all students in our courses as well as the students who major in History.

The Honours program is more rigorous and more specialized. Honours students read widely and intensively in historical literature, with core courses in historiography and exposure to varied areas of history required. The program is therefore recommended highly to those who show interest, ability, and historical curiosity.

History students at Waterloo are encouraged to take part in the many activities offered by the **History Society**. Each year the students elect an executive which represents history students on faculty/student committees, acts as liaison with other organizations in the University, and organizes social events. The History Society operates the MacKirdy

Courses in the Major

20th Century Russia and History of the Soviet Union
A Comparative History of Empires
A History of Peace Movements
A History of Popular Culture
A History of the Western World
A Social History of Europe, 1789-1914
America Until 1877
An Introduction to Western Intellectual History Since the Renaissance
Canada and War in the 20th Century
Canada in World Affairs
Canada in World War II
Canada: The Immigrant Experience
Canadian Business History: Innovators and Entrepreneurs
Canadian History Through Biography
Canadian History: The Colonial Period
Canadian History: The National Period
Canadian Legal History
Canadian Women in Historical Perspective
Columbus and After: New Worlds in the Americas, 1492-1680
Crusading in the Middle Ages
Directed Studies in Special Topics
Discourse of Dissent
Eastern Europe Since 1945
Europe in the 19th and 20th Centuries
Europe: 410-1303
Food, Culture and History
Foreign Relations of the United States since 1900
French Revolution and Napoleonic Europe
From Macdonald to Laurier: Canada, 1841-1921
Greek History
Health, Disease and Medicine in Canadian History, 1500 to the Present
Heresies and Religious Crises in Late Medieval Europe
History and Film
History and the Human Sciences
History of Ancient Law
History of Christianity
History of East Asian Communities in Canada
History of Education in Canada
History of Modern China, 1911 to the Present
History of North American Sport
History of Sexuality-Modern
History of Sexuality-Pre-Modern
History of the Canadian North
History of the Family in North America
History of the Modern Middle East
History of the Workplace, Europe 1750 to Present
History of Women in the Modern U.S.

Reading Room, a library which holds a good selection of the essential books for courses. In addition, the History Society sponsors evening gatherings where members of the faculty informally discuss their research interests. The Society also organizes an annual MacKinnon Dinner with an outside special guest speaker. Socially and academically, the History Society is an essential part of the History Department at Waterloo.

Co-operative Programs in Arts

Honours History students may pursue co-operative education through:

Arts and Business Co-op - a direct entry program through which students complete their honours major and core Arts and Business courses in areas such as accounting, economics, languages, history, political science, business management, and leadership training. Five paid work terms alternate with academic terms on a four-month rotation. All students spend eight months on campus during their first year.

There are four optional specializations available for Arts and Business Co-op students:

- Digital Arts Communication
- Global Engagement
- Human Resources Management
- International Trade

Careers

Here is a small sample of positions held by graduates who majored in History:

- Account Executive, *American Express Canada*
- Archivist, *Archives of Ontario*
- Archivist, *Wellington County Museum*
- Area Superintendent, *Canadian Parks Service*
- Assistant Professor, *Memorial University*
- Business Systems Manager, *Domtar Gypsum*
- Communications Representative, *IBM Canada Ltd.*
- Community Relations Officer, *Joseph Schneider Haus Museum*
- Court Reporter, *Ministry of the Attorney General*
- Fundraising Co-ordinator, *Ontario March of Dimes*
- Historical Interpreter, *Ste Marie Among the Hurons*
- Investment Officer, *Canadian Consulate (NY)*
- Lawyer, *Amy, Appleby & Brennan*
- Lawyer, *Department of Justice*
- Library Technician, *University of Toronto*
- Manager; Student Recruitment, *University of Waterloo*
- Market Development Manager, *3M Health Care*
- Print Buyer, *Sears Canada*
- Reporter, *Toronto Star*
- Sales Manager, *Custom Foam Systems Ltd.*
- Solicitor, *Crown Investment Co.*
- Staffing Co-ordinator, *Ottawa General Hospital*
- Tax Auditor, *U.S. Internal Revenue Service*
- Vice President, *Bauer Industries Ltd.*
- Graduate Students, *York, Oxford, London School of Economics, and many others.*
- Primary Teacher; *Intermediate, Secondary*

Courses (cont'd)

- Independent Study in Special Subjects
- International Relations, 1890-1951
- Ireland After the Famine
- Ireland Before the Famine
- Law and Society in the Middle Ages: 500-1000
- Mennonite History: A Survey
- Mennonite History: Special Topics
- Modern Canada
- Nazi Germany
- Occupied Europe, 1938-1945
- Origins of the Common Law
- Private Lives, Public Vices: Canadian Social History
- Race Relations in Canada: An Historical Perspective
- Race Relations in Modern History: Case Studies
- Reformation History
- Roman History
- Senior Seminars
- The American Civil Rights Movement
- The American Impact on Canada
- The American West: Legend and Reality
- The Ancient Near East and Egypt
- The Art and Craft of History
- The British Empire, 1857-1956
- The Catholic Church in Canada since Confederation
- The Emergence of Modern Society
- The Holocaust in History
- The Modern World in Historical Perspective
- The Radical Reformation
- The Russian Revolution
- The United States at War, 1861-1945
- The USSR and World War II: The Great Patriotic War
- The Victorian Age
- The Vietnam War and American Society
- United States Since 1877
- War and Society in Europe, 1914-1945
- Western Europe Since 1945

For more information about History, please visit:

www.history.uwaterloo.ca

For admission information, questions about your application, or to arrange a campus visit please call:

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