



"The beauty about studying history is that it continually surprises me — the courses always challenge my perspective and assumptions. History synthesizes everything from extensive research opportunities and critical thinking, to stories told from a myriad of viewpoints. Centre's history professors lead cutting-edge research, invest in their students, and create a community for those who love history."

COLLEEN COYLE
Centre Class of 2019
History Major

EVERYTHING HAS A PAST, WHICH IS WHY HISTORY MAJORS ARE NEVER BORED — OR BORING. HISTORY MAJORS PUT FACTS TOGETHER WITH A HEALTHY DOSE OF IMAGINATION AS THEY SEEK TO ENTER INTO THE LIVES OF PEOPLE IN THE PAST — TO GO BENEATH THE SURFACE OF HISTORICAL EVENTS TO UNDERSTAND WHY PEOPLE BEHAVED AND EVENTS FELL AS THEY DID. THEIR STUDIES REQUIRE OPEN MINDS, RATIONAL THINKING, AND INSATIABLE CURIOSITY. EVERY CLASS IS AT ONCE AN EXERCISE IN SYMPATHETIC UNDERSTANDING AND DISPASSIONATE ANALYSIS. CENTRE COLLEGE HISTORY MAJORS KNOW THAT THEIR STUDIES PREPARE THEM FOR SUCCESS IN ANY FIELD BY TEACHING THEM TO BE ARTICULATE SPEAKERS, SHARP WRITERS, AND CRITICAL ANALYSTS OF ANY SITUATION.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A HISTORY DEGREE?

History majors at Centre enter a wide variety of professional fields after graduation including law, library science, theology, medicine, the military, museum administration, public relations, business, and journalism. Many of our students also pursue educational careers at all levels, from elementary teachers to university professors. Studying history is the key to understanding the past — and to a fulfilling, exciting future.

Alumni find that the skills they acquire in Centre's history program serve them well in the "real world." History, for example, is very popular among pre-law students because it involves gathering and evaluating complex evidence.

Professionals in any field benefit from the investigations into human behavior and the extensive training in analytical writing that are a part of the Centre history major. A woman who majored in history at Centre and rose to become the chief of planning for a giant chemicals manufacturer remarked, "History taught me how to deal with large amounts of information" — a fundamental skill in a host of occupations.

WHAT IS THE HISTORY MAJOR LIKE AT CENTRE?

History is so popular at Centre even non-majors can't keep themselves away. Except for seminars reserved for majors, all history courses are open to the student body at large. Even advanced courses host a large number of students who are there just because they like to learn about history. Bringing together students from a variety of academic majors, discussions in these classes never lack a diversity of viewpoints.

History majors lay the foundation for their work by taking world and American history survey courses as first-year students and sophomores. In upper-level courses, students choose between courses in African, American, Asian, European, Latin American, and Middle Eastern history. History faculty also offer several thematic courses that cross these regional boundaries. Many majors take as much history as their four years allow, while others take the opportunity to add a second major.

Upperclass students often complete an independent study under the guidance of a professor. All majors also take the research seminar, which allows them to write a major research paper on a topic of their choice while learning historiography (the principles of historical research) and professional historians' tools of the trade. The seminar, which can cover ground from post modern historical theory to game show take-offs (i.e.

"Who Wants to be a Social Historian?") is often described by students as a "bonding experience."

OUTSIDE THE CLASSROOM AND BEYOND CAMPUS

History majors can take their European history on site while participating in Centre's programs in Strasbourg, France, and London, England. Other study abroad options that often offer history courses include the College's semester program in Merida, Mexico, and several shorter programs in countries ranging from Uganda to Guatemala.

Internship opportunities abound for history majors — from working in the Imperial War Museum in London, to serving as congressional aides in Washington, to learning about historical preservation at the Perryville Battlefield Civil War historic site. Several history majors witnessed history in the making as they served in key leadership positions during the vice presidential debates held on campus in 2000 and 2012. As a graduating major about to embark upon a career in public relations noted, "In my history classes and related internships, I've learned how to deal with information and writing on a large scale and to present and defend my opinions in the real world. No project could intimidate me with the kind of preparation I've received at Centre."

WHO TEACHES HISTORY AT CENTRE?

STEVEN BEAUDOIN (B.A., Bates College; M.A., University of Maine; M.A., Ph.D., Carnegie Mellon University), Boles Professor of History. Teaches courses on world history, 19th- and 20th-century Europe, and history of the world economy.

STEPHEN DOVE (B.A., Baylor University; M.Div., Fuller Theological Seminary; Ph.D., University of Texas - Austin), Assistant Professor of History. Teaches courses on colonial and modern Latin America.

JONATHON EARLE (B.A., Kentucky Mountain Bible College; Ph.D., Cambridge University), Assistant Professor of History. Teaches pre-colonial and modern African history.

SARA EGGE (B.A., North Dakota State University; Ph.D., Iowa State University), Assistant Professor of History. Teaches courses on U.S. history (19th- and 20th-century), gender, and environmental history.

JOHN HARNEY (B.A., University College Cork; M.A., University of Sheffield; Ph.D., The University of Texas - Austin), Assistant Professor of History. Teaches courses in Chinese, Japanese, and Korean history, with interests in sports culture and religion.

DANIELLE LA LONDE (B.A., University of California - Santa Cruz; Ph.D., New York University), Assistant Professor of Classics. Teaches courses on ancient Rome.

JAMES V. MORRISON (B.A., Oberlin College; M.A., University of Washington; Ph.D., University of Michigan), Stodghill Professor of Classics. Teaches the history of ancient Greece and ancient Rome, and courses in ancient Greek culture.

TARA STRAUCH (B.A., College of Wooster; Ph.D., University of South Carolina), Assistant Professor of History. Teaches courses on early America and the U.S. Civil War.

AMOS TUBB (B.A., University of California - Davis; M.A., Ph.D., University of California - Riverside), Davidson Associate Professor of History. Teaches courses on medieval and early modern Europe, British history, British Empire, and the Crusades.

VISIT CENTRE

The best way to judge Centre is to tour the campus, attend a class, talk to the professors and students, and spend the night in a residence hall. We invite you to visit and encourage you to contact the Admission Office if you have any questions.



FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE HISTORY PROGRAM AT CENTRE, CONTACT:

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HISTORY WEB PAGE

www.centre.edu/academics/majors-minors/history