HISTORY (HTY)

The discipline of history embraces a world of ideas, peoples, and events. Our faculty seek to inform and question, to provoke, and to challenge our students to a higher level of understanding of the past. History at South Florida offers the student an opportunity to explore civilizations from around the globe and from the ancient through contemporary eras. We encourage diversification. Our faculty endeavor to move students beyond traditional memorization of material to a critical level of thinking, analysis, and synthesis.

Requirements for the Major in History

Prerequisites (State Mandated Common Prerequisites)

Students wishing to transfer to USF should complete the A.A. degree at the community college. Some courses required for the major may also meet General Education Requirements thereby transferring maximum hours to the university. If students transfer without an A.A. degree and have fewer than 60 semester hours of acceptable credit, the students must meet the university’s entering freshman requirements including ACT or SAT test scores, GPA, and course requirements.

The transfer student should also be aware of the immunization, foreign language, and continuous enrollment policies of the university.

Students are encouraged to complete two lower level introductory history courses from the list below to meet prerequisites for the major during the program of study at the community college and, when feasible, in General Education/Gordon Rule courses. If these courses are not taken at the community college, they must be completed before the degree is granted. Unless stated otherwise, a grade of “C” is the minimum acceptable grade.

- Western or World Civilization I, II
- American History I, II
- Latin American History I, II

Upper-level Course Requirements for the Major

A minimum of 32 semester hours is required for a major in history. Twelve hours of 2000 level courses, or their equivalent, constitute the lower level requirements. At least 12 hours of course work must be drawn from the 3000-4000 level in addition to HIS 4104 and 4936, which constitute the upper level requirements for the degree. A minimum grade of “C” or better must be attained in each course counted for the 32 hours of history. Grades of “D” or “F” in history coursework will, however, be used in calculating the major GPA unless the course is retaken under the grade forgiveness policy. It is recommended that history majors take ENC 3310, "Advanced Expository Writing," SPC 2600, "Public Speaking," LIS 2001, "Library and Information Skills," and computer service courses. Additional hours can be profitably drawn from the following disciplines: Africana Studies, American Studies, Anthropology, Economics, Geography, Government and International Affairs, Psychology, Philosophy, Sociology, Women’s Studies, Literature, the Humanities, and the Fine Arts. Majors intending to pursue graduate work should take a minimum of two years of classical or modern foreign language. Open University courses are not eligible for major field credit.

Requirements for the Minor

The minor in History entails a 15-hour program organized and contracted by the student and the department around the specific needs of the student’s major program. A minimum of 8 hours must be completed at the University of South Florida and the student must maintain a 2.0 GPA in the minor. A minimum grade of "C" or better must be attained in each course. Only one lower-level sequence counts, earning 4 credit hours. The department will supervise certification of the minor. Students interested in a minor in history are encouraged to see the History department advisor as early in their undergraduate program as possible. Open University courses are not eligible for minor field credit.