

HISTORY (BA)

CIP: 54.0101

Program Description

What stories will humanity tell about itself in the 21st century? The 20th-century story of the “Rise of the West” proves increasingly inadequate in our present day, and appears now to capture only a short-term realignment in the global distribution of power. Students who study History at NYU Abu Dhabi will learn about patterns of human experience - continuity and change - that always already exceeded such singular accounts of what we, in the singular and the plural, have become. History at NYU Abu Dhabi, moreover, engages students in the next and even more intellectually daunting task of developing an alternative account - indeed alternative accounts - of humanity's collective and divided experience, in order to help us make sense of the challenges that the world, and the planet, face today. No decisions about the present or the future make sense without a clear understanding of the past.

History at NYU Abu Dhabi is a global enterprise, with a faculty carefully selected for its range of expertise in all major world areas: Asia, Africa, North and South America, Australia, Oceania, and Europe. Nothing excites our faculty more than sitting in the classroom to discuss world history with students from over 140 different countries. No classrooms are better suited for generating stories that resonate meaningfully across the world.

The program, moreover, offers a unique approach to thinking about the space of history, organizing its curriculum through the four long-term zones of human interaction and imagination—the Asia-Pacific World, the Atlantic World, the Indian Ocean World, and the Mediterranean, Black, and Caspian Sea World. It does not offer a ready-made alternative to prior frameworks of analysis, but aims to challenge ourselves and our students to inquire into the various levels of scale at which people make history, and to offer them a chance to generate categories of historical analysis that help us discover and reveal historical events and forms of human experience that remain obscured by more conventional units of analysis like the nation-state.

Students can enter the major from a range of different globally-situated vantage points—such as “Africa in the World”; “Russia in the World”; “China in the World”; or “Alexander and the East”; progress toward more strictly globally thematic classes—including “Urbanism and Modernity”; “The Global Sixties”; and “Museums and Empire”—and then advance toward courses that offer a sustained engagement with more regionally focused areas of ongoing scholarly innovation—for example, “Muslim Societies in African History”; “Nationalism in the Middle East”; “The United States in a Transnational and Global Perspective”; or “Arts and Politics in Latin America”.

Two required courses, “Globalization and History” and “Writing History,” create a shared vocabulary among our students of theoretical innovation and a foundation for the creative practice of producing original historical research for the History Capstone during the senior year. History majors leave NYU Abu Dhabi with a foundation of knowledge that is genuinely globally comparative and regionally informed. Having acquired historical methods of research and thinking, majors graduate well prepared for the pursuit of many professions where thinking globally matters, including policymaking, law, public health, teaching, politics, diplomacy, and business, or advanced study and teaching in history.

Admissions

New York University's Office of Undergraduate Admissions supports the application process for all undergraduate programs at NYU. For additional information about undergraduate admissions, including application requirements, see How to Apply (<https://www.nyu.edu/admissions/undergraduate-admissions/how-to-apply.html>).

Program Requirements

Course	Title	Credits
General Education Requirements		
Physical Education (2 courses)		
Quantitative Reasoning (1 course)		
Experimental Inquiry (1 course)		
Islamic Studies (1 course)		
First-Year Writing Seminar		4
Colloquia		4
Field Colloquia (2 J-Term courses)		6
Core Competencies		
Arts, Design, and Technology		
Cultural Exploration Analysis		4
Data and Discovery		4
Structures of Thought and Society		4
Required Courses		
HIST-UH 2010	History and Globalization	4
HIST-UH 3010	Writing History	4
Major Electives		
Complete 2 courses from Regional Perspectives on World History (see list below)		8
Complete 1 Global Thematic course (see list below)		4
Complete 4 courses from at least three of the four Curricular Zones: Asia-Pacific; Atlantic; Indian Ocean; and Mediterranean, Black, and Caspian Sea (see lists below)		16
<i>At least 1 of the 7 electives above must have a pre-1800 designation (see list below)</i>		
Capstone		
HIST-UH 4000	Capstone Seminar	4
HIST-UH 4001	Capstone Project	4
Other Electives		
Other Elective Credits		54
Total Credits		128

Regional Perspectives on World History

Code	Title	Credits
ACS-UH 2615X	Arab Genders and Sexualities	4
AW-UH 1120X	Archaeology of the Gulf	4
HIST-UH 1105	Africa in the World	4
HIST-UH 1106	China in the World	4
HIST-UH 1110	Colonial Latin America and the Atlantic World	4
HIST-UH 1119	Russia and the World	4
HIST-UH 1125X	South Asia in the Indian Ocean World	4
HIST-UH 1131	Southeast Asia in the World	4

Global Thematic

Code	Title	Credits
CCEA-UH 1090	Un/Making History	4
CCEA-UH 1094X	Orientalisms	4
CSTS-UH 1088	Thinking Big About the Ancient World	4
CSTS-UH 1126	Gender, Violence, and Political Participation	4
HIST-UH 2113	Global Sixties	4
HIST-UH 2116	Empires and Museums: A History of Knowledge Production and Museum-making	4
HIST-UH 2117	History in the Headlines	2
HIST-UH 2118	Global Asia Before Modernity	4
HIST-UH 2119	Global Asia in the Modern World	4
HIST-UH 2121	Genocide in a Global Perspective	4
HIST-UH 2122	Public History	4
HIST-UH 2123	Women in World History	4
LITCW-UH 2315X	Postcolonial Turn	4
MUSIC-UH 1004	Music: Histories and Historiography 1	4

Zone: Asia-Pacific World

Code	Title	Credits
CADT-UH 1063	Foodways for the Anthropocene	4
CSTS-UH 1126	Gender, Violence, and Political Participation	4
HIST-UH 1106	China in the World	4
HIST-UH 2119	Global Asia in the Modern World	4
HIST-UH 3110	Economic Development and Environmental Change in China	4
HIST-UH 3112	Asian Borderlands	4

Zone: Atlantic World

Code	Title	Credits
ACS-UH 1412X	Race and Ethnicity in the Histories of the Middle East and Africa	4
HIST-UH 3310	Humanitarianism in Africa: A Critical History	4
HIST-UH 3312	Arts and Politics in Modern Latin America (1780 to the present)	4
HIST-UH 3315	Love in Africa	4
HIST-UH 3319	African American Freedom Struggle	4
HIST-UH 3510X	Muslim Societies in African History	4

Zone: Indian Ocean World

Code	Title	Credits
ACS-UH 1412X	Race and Ethnicity in the Histories of the Middle East and Africa	4
ARTH-UH 2131	Silk Roads, Sea Routes and Shared Heritage	4
AW-UH 1114	Doing Archeology: Case Studies from Western Asia	4
CSTS-UH 1052X	History and the Environment: The Middle East	4
CSTS-UH 1125X	Law and Empire	4
HERST-UH 1501	Experimenting with the Past: Cultural Heritage Connections in the Gulf and Western Indian Ocean	4
HIST-UH 1125X	South Asia in the Indian Ocean World	4
HIST-UH 2119	Global Asia in the Modern World	4
HIST-UH 3310	Humanitarianism in Africa: A Critical History	4
HIST-UH 3315	Love in Africa	4
HIST-UH 3510X	Muslim Societies in African History	4

HIST-UH 3513X	Religion and Material Culture in the Indian Ocean World	4
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Zone: Mediterranean, Black, and Caspian Sea Worlds

Code	Title	Credits
ACS-UH 1012X	Emergence of the Modern Middle East	4
ACS-UH 1410X	Making of the Muslim Middle East	4
ACS-UH 2410X	Paradise Lost: Muslims, Christians and Jews in Al-Andalus	4
ACS-UH 2417	Ottoman Crossroads	4
ACS-UH 2419X	Sufism	4
ACS-UH 2614X	Colonization of Palestine	4
ANTH-UH 2116	Displacement and Dispossession in the Modern Middle East	4
AW-UH 1113X	Alexander and the East: Central Asia and the Mediterranean from the Achaemenid Period	4
AW-UH 1114	Doing Archeology: Case Studies from Western Asia	4
AW-UH 1115X	Political Past, Political Presents: Archaeology and the Politics of Memory in the 'Near East'	4
AW-UH 1118	Archaeology, Arabia and the Bible	4
CCEA-UH 1114X	Sexualities of the Middle East: A Cultural History	4
CSTS-UH 1052X	History and the Environment: The Middle East	4
CSTS-UH 1059X	Urban Violence: The Middle East	4
ECON-UH 2451X	Economic History of the Middle East	4
HIST-UH 1126X	Digital History	4
HIST-UH 3710X	Central Asia and the Middle East	4
HIST-UH 3714	Mediterranean: Archives, Translations, Histories	4
HIST-UH 3716	Hellenisms	4
HIST-UH 3717	Art and Politics in Europe from the French Revolution to the end of the Second World War	4

History Pre-1800 Electives

Code	Title	Credits
ACS-UH 1410X	Making of the Muslim Middle East	4
ACS-UH 1412X	Race and Ethnicity in the Histories of the Middle East and Africa	4
ACS-UH 2212X	Introduction to Islamic Texts	4
ACS-UH 2410X	Paradise Lost: Muslims, Christians and Jews in Al-Andalus	4
ACS-UH 2417	Ottoman Crossroads	4
ACS-UH 2419X	Sufism	4
ARTH-UH 1121X	Gulf and Indian Ocean World Art and Architecture	4
AW-UH 1113X	Alexander and the East: Central Asia and the Mediterranean from the Achaemenid Period	4
AW-UH 1118	Archaeology, Arabia and the Bible	4
AW-UH 1119X	Sacred Cities: Jerusalem and Mecca	4
AW-UH 1120X	Archaeology of the Gulf	4
CSTS-UH 1052X	History and the Environment: The Middle East	4
ECON-UH 2451X	Economic History of the Middle East	4
HERST-UH 1501	Experimenting with the Past: Cultural Heritage Connections in the Gulf and Western Indian Ocean	4
HIST-UH 1105	Africa in the World	4
HIST-UH 1106	China in the World	4
HIST-UH 1110	Colonial Latin America and the Atlantic World	4

HIST-UH 2118	Global Asia Before Modernity	4
HIST-UH 2119	Global Asia in the Modern World	4
HIST-UH 3510X	Muslim Societies in African History	4
HIST-UH 3513X	Religion and Material Culture in the Indian Ocean World	4
HIST-UH 3710X	Central Asia and the Middle East	4
HIST-UH 3714	Mediterranean: Archives, Translations, Histories	4
MUSIC-UH 1004	Music: Histories and Historiography 1	4

Sample Plan of Study

Course	Title	Credits
1st Semester/Term		
First-Year Writing Seminar		4
Core Competency		4
Core Competency		4
General Elective		4
Physical Education		
Credits		16
2nd Semester/Term		
Field Colloquia (J-Term)		3
Credits		3
3rd Semester/Term		
HIST-UH 2010	History and Globalization	4
Regional Perspectives on World History		4
Colloquia		4
Core Competency		4
Physical Education		
Credits		16
4th Semester/Term		
HIST-UH 3010	Writing History	4
Regional Perspectives on World History		4
Global Thematic		4
Major Elective (Curricular Zone)		4
Credits		16
5th Semester/Term		
Field Colloquia (J-Term)		3
Credits		3
6th Semester/Term		
Major Elective (Curricular Zone)		4
Major Elective (Curricular Zone)		4
Core Competency		4
General Elective		4
Credits		16
7th Semester/Term		
Major Elective (Curricular Zone)		4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
Credits		16
8th Semester/Term		
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
Credits		16
9th Semester/Term		
HIST-UH 4000	Capstone Seminar	4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4

General Elective		2
Credits		14
10th Semester/Term		
HIST-UH 4001	Capstone Project	4
General Elective		4
General Elective		4
Credits		12
Total Credits		128

Learning Outcomes

Upon completion of the NYU Abu Dhabi History degree, all graduates are expected to have developed:

1. Analyze and interpret different kinds of evidence, including cultural, social, economic, and political;
2. Organize evidence into a coherent argument;
3. Develop arguments in which they reassess and, where necessary, revise accepted historical conclusions, while continually questioning and justifying their own methodological assumptions and practices;
4. Understand the ways in which the field of history complements or overlaps with other scholarly disciplines;
5. Conduct historical research, including the use of primary and secondary sources, archives, library resources, and relevant new technologies;
6. Present historical arguments in rhetorically efficient forms—both written and oral—manifesting effective use of evidence, organizational skill, and, where appropriate, new technologies;
7. Demonstrate expertise in one particular trajectory of historical inquiry resulting in the production of a senior Capstone project; and
8. Compete effectively for places at elite doctoral programs in history in the U.S. and around the world should they so desire.

Policies

NYU Policies

University-wide policies can be found on the New York University Policy pages (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/nyu/policies/>).

NYU Abu Dhabi Policies

A full list of relevant policies can be found on NYU Abu Dhabi's undergraduate academic policies page (<https://bulletins.nyu.edu/undergraduate/abu-dhabi/academic-policies/>).