MASTER OF ARTS IN HISTORY

Program Director
Dr. Daniel Ayana
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Program Description
The Department of Humanities and Social Sciences offers a graduate program leading to the Master of Arts in History. Its curriculum combines American, European, and Transnational areas. The program prepares students for:

- Doctoral study in history or related fields,
- Advancement in secondary and elementary education with a concentration in history and the social sciences,
- Certification in applied history, and/or
- Additional graduate study in a variety of professional areas.

The program also provides the knowledge base for those pursuing history as an avocation. The program concentrates on research and primary materials, written analysis of research results, study of important monographs in a variety of historical fields, and training in a number of specialized fields, such as oral history and historic preservation. The department prides itself on its small classes and close personal attention to all of its master’s candidates.

Admission Requirements
Regular admission will be granted to those students who:

1. Meet the YSU Graduate College’s qualifications for regular admission.
2. Hold a bachelor’s degree from an accredited college or university
3. Have submitted a satisfactory academic writing assignment

Students not meeting these requirements may be considered for provisional admission or non-degree status instead.

Graduate Faculty
Daniel Ayana, Ph.D., Professor
Africa; social and economic history

Brian Bonhomme, Ph.D., Professor
Nineteenth- and twentieth-century Russian history; environmental history

Eleanor A. Congdon, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Medieval; Renaissance; Mediterranean world; maritime history

Amy Fluker, Ph.D., Assistant Professor
Nineteenth century US; Civil War; culture; memory; gender

Thomas E. Leary, Ph.D., Associate Professor
Historic preservation; labor and industrial history

Martha Pallante, Ph.D., Professor
Early American studies; material culture; pedagogy

David A. Simonelli, Ph.D., Professor
Britain; British Empire

Fred W. Viehe, Ph.D., Professor
History of the NEOEA

Degree Requirements
Degree Requirements

Each candidate for the M.A. in history must complete:

1. A minimum of 30 hours of graduate courses overall
2. At least 21 hours must be in HIST courses; up to 9 hours may be transferred in from other related disciplines with the approval of the Program Coordinator and the Graduate Director. The student wishing to explore course options outside the History Program should obtain approval BEFORE registering for such class(es). Examples of potentially acceptable external disciplines include Geography/GIS, Art History, Literature, Foreign Language, etc.
3. HIST 6900 (Research Methods) and HIST 6901 (Historiography): 6 hours total.
4. Minimum of 9 hours in an area of concentration (US, Europe, or Transnational).
5. Minimum of 3 hours outside area of concentration.
6. Minimum of one "Seminar paper" (at least 18 pages of text/footnotes, using primary and secondary sources, posing and answering a useful historical question). This requirement is NOT fulfilled by the Final Project (see #7), but is in addition to it. A seminar paper is a requirement in all Research Seminar classes, but students may meet the seminar paper requirement in any course, with approval of the instructor and Graduate Director.
7. All students must also complete a "Final Project" - taken in the form of Independent Study (HIST 6952). Depending on the nature of the project and the decision of the supervising History professor, this may be either one or two courses (3 or 6 credits). The decision of the professor supervising the project is final, in terms of the nature of an acceptable project, the number of hours it will be granted, the format and general merit of the project, and the final grade. The Final Project may take the form of a significant research paper and/or comparable project in other formats. Students who are approved to write an MA thesis will do so in the same manner, using up to 6 hours of Independent Study. Part of the Final Project will include mastering a relevant reading list, compiled by the project supervisor in cooperation with the student. Project completion will require that the students defend the completed project, including demonstrating satisfactory facility with the reading/source list, in front of a committee of three professors, chosen by the student in consultation with the relevant faculty and the Graduate Director. Students may only register for their Final Project if they are in Good Standing with the College of Graduate Studies. The same applies to the defense.
8. As long as all other MA requirements are met, students may count graduate-level Applied History courses taken at YSU (or accepted as transfer credits from another institution) towards the History MA degree, from individual courses up to the entire Certificate in Applied History (minimum of 18 graduate-level credits). Applied History courses are generally considered "American/US" courses. See Applied History Certificate requirements for more information.

COURSE | TITLE | S.H.
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HIST 6900 | Introduction to Historical Research | 9-12
HIST 6901 | Historiography | 9-12
HIST 6952 | Independent Study | 9-12

Successful completion of Final Project (3 or 6 hours) approved by Graduate Director and Final Project Director (taken as HIST 6952). Final Project must be successfully defended, then deposited with the graduate program director to remain permanently on file.

Elective courses (21 hours minimum).
1. At least one course must be from outside student’s main geographical concentration
2. Complete at least one seminar paper at B or better in addition to Final Project
3. Complete at least one readings course.

HIST 5806 | American Architectural History | 1
HIST 5810  Conservation of the Historic Built Environment  3 s.h.
The theory and practice of preserving and rehabilitating all aspects of the historic built environment. Provides broad exposure through field experience. Prereq.: HIST 3715.

HIST 5800  Introduction to Historical Research  3 s.h.
Instruction in the basic tools and techniques of historical research. Required of all candidates for advanced degrees in history.

HIST 5801  Historiography  3 s.h.
An introduction to the professional study of history, including an examination of the sources and nature of historical knowledge, historical criticism, and synthesis. Required of all candidates for advanced degrees in history.

HIST 6910  Readings in American History  3 s.h.
Readings in the standard works and monographic studies to meet the requirements of qualified graduate students who wish intensive concentration in specific areas of American history. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6912  Research Seminar in American Colonial History  3 s.h.
Selected problems of early American history. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6913  Research Seminar in 19th-Century America  3 s.h.
Selected problems of American history, 1800-1865. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6914  Research Seminar in 20th-Century America  3 s.h.
Selected problems of American history in the 20th century. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6920  Readings in Modern European History  3 s.h.
Readings in the standard works and monographic studies to meet the requirements of qualified graduate students who wish intensive concentration in European history. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6921  Research Seminar in Medieval Culture and Society  3 s.h.
The main intellectual and social currents of the Middle Ages. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6922  Research Seminar in Renaissance and Reformation  3 s.h.
Trends and aspects of the Renaissance and Reformation. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6923  Research Seminar in 19th-Century Europe  3 s.h.
The Napoleonic and Post-Napoleonic Era and the rise of nationalism in Europe. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6924  Research Seminar in 20th-Century Europe  3 s.h.
Investigation of the causes of the great world wars, the rise of totalitarianism, and the Cold War. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6925  Research Seminar in Russian History  3 s.h.
Selected problems of Russian history. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6926  Research Seminar in British Empire  3 s.h.
An examination of major problems confronting the British Empire after 1783. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6927  Research Seminar in Middle Eastern History  3 s.h.
This course will deal with topics from the ancient Near East down to the contemporary clash of nationalisms in the Middle East. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6928  Readings in African History  3 s.h.
Readings in the standard works and monographic studies to meet the requirements of qualified graduate students who wish intensive concentration in African history. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 3715.
HIST 6935  Research Seminar in African History  3 s.h.
Selected problems in the political, social, economic, and intellectual history of Africa. May be repeated with permission of instructor.

HIST 6939  Labor in US History  3 s.h.
Emphasis on work processes, workforce composition, and labor organizations in the industrial Midwest.

HIST 6940  Oral History  3 s.h.
Instruction in methods of taking, processing, and utilizing oral depositions relating to history. The course includes assignments in the field. May be repeated once.

HIST 6941  American Material Culture  3 s.h.
A discussion and analysis of the use and importance of material artifacts as texts for the recovery of the American past. The emphasis will be on nontraditional sources. Examples include children’s books, sacred spaces, and foodways.

HIST 6942  Applied History  3 s.h.
This course provides an overview of the field of applied history. Topics include historic preservation, museum studies, heritage tourism, archives and related topics.

HIST 6943  Practicum in Applied History  3 s.h.
Examines problems in the field of applied history through student participation in a wide variety of community-based projects.
Prereq.: HIST 3715 Introduction to Historic Preservation, HIST 6942, or instructor’s permission.

HIST 6944  Applied History Internship  3 s.h.
Practical application of principles and methods in the field of applied history with the goal of producing a completed project. Internship to be selected by the student in conjunction with the Program Director. May be repeated once.
Prereq.: HIST 6942 and approval of program director.

HIST 6945  Interpretation and Preservation of the Industrial Built Environment  3 s.h.
Through lectures and readings, this course examines and interprets the industrial built environment. This includes, but is not limited to, factories, neighborhoods, infrastructure, and commercial districts that make up the fabric of industrial communities.
Prereq.: Graduate standing and completion of HIST 6942 or permission of instructor.

HIST 6946  Historical Editing  3 s.h.
Project-based approach to theoretical and practical aspects of editing historical and literary documents for both print and digital contexts. Topics include document selection, transcription, verification, and annotation, as well as the implications for teaching and learning using traditional print and electronic archives and texts. 
Cross-listed: ENGL 6946.

HIST 6950  Studies in the Teaching of History  3 s.h.
Investigation and discussion of the research and some of the underlying assumptions in the teaching of history, with implications for the teacher of social studies in the secondary schools and for the prospective history professor. Degree students may receive credit for this course only once.

HIST 6951  Special Topics in History  1-3 s.h.
Special topics in history selected by the staff. May be repeated up to six semester hours.

HIST 6952  Independent Study  1-3 s.h.
Individual study in concentrated areas of history under the supervision of a staff member. May be repeated.
Prereq.: Permission of the instructor and the graduate director.

HIST 6953  Research, Thesis  1-6 s.h.