Faculty

Stephen Carls (1983). University Professor of History and Department Chair. B.A., Wheaton College; M.A. and Ph.D., University of Minnesota.

D. Keith Bates (2004). Associate Professor of History. B.A., Union University; M.A., Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary; Ph.D., Kansas State University.

W. Terry Lindley (1986). University Professor of History. B.A., Texas A&M University; M.A., University of New Orleans; Ph.D., Texas Christian University; Additional study, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

David Thomas (1994). Professor of History. B.S., The Ohio State University; M.S., University of Michigan; Ph.D., The Ohio State University.


Staff


Curriculum

The Department of History offers courses that are designed to meet both cultural and professional objectives. The history courses attempt to give the student a discriminating knowledge of the past by encouraging an understanding of other times according to the standards of those times and by evaluating institutions and movements in the light of their effects upon later developments. History students encounter a diversity of teaching styles, learn about the methods of the discipline, and deepen their understanding of the integration of Christian faith and history. The geography courses provide the student with an understanding of the relationship between geographical elements and man’s life on earth.

I. History Major Requirements—36 hours

A. Required: HIS 101, 102, 211, 212, 245, 498

B. Two from: HIS 301, 311, 312, 317, 320, 322, 420 (World)

C. Two from: HIS 325, 330, 331, 332, 333, 410, 414, 415, 417, 422 (American)

D. One from: HIS 300, 305, 316, 397 (Church)

E. One upper-level HIS elective

II. Teacher Licensure for History (Grades 7-12)

A. Major requirements as shown above.

B. Additional requirements for licensure: GEO 112; 215 or 216.

C. Professional Education: EDU 150, 250, 326, 425, 433; PSY 213, 318; SE 225.

D. Completion of applicable portions of the Praxis II.

E. For additional information, see the Assistant Dean for Teacher Education and Accreditation.

III. History Minor—21 hours

A. Requirements of all History Minors

1. HIS 101, 102, 245

2. HIS 211 or 212

B. Requirements for General History Emphasis—9 hours

1. One of: HIS 301, 311, 312, 317, 320, 322, 420 (World)

2. One of: HIS 325, 330, 331, 332, 333, 410, 414, 415, 417, 422 (American)

3. One upper-level HIS elective

C. Requirements for Church History Emphasis—9 hours

1. HIS 305

2. Two of: HIS 300, 316, 397

Major in History with Discipline-Specific Honors

A student must do all of the following in order to earn discipline-specific honors in history:

A. Meet the history department’s admission requirements for its honors program;

B. Complete as a part of the 36-hour requirement for the history major:

1. Honors contracts in two upper-level, content-based courses:
   - The courses must be regularly scheduled classes or directed studies; no independent studies will be allowed;
   - The courses must be taken either during the fall or spring semester;
   - The courses must be taken from two separate history professors;
   - The student must have a minimum 3.5 GPA for the two classes.

2. Honors contracts in two courses (HIS 497, HIS 498) that focus on the student's honors thesis:
   - The student must take an independent study (HIS 497) to launch the honors thesis project;
   - The student must take a directed-study senior seminar (HIS 498) to complete the honors thesis;
   - The student must earn a final grade of A in both HIS 497 and HIS 498;
   - The student must complete the honors thesis by the end of the fall semester of his/her senior year (based on the assumption that the student will graduate at the conclusion of the spring semester that immediately follows).

C. Present his/her honors thesis in an abridged form at an acceptable history conference.

D. Defend successfully his/her honors thesis before a committee of three full-time Union University professors, two of whom will be from the Department of History.

E. Attend 4 honors colloquia per year as determined by the Director of the Honors Community.
Assessment of Majors

History 498 is the culmination of the history major’s study in which the student demonstrates the use of the tools of historical research and writing by composing a major paper that includes primary sources. This course requires the major to discuss with fellow history students the methodological and historiographical problems that historians face and to share the findings of his/her paper in a seminar setting. All senior history majors must also take the Area Concentration Achievement Test (ACAT) in History.

Student Organizations

The Delta-Psi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society is open to students who have had 12 semester hours of history and who have a minimum HIS GPA of 3.1 and 3.0 in the remainder of their work. Union’s chapter, established in 1953, was the first in the state of Tennessee.

The Rutledge Honorary History Club was founded in 1929 to stimulate the study of history. Membership by invitation is offered to history majors and minors and a select number of students who have undertaken three semester hours of history with a course average of 3.0 and who have expressed an interest in the study of history.

Student Awards

Departmental Awards are given to: two graduating seniors for outstanding work, one in the history major and the other in the history minor; a graduating senior for excellence in student teaching; and students who present papers at Phi Alpha Theta regional conferences.

Dr. James Alex Baggett History Research Awards are given for the best original research papers presented as part of the requirements for any history course.

The Phi Alpha Theta Scholarship Key is presented to a graduating senior member of the society who has a major in history and who has an average of 3.5 or better in that discipline.

Course Offerings in History (HIS)

( ) Hours Credit; F–Fall, W–Winter, S–Spring, Su–Summer

101. World Civilization to the 18th Century (3) F, W, S, Su
Social, economic, political, and intellectual characteristics of human society with emphasis on people, movements, and ideas influencing the development of civilization.

102. World Civilization from the 18th Century (3) F, W, S, Su
A continuation of HIS 101 with emphasis on the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries.

211. The United States to 1877 (3) F, S
A survey of United States emphasizing English colonization, the American Revolution, the adoption of the Constitution, the growth of nationalism and sectionalism, the Civil War, and reconstruction.

212. The United States from 1877 (3) F, S
A survey of United States emphasizing new social and industrial problems, the rise of progressivism, America’s emergence as a world power, World War I, postwar reaction and the New Deal, World War II, and contemporary America.

245. History and Historians (3) F
An introduction to the nature of historical research and to various schools and philosophies of history. This course is normally taken during one’s sophomore year.

300. American Church History (3) F—Even Years
Religious and church developments in America from the Puritans to the present.

301. Ancient History (3) S—Even Years
Prerequisite: HIS 101. Mediterranean-based civilization of the ancient world. Emphasis will be given to the Near East, Greece, and Rome.

305. History of Christianity (3) F, S
Prerequisite: HIS 101 and 102. Reciprocal credit: CHR 305. A survey of Christianity from Christ to the present.

311. England to 1714 (3) F—As Needed
Origin and growth of the English people from ancient times to the 18th century. Emphasis is placed on constitutional developments.

312. Modern Britain and the Empire (3) S—Odd Years
Main currents of thought, constitutional changes, the rise of parliament, and foreign policy.

316. Renaissance and Reformation (3) F—Odd Years
Reciprocal credit: CHR 316. Northern and Southern Renaissance; Reformation, Counter-reformation, and Protestantism.

317. The French Revolution and Napoleon I (3) F—Odd Years
A study of the background, personalities, and events of the Revolution, the Napoleonic Wars, and the Congress of Vienna.

320. Latin American History (3) S—Odd Years
An introduction to the history of Latin America beginning with pre-colonial and colonial history, but emphasizing the period since independence.

322. Twentieth Century Europe (3) S—Even Years
Prerequisite: HIS 102. The history of the economic, social, and political developments since 1914 with an emphasis on international relations.

325. History and Government of Tennessee (3) S—Odd Years
The political, constitutional, social, and economic history from 1796 to the present.

330. Colonial America, 1607-1776 (3) S—Even Years
Historical development of the colonies which became the United States, from origins to the Declaration of Independence.
331. American Revolution and Early National Period, 1776-1828 (3) F—Even Years
A study of the American Revolution and national development under the Federalist and Republican administrations.

332. Civil War and Reconstruction (3) S—Even Years
The American nation during the years leading to the Civil War, the war itself, and the immediate aftermath.

333. Women in U.S. History, 1607 to the Present (3) S—Even Years
A study of social, cultural, and political aspects of women's history in the U.S. with additional emphasis on the role religion played in the lives of American women in the 19th and 20th centuries.

410. American Foreign Policy (3) F—Odd Years
A survey of the most significant developments of American foreign policy with an emphasis on problems arising from the emergence of the United States as a world power.

414. The Gilded Age and Progressive Era, 1877-1920 (3) F—Odd Years
A study of the energetic and controversial transformation of America from a rural commercial society to an urban, industrial society. Includes domestic reforms through 1920 for continuity, but leaves the more thorough discussion of WWI for HIS 415.

415. America and World War, 1914-1945 (3) F—Even Years
A close look at the United States during the period of profound change brought by World War I, the twenties, the Great Depression and World War II.

417. The South (3) S—Odd Years
The Old and New South, 1607 to the present.

420. Russia Since 1547 (3) F—As Needed
Social, cultural, and political developments from the 16th century to the present.

422. The United States in the Cold War Era, 1945-1991 (3) S—Odd Years
A survey of political, social, and economic changes in the U.S. from the Truman administration to the end of the Gulf War. Emphasis is placed on domestic reforms, civil rights, foreign policy, and the Korean War, Vietnam, and Cold War.

431. History Internship (1-3) As Needed
Prerequisites: Prior department approval, 3.0 HIS GPA and 3 upper level HIS hours. Maximum: 6 semester hours. Individualized field study in applied historical research such as through private archives and libraries, government agencies, businesses, and archaeological sites.

Course Offerings in Geography (GEO)

112. Elements of Physical Geography (4) F, W, Su
Reciprocal credit: PHY 112.
See PHY 112 for description.

215. World Regional Geography I (3) F
Regional, physical, and human geography of the developed world to include the United States, Canada, Western Europe, Russia, Eastern Europe, Japan, Australia and New Zealand.

216. World Regional Geography II (3) S
Regional, physical, and human geography of the developing world to include Middle and South America, Southwest Asia, North Africa, Africa south of the Sahara, China, East and South and Southeast Asia, and the Pacific.

Available in each departmental prefix:

179-279-379-479. External Domestic Study Programs (1-3) As Needed
All courses and their applications must be defined and approved prior to registering.

180-280-380-480. Study Abroad Programs (1-4)
All courses and their application must be defined and approved prior to travel.

195-6-7. Special Studies (1-4)
295-6-7. Special Studies (1-4)
Lower-level group studies which do not appear in the regular departmental offerings.

395-6. Special Studies (1-4)
Upper-level group studies which do not appear in the regular departmental offerings.

397. Special Studies in Church History (1-4)
Upper-level group studies which do not appear in the regular departmental offerings.

495-6-7. Independent Study (1-4)
Individual research under the guidance of a faculty member(s).

498. Seminar (3) F
Prerequisite for history seminar: HIS 245 or consent of instructor.
To be used at the discretion of the department.

499. Seminar (1-3)
To be used at the discretion of the department.