

ASSESSMENT PLAN: M.A. in History

PROGRAM MISSION

The Master of Arts degree in History is designed to meet the varied needs and interests of students seeking an advanced degree in history. The program trains students in advanced skills in historical research, writing, and teaching. Four options (exam, teaching, public, and thesis) permit students to plan their coursework to best suit their goals within the overall program requirements and the range of courses offered.

The program includes graduate course offerings in historical research and historiography, reading seminars, undergraduate or graduate elective units, and a culminating master's project specific to students' chosen options. Elective units may be taken in other fields with the approval of the graduate coordinator. The master's project may be a university thesis, examinations in major and minor fields, public history project, or a graduate teaching project, depending on the option chosen.

PROGRAM STUDENT LEARNING OUTCOMES

Students graduating with an M.A. in History will be able to:

PLO 1	possess advanced knowledge of United States history and the history of at least one other geographical region
PLO 2	analyze major arguments and themes in contemporary historiography, cross-cultural and interdisciplinary approaches to historical study, and humanistic values
PLO 3	demonstrate familiarity with Bay Area research libraries, archives, special collections, and digital sources
PLO 4	possess advanced writing and interpretive skills for analyzing both secondary and primary sources, and demonstrate advanced research abilities
PLO 5	complete a major independent research project in history
PLO 6	design an individual portfolio showcasing advanced historical work and create work suitable for publication or presentation in your chosen field
PLO 7	observe the standards of academic integrity and attribution of sources, and practice the values of the historical profession, including ethics and standards for work in research libraries, on the Internet, at professional conferences, and at interviews for employment

1. Which SLO(s) to assess	All seven for each incoming cohort, across two years for each
2. Assessment indicators	Portfolio with department-created rubric
3. Sample (courses/# of students)	HIST 651 and HIST 652/Approximately 15 students per cohort
4. Time (which quarter(s))	Portfolio evaluated at the end of each semester and at the end of a two-year period

5. Responsible person(s)	Graduate advisor (any tenure track faculty member)
6. Ways of reporting (how, to who)	End of semester reports; report to the graduate coordinator and department chair
7. Ways of closing the loop	End of semester reports; annual meeting of the graduate committee and department

Description:

At the beginning of a graduate student's matriculation (fall semester), he or she will enroll in HIST 651: Graduate Portfolio. In HIST 651 the student will work under the direction of a graduate advisor to compile a portfolio of graduate work. The portfolio will be digital and may include selected papers, public history projects, teaching projects, or other relevant material representing the breadth of the student's graduate work. The student will maintain the portfolio for his or her entire enrollment in the program and also maintain enrollment in HIST 651 (carrying an "RP" grade from semester to semester) until the student begins work on the capstone project and enrolls in HIST 652: Scholarly Practicum. When the student enrolls in the capstone course, he or she will also enroll in HIST 652, under the direction of the same advisor. In that course, the student will be required to submit a piece for publication, participate in a public forum in which the, or otherwise publically presents his or her research.

The advisor in HIST 651 and HIST 652 will also conduct the assessment of the students under his or her advisement (an entire cohort of incoming graduate students). In consultation with a department-created rubric, the advisor/assessor will evaluate the student's portfolio, which will contain representative work from across the student's graduate career, at the end of each semester. The advisor will include a semester progress report in the portfolio that assesses each of the seven program SLOs. When the student completes course work and is ready to enroll in the capstone course, the advisor will complete a final portfolio review and assess each SLO. It is expected that the student will have attained significant practice in each area. When the student completes HIST 652, the advisor will assess the selection for publication or presentation. It is expected that at this stage the student has attained mastery of all of the SLOs.

Curriculum Maps:

I=Introduced
P=Practiced
M=Mastered

LOs	Required Courses in all four options						
	610	600s	630	Elective, Practicum, or Internship	651	Capstone (691, 692, 699)	652
PLO 1	I	P		P	M		
PLO 2	I		P		M		
PLO 3	I			P	P	M	
PLO 4	I	P	P	P	P		M
PLO 5	I				P	M	
PLO 6	I				P		M
PLO 7	I	P	P	P	P		M
ILO 1	PLO 3, 4, 5, 7						
ILO 2	PLO 2, 5, 6						
ILO 3	PLO 1, 2, 5						
ILO 4	PLO 7						
ILO 5	PLO 7						
ILO 6	See PLO map above						