HISTORY - MASTER OF ARTS (MA)

At CU Boulder, history graduate students are trained in the central principles and research methods that characterize the discipline of history through class instruction and professional development seminars. They also gain a thorough grounding in their particular geographical area of study as well as an ability to situate that area of study in a larger global context.

All MA students focus their studies in two equally weighted fields:

- a regional/national field (i.e., American/U.S. history, European history or Asian history)
- a global/thematic field, for which students are required to take a variety of courses that examine global and transnational history through specific thematic lenses

For the purposes of the comprehensive examination (portfolio), students are expected to work with their faculty advisors to craft subfields of emphasis within both the regional/national and global/thematic fields.

Students wishing to pursue graduate work in history leading to candidacy for an advanced degree should carefully read the Master’s Degree Requirements (catalog.colorado.edu/graduate/degree-requirements/masters-degree-requirements) section carefully. For more information, visit the department’s Graduate Students webpage.

Requirements

Admission Requirements

For purposes of admission to the graduate program, the general Graduate Record Examination is required and a score in the 85th percentile or above on the verbal component is generally expected.

Prerequisites

As general preparation for graduate work in history, a broad liberal arts education, as well as a major in history, are desirable, though not specifically required. Candidates for graduate degrees may be required to pursue such fundamental courses in history as the department deems necessary to provide a suitable historical background.

Degree Requirements

The following are special departmental requirements. For more information, visit the department’s Graduate Students (http://www.colorado.edu/history/graduate-students) webpage.

Most MA course work will be at the 5000, 6000 and 7000 levels. The History Department requires that any MA students interested in taking 4000-level courses for degree credit receive approval from their advisor and the director of graduate studies. All courses completed at CU Boulder must be taken in the Department of History, except for courses recommended by the advisor and approved by the director of graduate studies.

All MA students must complete the following:

Required Courses

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Credits</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 5000</td>
<td>Historical Methods: Introduction to the Professional Study of History</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>A two-semester regional/national field colloquium sequence.</td>
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Degree Plans

Plan I: Thesis Option

Thesis-track MA students must complete a total of 24 credit hours of course work, plus 6 credit hours of MA thesis credit (HIST 6950). Of those, a minimum of 12 credit hours must come in each of a student’s two fields, regional/national and global/thematic. A comprehensive examination must be passed in the field of study before the degree is granted.

Plan II: Non-Thesis Option

Non-thesis track MA students must complete 30 credit hours of course work without a thesis, including six hours of 7000-level research seminars. Of those, a minimum of 12 credit hours must come in each of a student’s two fields, regional/national and global/thematic. A comprehensive examination must be passed in the field of study before the degree is granted.

Language Requirement

For students working in fields of history that require the use of foreign languages, their advisory committees may require a demonstration of language proficiency.