

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

# MA: History



## Master of Arts (MA)

The Master of Arts Degree in History will enhance your knowledge of history and hone research, organizational, and written and oral communication skills developed during undergraduate study. It will prepare you for further academic study and develop professional competencies through extensive reading, focused examination of select historical topics, and rigorous research and writing projects.

Faculty support the development of individual interests through research and independent projects. They are well-prepared instructors and active scholars, encouraging students to explore history beyond the classroom. Professors have teaching and publication experience in a variety of fields, including United States history, Modern Europe, Latin America, Medieval history, the Middle East, and public history fields. Many have national or international reputations, teaching awards, and recognitions from the university and the broader community. Graduate classes average fewer than 15 students, which allows for meaningful interaction between students and instructors.

### History students will...

- Develop an advanced knowledge of issues, themes, theories, and methods of [public history](#).
- Develop advanced skills for communicating historical knowledge [in public settings including classrooms, museums, archives, historic sites, and preservation agencies](#).
- Develop advanced critical thinking, reasoning, and analysis skills through historical investigation and analysis.

### Career Planning

Career Fields for Program Graduates

- Education
- Government
- Politics
- Law
- Non-Profit Organizations

### Internship and Employment Opportunities of Recent Graduates/ Graduate Schools and Programs of Recent Graduates

- Graduates of the M.A. program in history may pursue doctoral degrees or teaching appointments at community colleges or universities. They may also pursue the M.A. degree in order to enhance qualifications for present employment.

### Admission Requirements

In addition to the criteria established for general admission to graduate studies are the following departmental criteria:

1. Undergraduate GPA of 2.75 on a 4 point scale in history and/or related disciplines.
- 4-2. [24 semester hours of undergraduate credit in history.](#)
- 2-3. [A letter of intent which indicates how the applicant's past experiences have prepared him or her for a graduate degree. A letter of intent for the MA in Public History should indicate how the applicants past experiences have prepared him or her for a graduate degree in Public History and to succeed at the graduate level.](#)
4. 5. Two letters of recommendation which attest to the applicant's academic and/or professional achievement and ability to succeed in the graduate program.
4. 5. An academic or professional writing sample. Letters should be addressed to the Director of Admissions. All documents should be submitted directly to the Office of Admissions.

### Provisional and Probationary Admission:

An applicant lacking any of the above requirements may, under certain circumstances, be admitted provisionally or on probation.

Office of Admissions  
(573) 651-2590  
admissions@semo.edu  
www.semo.edu

To explore  
the College  
of Liberal Arts online, visit  
[semo.edu/liberalarts](http://semo.edu/liberalarts)

Graduate Program Coordinator  
[Erika Hesselkus](#) [Vicky McAlister](#)  
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**Master of Arts (MA)**

This is a guide based on the ~~2016-2017~~2017-2018 Graduate Bulletin and is subject to change. The time it takes to earn a degree will vary based on factors such as dual enrollment, remediation, and summer enrollment. Students meet with an academic advisor each semester and use DegreeWorks to monitor their progress.

**CURRICULUM CHECKLIST**

**Required Courses – 36 hours**

Core Courses:

- \_\_\_ GH600 Introduction to Public History (3)\*
- \_\_\_ GH610 Methods of Research in History (3)\*
- \_\_\_ ~~US620/EH620/WH630~~[US620/EH620/WH620/330](#) Seminar in History (9)

21 Hours of Electives\*\*

~~Students select 21 hours of electives from 500- or 600-level courses.~~

**Suggested electives:**

- \_\_\_ EH516 History of Modern Germany (3)
- \_\_\_ EH518 History of Soviet Russia (3)
- \_\_\_ EH520 History of Spain and Portugal (3)
- \_\_\_ EH527 Intellectual History of Europe (3)
- \_\_\_ [EH550 Castles in Context \(3\)](#)
- \_\_\_ GH520 Techniques of Oral History (3)
- \_\_\_ GH694/695 Thesis (3)
- \_\_\_ [HP 575 Collections Management \(3\)](#)
- \_\_\_ HP580 History of American Building Materials and Techniques (3)
- \_\_\_ HP585 History of American Architecture (3)
- \_\_\_ ~~[HP645 Heritage Education \(3\)](#)~~
- \_\_\_ US507 Civil War and Reconstruction (3)
- \_\_\_ US509 American West (3)
- \_\_\_ [US525 American Urban History \(3\)](#)
- \_\_\_ US531 American Military History (3)
- \_\_\_ US635 American Material Culture (3)
- \_\_\_ WH520 Latin American Colonial History (3)
- \_\_\_ WH522 History of South America (3)
- \_\_\_ WH524 History of Mexico (3)
- \_\_\_ WH550 The Atlantic World (3)

**Students will select a thesis or non-thesis degree option.**

**Thesis Option**

Candidates electing to write a thesis will enroll in 3-6 hours of thesis elective credit (GH694-695). Upon completing the thesis, the candidate will defend (GR699) it before a committee selected by the candidate, the candidate's advisers, and the graduate dean.

**Non-Thesis Option**

Candidates electing the non-thesis option will complete comprehensive examinations (GR698) and ~~may~~ also complete a graduate paper or other capstone project.

\*Students must pass GH600 and GH610 with a "B" or higher to continue in the program.

\*\*No more than 6 credit hours may be chosen from GH/HP601/602/603. \*\*\*No more than 15 credit hours may be taken at the 500 level.

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SAMPLE TWO-YEAR PLAN, Thesis Option

	Fall	Spring
First Year	GH600, Intro to Public History US620, Seminar in U.S. History US635, American Material Culture	GH610, Methods of Research in History EH620, Seminar in European History WH520, Latin American Colonial History
Second Year	WH630, Seminar in World History <a href="#">HP615, Heritage Education</a> <a href="#">HP585, History of American Architecture</a> GH694/695, Thesis	US507, Civil War and Reconstruction EH516, History of Modern Germany GH694/695, Thesis GR699, Master's Oral Examination

SAMPLE TWO-YEAR PLAN, Non-Thesis Option

	Fall	Spring
First Year	GH600, Intro to Public History US620, Seminar in US History US635, American Material Culture	GH610, Methods of Research in History EH620, Seminar in European History WH520, Latin American Colonial History
Second Year	WH630, Seminar in World History <a href="#">HP615, Heritage Education</a> <a href="#">HP585, History of American Architecture</a> WH524, History of Mexico	US507, Civil War and Reconstruction EH516, History of Modern Germany US509, American West GR698, Comprehensive Examinations

Elective courses will vary according to student interests and adviser recommendations. Students choosing the non-thesis option [may](#) also complete a graduate paper or other capstone project.

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