Department Overview

The mission of the UWL History Department is to provide leadership in history education and scholarship. We provide our students with a solid foundation in the critical thinking and analytical skills necessary for interpreting documents and historical research. We develop historical understanding and global perspective through courses in the university’s general education program and a balanced world history curriculum, strengthened by faculty specialties in a wide range of time periods, cultures, geographical areas, and thematic approaches.

Our public history program develops analytical and interpretive skills through a curriculum focusing on material culture studies, oral history, cultural resource management, and community studies. Our programs prepare students for opportunities in fields such as teacher education, editing, archives and museum studies, as well as for careers in law and government. Finally, we serve the community by sharing our expertise when issues of historical importance engage the public’s interest.

Undergraduate Programs

MAJORS:
• History*
• History with emphases available in:
  • Regional World
  • Cultural History
  • Religious Studies
  • Public and Policy History

MINORS:
• History*
• History with emphases available in:
  • Regional World
  • Cultural History
  • Religious Studies
  • Public and Policy History

*Teacher certification available

Sample Courses

A complete listing of courses offered by the History Department can be accessed at the department web page: www.uwlax.edu/history.

View degree requirements:
www.uwlax.edu/catalog
History

Department Features
The History Department serves three important programs: 1) General Education, 2) Teacher Education, and 3) non-teaching History professions. Regardless of specific emphasis, history at UWL serves a global mission and offers a world history curriculum.

Global and cultural literacy is central to the university mission. For the general education program, every UWL student is required to take one semester of world history. World history has served as the foundation of the history curriculum for over twenty-five years.

TEACHER EDUCATION
Approximately half of all history majors are also enrolled in the teacher education program. The History Department serves as the home for social studies methods instruction and student advising. As part of our commitment to K-12 instruction, the department and university host the annual, regional National History Day competition. The regional director of NHD is a member of our department.

Program Features
The department is currently building greater capacity in the non-teaching professional history fields with new emphases in social and cultural history, religious studies, and public and policy history. These emphases serve students who are interested in careers in museums, public policy and administration, cultural agencies, the arts, and service organizations.

Career Opportunities
By achieving an undergraduate degree in history, students acquire a set of skills that serve a broad set of professional careers. Graduates have analytical and interpretive skills gained from intensive study of both secondary and primary source materials. Our graduates are information managers, who can compile, organize, and use large sets of data, volumes of text, and visual, oral, and material culture. History graduates possess effective oral and written communication skills. These are skills, gained and set in a wide range of historical contexts, that form a solid foundation for multiple careers.

Our program prepares students for careers such as advertising executive, analyst, archivist, broadcaster, businessperson, campaign worker, congressional aide, consultant, documentary filmmaker, editor, foreign service officer, foundation staffer, historic preservationist, history professor, information specialist, intelligence agent, journalist, K-12 educator, landscape architecture planner, lawyer, legislative staffer, librarian, lobbyist, museum professional, paralegal, park ranger, personnel manager, policymaker, politician, public relations staffer, urban planner, writer and a wide array of positions in arts and humanities and service organizations.

With additional graduate-level education history majors may prepare to teach at the community college or university level, a career in law, and more specialized fields in public and policy history.

Professional Associations
• Phi Alpha Theta (national history honor society)
• American Historical Association
• World History Association
• National Council for Public History