



# Bachelor of Arts in History



**PennState**  
World Campus

A world of possibilities.  
Online.

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“Historians are problem-solvers, capable of asking both broad and nuanced questions of an issue and arriving at creative and effective solutions. While exploring the diverse cultures of the human past and the complexities of historical change, students in our program develop essential skills in critical and analytical thinking, research and information gathering, and the written presentation of arguments and ideas. These skills and the perspective acquired through the study of History are therefore essential to any profession or postgraduate career.”

—**Thomas Christopher Lawrence, Ph.D.**  
**Director of Online Education**  
**Associate Teaching Professor of History**

# Why a Degree in History?

History offers a compelling vision of human activity and capability and a unique analytical perspective on the world, through a comprehensive context that social science disciplines can seldom match. To understand history, you must gain a deep knowledge of culture, religion, art, politics, and war.

As a student in the 123-credit online Bachelor of Arts in History program, you can acquire skills needed to succeed in today's competitive job market and workplace. You can learn how to conceptualize an issue, research it, weigh evidence, make conclusions, and present your work in a compelling and coherent fashion. As a graduate of this program, you may find yourself with a long-term advantage in a professional landscape that requires a number of job and career shifts.

Recruiters routinely praise history graduates as excellent communicators with strong interpersonal, leadership, and problem-solving skills. According to the American Historical Association, history graduates find success in a number of competitive fields—notably education, business, law, military, and sales.

[worldcampus.psu.edu/history](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/history)



# Bachelor of Arts in History

As a history student, you can develop a strong foundation in writing, reading, primary and secondary source analysis, chronological reasoning, and understanding of complex causality. These skills are essential to both professional and managerial positions in nearly every field of study and practice and serve as the basis for many graduate degree programs.

The diversity of courses available allows you to gain knowledge in areas that are of personal interest and relevant to your professional aspirations. Your courses will explore the past through a variety of perspectives, helping you to develop skills to understand the cause and effect of past events, demonstrate chronological thinking, and create historical arguments on the basis of evidence.

When you complete this degree, you should be able to:

- › apply a critical lens to the study of the past, understanding that history is not simply an account of what happened, but the result of a process of interpretation
- › analyze the complex causality of events from the past, articulating the “how and why” of these events
- › make sense of the past through tracking patterns of change and continuity over time
- › create historical arguments on the basis of evidence
- › analyze the written work of others and collaborate with peers to analyze and understand historical contexts and contents
- › employ digital technologies in the solving of writing, reading, and source analysis problems





# The Curriculum

The Bachelor of Arts in History requires you to complete a minimum of 123 credits. You can choose from such courses as:

## **American Civilization since 1877**

An historical survey of the American experience from the emergence of urban-industrial society in the late nineteenth century to the present.

## **History of Work in America**

A study of selected problems in the history of work in the United States, especially since 1877.

## **The Holocaust**

In-depth study of the history of the Holocaust in Europe that puts special emphasis on primary sources.

## **Europe since 1848**

Political, social, and ideological developments; origin and impact of two World Wars; totalitarianism and democracy; changing role in the world.

## **The World at War: 1939–1945**

In-depth study of the origins and conduct of World War II. Political and economic aspects as well as military.

For the most up-to-date information about the curriculum for the Bachelor of Arts in History, please visit: [worldcampus.psu.edu/history](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/history)



# Why Penn State?

## Online Delivery Experience— Penn State World Campus

In 1892, Penn State founded one of the nation's first correspondence courses. Over the years, our distance education options have evolved to include technology-enhanced learning experiences, culminating in the foundation of Penn State World Campus in 1998. As a pioneer in distance learning, we have significant experience in understanding the needs of off-campus students.

## Collaboration

This degree program has been developed by the Department of History within Penn State's College of the Liberal Arts and is conveniently delivered online through Penn State World Campus. This cooperative effort helps to ensure a high-quality online learning experience for our students. The interactive environment provides you with multiple opportunities to share insights and reinforce what you are learning, replicating the face-to-face experience of a campus education.

## Committed Faculty and Staff

The program's faculty are renowned for their exceptional credentials, research, and industry experience, which help them understand your academic needs and career interests.

## An Exceptional Student/Alumni Body

Whether you take our courses online or in a traditional classroom, as a "Penn Stater" you:

- › become part of an institution with more than 150 years of excellence in teaching, research, and service
- › join a global community of exceptional adult learners from all 50 states, more than 40 countries, and 7 continents
- › become part of a proud worldwide network of more than 692,000 alumni and, upon your graduation, have the opportunity to join the largest dues-paying alumni association in the world, with more than 173,000 members

# Begin Your Application Today

## How to Begin

1. Visit: [worldcampus.psu.edu/history](https://worldcampus.psu.edu/history)
2. Click the “Apply Now” button to access your application.

## Application Materials

- › online application and fee
- › official high school transcripts or GED transcript along with records from high school
- › official college or university transcripts, if you attended another institution, and/or official military transcripts (if applicable)
- › TOEFL or IELTS score (if applicable)



Please visit our website for a more detailed description of the requirements and application procedure: [worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions](https://worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions)

## Did You Know?

- › Penn State has aligned its online programs, student support services, policies, and procedures to support military personnel, veterans, and military family members.
- › LinkedIn data ranks Penn State second in the country for universities most attended by CEOs.
- › Penn State World Campus is consistently ranked in the top 10 by *U.S. News & World Report* for having the best online bachelor’s programs.

# Contact Us

## Admissions Questions

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814-863-5386

[worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions](http://worldcampus.psu.edu/admissions)



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