

History & Politics Program

Purpose Statement

The Department of History and Politics majors are designed to develop student scholarship in the study of history and political science, to nurture historical and political awareness, and to enhance critical and analytical skills. Graduates are prepared for a variety of careers where strong research, organization, and writing skills are needed, as well as for graduate and professional programs in history, political science, and law. The program also prepares graduates for careers in secondary education with a specialization in social studies. Majors at McPherson have the advantage of the college's central Kansas location, with research access to local, state, and federal libraries and archives. The department serves this purpose for students at McPherson College by

- providing wide access to available formal courses in the disciplines of history and politics;
- offering opportunities for independent research and reading in the relevant fields;
- encouraging students to study further in related graduate and professional programs;
- supporting and encouraging students with interests in careers related to the disciplines to pursue such careers;
- meeting State Department of Education standards for certification in the area of social studies (applies to candidates for teacher certification only)

Course Content

General Education – “History: Students will demonstrate scholarship in the study of history, historical and political awareness; and critical and analytic skills in at least one area of world civilization.” — College Catalog. Courses fulfilling the history general education requirement are either 100 – or 200 – level classes. They are designed to emphasize how historic events shape people’s lives, as well as how historic events are interpreted in different ways.

100 level – No prior college experience required, no prior history coursework required. Designed to provide the most direct supervision of students. Includes emphasis on introductory terms and concepts. Student work emphasizes recall and use of material delivered in the course and completion of more directly prescribed assignments.

200 level – Suitable for students with no prior history coursework, students should have prior college experience. Students develop skill locating, interpreting and applying resources beyond those specifically provided by the instructor. Increased emphasis on both written and oral presentation consistent with the standards of the discipline. Higher expectations for engagement of students in classroom. Students expected to apply course content to subject areas beyond those directly delivered in the course.

300 level – Designed for students at the sophomore level or higher with previous college history coursework. Students develop skill in independently locating, interpreting and applying resources. Increased emphasis on both written and oral presentation consistent with the standards of the discipline, including a minimum 10 page written research paper and formal oral presentation. High expectations for engagement of students in classroom.

400 level – Intended for advanced students conducting largely independent research and project development. Students will locate resources, conduct research and implement curriculum of their own design, with faculty consultation and supervision.

Program Options

Option I

Bachelor of Arts in History

Goals: To prepare graduates for careers and post graduate education in history, museum studies, law, archival work, and related fields.

Objectives:

- Students should be able to demonstrate field specific methodology in written and oral course work.
- Students should be able to discuss major problems in history drawing upon substantive knowledge in a field.
- Students should be able to analyze and critique theoretical frameworks for understanding historical continuity and change in human communities.
- Students should be able to assess and utilize materials in the media and popular culture as historians in the course of their daily lives.

Requirements: A minimum of 42 credit hours as described below.

I. Core Courses:

G-SO 101 Introduction to Sociology
G-HI 101 Historical Introduction to Politics
G-HI 130 Introductory Methods for Historical Analysis
EC 201 Elementary Economics: Macro
Or **EC 202** Survey of Economics
HI 410 Historiography
***HI 475** Senior Thesis

II. Foundations: Complete 6 hours from the following list:

G-HI 110 World Civilization to 1500
G-HI 120 World Civilization since 1500
G-HI 140 American History to 1877
G-HI 150 American History since 1877

III. Complete the following required supporting courses:

G-ML 108 Level I Spanish
And **G-ML 109** Level II Spanish
OR
Two semesters in an equivalent foreign language program

Complete 6 hours in each of the following subfields for a total of 18 hours. At least 6 of these hours must be at the 300 level.

Social History:

G-PR 202 History of Christianity
G-HI 236 Topics in Social History
***PE 380** History & Philosophy of Sports and Physical Education
***G-HI 333** Technology and Society
G-HI 261 Kansas History

Political History:

G-HI 101 Historical Introduction to Politics
G-HI 220 Modern Europe
G-HI 237 Topics in Political History
HI 301 Advanced Historical Topics
HI/PS 356 American Diplomacy

Cultural History:

HI 205 Social and Cultural History of the Automobile
***G-MA 290** History of Mathematics
***G-PA 385** Performing Arts History and Literature I
***G-PA 390** Performing Arts History and Literature II
***G-AR 310** Art History I
***G-AR 311** Art History II

Option II

Bachelor of Arts in History for Teaching Licensure (6-12)

Goals: To prepare graduates for careers in teaching social studies in grades 6-12.

Required curriculum: History and Government 6-12

Endorsement Number: History & Government 71599

Requirements: A minimum of 9 hours in U.S. History; 9 hours in World History; 9 hours in Political Science; plus 15 hours of supporting course work for a total of 42 hours. In addition, the candidate for teaching licensure must complete the Teacher Education Professional Education Requirements.

I. Complete the following courses in U.S. History:

G-HI 140 American History to 1877
G-HI 150 American History since 1877

HI 361 Kansas History

II. Complete the following courses in World History:

G-HI 110 World Civilization to 1500

G-HI 120 World Civilization since 1500

G-HI 101 Historical Introduction to Politics

III. Complete the following courses in Government:

G-PS 102 United States Government

G-PS 130 Principles of Geography

PS 356 American Diplomacy

All history majors seeking Social Studies certification:

G-SO 101 Introduction to Sociology

G-HI 130 Introductory Methods for Historical

EC 201 Elementary Economics-Macro

Or **EC 202** Survey of Economics

HI 410 Historiography

HI/PS 475 Senior Thesis

Other courses required by Curriculum and Instruction Department for licensure.

Option III

Bachelors of Science in Politics and History

Goals: To prepare graduates for careers and post graduate education in politics, government, law, library science and related fields.

Objectives:

Students should be able to demonstrate field specific methodology in written and oral course work.

Students should be able to discuss major problems in history drawing upon substantive knowledge in a field.

Students should be able to analyze current political problems and issues. Students should be able to assess and utilize materials in the media and popular culture as historians in the course of their daily lives.

Requirements: A minimum of 42 hours in history and political science.

I. Required Courses:

G-HI 101 Historical Introduction to Politics

G-PS 102 United States Government

G-HI 130 Introductory Methods for Historical Analysis

G-PS 130 Principles of Geography

G-HI 120 World Civilization since 1500

G-HI 150 American History since 1877

G-SO 101 Introduction to Sociology

G-PS 125 International Relations and Globalization

Or ***G-PS 215** Global Peace Studies

EC 201 Elementary Economics: Macro

Or **EC 202** Survey of Economics

G-MA 221 Elementary Applied Statistics

PS 356 American Diplomacy

+ One additional History or Politics course at the 300 level or above

HI 410 Historiography

***HI 475** Senior Thesis

Option IV

History Minor

A minor in history consists of 18 hours of history courses chosen from the list of courses in the history major and must include courses in both world and American history. At least two courses counting toward the history minor must be for upper level credit.