

# 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 Emphases

### 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 202** Survey of Economics

or **EC 201** Elementary Economics: Macro

**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 205** Social History of the Automobile  
**G-HI 236** Topics in Social History  
**\*G-HI 333** Technology and Society  
**G-HI 261** Kansas History

**Political History:**

**G-HI 220** Modern Europe  
**G-HI 237** Topics in Political History  
**HI 301** Advanced Historical Topics  
**HI/PS 356** American Diplomacy

**Cross-disciplinary History:**

**G-PR 101** Old Testament - Hebrew People: God and People in Ancient Israel  
**G-PR 202** Christian Traditions  
**HI 245** History of Automotive Design  
**\*G-MA 290** History of Mathematics  
**G-PR 306** World Religions  
**\*G-AR 310** Art History I  
**\*G-AR 311** Art History II  
**G-MU 355** Music History and Literature I  
**G-MU 360** Music History and Literature II  
**G-TH 385** Theatre History and Dramatic Literature

## **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  
**G-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.

## 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

## History Minor

A minor in history consists of 18 hours of history courses chosen from the list of courses in the history department with an 'HI' prefix; at least two courses counting toward the history minor must be for upper level (300 and above) credit.