Students choose to study history for three main reasons. First, it represents the record of all human experience and helps fully illustrate the forces that influence our world. It is central to a liberal arts education and a defining feature of the Jesuit tradition. It has long been considered the foundation of the humanities because it provides a general framework and a unifying perspective for many more narrowly specialized disciplines. Second, it is highly enjoyable; real stories are often much more fascinating than fiction, and the detective work needed to dig into sources can be thrilling. Third, it teaches a skill set that remains in strong demand on the ever-changing job market: analytical thinking, effective use of evidence, research and writing skills, rhetorical abilities and an understanding of cultural differences.

The department of history at Saint Louis University follows a long tradition. It has been providing a solid foundation of historical understanding to the undergraduate students of SLU for more than a century and a half. The program begins with introductions to European, non-Western, and American history and a primer in how to master the tools of the historical craft. Students then take courses in more specific historical areas that allow exploration of certain subjects in greater depth. Finally, students take a seminar that requires them to research and write in more narrowly focused areas. Some students may opt to write an Honors thesis.

The department of history participates in the activities of the Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, the Center for Intercultural Studies, and the Center for International Studies. History majors are also encouraged to explore minors and concentrations available at Saint Louis University, including African American studies, international studies, medical humanities, medieval studies, Russian and Eastern European studies, and women’s and gender studies.

Students who major in history must complete 36 credit hours of history courses. All students must complete History 1110 and 1120 as well as History 2800: The Historian’s Craft. Students must also complete 27 credit hours of upper-division history courses. These courses must include:

- Three credit hours of European history
- Three credit hours of pre-1865 U.S. history
- Three credit hours of post-1865 U.S. history
- Three credit hours of non-Western history, including Asian, African, Middle Eastern or Latin American
- 12 credit hours of upper-level electives
- Three credit hours of a senior seminar

Students who minor in history must complete 12 credit hours of upper-division courses in addition to History 1110, History 1120, and History 2800: The Historian’s Craft. These must include at least one course in three of the four following areas:

- U.S. history
- Pre-1600 European history
- Modern European history
- Non-Western history, including Asian, African, Middle Eastern, or Latin American

At least one of these courses must be a 4000-level seminar. As part of their 15 hours, students may also take an approved historical internship in lieu of one upper-division course.

OFFICE OF ADMISSION, ONE NORTH GRAND BLVD., ST. LOUIS, MO 63103
(800) SLU-FOR-U • (314) 977-2500 • admitme@slu.edu • www.slu.edu • beabilliken.com

Contact
Department of History
314-977-2910
history@slu.edu

Graduate Programs
- Master of Arts (M.A.) in history
- Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in history
For a full listing of graduate programs, visit graduate.slu.edu.

ABOUT THE FACULTY

The department of history is an active community of 23 diverse, internationally recognized scholars. Every professor is engaged in original research and dedicated to sharing it with our students. The strong research culture of the department is reflected in its volume of scholarly publications.

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ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Freshman: All applications are thoroughly and carefully reviewed. Solid academic performance in college preparatory coursework is a primary criterion in reviewing a freshman applicant’s file. College admission test scores (ACT or SAT) are used as an additional indicator of the student’s ability to meet the University’s academic requirements and to qualify the student for certain University scholarship programs. To be considered for admission to any Saint Louis University undergraduate program, the applicant must be approaching graduation from an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the General Education Development (GED) test.

Transfer: Applicants must be a graduate of an accredited high school or have an acceptable score on the GED. An official high school transcript and official test scores are required only of those students who have attempted fewer than 24 transferable semester hours (or 30 quarter hours) of college credit. Those having completed 24 hours or more of college credit need only submit a transcript from previously attended college(s). In reviewing a transfer applicant’s file, the office of admission holistically examines the student’s academic performance in college-level coursework as an indicator of the student’s ability to meet the academic rigors of Saint Louis University.

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SCHOLARSHIPS AND FINANCIAL AID

There are two principal ways to help finance a Saint Louis University education:

+ Scholarships: awarded based on academic achievement, service, leadership and financial need.
+ Financial Aid: provided in the form of grants and loans, some of which require repayment.

For priority consideration for merit-based scholarships, applicants should apply for admission by Dec. 1 and complete a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) by March 1.

For information on other scholarships and financial aid, visit the student financial services office online at finaid.slu.edu.

WHY CHOOSE THIS PROGRAM?

+ History offers you the chance to make your own discoveries about the past. Our seminars will take you to archives and museums to view letters, diaries, photographs from decades and centuries ago. Our upper division courses can take you to places like Rome and Ireland where you can dig into the ruins of castles and ancient cities. We offer travel money for you to visit a archives and historical sites in the United States.
+ History offers multiple opportunities to present your discoveries about the past. Our honor society, Phi Alpha Theta, sponsors an annual undergraduate research conference. Our seminars are small enough for you to present your findings in detail to classmates. The research, writing and communication skills you gain are those most sought after by employers.
+ History offers first-hand research experience. Our internship program allows you to partner with local museums, nonprofits, religious institutions and corporations. You can build windows into the past through historical records, manuscript collections and photographs.

The department of history offers a variety of internships with museums and other historical organizations, most of which are eligible for course credit.

Internship opportunities in the St. Louis area include:
+ Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum
+ Campbell House Museum
+ Discovery Expedition of St. Charles
+ Eugene Field House and Toy Museum
+ Holocaust Museum
+ Jefferson Barracks
+ Jefferson National Expansion Memorial Achieves
+ Landmarks Association of St. Louis
+ Lincoln Home and National Historic Site
+ Midwest Jesuit Achieves
+ Missouri History Museum
+ National Archives Records Center
+ Saint Louis University Art Museum
+ Scott Joplin House
+ Ulysses S. Grant National Historic Site.

Saint Louis University history department graduates find a broad range of employment opportunities, including education, law, journalism, international business, museum and library work, and public service. Many have successfully pursued graduate studies and now teach in academic institutions. Recent survey data of history alumni indicates that 93 percent consider themselves “satisfactorily occupied.”

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