

*The Doctoral Program in*  
***CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL***  
***HISTORY***

**College of Liberal Arts, University of Nevada, Las Vegas**

**The Department of History at UNLV has offered the Master of Arts degree since 1968 and, in 1991, inaugurated a program leading to the Doctor of Philosophy degree. Our graduates have gone on to careers in teaching, business, law, administration, professional writing, museum work and government service. Graduate degrees from UNLV have been especially helpful to those pursuing teaching careers in four-year colleges and universities, community colleges, and secondary schools. The History faculty, which includes nationally and internationally recognized scholars, offers a wide range of topical and geographical courses. At the same time, the faculty is dedicated to providing each student with the individual attention necessary for a rewarding graduate experience.**

**History Department  
University of Nevada, Las Vegas  
Las Vegas NV 89154-5020  
702 895-3349**

# **DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (PH.D.) PROGRAM**

The History Department's doctoral program, initiated in 1991, embodies the ultimate expression of the Department's mission -- to generate and disseminate new knowledge through research, reflection and publication. The program trains students to teach and write history at a professional level. The doctoral program is limited to work in two areas: the history of the American West and the cultural and intellectual history of Europe and the United States. The commitment of UNLV to academic excellence and the cultural crucible of Las Vegas provide an ideal setting for rigorous interdisciplinary work in both the history of the American West and cultural and intellectual history.

Doctoral students take a specialized course of study in preparation for comprehensive exams in geographical, chronological and/or topical fields to assure a firm grounding in broad contexts and to cultivate expertise in specialized areas. The culmination of the degree is the dissertation: a major written contribution to the field of history based on original research, worthy of publication.

Courses are a mixture of colloquia (courses devoted to mastering the historical literature in particular fields) and seminars (courses dedicated to research work and writing) along with courses in historiography (the history of historical writing), historical methods and independent study. Students are encouraged to develop a course plan that reflects the interdisciplinary strength of the faculty

The doctoral program trains graduates to think analytically about the past, conduct original research and to convey their knowledge through clear, professional prose. The doctoral program qualifies graduates for employment in four-year colleges and universities, community colleges, secondary schools, and in a variety of other institutional settings.

Thirty students are currently enrolled in the Ph.D. program. The Department generally admits four to five new doctoral students per year.

Students in the doctoral program are eligible to apply for graduate assistantships and opportunities for part-time teaching in the University and Community College System of Nevada on a competitive basis. The Department also supports graduate student research and professional development with a competitive grants program. In addition, the Graduate College offers summer research funding on a competitive basis.

# **DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN THE CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL HISTORY OF EUROPE AND THE UNITED STATES**

No place on earth plays with the cultural heritage of humanity with greater abandon and imagination than Las Vegas. No wonder it is the darling of post-modern theorists. The UNLV History Department has responded to the unique provocation of our own location by initiating a doctoral track in cultural and intellectual history, the newest component of the History Department's graduate program.

Over the years, the Department has built considerable strength in the intellectual and cultural history of Europe and the United States. The Department now has specialists in nineteenth-century American cultural history, twentieth-century American cultural history, American religious history, and the intellectual and cultural history of the American West as well as the intellectual and cultural history of classical antiquity, medieval Europe, eighteenth-century Britain, eighteenth-century France, nineteenth-century Russia, twentieth-century Britain and twentieth-century Germany. UNLV's Lied Library is developing collections to facilitate serious research and writing in American and European cultural and intellectual history.

## **AMERICAN CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL HISTORY**

Elizabeth Fraterrigo (Loyola, 2004), twentieth-century cultural

David Holland (Stanford, 2005), religion, eighteenth- and nineteenth-century intellectual

Elizabeth White Nelson (Yale, 1995), nineteenth-century cultural

David Tanenhaus (Chicago, 1997), legal and constitutional

David M. Wrobel (Ohio, 1991), American West, late nineteenth- and twentieth-century intellectual

## **EUROPEAN CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL HISTORY**

Andrew J. E. Bell (Stanford, 1994), ancient Greece and Rome

Gregory S. Brown (Columbia, 1997), eighteenth-century France

Colin T. Loader (UCLA, 1974), modern European intellectual, modern Germany

Michelle Tusan (UC Berkeley, 1999) modern Britain, British empire, gender

Janet Ward (Virginia, 1993), modern German cultural and intellectual, European urban

Paul W. Werth (Michigan, 1996), nineteenth-century Russia

Elsbeth Whitney (CUNY, 1985), medieval Europe

# ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Students must meet the following minimal requirements for admission to graduate standing:

1. B.A. or equivalent from an accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 3.00, with at least a 3.30 in history courses, or an M.A. or equivalent from an accredited institution with a minimum GPA of 3.50. Applicants must have completed significant course work at the upper-division undergraduate or at the graduate level in either American or European History (preferably in European or American Cultural/Intellectual History).
2. Competitive scores on verbal, quantitative and analytical measures of the Graduate Record Examination.
3. Recommendations from three former instructors addressing the applicant's preparedness for doctoral level work in the Cultural and/or Intellectual History of Europe or the United States.
4. A statement of purpose in which the applicant describes specific interests in and approaches to the Cultural and/or Intellectual History of Europe or the United States. The statement should also include a description of the applicant's background and training for advanced work in this field as well as academic and professional goals.
5. A writing sample in the form of a master's thesis or original research paper of substantial length and quality. If possible, the writing sample should address either the Cultural/Intellectual History of Europe or the United States.

Please note that meeting these minimum requirements does not guarantee admission into the program. Decisions on admission are based on a number of factors including: strength of undergraduate and graduate GPA, letters of recommendation, writing sample, and statement of purpose, and concordance of student areas of interest and areas of faculty expertise. Decisions on admission into the PhD program are made by the Graduate Committee. Applications are accepted for fall only, and are due on February 1.

The application fee should be paid to the Graduate College and submitted with the application cover page. Transcripts should also be sent to the Graduate College:

Graduate College  
University of Nevada Las Vegas  
4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 451017  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-1017

The application form can also be submitted online via the Graduate College web page: <http://graduatecollege.unlv.edu/>

All other application materials: letters of recommendation, statement of purpose, and writing sample, should be sent to the History Department and should be addressed to:

Graduate Admissions  
Department of History  
University of Nevada Las Vegas  
4505 Maryland Parkway, Box 455020  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-5020

Materials can also be submitted in person to the History Department, Wright Hall, B329.

# DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

1. A minimum of 56 credits beyond the B.A. or 38 credits beyond the M.A. in History or closely related disciplines.\*

\*For students entering the program prior to 2005, the minimum number of credits of coursework is 54 beyond the BA and 36 beyond the MA

2. For all students in the program, credits must be distributed as follows:

A. Minimum of nine credits of colloquium (HIST 724, 726, 728, 730, 732, or 769)

B. Minimum of eight credits of seminar (725, 727, 729, 731, or 733)

C. Minimum of nine credits of historiography (including 740g: United States Cultural/Intellectual, and 740h: European Cultural/Intellectual).

D. Minimum of twelve additional credits at the 700-level in fields of inquiry outside of the major field of Europe or the United States. In consultation with their advisor, students may take six credits of work at either the 600- or 700-level in one appropriate academic discipline other than history.

E. A minimum of six credits in the minor field, of which at least three should be colloquium (where possible).

3. Satisfaction of the foreign language requirement. This requirement can be met in any of the following three ways, though the chosen option must be approved by the chair of the student's examination committee:

I. Demonstrated reading knowledge of two foreign languages.

II. Demonstrated reading knowledge of one foreign language and the successful completion of SOC 604.

III. Demonstrated reading knowledge of one foreign language and advanced reading knowledge of the same language, assessed through the writing of a substantial historiographical essay in English based on scholarly literature in that foreign language.

4. Satisfactory performance on written and oral qualifying examinations. Students are examined in four required fields.

Students write on a total of five essay questions chosen from ten:

I. Major Field: Cultural and/or Intellectual History of the major geographic area of specialization (Europe or United States). Students write on two of four questions (five hours).

II. Topical Field within the history of the major geographic area of specialization (Europe or United States). Students write on two of four questions (five hours).

- III Theory and Methods in Cultural/Intellectual History. Students write on one of two questions (two and a half hours).
- IV Topical Minor Field in the history of a geographic area other than the geographic area of specialization, or Public History (oral exam only).

The oral examination must be scheduled within three weeks of notification of successful completion of the written examinations. Students are examined in all four fields during the oral examination.

5. A dissertation of substantial length and quality containing original research and interpretation on a topic in the Cultural and/or Intellectual History of Europe and/or the United States. The student must take a minimum of twelve dissertation credits.

6. An oral defense of the dissertation.

7. A total of at least 68 credits (including dissertation hours) beyond the B.A. or at least 50 credits (including dissertation hours) beyond the M.A.\*\*

\*For students entering the program prior to fall 2005, the minimum number of credits of coursework is 54 beyond the BA and 36 beyond the MA

\*\*For students entering the program prior to fall 2005, the minimum number of total credits (inclusive of dissertation hours) is 66 beyond the BA and 48 beyond the MA.

# PROGRAM GUIDELINES

## 1. FIELDS OF STUDY

**I. MAJOR FIELD:** Students choose a major field in either United States or European history. The student is responsible for a general knowledge of the cultural and intellectual history in the major field. For purposes of examination, United States history is divided into three major fields: pre-1800; the nineteenth century; and the twentieth century. In European history, the major fields are defined by the national and temporal specializations of the European faculty.

**II. TOPICAL FIELD:** In addition the student chooses a topical field within the major field. For instance, a student working on twentieth-century United States cultural/intellectual history might choose a topical field in twentieth-century United States women's history or urban history; a student working on the cultural/intellectual history of medieval Europe might choose a topical field in ancient political thought or early modern European political history.

**III. THEORY AND METHODS:** Students master the theoretical and methodological foundations of cultural and intellectual history through a mixture of coursework and independent reading.

**IV. THE MINOR FIELD:** Students choose a topical minor field in a geographical area other than the major geographic area of specialization, or in Public History. The department's geographic areas are: Asia, Europe, Latin America and the United States.

## 2. COURSES

Students design their program, including the choice of courses, in consultation with their advisor. Courses prepare students for qualifying examinations. Thus, students should take as many courses as possible with the members of the examination committee. Students are also strongly encouraged to take courses at the 700-level.

## 3. THE ADVISOR (COMMITTEE CHAIR)

The department chair will appoint a core western historian to advise an entering student. This will be done strictly on a rotating basis. Students in their first year of coursework are also advised by the Graduate Coordinator. At the end of the first year of doctoral work, the student selects a cultural/intellectual historian as a permanent advisor. This advisor chairs the examination and dissertation committees. The chair is responsible for coordinating the activities of the examination and dissertation committees (including all scheduling and preparing of examinations and distributing of the dissertation). The student's entire graduate program is a product of discussion between student and advisor. A student should consult regularly with the advisor on all aspects of the program in order to achieve coherence and quality.

#### **4. THE EXAMINATION COMMITTEE**

At the end of the first year of doctoral work, the student also selects the other members of the examination committee in consultation with the permanent advisor. The composition of the committee must be approved by the department's graduate committee and by the department chair. Each faculty member of the examination committee sets a qualifying exam in one of the student's examination fields.

#### **5. FOREIGN LANGUAGE REQUIREMENT**

A student meets the foreign language requirement either by passing examinations in two foreign languages, by passing an examination in one foreign language and writing a substantial historiographical essay in English based on historical literature in the same foreign language, or by passing an examination in one foreign language and completing SOC 604 (Statistical Methods). In lieu of the foreign language examination, students may take a special graduate reading language course/s and earn a grade/s no lower than a straight "B."

Students cannot advance to candidacy until the foreign language requirement has been met.

#### **6. QUALIFYING EXAMINATIONS.**

In order to qualify as candidates for the doctoral degree, students must pass examinations in their chosen fields. The examinations aim to assess the student's mastery of the history and historiography of the fields.

#### **7. BIBLIOGRAPHIES.**

In preparation for the Qualifying Examinations students are required to prepare bibliographies for each of their four fields of study. These bibliographies are to be constructed in consultation with the major professor in each field and should contain approximately 100 books (or equivalent) per examination field. The bibliographies should both draw on and build upon course readings. A copy of each bibliography is placed in the student's file when the dates for the written examinations are set. These bibliographies are thus available for all members of the examination committee to review.

#### **8. THE DISSERTATION COMMITTEE**

During the second year of coursework the student must put together a Dissertation Committee. This committee may be the same as the Examination Committee, or may include one or more faculty members who are not on the Examination Committee. For example, if the student's dissertation does not draw in any significant way on their work in the Minor Field, then the student might wish to include another faculty member in the Major Field on the committee.

## 9. THE DISSERTATION PROSPECTUS

Students are required to file two prospectus documents

- I. A Short Prospectus (2 pages), submitted to the Graduate College prior to registering for HIST 791, dissertation credits.
- II. A Long Prospectus (at least 10 pages) to the members of the Dissertation Committee at the beginning of the first semester in which HIST 791, dissertation credits are taken.
  - The Long Prospectus should do the following:
    - i. Define the scope of the project
    - ii. Discuss the broader historiographical context
    - iii. Identify the research materials for the project
    - iv. Comment on the project's contribution to the scholarship in the field
    - v. Outline a tentative chapter structure for the project

A formal Dissertation Prospectus Discussion, including the student and all members of the Dissertation Committee, should be scheduled in the first month of the first semester that HIST 791, dissertation credits are taken.

## 10. DISSERTATION

After completing all coursework, the student must register for three dissertation credits each regular semester until graduation. A student may not graduate until a minimum of 12 dissertation credits have been completed.

## 11. THE GRADUATE CATALOG

Students are responsible for familiarity with the requirements, procedures, and policies of the Graduate College, recorded in the Graduate Catalog, and for meeting all deadlines for forms and fee payments. Students can be automatically reminded of all deadlines through subscription to Gradlink. Using your UNLV email address, send an email to [listproc@nevada.edu](mailto:listproc@nevada.edu)

- Make sure to leave the SUBJECT LINE blank
- Go to the main text area and type:

Subscribe GradLink <first name, last name>

*Example: Subscribe GradLink Jane Doe*

- Send the message. You will receive an email indicating that your subscription request has been forwarded to the Graduate College for approval.
- Once approved, you will receive an email confirming your subscription to GradLink.

## **12. GRADES**

Any grade below a B- will not be accepted for graduate credit but will be included in the student's GPA. A minimum GPA of 3.0 must be maintained in graduate work applicable toward the degree.

In accordance with the Graduate College Grading System (see the UNLV Graduate Catalog) the Department interprets letter grades at the graduate level as follows:

“A” represents excellent work

“B” indicates minimally satisfactory performance

“C” suggests work below minimum graduate standards.

Pluses and minuses should be interpreted accordingly.

The Department assumes that students should regularly perform at or near the A level on the grading scale. Students whose GPA falls below 3.0 following the completion of 12 credits in History courses may be placed on probation or separated from the program. Normally probation will be reserved for short-term contingences or problems such as an extended illness, personal problems, or personality conflict with an instructor. By contrast, separation will be recommended for serious or continuing academic problems or deficiencies deemed irremediable. In addition, students who receive one grade below a B- will automatically be placed on probation; students who receive two grades below a B- will normally be separated from the program.

## **13. CONTINUOUS ENROLLMENT**

In a calendar year, a student must complete at least six credits in course or thesis work applicable to the History degree program. A student who does not plan to do so must request approval for a leave of absence from the History Department. Upon returning, the student must file an Application for Registration for a Former Student Returning.

## **14. OVERLOAD**

A student wishing to take more than 13 credit hours (or 10 credit hours if the student is a graduate assistant) in a regular semester, or more than six credits in one five-week summer session or twelve credits in two, must file an Authorization for Overload with the Graduate College. Overloads are strongly discouraged by the Graduate Committee.

## **15. ANNUAL EVALUATION**

The History Department's Graduate Committee conducts an annual evaluation of all graduate students by examining their student files. While the Graduate College requires all students to complete a minimum of six credits each calendar year, the Department

expects all students to make continuous progress toward their degree. The cases of any students whose satisfactory progress is in doubt are forwarded by the Graduate Committee to the student's Advisory Committee and to the Department as a whole for a decision. Students are then notified as necessary of any Departmental decisions with respect to their cases.

## **16. FORMS AND DEADLINES**

The student and student's advisor are responsible for the paper work required by the Graduate College.

The Appointment of Examination Committee and the Proposed Graduate Degree Program forms must be submitted after the completion of 12 credits. All changes in the composition of the committee must be approved by the Graduate Committee.

Any change in a student's Proposed Graduate Degree Program (including thesis topic) must be filed on the Change in Proposed Degree Program. Changes in committee members are made by a memo to the Graduate College, copied to the Department; however, a change in committee chair requires the submission of a new Appointment of Examination Committee form.

The Advancement to Candidacy for the Doctoral Degree form is submitted to the Graduate College after all course work (except dissertation credits) in the approved program has been completed, the qualifying exams have been passed and the Dissertation Prospectus has been approved and submitted to the Graduate College.

The Notification of Oral or Written Examination form must be submitted each time an examination is scheduled.

## **17. SUMMARY OF GRADUATE PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES\*\***

### **Applying for Admission**

<b><u>What to Do</u></b>	<b><u>Deadline</u></b>
Submit application and supporting documents to the History Department and Graduate College. Ph.D. admits only for the fall semester	<b>February 1</b>
<b>If applying for Graduate Assistantship</b>	<b>February 1</b>

### **After Admission**

Confer with Graduate Advisor	ASAP and regularly
Choose a permanent advisor	After completion of 12 credits
Choose exam committee and submit Appointment of Examination Committee and Proposed Graduate Degree Program forms	After completion of 12 credits
Choose a Dissertation Committee and submit Appointment of Dissertation Committee form	During second year of coursework

### **Completing the Program**

Submit first draft of bibliographies to committee and schedule written and oral exams	Four months prior to comprehensive exams
Submit final draft of bibliographies to committee	When exams are scheduled
Pass written and oral comprehensive exams	Prior to registering for dissertation credits
Complete foreign language requirement	Prior to registering for dissertation credits
Submit Short Dissertation Prospectus to Graduate College	Prior to registering for dissertation credits
Submit Long Dissertation Prospectus to Dissertation Committee and schedule Dissertation Prospectus Discussion	Within the first month of the first semester when dissertation credits are taken
Submit Final Dissertation draft to committee	At least three months before planned graduation date (a reasonable period?)
Apply for graduation and pay fee	See class schedule
Schedule Dissertation Defense (notify Graduate College)	At least one month before Defense

Submit final dissertation version to committee

At least two weeks before Defense

Pass Dissertation Defense

At least three weeks prior to end of semester of graduation

Deposit Dissertation with Graduate College

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\*\*Please note that this is not an exhaustive list. Please consult the Graduate Catalog early and often and meet regularly with your advisor.

## 18. GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIPS

Graduate Assistants (GA's and PTIGA's) in the Ph.D. program receive a stipend of \$12,000 per year (payable in 10 monthly installments), and a tuition credit that covers 87 1/2 percent of the in-state or out-of-state tuition and fees.

PTIGA's are responsible for two sections of the introductory American, Western Civilization, or World Civilization surveys per semester. This teaching load is expected to occupy 20 hours per week.

GA's are responsible for 20 hours work, as a teaching assistant (discussion leader and grader, or grader), or research assistant.

Each spring semester the department selects a number of Graduate Assistants and Part Time Instructor Graduate Assistants for the next academic year. All students in the program are eligible for these awards and are encouraged to apply. Applications should include:

1. Application Cover Sheet (downloadable from the Graduate College website); submit to Graduate College.
2. Two letters of recommendation, preferably from university faculty. For new students (these letters have already been submitted to the History Department as part of the application for admission. Continuing students, including current GA's and PTIGA's should request letters of support from the faculty.

These materials must be submitted by February 1 for applicants to receive full consideration for GA and PTIGA positions.

All current GA's are required to apply for renewal of their assistantships. For assistantships to be renewed, current GA's need to be performing well in their coursework and need to be performing their GA assignments well.

Occasionally, assistantships do become available for the spring semester. To be eligible for these awards, students need to have submitted the required application materials by November 1 of the preceding fall semester. Students who submit materials by February 1, for consideration for the following fall, and do not receive a GA award, will automatically be placed in the pool of eligible applicants for spring semester awards.