

Master of Arts in History

Program Director: James M. Ehrman

The mission of the Norwich University Master of Arts in History program is to:

- provide students with a base of historical knowledge within the field of history,
- build an awareness of differing historical interpretations and the ability to synthesize diverse types of historical knowledge,
- build and refine student research, writing, analysis and presentation skills,
- provide students with an introduction to historical pedagogy,
- provide students with a foundation for developing a professional identity as a historian and,
- help students “learn to think like a historian” and develop “historiographical sensibilities” and “historical habits of mind.”

The Master of Arts in History curriculum is guided by the goals for history M.A. degrees outlined by the American Historical Association. The curriculum is designed to provide students with a base of historical knowledge, graduate level historical research skills, an introduction to historical pedagogy, the foundation for an identity as a historian, and the “habits of mind” of a professional historian.

Curriculum Map

Semester 1	Cr.	Semester 2	Cr.	Semester 3	Cr.
MH 510 Introduction to Military History: Historiography and Method	6	One concentration course	6	MH 550 U.S. Military History	6
One concentration course	6	One concentration course	6	One capstone academic exercise ¹	6
				MH 595 Residency ²	0
Semester Total Credits	12	Semester Total Credits	12	Semester Total Credits	12
Total Credits For This Major: 36					

¹ Students selecting to take the comprehensive exam as their completion course must also enroll in one additional elective.

² Students are required to attend a one-week, on campus Residency Conference the June following or concurrent with their final course.

Curriculum Requirements

U.S. History Concentration

Core Seminars

MH 510	Introduction to Military History: Historiography and Method	6
HI 520	American Colonial, Revolutionary and Early National History	6
HI 530	Nineteenth Century American History	6
HI 540	Twentieth Century American History	6
HI 550	Directed Readings in History	6

Capstone Academic Exercise

Select one of the following:

MH 562	Capstone Paper	6
MH 569	Comprehensive Exam ¹	0
MH 570	M.A. Thesis ²	6

Culminating Academic Requirement

MH 595	Residency	0
Total Cr.		36

¹ Co-requisite: one six-credit elective

² By permission only

World History Concentration

Core Seminars

MH 510	Introduction to Military History: Historiography and Method	6
HI 526	Hunter-Gatherer and Agrarian Eras	6
HI 536	The Late Agrarian Era to 1800	6
HI 546	World History from 1800 to 1991	6
HI 550	Directed Readings in History	6

Capstone Academic Exercise

Select one of the following:

MH 562	Capstone Paper	6
MH 569	Comprehensive Exam ¹	0
MH 570	M.A. Thesis ²	6

Culminating Academic Requirement

HI 595	Residency	0
Total Cr.		36

¹ Co-requisite: one six-credit elective

² By permission only

M.A. Examination

The master's examination exercise consists of one or more written examinations covering the subject matter studied in previous seminars. Students will be assigned a faculty advisor in seminar 4 who will assist the student in preparing for the written examination. A committee of three consisting of the student's advisor, the Capstone Director and one Norwich M.A. in History faculty member will evaluate and grade the written examinations. The M.A. examination is intended to test the student's knowledge of their specific field of study and is a final validation of performance for the Norwich M.A. in History.

Capstone Paper

In this final seminar students will, under the direction of single Norwich faculty member assigned by the program's Capstone Director, research and write a capstone paper of approximately fifty pages in length. The paper must utilize scholarly secondary sources as well as primary source documents and demonstrate the student's mastery of the historiography of his or her topic. The paper must contain a well developed historical question and a compelling interpretation/argument answering the question posed.

One-Week Residency

All degree candidates of the Master of Arts in History are required to attend a one-week Residency Conference (<http://catalog.norwich.edu/archives/2016-17/onlineprogramscatalog/mastersdegrees/residencyconferencerequirement>) on the Norwich University campus, during which they may attend professional presentations, participate in roundtable discussions with faculty, and present papers. The one-week residency is a degree requirement.

Master's Thesis

This option is recommended for those interested in continuing their studies in history at the doctoral level. Interested students must petition the Program Director, provide two letters of recommendation of support from Norwich M.A. in History faculty, and a complete M.A. thesis prospectus outlining the proposed M.A. research question, the historiography of the topic, and the primary and/or archival sources they will use for their M.A. thesis. Petitions to exercise the M.A. thesis project will be reviewed by a committee composed of the Program Director, Associate Program Director for Academics and Capstone Director. If the student petition is approved a committee consisting of two professors and the Capstone Director will advise the student throughout the thesis seminar. The paper must contain a well developed historical question and a compelling interpretation/argument answering the question posed.

The thesis option in Seminar 6 is, at minimum, a semester-long (22-week) project with accompanying sustaining and thesis fees.

Faculty Member	Institution at which highest degree was earned
James Ehrman, PhD (Program Director)	Kansas State University
Mark Danley, PhD	Kansas State University
Joseph Fischer, PhD	Pennsylvania State University
Ricardo Herrera, PhD	Marquette University
Beth Hillman, PhD	Yale University
Dave Hogan, PhD	Duke University
Sean Kalic, PhD	Kansas State University
Peter Kindsvatter, PhD	Temple University
Deborah Kidwell, PhD	Kansas State University
John Kuehn, PhD	Kansas State University
Robert Mackey, PhD	Texas A & M
John Maass, PhD	The Ohio State University
Lisa Munday, PhD	Kansas State University
Michael Pearlman, PhD	University of Illinois
Chris Rein, PhD	University of Kansas
Charles Sanders, PhD	Kansas State University
Mark Snell, PhD	University of Missouri
Patrick Speelman, PhD	Temple University
James Tucci, PhD	University of Wisconsin
David Ulbrich, PhD	Temple University
Kenneth Underwood, PhD	University of Las Vegas
John Votaw, PhD	Temple University
James Westheider, PhD	University of Cincinnati
Bradford Wineman, PhD	Texas A & M
Bobby Wintermute, PhD	Temple University
Greg Witkowski, PhD	State University of New York
Mitch Yockelson, PhD	Cranford University