



The Wayne D. McMurray School of Humanities and Social Sciences

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN HISTORY

Among the liberal arts, history is the discipline most concerned with understanding change. Historians seek not only to explain historical causality, or how and why change occurs within societies and cultures, but historians also attempt to account for the endurance of tradition, understand the complex interplay between continuity and change, and explain the origins, evolution, and decline of institutions and ideas. History is also distinguished by its singularly broad scope. Virtually every subject has a history, and that can be analyzed and interpreted in historical perspective and context.

So, why choose to study history? The first consideration is that the study of the past is exciting. Remember that preparing for a career, as well as for life, involves more than training in specific skills. It requires an education, that is, the development of ways of critical thinking, techniques of research, and an approach to knowledge.

The Bachelor of Arts in History curriculum at Monmouth University is designed to provide an understanding of the complex forces and values that have shaped the modern world and to prepare students for graduate school or for careers in law, politics, journalism, education, business, the arts, and more.

The interdisciplinary history and political science curriculum is designed to provide training in both history and politics for students who wish greater breadth of understanding of contemporary society, which also provides a sound basis for a variety of careers.

That is why courses offered by the Department of History and Anthropology not only emphasize the mastery of a particular subject matter but the development of research skills (using both traditional print and electronic sources), and critical argument and interpretation, expressed in both oral and written form.

Course offerings in history provide students with a strong background in U.S. and European History, and in the History of Western Civilization. In addition, the department offers electives in African, Asian, Latin American, and Middle Eastern History. Internship and experiential programs include opportunities to work at museums, historical associations, and historical sites in New Jersey.

The history faculty has a strong commitment to departmental advising as a component of the academic experience. Each student is assigned an advisor who is available to aid the student with curriculum choices, the scheduling process, and career expectations and goals.

The Monmouth Advantage

While the University offers the resources of a state university, students benefit from specialized attention afforded by a small student-to-teacher ratio. Monmouth's history faculty includes international experts and published authors in areas as diverse as Russian

and Soviet history, religious history in Europe, and U.S. economic history. Other teaching interests of the full-time faculty, all of whom hold doctorates, include intellectual history, medieval and modern Europe, Latin America, African American history, and African, Asian, and Middle Eastern history.

A mandatory experiential learning component allows history majors at Monmouth to take learning beyond the classroom. Students have the distinct advantage of access to the resources of the tri-state area and a county steeped in American history. County historical societies and sites, such as Allaire Village, a preserved nineteenth-century iron works, provide internship opportunities.

History also provides an excellent complementary subject within a double major. Half of the undergraduates in history at Monmouth University are double majors in education, anthropology, political science, English, criminal justice, or business.

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For complete information on the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, please visit www.monmouth.edu/humanities.