

MASTER OF ARTS IN HISTORY ONLINE

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Dickson Idusuyi, Department Chair
Department of Social Sciences

Graduate Faculty

Professors: Dickson Idusuyi, PhD, Vitalis Iheanacho, PhD

Assistant Professors: Yulonda Sano, PhD; Sheren Sanders, PhD

Degree: M.A.

Length: 33 Credit Hours which can be completed over the duration of two years

Enrollment: Fall, Spring, Summer

Program Description

The Department of Social Sciences offers the Master of Arts (MA) in History to provide both depth and breadth of study in history. The objective is to provide majors in graduate history program with the tools and training necessary to produce literary scholarship of professional quality to participate in ongoing academic discussions of issues and research in the fields of history. It is designed to transform students of history into historians and broaden their study of the subject. The program is offered 100% online and geared for flexibility to fit busy schedules. It is also very affordable to help professionals advance their careers.

The primary objectives of the Master of Arts in History are to:

- a) Provide students the capacity to critically analyze and question knowledge claims in the discipline
- b) Provide students the application of knowledge through a conceptual understanding of the concentration
- c) To provide students the ability to adapt and innovate to solve work-place problems
- d) To provide a level of instruction for potential learners that will enable them to produce self-directed persons who are capable of making healthy life choices
- e) Provide student learners with a deeper level of History skills and understanding
- f) Provide students with an increased knowledge and skill in the area of History and research

Application Process

Applicants for the MA program in History must submit to the Graduate School:

- a completed an online electronic application; applicants submitting a paper application must submit using email or U.S. Postal Service or hand deliver to the Office of Graduate Studies
- GRE General Test scores (Verbal, Quantitative, Analytical Writing); scores must not be older than five years
- Official Transcript from all schools attended, including the transcript that shows the date the undergraduate/graduate degree was conferred; Transcripts must be sent from sending institution, no personal student copies accepted
- 2 letters of recommendation from college instructors or employers addressing the applicant's aptitude for graduate study; applicants are required to submit 2 email addresses of professionals on the online electronic application who can speak to the applicant's suitability for graduate study in history. Applicants submitting a paper copy of the application must inform references to submit letters digitally using email to graduatestudies@alcorn.edu
- A requisite application fee (Non-Mississippi Residents Only)

Admission Requirements

Minimum admission requirements (NOTE: meeting these minimums does not guarantee admission.)

- bachelor's degree with overall GPA of 3.0 for Unconditional admission; Conditional admission may be granted if student has at least a 2.75 cumulative GPA
- at least 12 hours of coursework in history, with 3.0 GPA in these courses;

- enroll in a **Historical Research and writing course** offer in the department of Social Sciences to meet the departments writing proficiency requirement if a 3.0 is not scored on the GRE. This requirement must be met within the first two semesters of attendance
- a strong record of relevant coursework in history and/or other humanities or social science;
- Complete application packets reviewed by the department's admission committee; a formula is used to determine admission
- Students admitted to the program whose academic background does not reflect sufficient content knowledge may be required to enroll in prerequisites based on advisement

Admission Formula

The admission committee for the Master of Arts in History will consider the following formula in admitting students $(GPA \times 300) + 270$ composite score (Verbal and Quantitative) on the Graduate Record Examination. A minimum score of 810 is required for Unconditional admission. Applicants whose cumulative score is less than 810 may be considered for Conditional admission provided all the conditions and requirements are met.

Unconditional Admission

- A cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or above on a 4.00 grading system or a 2.75 or above GPA on the last 12 hours of coursework in history.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test scores no more than five years old at the time of application. A composite score on the Verbal and Quantitative of 270 or above.
- A score of 3.0 or above on the GRE Analytical Writing
- Official transcript(s) from all accredited universities; transcript must reflect student has earned a four-year baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution
- Two letters of recommendation (1 Academic, 1 Professional)
- Formula $(GPA \times 300) + (GRE \text{ Verbal} + GRE \text{ Quantitative}) = \mathbf{810 \text{ or more}}$

Conditional Admission

- A cumulative grade point average of 2.50 – 2.69 on a 4.00 grading system.
- Graduate Record Examination (GRE) General Test scores no more than five years old at the time of application. A composite score on the Verbal and Quantitative of 270 or above.
- A score less than a 3.0 on the GRE Analytical Writing but not lower than 1.0 (student will have to meet the department's Writing Requirement)
- Official transcript(s) from all accredited universities; transcript must reflect student has earned a four-year baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited U.S. institution
- Two letters of recommendation (1 Academic, 1 Professional)
- Formula $(GPA \times 300) + (GRE \text{ Verbal} + GRE \text{ Quantitative})$

Degree Requirements

To qualify for degree completion with a Master of Arts in History, the student must complete 33 hours of coursework including 6 hours of Core Courses, 18 hours Required Courses, and 6 hours of Electives and a Capstone Project.

Students must meet the following for degree progression:

- Grades of C are not permitted in the Core Area.
- No more than two grades of C may be applied to the degree
- Unconditional admission
- Overall 3.0 GPA in all graduate work completed
- Completion of the curriculum; only approved substitutions of coursework are accepted
- Pass a Departmental Comprehensive Exam
- Degree must be completed within 6 years.

Curriculum

The curriculum consists of a range of quality of coursework in a breadth of historical fields and is well designed with flexibility for students who may need more time than others to complete their plan of study.

- **Degree Plan**

Core Courses (6 hrs.):

HI 501 Historiography	3 hrs.
HI 509 Historical Methods	3 hrs.

Required Courses (18 hrs.):

HI 502 Global World Studies	3 hrs.
HI 503 Colonial American History	3 hrs.
HI 504 History of the Middle East	3 hrs.
HI 505 African American Internationalism	3 hrs.
HI 506 African American Historiography	3 hrs.
HI 507 History of the African Diaspora	3 hrs.

Interdisciplinary Electives (9 hrs.):

GT 501 Advanced Constitutional Law	3 hrs.
GT 503 Advanced Public Administration	3 hrs.
CJ 507 Advanced Budgeting and Financial Management	3 hrs.
CJ 511 Advanced Judicial Process and Policy Making	3 hrs.

Course Descriptions: History (HI 18 Hrs.)

HI 501 HISTORIOGRAPHY

3 hrs.

This course provides students with an introduction to historiography: the history and science of writing history. As the discipline of history is vast and complex, we will concentrate on a selection of important contributions to the field, exploring seminal works and theories as well as debates with which every modern historian must be familiar. In addition, this course will introduce students to the profession of history, covering topics from genres of historical works to participating in conferences to professional expectations and codes of conduct. Finally, this course will reinforce the requirements of the History MLA program and begin preparation for the thesis.

HI 502 GLOBAL WORLD STUDIES

3 hrs.

This course will take the form of a set of inquiries into the emergence of this global world, with a focus on the study of the historical dynamics at work. We will bring a dual focus to the history we study: the development of key political, social, economic, cultural, and religious traditions on the one hand, and the encounters which took place between groups, societies, and worldviews on the other.

HI 503 COLONIAL AMERICAN HISTORY

3 hrs.

This course examines the interactions among Indians, Africans, and Europeans in the centuries after they first encountered each other on the North American continent.

HI 504 HISTORY OF THE MIDDLE EAST

3 hrs.

This course will examine some of the major developments in the history of the modern Middle East, from the late 18th century, through the breakup of the Ottoman Empire and the formation of modern nation states, to the present.

HI 505 AFRICAN AMERICAN INTERNATIONALISM

3 hrs.

The role of this course will be that of providing students with an opportunity to enhance their understanding of diversity and multiculturalism in general and, even more specifically, in of the cultural perspective of African Americans. This course will examine several issues, topics, and themes that are central to the historical experiences of African Americans.

HI 506 AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORIOGRAPHY

3 hrs.

The role of this course will be that of providing students with an opportunity to enhance their understanding of diversity and multiculturalism in general and, even more specifically, in of the cultural perspective of African Americans. This course will examine several issues, topics, and themes that are central to the historical experiences of African Americans.

HI 507 HISTORY OF THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

3 hrs.

This course will survey Africa's multifaceted wisdom, beginning with the civilization of ancient Nubia [Egypt and the Sudan], the Black Kingdoms of the Nile,' moving on to examine the many ideas and practices associated with Ethiopia, Nigeria, as well as Mali, Benin, Kenya, Senegal, Tanzania, and Ghana.

HI 509 HISTORICAL METHODS

3 hrs.

This course focuses on building basic skills, the methods, tools, of historical analysis and explores the mechanics of research presentation and historical writing to help history majors prepare for successful completion of graduate courses in history, conduct research, and publish in Journals. It also provides an introduction to historiography and theory and examines ethical issues related to historical research, writing, and presentation. Guidelines for proper citation and attribution and the conventions for historical writing are presented and discussed. Grappling with the past, thinking about what history is and how historians craft history are also components of the course

INTERDISCIPLINARY ELECTIVES – (9 credit hours)

GT 501 ADVANCED CONSTITUTIONAL LAW

3 hrs.

This course provides a deeper systematic discussion to some landmark constitutional civil liberties cases relevant to American legal system and process. This course is designed to sharpen the student's knowledge and skills concerning American constitutional law and civil liberties.

GT 503 ADVANCED PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION ANALYSIS

3 hrs.

This course explores public administration as a major component in public policy making in America. This course will familiarize students with the roles and functions of public agencies in governance and our daily lives. This course will deal with current issues and cases in order to explore the theoretical and practical roles of governmental agencies. Moreover, this course will explore the increasing role of non-profit organizations and the trend toward privatization in terms of their effects on the delivery of governmental services. In specific, this course will pay attention to the duties, responsibilities and challenges that face individual administrators, particularly in the public sectors/agencies. This course also introduces students to the concepts and case studies of public administration and the theories of bureaucracy. It may help and prepare students with the desire to attend graduate school for upper-level courses such as Public Organizations, and Public Policy Analysis. In the class discussions students shall examine some case studies of bureaucratic outputs, some theory of the policy process, and some elements of organization theory. Students will be required to participate in a scholarly manner in discussing topical and controversial issues where time permits.

CJ 507 ADVANCED BUDGETING AND FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

3 hrs.

This course is intended to provide Criminal Justice graduates an overview of public agency budgeting and financial management. Public agency budgets are the means by which public resources are allocated and, as such, are central to the role of government. The course will provide an overview of the budget process, including the players and the strategies they employ, as well as provide students with the practical skills involved in understanding, analyzing and preparing budgets. More so, the goal of this course is to develop a foundation of financial management concepts. This will enable the student to understand how corporations make important investment and financing decisions, and how they establish working capital policies.

CJ 511 ADVANCED JUDICIAL PROCESS AND POLICY MAKING

3 hrs.

This course is an advanced study of the organizational structure and workloads of the federal and state judicial systems. Emphasis is placed on the nature of crime and on the various procedures prior to a criminal trial: the arrest, the appearance before a magistrate, the grand jury process, the arraignment, and the possibility of plea bargain. We will also explore the policy impact made by federal and state courts and analyze the process by which judicial rulings are implemented and some are not