



SUNY Geneseo Department of History

M.A. in History

Program Guide

INTRODUCTION

Our Master of Arts program in History offers advanced training in United States and global history.

This program is designed to appeal to a wide range of students, ranging from social studies teachers who need a master's degree for professional certification to those seeking advanced preparation for a wide variety of careers from public service to non-profit management. We provide a strong grounding in historical knowledge, public engagement, and advanced skills in research, analysis, and writing.

Our three-term, 32-credit program features a variety of courses which explore how histories intersect across continents and chronological eras. We emphasize an appreciation of diverse histories from a variety of social, cultural, geographic, economic, and religious perspectives. Students work in consultation with their advisor to select a personalized set of courses that will help to best advance their career or personal interests.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR

As chair of the SUNY Geneseo History Department, I am proud to launch our new Master's program in History.

By building on our department's long-standing strengths—excellent teaching, innovative pedagogy, and cutting-edge research—we look forward to preparing students for a wide variety of careers, including those in secondary education, government service, public history, research and data analysis, and journalism among others.

At Geneseo, we warmly welcome students looking to fulfill professional certification requirements for secondary education and related professions as well as those who may be interested in completing an M.A. in History as a stepping-stone to a PhD program.



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Our students hone their research, writing, and analytical skills to better meet their career goals

Dr. Kathleen Mapes

WHY STUDY HISTORY AT GENESEO?

Our History M.A. program offers a number of competitive advantages.

Dedicated Faculty

Our courses are taught by full-time teacher-scholars with doctorates in history and track-records of academic accomplishments.

Academic Rigor

Our students develop advanced analytical skills to better engage with historical problems and legacies.

Student-Focused

We offer small class sizes, personal attention from faculty, flexibility, and very competitive tuition costs.

Commitment to Diversity

Our faculty are committed to upholding principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion.

SAMPLE COURSE OFFERINGS

We offer courses in five continental areas (Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, and South America). These courses combine skills-based instruction with deep investigations into the various meanings and approaches to history. New courses are offered on an ongoing basis.

Geographic-Focused Courses

Acquire an overview of the major historiographical debates, methodological debates and source materials in a field.

HIST 505: Readings in African History
HIST 520: Readings in Asian History
HIST 550: Readings in Modern European History
HIST 565: Readings in Early American History
HIST 570: Readings in Modern U.S. History

Thematic Courses

Learn how to address concepts and questions that span time and space, while gaining new insights and perspectives from histories that intersect across continents and chronological eras

HIST 533: History of the Environment, Science, and Technology
HIST 581: Intersectional Histories
HIST 583: The History of Death and Dying
HIST 587: History of Nation-states, Civil Society, and Popular Politics
HIST 590: Empires and History

Methodology Courses

Hone your knowledge of the practice of history

HIST 601: Approaches to History
HIST 602: Advanced Historical Research Methods

Our students commit to one of two program tracks, leading to the completion of an Exit Portfolio.

Thesis Track

Students complete 8 credits of a directed thesis.

Project/Professional Track

This option involves the completion of a special project in one of the following sub-tracks. The project will be determined in consultation with the student's advisor and related to the student's degree goals. The portfolio will consist of aggregated student-created materials.

- Sub-track 1: Teaching project. This may be linked to a graduate teaching assistantship or practicum. Or it might involve the development of course materials for a university-level course, pedagogical writings, or other related research projects.
- Sub-track 2: Public history project. This may be linked to an internship, a Digital Humanities project, a public history project, or other options in consultation with the advisor.

FINANCING YOUR STUDIES

Our tuition costs are competitive, and we offer scholarships and Teaching Assistantships to qualified students.

Rev. James L. Swarts, M.A. '76, History Graduate Student Scholarship

This scholarship (\$1,000 per academic year) is available on an annual basis to any student enrolled in the Master of Arts program in History at the State University of New York at Geneseo who has applied and been admitted as a degree candidate. Preference is given to graduate students specializing in United States History and exhibiting an interest in history education.



APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Our online application process allows admission on a rolling basis.

To apply, submit the following through our easy online application form:

- application fee
- official transcripts
- letters of recommendation from two persons who can attest to the academic potential for graduate study and personal character of the applicant, one of which must be completed by a faculty member
- CV or resume
- one-to-two-page personal statement
- writing sample of no more than 15 pages

Apply today at
connect.geneseo.edu/apply



MISSION STATEMENT

The History Department at SUNY Geneseo is a learning community in which students, faculty, and staff collaborate together to explore the interconnections between the past and present.

We offer a skills-based curriculum that enriches students' lives and prepares them for many potential career paths. We nourish an inclusive learning environment, both in and outside of the classroom, through a consistent and committed engagement with all members of our community. A history education, which is integral to Geneseo's liberal arts focus, helps students understand processes of continuity and change, measured across time and space, in peoples, institutions, and cultures, in ways that bring benefit to the campus, the local community, and the wider world.



GET IN TOUCH



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