



University of Maryland University College

**Baccalaureate Degree Program in History
Department of Communication, Arts, and Humanities**

PROGRAM ASSESSMENT PLAN
Program Outcomes and Learning Assessment Criteria

Summer 2007

Baccalaureate Degree Program in History

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Baccalaureate Degree Program in History

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The History program provides students with skills in historical research and analysis, a chronological understanding of the past, and factual knowledge of specific historical periods. Study yields an appreciation of U.S. history, as well as for the histories of other peoples and cultures, which enhances multicultural understanding in the workplace and everyday society. Such skills and knowledge prepare students for careers in education, law, government, business, management, public relations, writing, and research.

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PROGRAM OF STUDY

The program of study for the Baccalaureate Degree Program in History is as follows:

GENERAL EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

Communications	12 credit hours
Arts and Humanities	6 credit hours
Behavioral and Social Sciences	6 credit hours
Biological and Physical Sciences	7 credit hours
Mathematics	3 credit hours
Interdisciplinary or Emerging Issues	7 credit hours

CROSS-CURRICULAR PERSPECTIVE REQUIREMENTS

Historical Perspective	3 credit hours
International Perspective	3 credit hours
Civic Responsibility Perspective	3 credit hours

REQUIRED COURSES

HIST 116 or HIST 142 or HIST 285	World History II Western Civilization II East Asian Civilization II	3 credit hours
HIST 157	History of the United States Since 1865	3 credit hours
ENGL 240 or HUMN 311	Introduction to Fiction, Poetry, and Drama Workplace Ethics	3 credit hours 3 credit hours
HUMN 351	Myth and Culture	3 credit hours

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PROGRAM OF STUDY (continued)

HIST 309	Introduction to Historical Writing	3 credit hours
HIST 364	Emergence of Modern America 1900 to 1945	3 credit hours
HIST 336	Europe in the 19 th Century: 1815 to 1919	3 credit hours
HIST 481	History of Modern China	3 credit hours

MINOR AND ELECTIVE COURSES

43 credit hours

Minor and/or elective courses are to be taken in the last 60 hours along with required major courses. Refer to the current [UMUC School of Undergraduate Studies Catalog](#) for the minor and/or elective course requirements.

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DEVELOPMENT OF PROGRAM OUTCOMES

The table below identifies the curricular influences that support the program outcomes specific to the Baccalaureate Program in History.

SOURCES/RESOURCES PROVIDING CURRICULAR FOUNDATION FOR PROGRAM OUTCOMES Baccalaureate Degree Program in History		
SOURCE	DESCRIPTION	WEB ADDRESS OR DOCUMENT NAME (if applicable)
Core Learning Areas of the UMUC School of Undergraduate Studies	<p>All UMUC degree programs are required to imbed identified Core Learning Areas into the program of study. The Core Learning Areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written Communication (COMM) • Technology Fluency (TECH) • Information Literacy (INFO) • Quantitative Literacy (QUAN) • Critical Thinking (THIN) • Scientific Literacy (SCIE) <p>The expanded definition for each Core Learning Area was considered in creating the respective program outcome.</p>	UMUC <u>Institutional Plan for the Assessment of Student Learning</u>
American Historical Association (AHA)	The AHA defines ethical and professional standards and offers advice on good practices in the field.	<u>www.historians.org</u>

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PROGRAM OUTCOMES

The program outcomes specific to the Baccalaureate Degree Program in History are delineated below. The program outcomes describe the expectations for all graduates of the Baccalaureate Degree Program in History.

CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES Baccalaureate Degree Program in History
COMM	Create written communication appropriate for the purpose and which meets standards of style and grammatical correctness.+
	Devise an appropriate thesis for a research essay in history.*
TECH	Evaluate technological concepts related to computers and components of information systems.+
	Use the internet effectively to locate appropriate scholarly articles and other resources for a history course.*
INFO	Address recognized research needs by retrieving, evaluating, and using information appropriately.+
	Use primary and secondary sources from libraries, archives, public collections, the internet, and oral interviews to interpret historical events.*
QUAN	Apply mathematical and numerical reasoning skills.+
	Trace demographic trends, economic models, and specific era constructs to facilitate interpretation of social and political order.*
THIN	Comprehend historical interpretations of data.*
SCIE	Identify key concepts and principles of natural sciences.+
	Explain the role of modern scientific discoveries on historical events.*

+ Denotes a program outcome specific to core skills, knowledge, and values gained from completion of the general education requirements. This program outcome is common across all UMUC baccalaureate degree programs.

* Denotes a program outcome specific to core skills, knowledge, and values gained from completion of requirements in the baccalaureate degree program. This program outcome is unique to each UMUC baccalaureate degree program.

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ALIGNMENT OF PROGRAM OUTCOMES WITH LEARNING OBJECTIVES AND ASSESSMENT METHODS

The following grid aligns the program outcomes of the Baccalaureate Degree Program in History with: 1) learning objectives from the designated program coursework and 2) specific methods used to assess student learning within the degree program.

CURRICULAR ALIGNMENT Baccalaureate Degree Program in History			
CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES	LEARNING OBJECTIVE(S) AND CORRELATING COURSEWORK	METHOD(S) OF ASSESSMENT
COMM	Create written communication appropriate for the purpose and which meets standards of style and grammatical correctness.+	Plan and write a research-based essay that makes effective use of resources found in databases available from UMUC's Office of Information and Library Services as well as resources located through Web search engines. (WRTG 101)	Research Paper
		Research, compile, and document relevant, credible information and use it to support ideas presented in your writing. (WRTG 393)	Research Paper
		Collect, select, analyze, interpret, and organize data, and use it appropriately in business communications, including a long formal report. (WRTG 394)	Research Paper
		Conduct a systematic audience analysis and apply it to a report, essay, or research paper. (WRTG 391)	Research Paper
	Devise an appropriate thesis for a research essay in history.*	Demonstrate the sequential stages of writing a historical paper: thesis, scope, and method statements; outline; rough draft; and final draft. (HIST 309)	Research Paper

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CURRICULAR ALIGNMENT			
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CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES	LEARNING OBJECTIVE(S) AND CORRELATING COURSEWORK	METHOD(S) OF ASSESSMENT
TECH	Evaluate technological concepts related to computers and components of information systems.+	Analyze issues faced by information system professionals, including security, ethical, and privacy problems. (IFSM 201)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
	Use the internet effectively to locate appropriate scholarly articles and other resources for a history course.*	Perform searches for primary and secondary resources both online and offline. (HIST 309)	Research Paper
INFO	Address recognized research needs by retrieving, evaluating, and using information appropriately.+	Select relevant print and electronic sources to answer research questions. (LIBS 150)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
	Use primary and secondary sources from libraries, archives, public collections, the internet, and oral interviews to interpret historical events.*	Ascertain the reliability of source materials. (HIST 309)	Research Paper
QUAN	Apply mathematical and numerical reasoning skills.+	Solve linear, quadratic, higher-order polynomial, fractional, radical, exponential, logarithmic, and absolute value equations and inequalities. (MATH 107)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
		Develop problem solving skills. (MATH 105 or MATH 106)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
	Trace demographic trends, economic models, and specific era constructs to facilitate interpretation of social and political order.*	Trace the historical roots of contemporary culture, art and philosophy as agents of social change. (HIST 142)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
THIN	Comprehend historical interpretations of data.*	Discuss the historical relevance of popular culture, art, and philosophy as agents of social change. (HIST 142)	Exam (Course/Chapter)

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CURRICULAR ALIGNMENT Baccalaureate Degree Program in History			
CORE LEARNING AREA	PROGRAM OUTCOMES	LEARNING OBJECTIVE(S) AND CORRELATING COURSEWORK	METHOD(S) OF ASSESSMENT
SCIE	Identify key concepts and principles of natural sciences.+	Recognize the differences and the interrelationships among physics, chemistry, the earth sciences, and astronomy. (NSCI 100)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
		Explain the significance of DNA in determining the composition, characteristics, reproduction, and behavior of an organism. (BIOL 101)	Exam (Course/Chapter)
	Explain the role of modern scientific discoveries on historical events.*	Examine the impact of technology on the workplace, home, and society. (HIST 142)	Exam (Course/Chapter)

+ Denotes a program outcome specific to core skills, knowledge, and values gained from completion of the general education requirements. This program outcome is common across all UMUC baccalaureate degree programs.

* Denotes a program outcome specific to core skills, knowledge, and values gained from completion of requirements in the baccalaureate degree program. This program outcome is unique to each UMUC baccalaureate degree program.