



History

About this Major

Studying history at VCSU is both enriching and challenging. Our History curriculum offers broad experience in U.S., European, World history, as well as opportunities to study the history of ethnic and social groups and specialized courses such as Environmental history. The study of history sharpens a student's own sense of values, provides a context for present decision-making, and cultivates a more compassionate attitude toward peoples whose way of life may be different from yours. Theory and techniques are also important elements to the degree.

Career Opportunities



History is a non-teaching degree designed to place the history student in a variety of careers including:

- Law
- Government service
- Archivist
- Consultant
- Foreign services officer
- Intelligence agent
- Researcher

This major also prepares students for advanced and specialized graduate study. Faculty will work with students to plan a course of study that meets their needs and interests.

As a History major, students will learn many skills employers seek including:

- Analyzing data
- Logic
- Critical thinking

- Researching
- Precise writing.

To assist students, we encourage them to seek an internship to utilize the skills acquired in the classroom. The Barnes County Historical Museum gives students opportunities for practical, hands-on experience, archives for research, and community involvement. Both behavioral science and business internships are available for students who lack previous employment experience. Our program will offer you a variety of non-traditional learning opportunities.

Explore More History Careers

- www.ssrc.org/ (<http://www.ssrc.org/>)
- [www.careers.state.gov](https://careers.state.gov/) (<https://careers.state.gov/>)
- www.historians.org (<http://www.historians.org/>)
- www.archivists.org (<http://www.archivists.org/>)

Meet a Student



"My time at VCSU was filled with a lot of exciting experiences. I was able to explore my passion in history by being given an opportunity to present a paper on Native American Education. I also was able to participate in several clubs, one being History Club/Phi Alpha Theta. Valley City gave me multiple opportunities to pursue my passion to become a teacher. VCSU did not only help me grow in my education, I was also able to grow as a person."
- Kylie Johnson '20, West Fargo, ND



Get Involved in your Major



VCSU has an active Phi Alpha Theta/History Club, allowing students to develop leadership skills and promote history across campus. Students have opportunities to present their research at the Dakota History Conference and the Northern Great Plains History Conference, in regional, professional history settings. The Social Science Department also periodically organizes overseas travel opportunities for VCSU students.

Contact Information

Department Chair

Dr. Emily Fenster, emily.fenster@vcsu.edu, (701) 845-7313

Faculty Contact

Dr. Steven King, steven.king@vcsu.edu, (701) 845-7108

Department Location

McFarland Hall 315, (701) 845-7301

Schedule your visit today!

<http://visit.vcsu.edu/>, (701) 845-7101 or (800) 532-8641

Plan of Study

First Year

| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
|-------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| CIS 170 (Gen Ed) | 3 | Cultural Block, Related Field/ Minor | 3 |
| COMM 212 (Gen Ed) | 3 | ENGL 120 (Gen Ed) | 3 |
| ENGL 110 (Gen Ed) | 3 | HIST 267 (Gen Ed) | 3 |
| GEOG 111 (Gen Ed) | 3 | HPER 100 (Gen Ed) | 2 |
| MATH 210 (Gen Ed) | 3 | Lab Science (Gen Ed) | 4 |
| UNIV 150 | 1 | | |
| | 16 | | 15 |

Second Year

| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Cultural Block, Related Field/ Minor | 3 | Cultural Block, Related Field/ Minor | 3 |
| HIST 103 | 3 | HIST 104 | 3 |
| Lab Science (Gen Ed) | 4 | HIST 320 | 3 |
| Literacies (Gen Ed) | 3 | HIST 330 | 3 |
| PSYC 111 (Gen Ed) | 3 | PSYC 250 | 3 |
| | 16 | | 15 |

Third Year

| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Art and Music (Gen Ed) | 3 | Cultural Block, Related Field/ Minor | 3 |
| Cultural Block, Related Field/ Minor | 3 | Cultural Block, Related Field/ Minor | 3 |
| Cultural Block, Related Field/ Minor | 3 | GEOG 362 | 3 |
| HIST 211 | 3 | HIST 212 | 3 |
| HIST 454 | 3 | HIST 220 | 3 |
| | 15 | | 15 |

Fourth Year

| Fall | Credits | Spring | Credits |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Cultural Block, Related Field/ Minor | 3 | Cultural Block, Related Field/ Minor | 3 |
| HIST 270 | 3 | Cultural Block, Related Field/ Minor | 3 |
| HIST 400 | 3 | Cultural Block, Related Field/ Minor | 3 |
| HIST 470 | 3 | HIST 491 | 1 |
| | | HIST 497 | 3 |
| | | SOC 300 | 3 |
| | 12 | | 16 |

Total Credits 120

Please note: This plan is intended for general information only. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with their academic advisor each semester before registration.



Learning Outcomes

1. Content: Students will accumulate knowledge and understanding of the necessary material to establish historical context and causality. Content will be demonstrated by thesis driven, evidence based responses to historical scenarios.
2. Social theory: Students will develop an understanding of the philosophies, methodologies, and theories that define, give meaning to, and shape scholarly understanding of the social sciences. Social theory will be demonstrated through thesis driven research that applies relevant theories or methodologies to historical writing.
3. Application: Students will demonstrate their content knowledge and understanding of social theory and use them in a manner that illustrates that they can apply it in real world experiences.