History

Assessment Plan for the PhD Program

Program Learning Outcomes
The Ph.D. program in History will produce graduates who are highly qualified professional historians with exceptionally strong research and teaching skills, a breadth of historical knowledge, and an understanding of the variety of methods and approaches that historians employ.

Graduates will:

1. Have comprehensive knowledge of the factual information, theoretical principles, and methodological approaches in three chosen fields of study: a research field, a complementary field, and a teaching field. They will be able to apply knowledge in these three fields to address complex historical and historiographic problems.

   **Assessment Methods:** Assignments and papers in reading seminars, research seminars, directed studies courses, and lecture courses in their three chosen fields; Sixth-Quarter Review portfolio; comprehensive examinations in their research and complementary fields.

2. Be able to (1) critically read, understand, and evaluate scholarly literature; (2) integrate and synthesize ideas; (3) identify and evaluate novel and relevant research questions; (4) develop appropriate and effective research strategies; (5) communicate clearly and effectively.

   **Assessment Methods:** Sixth-Quarter Review portfolio, including two research papers; comprehensive examinations in their research and complementary fields; Qualifying Examination; dissertation proposal.

3. Be able to (1) apply appropriate, responsible, and ethical research methods; (2) evaluate, analyze, and interpret evidence; (3) develop and sustain evidence-based arguments; (4) convey findings clearly and effectively; (5) identify broader implications of findings; (6) produce publishable results.

   **Assessment Methods:** two research papers; annual progress reports; seminar presentations; dissertation.

4. Demonstrate reading proficiency in at least one language other than English. Graduates in some research fields will demonstrate a higher level of proficiency and/or proficiency in additional languages, or will demonstrate proficiency in advanced quantitative methods.

   **Assessment Methods:** language exam(s) or quantitative paper, as appropriate to field and student choice.
5. Be able to produce acceptable results within reasonable timeframes.

   **Assessment Methods:** Advancement to candidacy within 1 year of normative time; degree conferral within 1-2 years of departmental normative time, depending on research field.

6. Be effective teachers, if their future career goals include teaching.

   **Assessment Methods:** Performance in teaching practicum course (HIST 302); student teaching evaluations.

7. Be capable professionals.

   **Assessment Methods:** Assignments in professionalization course (HIST 301), conference presentations, fellowship and grant awards, publications, reviewer activities, job placement.

8. Be satisfied graduates.

   **Assessment Method:** Exit interview.
Assessment Plan for the MA Program (Thesis)

Program Learning Outcomes

The M.A. program in History will produce graduates who have a strong background for careers in professions such as teaching, government and journalism and/or who are prepared to proceed to a Ph.D. program in history.

Graduates will:

1. Have comprehensive knowledge of the factual information, theoretical principles, and methodological approaches in their chosen field of specialization and a breadth of knowledge of other historical fields. They will be able to apply knowledge in these fields to address complex historical and historiographic problems.

   **Assessment Methods:** Assignments and papers in reading seminars, a research seminar, directed studies courses, and lecture courses; comprehensive examination in their field of specialization.

2. Be able to (1) critically read, understand, and evaluate scholarly literature; (2) integrate and synthesize ideas; (3) identify and evaluate novel and relevant research questions; (4) develop appropriate and effective research strategies; (5) communicate clearly and effectively.

   **Assessment Methods:** research paper; M.A. thesis; comprehensive examination in their field of specialization.

3. Be able to (1) apply appropriate, responsible, and ethical research methods; (2) evaluate, analyze, and interpret evidence; (3) develop and sustain evidence-based arguments; (4) convey findings clearly and effectively; (5) identify broader implications of findings; (6) produce publishable results.

   **Assessment Methods:** research paper; Annual progress reports; M.A. thesis

4. Demonstrate reading proficiency in at least one language other than English. Graduates in some research fields will demonstrate a higher level of proficiency and/or proficiency in additional languages, or will demonstrate proficiency in advanced quantitative methods.

   **Assessment Methods:** language exam(s) or quantitative paper, as appropriate to field and student choice.

5. Be able to produce acceptable results within reasonable timeframes.

   **Assessment Methods:** degree conferral or advancement to Ph.D. program within 1 year of normative time.
6. Be capable professionals.

**Assessment Methods:** Assignments in professionalization course (HIST 301), conference presentations, fellowship and grant awards, publications, job placement.

7. Be satisfied graduates.

**Assessment Method:** Exit interview.
Assessment Plan for the MA Program (Portfolio)

Program Learning Outcomes
The M.A. program in History will produce graduates who have a strong background for careers in professions such as teaching, government and journalism and/or who are prepared to proceed to a Ph.D. program in history.

Graduates will:

1. Have comprehensive knowledge of the factual information, theoretical principles, and methodological approaches in their chosen field of specialization and a breadth of knowledge of other historical fields. They will be able to apply knowledge in these fields to address complex historical and historiographic problems.

   **Assessment Methods:** Assignments and papers in reading seminars, a research seminar, directed studies courses, and lecture courses; comprehensive examination in their field of specialization.

2. Be able to (1) critically read, understand, and evaluate scholarly literature; (2) integrate and synthesize ideas; (3) identify and evaluate novel and relevant research questions; (4) develop appropriate and effective research strategies; (5) communicate clearly and effectively.

   **Assessment Methods:** portfolio, including research paper; comprehensive examination in their field of specialization.

3. Be able to (1) apply appropriate, responsible, and ethical research methods; (2) evaluate, analyze, and interpret evidence; (3) develop and sustain evidence-based arguments; (4) convey findings clearly and effectively; (5) identify broader implications of findings.

   **Assessment Methods:** portfolio, including research paper; annual progress report

4. Demonstrate reading proficiency in at least one language other than English. Graduates in some research fields will demonstrate a higher level of proficiency and/or proficiency in additional languages, or will demonstrate proficiency in advanced quantitative methods.

   **Assessment Methods:** language exam(s) or quantitative paper, as appropriate to field and student choice.

5. Be able to produce acceptable results within reasonable timeframes.

   **Assessment Methods:** degree conferral or advancement to Ph.D. program within 1 year of normative time.
6. Be capable professionals.

   **Assessment Methods:** Assignments in professionalization course (HIST 301), conference presentations, fellowship and grant awards, publications, job placement.

7. Be satisfied graduates.

   **Assessment Method:** Exit interview.
Assessment Plan for the Public History MA Program

Program Learning Outcomes
The M.A. program in Public History will produce graduates who intend to pursue careers in academic settings and in a variety of nonprofit, public service, community based, and private-sector organizations. Generally, the mission of public historians is to work with multiple publics to document and interpret the past for the present and to preserve it for the future.

Graduates will:

1. Have comprehensive knowledge of the factual information, theoretical principles, and methodological approaches in the field of public history. They will be able to apply knowledge in this field to address complex historiographic problems and issues that relate to addressing multiple publics.

   **Assessment Methods:** Assignments and papers in reading seminars, a research seminar, at least one public history seminar and practicum (HIST 260-260L, HIST 262-262L, or HIST 263-263L), directed studies courses, and lecture courses; comprehensive examinations in their chosen historical fields.

2. Be able to (1) critically read, understand, and evaluate scholarly literature; (2) integrate and synthesize ideas; (3) identify and evaluate novel and relevant research questions; (4) develop appropriate and effective research strategies; (5) combine traditional academic sources, professional literature, and field materials to address a specific historical problem in a concrete public history setting; (6) communicate clearly and effectively.

   **Assessment Methods:** portfolio, including research paper and documentation from practicum; field report; comprehensive examinations in the field of public history.

3. Be able to (1) apply appropriate, responsible, and ethical professional methods; (2) evaluate, analyze, and interpret evidence; (3) develop and sustain evidence-based arguments; (4) convey findings clearly and effectively; (5) identify broader implications of findings; (6) relate academic research problems to public history settings; (7) produce publishable results.

   **Assessment Methods:** field report; annual progress reports

4. Be able to produce acceptable results within reasonable timeframes.

   **Assessment Methods:** degree conferral or advancement to Ph.D. program within 1 year of normative time.

5. Be capable professionals.

   **Assessment Methods:** Assignments in practicum (HIST260L, HIST262L, HIST263L) or other professionalization course (HIST 402), internship,
conference presentations, fellowship and grant awards, publications, job placement.


   **Assessment Method:** Exit interview.