

History (BA)

FREEDOM IS A LIGHT
FOR WHICH MANY MEN HAVE DIED IN DARKNESS

IN UNMARKED GRAVES WITHIN
THIS SQUARE LIE THOUSANDS
OF UNKNOWN SOLDIERS OF
WASHINGTON'S ARMY WHO DIED
OF WOUNDS AND SICKNESS DURING
THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR



THE INDEPENDENCE AND LIBERTY
YOU POSSESS ARE THE WORK OF
JOINT COUNCILS AND JOINT
EFFORTS-OF COMMON DANGERS,
SUFFERINGS AND SUCCESS.
WASHINGTON'S FAREWELL ADDRESS SEPT. 17, 1796

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

How have power and colonialism redrawn maps and driven modernity? How has science evolved over time and across societies? Through coursework and experiential learning, Drexel University's Department of History leads students in the exploration of lands, cultures and technologies far beyond the world of today. Students discover and evaluate evidence from the past in order to address the complexities of the modern economy and modern global challenges by focusing on race, identity and ethnicity.

Working closely with faculty, History students acquire research skills in applied historical practice, including digital humanities, oral history, international travel and research, language proficiency, and public and policy-focused history, in addition to traditional archival skills and historiography.

All of our concentrations reserve enough free electives for students to take a minor. We recommend a foreign language, economics, political science or a natural science such as biology or chemistry. All of these options make graduates highly marketable.

CONCENTRATIONS

HISTORY OF SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Focusing on a vast range of social and cultural conditions over time. Issues of race, gender, class, sexuality, (dis)ability and other identities come into sharper focus as students study histories of the life sciences or bioengineering. Ideas about national identity or geopolitics can be investigated through histories of military or energy technologies; understandings of global cultural priorities regarding health, sustainability and environmental disaster emerge through written accounts of industry or energy infrastructures.

GLOBAL HISTORY

Global History allows students to follow things, ideas and people on the move and delve into the spaces enabling such moves. For example, students can explore how ostrich feathers illustrate stories of Jewish peoples' movement (typically involuntary) from their homeland to South Africa, Palestine and Europe; or how El Niño weather patterns bring together apparently unrelated rebellions in Brazil, India and China.



ACCELERATED BA/JD IN HISTORY AND LAW

For qualified students, we offer a BA-to-JD admission process that allows students to matriculate into the Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law at the start of their senior year. To be considered for this program, students must apply and be accepted as prospective freshmen during the admission process to Drexel.



INNOVATIVE CURRICULUM

Notable courses in this department include:

- History of the Holocaust
- The History of Philadelphia
- Disabilities in History
- Silences in African History
- American Insurrection
- The Ethics of Display and the Mutter Museum
- Hands on History: Collections
- Antisemitism in America
- Witches, Demons, and Witch-hunters in European History

BEYOND THE CLASSROOM

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE

We bring courses to life through Intensive Courses Abroad, which take students out of the classroom and to the places and people we study. Our students have traveled to England, France and Belgium for a course on World War I; São Paulo for a course on the history of commodities; and Milan for a course on the World's Fairs. These courses fit easily into students' breaks between terms and can also serve as a springboard for traditional, full-quarter study-abroad experiences.

DREXEL CO-OP

Whether working with academic researchers, law firms or nonprofit organizations, co-operative education options prepare history students to pursue advanced education and careers across wide-ranging areas. Previous co-op placements include:

THE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF PENNSYLVANIA
THE SCIENCE HISTORY INSTITUTE
THE ACADEMY OF NATURAL SCIENCES
AND MORE!

LEARN MORE
ABOUT THE
PROGRAM



CONTACT US

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