PROGRAM PROFILE
The Department of History and Art History offers master's and doctoral degrees in history. With late afternoon and evening courses, both degree programs accommodate the needs of full- and part-time students. The master's program is designed to help students achieve a greater understanding of the discipline and master historical methods. The doctoral program prepares students for careers in college teaching, digital media, publishing, educational administration, public history, and historical research. Students in both programs gain expertise in conventional historical methods as well as in the application of web-based and other digital technologies to the field of history.

MASTER’S DEGREE
Students in the master's degree program select an area of specialization in American history, European history, or world history and choose one of four concentrations.

Predoctoral history
This concentration is for students planning to pursue the doctorate.

Applied history
This concentration is for students seeking expertise or further training in the applied history fields of archival management, museum studies, historic preservation, historical editing, or new media.

Enrichment
This concentration is for students seeking an intellectual challenge, self-fulfillment, or professional credentials.

Teaching
This concentration is for students who want to teach in elementary or secondary schools. Licensure requires additional courses in the College of Education and Human Development.

DOCTORAL DEGREE
Programs of study for students in the doctoral program are individually designed in accord with their chosen field of study (e.g. U.S. history, European history, world history) and career goals. Students can focus their studies in one of four areas.

College/university teaching
This focus is for students seeking a career in teaching or research at college or university level.

New media and information technology
This focus is for students seeking a career in new media or in a university history department where they would serve as the department’s lead person in new media and information technology.

Public and applied history
This focus is for students seeking careers in museums or archives, in the federal government, in preservation or editing.

Professional development
This focus is for students who have already launched a career and want a doctoral degree to further career goals or fulfill personal intellectual goals.

INTERNSHIPS
Internships offer students a new and more concrete dimension to their historical studies, one that goes beyond the classroom. An opportunity to see professionals practicing history can be an invaluable experience. Graduate students in history have interned at some of the most prestigious places in the country, including:

- The Library of Congress
- The National Museum of American History
- The Holocaust Museum
- The National Archives
- The White House Historical Association
- Arlington National Cemetery
JOURNAL OF SOCIAL HISTORY

The Journal of Social History was founded in 1967. Today, it is one of the most often-cited historical journals in the United States. The Journal is published quarterly by the George Mason University Press.

CENTER FOR HISTORY AND NEW MEDIA

Many history graduate students have the opportunity to work at the Center for History and New Media (CHNM) as graduate research assistants. Since 1994, the center has used digital media and computer technology to democratize history—to incorporate multiple voices, reach diverse audiences, and encourage popular participation in presenting and preserving the past. CHNM uses digital media and technology to preserve and present history online, transform scholarship across the humanities, and advance historical education and understanding.

Each year CHNM’s many project websites receive over 16 million visitors, and over a million people rely on its digital tools to teach, learn, and conduct research.

CHNM’s work has been recognized with major awards and grants from the American Historical Association, the National Humanities Center, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Department of Education, the Library of Congress, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, the American Council of Learned Societies, and the Mellon, Sloan, Hewlett, Rockefeller, Gould, Delmas, and Kellogg foundations. Visit CHNM at chnm.gmu.edu.

FACULTY

The Department of History and Art History features a distinguished faculty, including winners of the Pulitzer Prize, the Guggenheim award, and fellowships from a variety of prestigious institutions such as the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council for Learned Societies, the Social Science Research Council, and the Fulbright Fellowship program.

In recent years the history program has expanded to 35 tenure-line faculty members who serve as advisors for doctoral students. While the faculty cover a wide range of research and teaching specialties, they cluster in a number of areas of strength including digital history, early modern French history, Russian history, women’s and gender history, U.S. military history, U.S. cultural history, early American history, and post-1945 U.S. history. A more detailed listing of program faculty and their research and teaching interests can be found on the department website. Prospective applicants to the doctoral program are urged to contact faculty in their proposed area of study to discuss research interests prior to the submission of their application.

WHY HISTORY AT GEORGE MASON?

History students benefit from the region’s rich variety of historical archives such as the Library of Congress and the many historical sites and monuments in close proximity to the university. In addition, the Northern Virginia area, a rapidly expanding information technology corridor, is an ideal spot for students interested in the fusion of history and new media technologies.

Named the #1 national university to watch by U.S. News & World Report, George Mason University is an innovative, entrepreneurial institution with global distinction in a range of academic fields. Located in the heart of Northern Virginia’s technology corridor near Washington, D.C., Mason prepares its students to succeed in the work force and meet the needs of the region and the world.

See history.gmu.edu for program requirements and courses.

See chss.gmu.edu/howtoapply for complete details on the application process.