



History

MAJOR AND MINOR

Ripon College history students move beyond the “timeline” approach to the past. They don’t just learn what happened — they analyze why events occurred, arrive at their own view of events, and discover the implications historical events have for understanding enduring human issues. They learn to communicate complex ideas both orally and in written form and to understand cultures and societies other than their own.

Ripon courses examine the complete scope of history and delve into every time frame and era. Students learn to analyze evidentiary material in a disciplined and methodical manner, synthesize information gained from such analyses into larger structures of knowledge, understand various interpretations and conceptualizations of historical development and fit their own synthetic structures into such interpretations, and communicate complex ideas.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

- Students examine a wide range of historical time periods and places, from ancient and medieval Europe to the colonial Americas, to modern Mexico, Great Britain, Israel-Palestine, Germany and the United States.
- Through the Department of Educational Studies, certification in history and broadfield social studies is available in early adolescence/adolescence (grades 6-12).
- Students have opportunities to research subjects in-depth and make presentations at College events, such as the annual Founders’ Day, and at professional seminars and symposiums. Three recent history majors published a book about the history of the city of Ripon, which is available on Amazon.com.
- Advanced historical research can be pursued at the Newberry Library in Chicago.
- Ripon faculty members regularly lead Liberal Arts In Focus travel experiences.

FACULTY

- **REBECCA BERENS MATZKE**, associate professor of history, associate dean for faculty development
- **BRIAN BOCKELMAN**, associate professor of history, chair of the Department of History
- **SARAH FROHARDT-LANE**, assistant professor of history, director of the Environmental Studies program
- **BARBARA MCGOWAN**, professor of history, Delmar D. Wensink Professor of Political Economy
- **DIANE MOCKRIDGE**, professor of history

STUDENT HIGHLIGHT

Mark Krause '19 (pictured above) of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin, worked alongside Professor of Classical Studies Eddie Lowry during a summer research project on Prudentius, a fourth-century Spanish Christian poet who published his works in Latin. Krause, a history and self-designed classical studies major, presented research about Prudentius at the Wisconsin Association for Language Teaching conference. He also has held an internship at the Harvard Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington, D.C., in preparation for graduate school.

CAREER PATHWAYS

Some Ripon history graduates choose careers in academia: they have entered Ph.D. programs at such universities as Princeton, Wake Forest and Penn State. Others go into library, archival or museum work: a recent graduate now works for the National Archives and Records Administration in Washington, D.C. Many Ripon history majors share their love of history as high school teachers. Others have taken positions as archaeologists, lawyers and bank managers, and with insurance companies, multinational corporations, governmental agencies and small businesses.



HISTORY

AREAS OF STUDY

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

- **REQUIREMENTS FOR A MAJOR IN HISTORY:** 32 credits in history. At least 12 credits from courses numbered in the 300s; HIS 295; and senior seminar (HIS 590). (HIS 401 does not count toward the major.) HIS 101 is strongly recommended as an introduction to the major. A sophomore or junior beginning a history major should start with any 200-level course.
- **REQUIREMENTS FOR A MINOR IN HISTORY:** 22 credits in history. At least eight credits from courses numbered in the 300s. HIS 101 is strongly recommended as an introduction to the minor. A sophomore or junior beginning a history minor should start with any 200-level course.
- **Requirements for students majoring in history and seeking teaching licensure in history for middle childhood through early or early adolescence through adolescence level (teaching major in history):** 32 credits in history. At least 12 credits from

courses numbered in the 300s; HIS 299; and senior seminar (HIS 590) are required. Among courses counting toward the history major, the following are required: HIS 281, 282 and 590. In addition, students must take any two of the following courses: HIS 240, 241, 242, 262, 263 or 264. (Also required for licensure are ENV 120 and HIS 401; but those do not count toward the 32 credits needed for a history major.)

- **Requirements for students minoring in History and seeking teaching licensure in history for middle childhood through early adolescence through adolescence level (teaching minor in history):** 24 credit hours including HIS 281 or 282 and any one of the following: HIS 240, 241, 242, 262, 263 or 264; at least eight credits from courses numbering in the 300s. (HIS 101 is recommended but not required.) (ENV 120 and HIS 401 also are required but do not count toward the 24 credits for the minor.)

SAMPLE 8-SEMESTER CLASS SCHEDULE

	FALL SEMESTER				SPRING SEMESTER			
	COURSE 1	COURSE 2	COURSE 3	COURSE 4	COURSE 1	COURSE 2	COURSE 3	COURSE 4
FIRST YEAR	Catalyst 110	HIS 101	Your Choice	Your Choice	Catalyst 120	HIS 200-level course	Your Choice	Your Choice
SECOND YEAR	Catalyst 210	HIS 200-level course	Your Choice	Your Choice	Catalyst 220	HIS 300-level course	Your Choice	Your Choice
THIRD YEAR	HIS 300-level course	Your Choice	Your Choice	Your Choice	Applied Innovation Seminar	HIS 295	Your Choice	Your Choice
FOURTH YEAR	HIS 300-level course	Your Choice	Your Choice	Your Choice	HIS 295	Your Choice	Your Choice	Your Choice

This is only a sample for informational purposes. Each student is encouraged to work closely with their academic advisor to tailor a unique schedule that best fits their individualized needs.