

## Master of Arts in Liberal Studies: History Concentration

33 hours; Contact person: [Dr. Tamara Hunt](#)

Delivery: Online

[Website](#)

### Required core courses (12 hours)

#### LBST 501: Information Literacy and Research

Credits: 3

Drawing on sources from various disciplinary approaches, students will learn information literacy skills that are the basis for graduate-level research. Topics include formulating research questions, identifying appropriate research resources, utilizing effective search strategies in multiple media, assessing reliability and credibility of information sources, applying organizational theories to knowledge to effectively synthesize information, and presenting conclusions professionally. **Prerequisite:** Admission to Graduate Studies.

#### LBST 512: Advanced Academic Writing

Credits: 3

An intensive course in which students will create sophisticated work that develops and expresses ideas focused on an academic audience to increase its knowledge, foster understanding, or promote a change in its attitudes. This course focuses on the fundamentals of effective writing at advanced levels. Class readings highlight the key features of persuasive writing, while class assignments allow students to show their mastery of these skills. Course topic and content will vary. Meets the Effective Communications requirement in the MALS program. **Prerequisite:** Admission to Graduate Studies.

#### LBST 521: Cultural Literacy

Credits: 3

An accelerated, intensive study that teaches students to identify and interpret the complex elements important to their own and other cultures (e.g. history, values, politics, communication styles, economy, or beliefs and practices), recognize the intellectual and emotional dimensions of more than one worldview, and communicate information that reflects understanding of multiple cultural and/or ideological perspectives. Course topic and content will vary. Meets the Cultural Knowledge requirement for the MALS degree. **Prerequisite:** Admission to Graduate Studies.

#### LBST 522: Data Literacy

Credits: 3

Students learn the importance of data literacy in modern life, and how to locate, assess, analyze, and apply data in a variety of contexts and formats; emphasis on data visualizations for effectively and accurately communicating information. **Prerequisite:** Admission to Graduate Studies.

### Required HIST courses (6 hours):

- HIST 501: History and Historians OR HIST 589: Teaching Seminar (3 credit hours)
- HIST 650: Research Seminar (3 credit hours)

### Electives (9 or 12 hours):

- 12 hours of graduate-level courses, minimum of 9 hours with HIST prefix if Portfolio Capstone is chosen
- 9 hours of graduate-level courses, minimum of 6 hours of electives with HIST prefix if Thesis/Project Capstone is chosen

### Capstone (3 or 6 hours):

- HIST 695: Capstone Portfolio (3 hours) OR
- HIST 697: Capstone Thesis/Project I (3 hours) AND HIST 698: Capstone Thesis/Project II (3 hours)

## Graduate History Courses

\*At least one HIST course is taught each semester & each summer session; \*Specific courses below are irregularly offered; courses reflect existing faculty expertise

**HIST 500: Special Studies in History.** Historical studies offered in conjunction with special activities and events such as seminars, conferences, fieldwork, and research. 1 to 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies

**HIST 501: History and Historians.** Introduces graduate students to trends in modern historiography and is designed to make students aware of the dynamic nature of scholarship within (and outside) the discipline. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies

**HIST 510: Topics in World History.** An intensive examination of a theme or topic in world history. Course will require substantial reading and discussion as well as in-depth analysis of historical approaches to the given topic. May be repeated with different topic. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies.

• Examples of course topics: The Atlantic World, Slavery in the Global South, Modern Africa

**HIST 519: Communal Societies in America.** A study of the principles, practices, historical development, and contributions of communal societies in America from 1663 to the present. Emphasis on Shakers, Harmony Society, Mormons, Owenites, Brook Farm, Oneida, Hutterities, Theosophists, and recent communitarians. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies.

**HIST 520: Topics in European History.** An intensive examination of a theme or topic in European history. Course will require substantial reading and discussion as well as in-depth analysis of historical approaches to the given topic. May be repeated with different topic. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies. • Examples of course topics: Europe in the Enlightenment, Nineteenth-century Europe, Revolutions

**HIST 530: Topics in American History.** An intensive examination of a theme or topic in American history. Course will require substantial reading and discussion as well as in-depth analysis of historical approaches to the given topic. May be repeated with different topic. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies. • Examples of course topics: Press & Politics in 19th-Century America, Populism and Progressivism, The Civil Rights Movement, The Vietnam War

**HIST 539: History of Indiana.** A survey of the history of Indiana from early to modern times. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies.

**HIST 589: Graduate Teaching Seminar.** Students will engage with emerging theories on approaches to teaching historical thinking and investigate practical examples employed by experienced teachers while focusing on the selected course topic. Students will participate in rigorous dialogue with their classmates to unpack these theories and practices and then apply what they have learned in a Unit Plan that can be implemented into an existing course. 3 credit hours. Repeatable once with topic change. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies. • Example of course topic: Teaching Race, Gender, and Civil Rights

**HIST 599: Graduate Seminar in History.** A graduate research course in selected fields of History. Repeatable with topic change. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies. • Example of course topics: World War I, Social History of Murder, Social History of Ghosts, The Black Death

**HIST 604: The American West.** Participants in this course will study how Americans view and interpret their nation's history with particular attention to the American West. Topics will include the frontier experience, regionalism, and cultural diversity. Writings, films, photographs, music, and art will be basic course materials. Interpretations of major historians will be considered. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies.

**HIST 620: New Directions in History (currently pending approval).** This course focuses specific issues in the ever-changing theory and practice of history. This course is repeatable with topic change. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies. • Examples of course topics: Digital media's impact on the production and consumption of history; reinterpreting the past events in light of current issues; using alternative sources (e.g. music, material culture) to interpret the past.

**HIST 650: Research Seminar.** A research-intensive seminar focused on specific primary source materials or archival collections; students will write extended original research papers based on the targeted sources or collections. Repeatable once with topic change. 3 credit hours. Prerequisite: Admission to Graduate Studies.

• Example of course topics: The New Harmony Gazette and Robert Owen's Social Experiment; American Folklore in WPA Transcripts and Recordings

**HIST 695: Capstone Portfolio.** Students who do not complete a Thesis/project may instead take an additional three hours of history electives and create a portfolio of four significant history papers/projects completed during graduate studies; these will be revised as needed under the portfolio director. Students will write an analytical essay that assesses the student's intellectual development as reflected in the selected papers/projects. To successfully complete the course, the portfolio must be evaluated and approved by a committee of graduate faculty. The review will include an oral interview with the student. Final grade recorded as satisfactory or unsatisfactory only. Prerequisites: 27 hours of completed graduate coursework, permission of program director and instructor.

**HIST 697: Capstone Thesis I:** This course is the first of a two-semester sequence for completing a capstone project or thesis. In this semester, the student will identify a historical topic, conduct in-depth research to identify and assess appropriate primary and scholarly sources, and create a proposal and outline that must be approved by a committee of graduate faculty. Grade is S or U only. 3 credit hours. Prerequisites: HIST 650 and a minimum of 9 additional hours of graduate-level HIST courses, 27 total hours of graduate coursework completed or permission of graduate director.

**HIST 698: Capstone Thesis II:** This course is the second in the two-semester sequence for a capstone history thesis or project. In this semester, the student will complete the approved thesis or project proposed in HIST 697. The thesis must be evaluated and approved by a committee of graduate faculty. This review will include an oral interview with the student. Final grade is S or U only. 3 credit hours. Prerequisites: Successful completion of HIST 697