Historical Studies (B.A.)

Students who complete the major in Historical Studies may design distinctive degree programs by selecting among courses in historical and philosophical methods and approaches, traditional historical surveys, and specific historical and philosophical topics. Students are encouraged to focus their work in Historical Studies on a particular time or place, a significant theme, topic, or problem, or an approach to learning such as literature, the arts, ideas, science and technology, or the social sciences. Students may also be certified to teach history and/or social studies and/or English.

Since the following catalog course descriptions are very general, students are urged to consult the detailed course descriptions available in the Arts and Humanities office each semester. Courses in Historical Studies are open to all students in the university.

Bachelor of Arts in Historical Studies Degree Requirements (120 hours)

I. Core Curriculum Requirements1: 42 hours

A. Communication (6 hours)
   3 hours Communication (RHET 1302)
   3 hours Communication Elective
B. Social and Behavioral Sciences (15 hours)
   6 hours Government (GOVT 2305 and 2306)
   6 hours History (HST 1301 and 2301)
   3 hours Social and Behavioral Science Elective
C. Humanities and Fine Arts (6 hours)
   3 hours Fine Arts (AP 1301)
   3 hours Humanities (A&H 1301)
D. Mathematics and Quantitative Reasoning (6 hours)
   3 hours College Math (recommended MATH 1300 or 1314)
   3 hours Quantitative Mathematics (STAT 1342)
E. Science (9 hours including at least one course with a substantial laboratory component)

1Curriculum Requirements can be fulfilled by other approved courses from accredited institutions of higher education. The courses listed in parentheses are recommended as the most efficient way to satisfy both Core Curriculum and Major Requirements at U.T. Dallas.

II. Major Requirements: 42 hours

Major Core Courses (6 hours)
   A&H 3300 Reading and Writing Texts2
   HST 3301 Historical Inquiry
Major Distribution and Elective Courses (24 hours)
   3 hours of upper-division courses from each of the following groups:
      European Historical Studies
      Asian, African, and Latin American Historical Studies
      Studies in Philosophy and Intellectual History
      Historical Studies with content before 1800
      12 hours of upper-division Historical Studies electives
Major-Related Courses (12 hours)
   Students may select any combination of upper-division Art and Performance and/or Literary Studies courses.

2A required Major course that also fulfills a Core Curriculum requirement. If course is counted in the Core Curriculum, the student takes an additional 3 hours of elective credit.
III. Elective Requirements: 36 hours

Advanced Electives (6 hours)
Students are required to take at least six hours of advanced electives outside their major field of study. These must be either upper-division classes or lower-division courses that have prerequisites.

Free Electives (30 hours)
Both upper- and lower-division courses may be used as electives, but students must complete at least 51 hours of upper-division credit to qualify for graduation.

Specified Course Descriptions:

A&H 1301 (HUMA 1301) Exploration of the Humanities (3 semester hours) An introduction to the concept of cultural tradition through the study of selected works of literature, philosophy, music, and visual art. Emphasis on the relations among various forms of cultural expression and developing students' ability to interpret complex artistic works in their historical, cultural, and intellectual contexts. General education core course. (3-0) S

A&H 3300 Reading and Writing Texts (3 semester hours) Focuses on a significant topic or issue through which students are offered an opportunity to gain experience in various analytic and interpretive approaches. Explores connections among artistic and intellectual endeavors appropriate to a range of courses in the Arts and Humanities. This course should be taken within the first 12 hours of enrollment in the program. It is normally offered only during the fall and spring semesters. (3-0) S

AP 1301 (ARTS 1301) Exploration of the Arts (3 semester hours) This course introduces students to the physical and intellectual demands required of the author, the performer, and the visual artist. This introduction includes, but is not limited to, the student's production of a creative project as well as written assessments of art and performance. (3-0) Y

GOVT 2305 (GOVT 2305) Constitutional Foundations and Political Behavior in the U.S. and Texas (3 semester hours) This course examines the evolution and current state of political behavior and public policy making in the U.S. and Texas. Topics discussed will include the constitutions, federalism, intergovernmental relations, voting, elections, political parties, public opinion, and interest groups. (Fulfills one-half of the legislative requirement of 6 hours of American government.) (3-0) S

GOVT 2306 (GOVT 2306) Political Institutions in the U.S. and Texas (3 semester hours) This course explores the primary institutions of U.S. and Texas government. It examines the bureaucracy as well as the executive, legislative, and judicial branches of government at the state and federal level. (Fulfills one-half of the legislative requirement of 6 hours of American government.) (3-0) S

HST 1301 Themes and Ideas in American History (3 semester hours) An introduction to the methods of historical inquiry through the study of selected main themes in American history. A course designed to offer students an understanding of the historical and cultural context of America in the contemporary world. Fulfills one-half of the Texas legislative requirement for six hours in American history. (3-0) S

HST 2301 Issues in American History (3 semester hours) Readings, commentary, and discussion aimed at varying aspects of history and culture. Fulfills one-half of the Texas legislative requirement for six hours in American history. (3-0) Y

HST 3301 Historical Inquiry (3 semester hours) Readings, commentary, and discussion aimed at introducing a variety of texts and sources with an emphasis on the major methods appropriate to their use. This course is normally offered only during the fall and spring semesters. (3-0) S

MATH 1300 Computerized College Algebra with Applications (3 semester hours) This computer-based course is intended for students NOT continuing on to precalculus or calculus. Topics chosen from areas such as operations with fractions, exponents, inequalities, linear equations and graphs, use of algebra to model a variety of problems encountered in ordinary life. Cannot be used to satisfy major requirements for majors in the Schools of Natural Sciences and Mathematics or Management, or degree requirements for the School of Engineering and Computer Science. Credit given for only one of MATH 1300, 1306, or 1314. Prerequisite: High School Algebra II. (3-0) S

MATH 1314 College Algebra (3 semester hours) Topics chosen from areas such as equations and inequalities, rational expressions, exponents, radicals and logarithms, functions, and graphs. Cannot be used to satisfy major requirements for majors in the Schools of Natural Sciences and Mathematics or Management, or degree requirements for the School of Engineering and Computer Science. Credit given for only one of MATH 1300, 1308, or 1314. Prerequisite: High School Algebra II. (3-0) S
RHET 1302 (ENGL 1302) Rhetoric (3 semester hours) The course presents an integrated approach to writing, reading, and critical thinking by developing the grammatical, logical, and rhetorical skills necessary for university writing. All classes work in a computerized learning environment. Students are taught basic computer literacy and submit all work electronically and on paper. (3-0) S

STAT 1342 (MATH 1342) Statistical Decision Making (3 semester hours) Principles of quantitative decision making: summarizing data, modeling uncertainty, loss functions, probability, conditional probability, random variables. Introduction to statistics: estimation, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing, regression. Introduction to statistical packages. Cannot be used to satisfy degree requirements for majors in the School of Engineering and Computer Science, or major requirements in the Schools of Management or Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Prerequisite: MATH 1300, MATH 1304, MATH 1314 or equivalent. (3-0) S