

# History Degree Checklist

Dr. L. Parker, Undergraduate Adviser, hstadvsr@sdsu.edu

Total courses: 4 lower-division and 10 upper-division

**Premajor**  
*Four 100-level courses*

Required:            Choose 2:

100             105    109

101             106    110

## Important Things to Speak with Academic Advising (not Dr. Parker) About

- Your language requirement (3 college semesters or equivalent)
- The maximum number of units allowed in a single department
- The total units, in residence at SDSU, needed to graduate
- The total upper-division units needed to graduate
- Any and all GE questions

**Major**  
*10 Upper-Division courses*

**Writing & Research Courses (2 courses)**

*Prerequisite: a 10 on the WPA or any department's 300W course  
(History 390W\* or RWS 305W - must earn a C to progress)*

**1** 400 (must earn a C to progress)

*\*If you choose the History option (390W), it will not count toward your 10 upper-division courses. The writing course, whether History, RWS, or in another department, is a university requirement.*

**2** Choose 1:  
450 (research paper)  
451 (public history)  
452 (internship)

## Additional Options - NOT REQUIRED (but lots of fun)

- Honors Thesis
  - Independent Study
  - Up to 2 courses from another department, with approval from Adviser (Dr. Parker)
  - Study abroad (and other transfer) courses, with approval from Adviser
- If you take these courses, please meet with Dr. Parker to discuss how they affect your checklist and to fill out paperwork.*

### Upper-Division Courses (8 courses)

Choose 8 courses; then check the appropriate boxes to the right. Make sure the minimum of each column is met.\*\*

Course Number	500 level (5 classes)	Category A - Thematic (2)	Category B - Early (2)	Category C - Modern (2)	Non-Western (1)
<i>Example: Hist 504</i>	X		X		
<b>3</b>					
<b>4</b>					
<b>5</b>					
<b>6</b>					
<b>7</b>					
<b>8</b>					
<b>9</b>					
<b>10</b>					

\*\*The same course can check multiple boxes. These are minimums; some will have more than the minimum requirement.

# New Student FAQ

## Dr. Parker, Undergraduate Adviser

*Can I transfer courses from other institutions?*

Yes. This often happens automatically during matriculation. If it does not, advisers can help.

*Do my AP classes count toward the major?*

Yes. They are considered lower-division courses, and so they satisfy pre-major requirements. The major also consists of 10 upper-division courses.

*Can I use the same classes for the major and for GE requirements?*

Yes. Please see Academic Advising for more information. It is important that you consult with them to make sure you complete sufficient total units, distributed correctly among different departments.

*How does Study Abroad fit into the major?*

There is no requirement to study abroad, but we encourage students to pursue several different options, including programs led by History faculty. Courses taken abroad can satisfy major requirements. (See <http://calabroad.sdsu.edu> for more information)

*If I am a double major, can I use some of the same courses to count toward both majors?*

No. Both majors require a certain number of units, and so your total units taken at SDSU will need to add up to the sum of those departments' requirements. Using the same class twice would leave you short.

*But what if the course is a requirement of both majors (History and International Business, for example)?*

In that instance, please meet with both advisers to discuss how to make up the necessary units.

*How do I move from pre-major to major?*

The impaction criteria are simple: four specific lower-division courses and a reasonable GPA (the catalog has more information). You will be automatically moved into the major once they are met.

*Can History majors become Social Science teachers?*

Yes. History is a great option for secondary school teachers. See our brochure "So You Want to Teach History?" for more information.

*Can History majors graduate in four years?*

Yes. Academic Advising and Dr. Parker can help you map your courses.

*Can I take upper-division courses before I am an upper-classman? While I am a pre-major?*

Yes. Many of the upper-division electives can be taken by lower-classmen or non-majors. The catalog describes course prerequisites if they exist.

### What do transfer students need to do in their first semester?

TAKE THE WPA (Writing Placement Assessment)! Ideally, you took the test over the summer. If not, you must take it your first semester here. More information at Testing Services <http://studentaffairs.sdsu.edu/testofc/>.

- If you receive(d) an 8, you need to take a 300W class. You can take any department's 300W – History's 390W and Rhetoric and Writing Studies' 305W are two good options. You must pass this requirement before continuing onto History 400.
- If you already took the WPA and got an 8, you can take 300W your first Fall and continue onto Hist 400 in the Spring. This timing is preferable.
- If you take the WPA during your first Fall and receive an 8, you will have to take 300W your first Spring at SDSU, followed by Hist 400 and 450/1/2 back-to-back in their second year at SDSU. This timing leaves less room for contingencies, but it is doable.
- If you receive(d) a 10 on the WPA, you can go directly into Hist 400 in the Fall or Spring of your first year at SDSU, followed by 450, 451, or 452, in your second year.

### For more help:

- Dr. Parker, Undergraduate Adviser (during the regular school year): [hstadvsr@sdsu.edu](mailto:hstadvsr@sdsu.edu)
- Dr. Wiese, Department Chair: [awiese@sdsu.edu](mailto:awiese@sdsu.edu)
- Academic Advising: SSW-1551; 619-594-6668
- Walk-in hours M-Th 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
- Phone hours M-Th 9 a.m.-11 a.m. and 2 p.m.-4 p.m.