

"All the professors really make sure you are heard and seen. They all just are really passionate about what they do and care about the students. Also, the Humanics philosophy is a big part of it, and that's because the faculty believe in it, and the students learn about it, believe in it, and implement it in their lives, which makes Springfield different."

- Emily Conroy '21

What Will You Learn?

The ability to:

- Provide leadership in service to humanity. Service to humanity requires knowledge of the historical development of global, national, and local communities. The history major is unique among its peers in the College in offering such a perspective.
- Communicate effectively in written and oral form. As a discipline, history is sharply focused on reading and writing. Almost every course in the major offers students the opportunity to develop their oral and written communication skills through essay assignments, class participation requirements, and oral reports.
- Think critically across disciplines, to interpret information, and to develop well-reasoned conclusions. Most of the courses are to a considerable degree interdisciplinary. Historians gather and interpret data from all fields, including but not limited to art, economics, political science, philosophy, religion, sociology, and the history of science.
- Read critically, interpretatively, and empathetically. History courses emphasize critical reading of sources and interpretations. Most history offerings introduce students to primary sources, that is, direct testimony from eyewitnesses or participants in historical events and these require empathetic analysis.

Where Can You Go?

Archives
Business
Community Advocacy
Consulting Firms
Foundations
Government
Historical Associations
Historical Societies
Law
Libraries
Museums

1st YEAR

2nd YEAR

3rd YEAR

4th YEAR

Pursue Knowledge

Take the 100-level history courses.
Meet with your advisor and history professor during office hours.

Take the 200-level history courses.
Declare a minor that expands your skills.

Take intermediate and advanced history classes and complete your minor.

Take the Capstone seminar.
Meet with your advisor and history faculty to discuss postgraduate planning.

Gain Experience

Establish relationships with your advisors and professors.
Explore the 3+3 program and law school.
Knowing another language is a valued asset in nearly all careers. Build language study into your academic and professional plan.

Explore a minor.
An internship is one of the most important pre-professional experiences employers look for so start planning now with your advisor and Career Center staff.
If you're interested in a semester abroad your junior year, start planning now with your advisor and International Center staff.

Take the LSAT or GRE.
Continue to develop leadership skills through attending a regional or national conference or becoming an executive board member of your club/organization

Present a paper at Scholars in Action Day, and/or at a regional or national conference in your area of study or activity

Build Your Communities

Join the History Club.
Join the Debate Club.
Attend lectures and discussions on campus.
Get involved with a service activity, intramural sports, New Student Orientation (NSO), Residential Life, or Pre-Camp.
Consider a campus job, if you are eligible for work-study, or community-engaged employment opportunities.

Take on a leadership role in a club.
Get to know the larger Springfield community through service projects with the Center for Service and Leadership.
Build your intercultural competence by getting involved with the Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and the International Center.

Recruit new students for a club you are involved in.
Take on a leadership role in a service organization.
Explore short-term abroad opportunities with the International Center, as well as service-oriented spring break experiences in the U.S., like Alternative Spring Break.

Present your research at a conference.
Explore new activities you haven't tried before.

Prepare for Life After College

Get involved to develop transferable skills

- Attend departmental and campus events to network and meet faculty, staff, and students.
- Meet with a Career Counselor to explore careers and/or majors.
- Utilize Career Center resources, including Handshake.

Develop academic and career-related goals

- Visit the Career Center to research fields of interest.
- Have resumes and cover letters reviewed by the Career Center.
- Now is the time to develop your academic and career goals with your advisor and a career counselor.

Gain experiential education in your field

- Attend networking events and job fairs to learn about employment opportunities.
- Plan an internship experience with your faculty internship coordinator and the Career Center.
- Look at graduate school requirements to ensure you are on track.

Apply for jobs or graduate school

- Prepare your applications for jobs and graduate school.
- Ask professionals to serve as references.
- Participate in mock interviews to strengthen skills and build confidence.
- Speak with the International Center about opportunities in the U.S. and abroad.

The map offers suggestions for activities and careers, but everyone's abilities, experiences, and constraints are different. **You don't have to do it all.**