

History



My years as a history student at Bethel College were essential in shaping my desire to pursue a career in history. The professors' passion for their subject and sincere desire to help their students achieve their best was inspiring. The training I received at Bethel laid the foundation by introducing me to the fundamental tools upon which I have been able to build upon transforming me into a successful graduate student.

—Jonathan Root '06,
PhD student at the
University of Missouri



Question

How will I know if this is the right major for me?

Answer

From the start, your faculty advisor will work with you to set up a course schedule and help you explore options available in history as a major (or minor). Are you interested in people—about their successes and accomplishments, their problems and failures, what they have thought and said and why? If so, history could be an ideal major or minor for you. Through lectures, projects, field trips and your own research, you will be exposed to many fascinating and complex stories. History is not simply about the past.

Understanding what has happened helps us understand what is happening and what might happen—making the study of history a perfect preparation for many careers.

Question

What courses are required for a history degree from Bethel College?

Answer

- History of Civilization I & II
- United States History I & II
- Upper-level courses in American history and European or world history
- History Methodologies
- History Seminar



* Bethel



Seek.
Serve.
Grow.

Question

What kind of practical experience will I get as a student?

Answer

At Bethel College, research is an important part of history education. You won't only learn from accomplished historians but you will also become a historian yourself, through researching and writing short papers as well as the History Seminar, a significant original project required of all history majors. The Bethel campus is home to several prominent resources for study, including Kauffman Museum and the Mennonite Library and Archives, which both offer a wealth of historical information. In addition, the Bethel College history department sponsors the Oral History Institute, where students help conduct taped interviews to be used by future researchers. Other opportunities include the campus history club, Clio (named for the ancient Greek muse of history), museum internships and overseas travel.



Question

What can I expect after graduation?

Answer

With a degree in history from Bethel, you will have a wide range of career possibilities before you. You could complete teaching certification and become a middle school or high school teacher, or go on to teach at the college level. But you will also be able to pursue a wide variety of other fields. Bethel history graduates have gone to careers such as:

- Law
- Museum and archival work
- Librarian
- Peace studies
- Christian ministry
- Public policy
- Journalism
- International relations

"Bethel College provided me with a strong foundation to understand ethical leadership. It is imperative that people think critically about their own actions and the actions that are taken by their governments."

—Jacob Reid '01, legislative assistant/speech writer for Texas State Representative Dawnna Dukes, Austin, Texas



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