

## History Discipline Program Learning Goals

**1) Conceptual:** Demonstrate knowledge of the fundamental questions, concepts, and conventions that distinguish the discipline of history.

- a. Demonstrate an understanding of causation, historical context, and change over time in societies and institutions.
- b. Demonstrate an understanding of the significance of diverse groups in the context of time and place.

**2) Primary Source Analysis:** Distinguish and critically engage with primary sources.

- a. Demonstrate familiarity with different types of primary sources (written sources, art, material artifacts, interviews, etc.)
- b. Demonstrate ability to ask questions (who, when, where, and why?) that are critical in the process of contextualizing and analyzing primary sources.
- c. Demonstrate the ability to construct understandings of historical processes based on critical analysis of primary sources.

**3) Secondary Source Analysis:** Understand, analyze, and critically evaluate secondary sources.

- a. Identify and articulate a secondary source's argument and assess its evidence.
- b. Show familiarity with historiography on various historical topics.
- c. Recognize and critique different approaches to historical inquiry.
- d. Demonstrate an understanding of the relationships between historical interpretations. This includes demonstrating an awareness of the implications of different interpretations, and making sophisticated comparisons between interpretations.

**4) Research:** Employ historical research methodologies and create a historical account from varied sources.

- a. Develop a historical question, and locate and interpret primary sources as evidence.
- b. Use library and electronic resources to find appropriate sources.
- c. Demonstrate familiarity with various methodologies (e.g. archival research, oral history)
- d. Place a historical inquiry in the context of relevant historiography and/or broader frameworks of interpretation.
- e. Integrate varied sources in a coherent historical argument (thesis).
- f. Employ standard citation styles, especially Chicago Style/Turabian Style (footnotes or endnotes).

**5) Communication:** Present historical information and arguments clearly and properly.

- a. Communicate complex historical ideas through clear and persuasive writing.
- b. Communicate historical information and ideas in effective public presentations.
- c. Demonstrate the ability to write for a discipline-specific audience by integrating disciplinary concepts in writing and following conventions of history writing.
- d. Communicate original perspectives on the past through the presentation of complex sources and arguments.