

BA, International Honours

Guide for the History Major



COLL 150

Your COLL 150 *does not need* to be in History. In fact, it can be advantageous to choose a COLL 150 outside the major so that it can also meet a Knowledge Objective.

Sub-Honours (lower-level) History courses

Students can take the American, non-western, and European history requirements at both institutions. To facilitate the completion of these requirements, it is recommended that students should aim to complete the American history major requirements at William & Mary and the European history requirements at St Andrews. The requirement for one year of language study in addition to the language proficiency should also be completed sub-honours, at either institution. Note that language courses taken prior to matriculation do not count towards this requirement.

Historical Methods

All history majors must complete a history methods course. Student can either take the HIST 301: Historian's Craft in year 2 at W&M or HI 2001: History as a Discipline: Development and Key Concepts in year 2 at St Andrews.

Honours (upper-level) History courses

The upper-level requirements do not have to be taken in any particular order.

Many 300-level W&M history courses count as 400(0)-level for the purposes of the degree: ask your advisor. At W&M, any of the 300-level and 400-level courses can be taken in year 3 or year 4.

Honours-level language courses taken during years 3 and/or 4 of the Programme may be counted toward the required minimum of 45 credits at 300/3000+ level in the major during years 3 and 4.

Not all upper-level courses in the catalog are offered every year.

Fourth Year Research Requirement

At St. Andrews

To fulfill the History Colloquium requirement: If students spend their 3rd year at W&M and then their 4th year at St Andrews, they must take a required History Colloquium, such as HIST 490C or HIST 491C, while at W&M.

To fulfill the Capstone Experience requirement: The Capstone Experience is typically a one-semester Honours Project (30 credits at St Andrews), though in some cases students may pursue the Honours Dissertation or Recording the Past project.

At W&M

To fulfill the History Colloquium requirement: Students spending their 4th year at W&M must take a capstone course, such as HIST 490C or HIST 491C, to fulfill the History Colloquium requirement. It is recommended to complete the capstone during the fall semester of the student's 4th year.

To fulfill the Capstone Experience requirement: Students spending their 4th year at W&M can fulfill the Capstone Experience requirement by either completing a second capstone course (a HIST 490C/491C) or an Honors Thesis (6 W&M credits). For students completing a second capstone, they should plan to complete one capstone in the fall (to fulfill the History Colloquium req.) and another one in the spring (to fulfill the Capstone Experience req.).

Students who wish to complete an Honors Thesis should plan to do so by their 3rd year. Ideally, students interested in this route will contact a W&M professor they would like to supervise their senior Honors Thesis by late fall of their 3rd year. Deciding to complete a thesis early will allow the student to apply to W&M's Charles Center for summer funding to complete their honors thesis research. The Charles Center summer funding applications are usually due at the beginning of the spring semester of a student's 3rd year, so planning ahead is critical if students would like to apply (this is optional). Students interested in completing an Honors Thesis should first consult the Department of History's website, [Honors Program](#).