

General #BruinBound FAQs



General #BruinBound FAQs

Q: Ready to become a Bruin?

A: The deadline for first-years to submit their Statement of Intent to Register (SIR) is May 1st! For transfer students is June 1st!

Q: I already committed to UCLA, can you tell me what classes I should take in Fall 2026?

A: The department does not have access to records yet, therefore cannot answer specific academic questions. We will have more information during summer orientation, where you will get to meet with the departmental counselors and go over the History major specific requirements.

Q: How do I sign up for summer orientation?

A: You'll receive information on New Student Orientation soon after you submit your Statement of Intent to Register (SIR). More information can be found on the New Student & Transitions program website: <https://newstudents.ucla.edu/>.



Academic Counseling FAQs



Majoring in History

Q: When can I declare my history major?

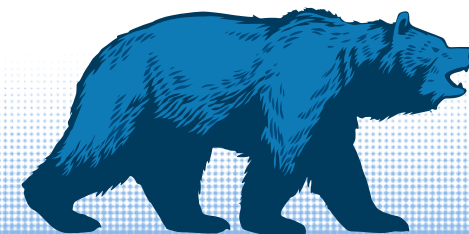
A: You can only declare your history major once you have taken at least TWO lower-division History courses and, most importantly, the History 94, 96W or 97. Once the grades for these courses have been posted, you can contact the History departmental counselors at undergrad@history.ucla.edu to formally declare your major.

Q: I am a transfer student. How do my courses from my previous school transfer?

A: To see how your courses from your previous school apply to UCLA, you must go and check your DARS, or Degree Audit Report System. You can access this through MyUCLA. Please refer to the DARS FAQ for more information on how to access this resource. If you need help understanding the information, please see your general academic counselor or one of the history counselors.

Q: I took several History AP courses in high school. Do they count for credit for my major?

A: Unfortunately, no. If you received a 3, 4, or 5 on the European, US, or World AP exams, they will only count for 8 units of unassigned history credit. They do not directly apply to any courses in the History department.



Majoring in History (cont'd)

Q: For my non-Western distribution requirement, can I take courses from multiple areas?

A: No. You must take two courses from the SAME area (ex: two from Asia, two from Africa, two from Latin America, two from the Near/Middle East, or two from Science and Technology).

Q: Can I take courses in other departments and have them count for the History major?

A: Only those courses officially cross-listed (with an “M” prefix) with the History department automatically apply towards the History Major. For example, History M186B is the same as Gender Studies M186B and will automatically count for both, History and Gender Studies. Additionally, students can petition ONE upper-division course from another department to count towards the History major. The department internal practice requires every student to submit a Google Form course petition during the first two weeks of the current term. Students can only submit a petition of a course they have already taken and have received a passing grade.

Q: Can I take History classes pass/no pass and have them count towards my major requirements?

A: No. For courses to count towards the History major, they must be taken for a letter grade.



Guide to HIST 94, 96W, 97, 187 & 191

Q: What is History 94, 96W and 97?

A: The 94, 96W and 97 are lower division courses that will introduce students to historical thinking and practice. Students must take ONE of these courses to declare the history major. The HIST 94 is a lower-division lecture, usually capped between 60-120 with discussion sections. The HIST 96W and 97 are seminars that are capped at 20 students to facilitate discussion and to provide a unique opportunity for students to get to know their professor one-on-one. The 96W fulfills the Writing II requirement, while the 97 does not. 96Ws are normally taught by graduate students, while the 97s are taught by faculty members. The letter after the course (ex: 97C) denotes the area of study it concentrates on (ex: "C" indicates Europe).

Q: What is History 187 and 191?

A: The History 187 is a historiography seminar involving close reading and critical discussion of secondary scholarship and primary sources on selected topics. The History 191 is a senior capstone seminar (restricted to History majors with junior and senior standing) organized on topics basis with reading, discussion, and development of culminating project. Enrollment is limited to encourage discussion and participation. Note that History 191's only open for enrollment at second pass.



Guide to HIST 94, 96W, 97, 187 & 191 (cont'd)

Q: I took ___ course in high school/community college. Can I waive the requirement for 96W/97 or 191?

A: No. There is no equivalent elsewhere to the lower and upper division seminars. To declare your history major, you must take either 94, 96W or 97 on campus at UCLA. For the 187 and 191, again, it must be a UCLA course.

Q: Is there a deadline for me to take the 94, 96W or 97?

A: The counseling unit strongly recommends to take the course as soon as possible to declare the history major early. The grade for this class, along with the grades for at least two lower division lecture courses, must be posted before you can officially declare the declare the major. Thus, please plan accordingly to ensure your timely graduation.

Q: I can't enroll in History 191. What do I do?

A: The History 191 is restricted for History majors with junior and senior standing. So, if you are not a declared history major, you cannot enroll in History 191 without a PTE number. If you are a junior or senior and are a declared history major, History 191s do not open for enrollment until the second pass.



Double Majoring

Q: I want to double-major with History and _____. What do I do?

A: You must petition to declare a double major, providing you are in good academic standing. These majors must be completed without exceeding the time-to-degree. Before petitioning, however, you must complete: all prerequisites for both majors AND two upper division courses in both majors.

Q: How do I petition to double major?

A: Students must submit a MyUCLA form (for their respective Counseling unit) + Double Major Department Approval form + Degree Plan Contract. You can find these petitions from your College Counseling Unit's website. Next, you must ask the departmental counselor from each major to complete the following steps: 1) Review your DARS to ensure all the major requirements are satisfied 2) Complete and sign the Double Major Department Approval + Degree Plan Contract.



Double Majoring (cont'd)

Q: What if I exceed my time-to-degree?

A: If that is the case, you must submit a Blue Petition along with your other double-major petitions. This must address your reasoning for requesting additional time.

Q: What do I have to submit the double major forms once I've obtained all signatures?

A: MyUCLA form (for your respective Counseling unit) + Double Major Department Approval form + Degree Plan Contract, and a Blue Petition (if you exceed the time-to-degree). To check the status of your petitions, go to MyUCLA and go to the "Academics Tab," and then to "Petitions."

Q: I am unsure if I can double-major. Where can I go to talk about this?

A: First make an appointment to visit with your general academic counseling unit, which is noted at the top of your DARS. They can assess the general timeline for your double major. You may also visit one of the departmental counselors for your major so they can assist you with deadlines within the respective majors.



Navigating DARS

Q: What is DARS?

A: DARS is where you can check all of the college and major requirements you still have to fulfill. In addition, it lists classes that can fulfill each requirement, so you can browse through and find ones that seem most interesting to you. It is essential to check DARS at least a few times every quarter to ensure that your courses are applied properly and you are progressing through your requirements. For transfer students, your DARS is where you can see how all of your courses have transferred.

Q: Where can I find my DARS?

A: Log into MyUCLA and click on the “Academics” tab. Go under the subsection “Academic Profile” and select “Degree Progress/Audit Report.” Click on “Continue to DARS.” Next, hit “Run Audit.” The best way to see all your major requirements would be to select “Run Selected Program,” choose the college from the “School/College” drop-down menu (likely, you will choose the College of Letters and Science), and select the catalog year to be the current quarter you are in. Next, you can add your major and any double-majors and minors you wish to explore. Go to the bottom of the page and hit “Run Audit.”



Navigating DARS (cont'd)

Q: What information is available to me on my DARS?

A: On your DARS, you can check what counseling unit you fall under. This information can be found at the top of the page under “counseling unit.” It may say College Academic Counseling, Honors, AAP, etc. This department is where you should go for general academic advising and course planning. Scrolling down you can see your progress for the GE requirements, your major requirements, your upper division unit requirement, and your overall unit progress. Scrolling down further, you will see many drop-down sections that will either have a **green check** or a **red x**, which indicates whether the requirement has been fulfilled or not. Click into each section to view what requirements you have yet to fulfill and to look for courses that may interest you. If a section is green and has three dots in the box, that indicates you have in-progress courses that fulfill that requirement.

Q: When is it best to check my DARS?

A: You should be checking your DARS at least twice each quarter, notably at the beginning of the quarter, during class planning, and towards the end of the quarter.



Minoring in History

Q: What do I have to do for a minor in History?

A: As of Winter 2017, the History Department offers a minor in History, which consists of two lower division courses and five upper division courses. Additionally, the department offers a minor in the History of Science, Technology and Medicine, which consists of two lower division courses and five upper division courses.

To declare the minor, students must have completed at least 45 units, have at least a 2.0 GPA, and must have completed 1 lower-division History course.

Please email undergrad@history.ucla.edu to declare the minor. Include that you wish to declare the minor, your name, and student ID. A History counselor will run your Degree Audit Report to determine if you meet the above requirements to declare the minor.



Academic & Career Exploration Opportunities

Departmental Opportunities

Public History Initiative & HistoryCorps Internships: <https://phi.history.ucla.edu/whatwedo/historycorps/>

Luskin Center for History & Policy: <https://luskincenter.history.ucla.edu/>

Honors Thesis Program: <https://www.history.ucla.edu/academics/undergraduate/honors>

History Travel Study: <https://history.ucla.edu/academics/undergraduate/study-abroad/>

History Student Groups:

History Undergraduate Advisory Board (HUAB):

<https://www.history.ucla.edu/academics/undergraduate/undergraduate-advisory-board>

Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society at UCLA: <https://pathonors.wordpress.com/>



General Resources

Undergraduate Writing Center: <https://uwc.ucla.edu/>

Career Center: <https://career.ucla.edu/>

Study Abroad: <https://ieo.ucla.edu/programs-overview/>

General Academic Counseling (refer to your DARS to know which counseling unit applies to you)

College Academic Counseling (CAC): <https://caac.ucla.edu/>

Academic Advancement Program (AAP): <https://www.aap.ucla.edu/>

College Honors: <https://www.honors.ucla.edu/>



History Academic Counseling

Janette J. Gonzalez

Undergraduate Counselor

Brittany (Friedman) Waltman

Undergraduate Counselor/Scheduler

Tessa Villaseñor

Director of Student Affairs

For more information, please contact the History Counselors at: Undergrad@history.ucla.edu

For departmental events and general information, visit <https://history.ucla.edu/>



Go Bruins!

