History Department faculty provide students with knowledge about the origins and development of peoples in the past and help them think independently and critically. Students also learn marketable skills, as they conduct research, analyze evidence, and write clearly and persuasively.

What can you do with a degree in History?

History majors are prepared for successful professional careers as educators, journalists, lawyers, entrepreneurs, civil servants and historians in government and private agencies.

Forty percent of our majors go into teaching. The other sixty percent pursue careers in law, tech, finance, public service, business, higher education, or museum work.

Department news

History faculty specialize in the history of the United States as well as early modern and modern Europe, East Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East as well as the ancient and classical world.

The Department’s internship program provides students with practical experience in local museums, libraries, and public archives that prepares them for jobs in public agencies as well as business.

The Department offers public lectures and hosts the annual Cowden Memorial Lecture Series and occasional Roundtable Discussions.

Did you know

- History majors have the reading, writing, and critical thinking skills that employers seek
- Professor Tim Sistrunk (medieval, US environment) was awarded the first-ever Outstanding Lecturer Award for 2014–15
- Professor Kate Transchel (Eastern Europe, gender) was awarded Outstanding Faculty Advisor for 2014–15
- Students can join the History Club and/or Phi Alpha Theta, the History honor society
- For twenty-five years, History students have edited and published in The Chico Historian, our department journal
- In recent years, Chico State History undergraduate and graduate students have won several awards at the Northern California Regional Conference of Phi Alpha Theta, the history honor society
- History faculty are also deeply involved in the Asian Studies, European Studies, Middle Eastern Studies, and Latin American Studies programs

We’re here to help

The History Writing Center (HWC) helps students improve their historical researching and writing skills. We provide tutoring in research methodology, finding and evaluating sources, and proper citation, and otherwise facilitate academic-level writing in the field of History. The HWC also offers editing services for draft papers and provides advice on overcoming common stumbling blocks encountered by students.

“History will be kind to me for I intend to write it.”

–Winston S. Churchill