

University of Northern Iowa History

March 4, 2025

Program Summary

The Department of History at the University of Northern Iowa offers a student-centered learning experience that connects the past to the present. Students are trained to think critically with the historical contextualization necessary for 21st-century cultural competence, citizenship, and career success in a variety of fields.

With a number of initiatives in place to address student interests and career preparation, history students receive hands-on training through internship placements with local, regional, and national organizations, and scholarship support, thanks to the generosity of alumni and donors.



Strengths & Noteworthy Practices

All [Essential Employability Qualities](#) (EEQs) are represented in the curriculum, with explicitly aligned outcomes and activities across required courses. Communication, critical thinking, and professionalism are especially strong, fostered through writing, discussion, public speaking, and real-world analysis.

Career development is intentionally embedded throughout the curriculum, including a required sophomore-level Field Experience that introduces students to workplace expectations and career paths. Collaboration with Career Services is strong, with students regularly referred for career aptitude assessments and résumé support.

Employer engagement is long-standing and robust, with over 120 active partners providing internships and curricular feedback. The department regularly reviews student input and maintains strong alumni connections through private Facebook and LinkedIn groups that support outreach, informal tracking, and invitations to return as guest speakers or panelists.

