

# University of Central Arkansas History

May 18, 2025

## Program Summary

The Department of History at the University of Central Arkansas was one of the original nine departments when UCA opened as Arkansas State Normal School in 1908. R.E. Womack offered 5 classes that year: U.S. History, Arkansas History, Ancient History, English History, and Medieval and Modern History. Today, the department offers a diverse and interdisciplinary curriculum that reflects the complexity of the modern world and the evolving demands of the workforce.

BS students complete six credits in analytical fields like computer science, math, or political science, while BA students take nine credits in language, communication, or writing. These requirements build technical, analytical, and communication skills that are highly valued by employers across industries.



## Strengths & Noteworthy Practices

All [Essential Employability Qualities](#) (EEQs) are represented in the curriculum. The program fosters respect for diverse perspectives, civic engagement, ethical reasoning, and the analysis of complex issues. In a collaborative, discussion-driven environment, students learn to evaluate sources, develop research questions, and build evidence-based arguments. Communication, critical thinking, and professional behavior are explicitly taught and assessed—from citation and email etiquette to note-taking and respectful dialogue. This practical focus prepares students not only to understand history but to apply it. While many pursue teaching or public service, graduates are also well-prepared for careers that require strong communication, analytical thinking, and information literacy.

A hallmark of the program is its robust internship infrastructure, led by a dedicated Faculty Internship Coordinator who connects students with meaningful placements and ensures access for all. Partnerships with museums, archives, law firms, and government agencies provide real-world experience, reinforced through reflective assignments and supervisor evaluations.

The program also innovates in career education through its online presence, featuring newsletters, alumni profiles, and professional development content. Faculty offer personalized support with job references, and events like the Internship Reception and alumni awards connect students with career role models and networks.



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