

# University of Kentucky History

## September 4, 2025 Program Summary

The University of Kentucky's History program prepares students to shape the future by understanding the past. Historians are skilled at gathering, analyzing, and interpreting information, and the discipline cultivates communication, argumentation, and evidence-based reasoning essential in a rapidly changing world. Students learn to analyze how people across the globe have experienced change, synthesize and interpret historical data, and communicate complex ideas clearly and persuasively. The program fosters creativity, empathy, and intercultural understanding, equipping graduates for careers resistant to automation and vital to problem-solving in the 21st-century economy. Alumni apply their training in education, government, business, and the nonprofit sector, making a lasting impact in their communities.



## Strengths & Noteworthy Practices

The development of [Essential Employability Qualities](#) (EEQs) across the curriculum. Students develop critical thinking, communication, and creativity through intensive writing, discussion, and applied projects that mirror workplace demands. Assignments such as research papers, museum exhibit proposals, and podcasts build clarity in writing, persuasive argumentation, and adaptability to multiple audiences.

Career preparation is another hallmark. The Careers in History course, dedicated Canvas career site, historyFUTURE newsletter, and active faculty advising provide consistent guidance on resumes, interviews, and internships. Internship funding and service learning partnerships ensure equitable access to real-world experiences, while the popular “Bucket List” resource motivates students to pursue leadership roles, networking, and professional development opportunities.

The department's culture of responsiveness is also noteworthy. Faculty actively integrate feedback from students and community partners into course design, expanding project-based and public-facing work that builds teamwork, professionalism, and initiative. These practices collectively prepare graduates to contribute immediately in diverse fields—education, government, business, and nonprofit—while positioning the program as a strong model of employability-focused liberal arts education.

