Welcome to the USF History Department!

Run, don’t walk, to the history advisor in SOC 274!
Appointments can be booked a day ahead of time using the eScheduler and are available most days from 9-12 and 1-4, with walk-ins on Friday mornings and other times available by mutual agreement. Email me at historyadvise@usf.edu for a link to the calendar, or call 974-2808 for more information!

Ashley Buchanan works on manuscripts for her research on seventeenth-century medical remedies in Florence, Italy. [Photo used with permission.]
WHY STUDY HISTORY? BECAUSE IT:

- Exposes us to the unfamiliar territory of the past
- Teaches us about the shape of the present and future
- Makes us re-examine the stories we tell about ourselves today
- Trains us to locate, create, amass, analyze, document, and evaluate large bodies of information
- Helps us solve problems and preserve and improve the world

WELCOMETO THE FASCINATION OF HISTORY!

History faculty and students at USF are engaged in journeys to uncover and rediscover the past. We invite you to hone your talents, interests, and professional skills by joining us in our study and work.

In the History Department you will learn to:

- Read and think critically, write and speak clearly and persuasively, and conduct complex research effectively
- Participate knowledgeably in world affairs
- Understand yourself and global society in connection to the earlier times and places
- Develop an informed perspective and a mature view of human nature
- Exhibit sensitivity to human values in varied cultural traditions while developing your own values
- Appreciate the natural and cultural environments and understand the human impact of scientific and technological developments

Ottanelli writes books on labor history and the history of U.S. immigration, violence and terrorism. He studies the 2,800 Americans who fought fascism in the Spanish Civil War (1936-39). He travels regularly to Nigeria to help to document the massacre at Asaba during the Nigerian Civil War (1967).
GETTING STARTED AS A TRANSFER STUDENT

- Declare your major at http://www.cas.usf.edu/students/ug/declare/ to prevent future registration holds.
- Meet with your academic advisor to clarify your goals and interests and choose appropriate coursework. Make an appointment here: http://usfweb.usf.edu/escheduler/student.aspx
- Make sure all other holds are cleared on OASIS, especially medical / immunization holds.
- Register for at least one class before the registration deadline to prevent late registration fees.
- Pay tuition (or make arrangements with financial aid) by the payment deadline – usually the fifth class day.
- Making sure that a final transcript is sent after your current term ends, if you are currently taking classes, to prevent future registration holds.

BASIC RECOMMENDATIONS FOR YOUR FIRST SEMESTER

- Exploit your advisor’s knowledge of USF, degree requirements, interesting electives and course combinations, and grad school and degree preparation. Use advising to help you pursue your goals.
- Be aware of available support resources, and ask for help if you don’t know something! No one comes to USF knowing everything.
- Take 12-14 hours in your first term. Most transfer students from community colleges are not accustomed to the reading load that is customary in our courses.
- Take 1-2 history courses per term until you know you can manage the workload. History professors assign homework based on the assumption that you will do 2-3 hours of preparation for every classroom hour. 12 hours of classes = 36 hours. Studying is a fulltime job!
- Balance history classes with foreign language (as necessary) and electives in other areas to keep your studies manageable and give your mind the variety it needs to grow.
- Arrange coursework to support timely path to degree and augment interests and career goals. Most transfer students see themselves on a four-semester timetable. If that is your plan, make sure to get important matters underway from the beginning. See your advisor for help.
DegreeWorks is useful, but not 100 percent reliable.

Load DegreeWorks and the OASIS Search Schedule while choosing classes. DegreeWorks does not list all the 3000-level history courses you can take.

Review the different search possibilities on the OASIS Schedule – by term, delivery method, department, subject, course number, degree requirement, instructor, course title, time of day, etc.

If you are currently enrolled in courses to complete an AA degree, all lower level FKL courses and Gordon Rule and summer school requirements will count as fulfilled. If you will enter USF with an AA, do not enroll in anything that may still be listed as a required under “Foundations of Knowledge & Learning (FKL)-Gen Educ,” “Gordon Rule,” or “Summer Requirement.”

Do not enroll in anything you think you might have taken already. DegreeWorks applies previous lower level history courses in funny ways. Before choosing a lower level course, check with the advisor to make sure you haven’t fulfilled the requirement already.

The most important thing DegreeWorks will not tell you is that HIS 4104 is the prerequisite for the history proseminar (HIS 4936). You should take HIS 4104 before HIS 4936, and you should not take HIS 4936 twice simultaneously.

Latin counts toward the foreign language exit requirement (FLEX), but it is not listed as an option in DegreeWorks.

Do not choose any capstone courses – this requirement is covered by your proseminar in history.

For students with catalog year 2014-15 and later, DegreeWorks should count necessary upper-level hours in the major accurately. If you have an earlier catalog year, consult with the advisor about hours requirements in the upper level block of the history major.

If you have declared your major and have CANVAS access, consult history course descriptions loaded there (or email your advisor at historyadvise@usf.edu) to get a copy.

Be looking to take upper-level electives (courses that start 3xxx or 4xxx) in order to move faster to degree and avoid excess hours charges.
CHOOSING A SCHEDULE

- First, decide if you are ready for HIS 4104. Your earliest graduation date without having to ask for rule exceptions is two semesters after you complete HIS 4104 – if you enroll in 4104 in Fall 2015, the earliest degree date is Fall 2016. You are probably ready if you have completed 9-12 hours of lower level history with a GPA of 3.2 or above. If you still have lower level history to take, or your GPA is below 3.0, wait a semester. If you want to take HIS 4104, you must email historyadvise@usf.edu to request a permit.

- Second, ponder the language question. If possible, take a placement test as necessary and start the language of your choice as soon as possible. See notes below under “which language?”

- Third: history! If you still need a lower level course, pick one (check with the advisor to make sure that you are not repeating something you already have credit for). If your lower courses are complete, pick a 3000-level history course in any area that interests you. These courses begin with AFH, AMH, EUH, HIS, and LAH.

- If you did not choose HIS 4104, pick a second history course, usually an upper level elective.

- Fourth: Fill in remaining requirements. If you will not come in with an AA degree, select a remaining FKL from the general education list in DegreeWorks. There are history options in Social/Behavioral Sciences, Humanities, and Human and Cultural Diversity. I suggest not taking your writing intensive in your first semester at USF.

- Fifth: upper-level electives. Select electives to fit in with a double major, minor, certificate program, or future career aspirations. Remember that a transcript with purpose looks better than one filled with random electives.

- Choose a lower-level course outside of DegreeWorks requirements only if you need it for a minor, double major, or other preparation.

SOME GREAT SAMPLE SCHEDULES FOR YOUR FIRST SEMESTER

- HIS 4104, foreign language, other history course, upper-level elective.
- Two history courses, two upper level-electives outside history
- HIS 4104, other history course, lower level course related to minor, upper level course for minor.
WHICH LANGUAGE?

- If you speak a language in addition to English, take the placement test as soon as possible. (You can be tested even if it is not offered at USF.) This allows you to clear the requirement immediately and/or sign up for career- or degree-relevant advanced language. If you test out of one language, you may want to take a second!
- If you dream of being a professor, archaeologist, or museum curator: you will need advanced foreign language for admission to an MA or PhD program. Choose an area relevant to your research interests. Students who want to study ancient history or archaeology should take Latin (LAT) or Classical Greek (GRE) and plan to enroll every semester while here. Students who want to study U.S. history should choose a language relevant to the immigration or diplomatic history of the U.S.
- Several USF programs require language beyond the B.A. requirements: International studies requires a third semester of western languages; competitive / national intelligence requires a fourth semester, and so on.
- Lower-demand languages like Latin, Greek, Russian, Japanese, etc., may only start in Fall (or Summer). If you take one of these but don’t start immediately, you may delay yourself.
- Information about taking the required placement test for Spanish, German, French, Russian or Italian is here: [http://languages.usf.edu/foreign/](http://languages.usf.edu/foreign/)

WHICH WRITING INTENSIVE? ASK FOR A RECOMMENDATION

- Want to teach? EDF 3604
- Law school, career in government, double major in political science, international relations, national/competitive intelligence, technical writing? ENC 3250 or ENC 3310
- Double major in classics or Interdisciplinary Classical Civilization? CLT 3103 or 3123
- Grad school in history? Any AML, ANT, CLT, FRT, LIT, HUM, PHI, REL, RUT
- Double major in anthropology? ANT 4241
- Double major in philosophy? PHI 4320
- Future in arts or culture work? ENG 4674, FIL 3854, LIT 3301
DOUBLE THE MAJOR, DOUBLE THE EDUCATION!

For certain careers and for graduate or professional school applications, a double major or major/minor combination adds rigor to your degree. A minor is always possible within the 120 hours for students transferring with an AA degree. A double major is often possible if courses are chosen with this goal in mind from the beginning. Some useful double major combinations:

- For museum work, archaeology, or travel-related careers: anthropology or art history
- For teachers – social studies education dual degree, sociology, psychology
- For ancient historians or archaeologists: Classics or Interdisciplinary Classical Civilizations
- For history graduate school: appropriate language, philosophy, English, humanities, art history, religion, sociology, Africana Studies
- For law school: philosophy, political science, English, economics, women’s studies
- For patent law: any physical science or engineering
- For government work: political science, international relations, language, economics, environmental policy, national/competitive intelligence, public administration, public health, women’s studies
- For non-profit work: English, political science, communications, mass communications, art history, sociology, women’s studies

For an exact calculation of how many hours you would need to double major, or for other combinations, see your academic advisor!

OTHER OPPORTUNITIES IN HISTORY

Did you know?

- A for-credit internship in history can count toward degree requirements
- Future archaeologists can apply to excavate George Washington’s boyhood home with Professor Levy during the summer. 6 hours of credit can be shared with the anthropology major
- We work closely with Career Services to help you find your best career path
- Students with high GPAs can apply for national and international opportunities through the Office of National Scholarships
- USF financial aid covers Study Abroad tuition for USF programs
- USF’s Global Citizen Project offers $2500 study abroad scholarships – see advising for details
- You can attend professional conferences, do career development, and have a lot of fun by joining Phi Alpha Theta, a national honor society and USF’s history club