WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN... HISTORY

History is the broadest and most integrative of all disciplines concerned with human beings and society and uses the research tools of the social sciences to understand and explain major events and changes in human experience over time. Historians are concerned with issues of value and meaning, with the significance that historical events had for the lives of individuals and groups. Students of history gain an understanding of people, groups and society and a sensitivity both to detailed research and the "big picture."*

*Taken from the UNC Charlotte Department of History

SAMPLE OCCUPATIONS

Government
- Foreign Service Officer
- FBI/CIA Agent
- Chamber of Commerce Mgr.
- Diplomat

Law/Politics
- Lobbyist
- Lawyer
- Elected Official
- Political Advisor
- Political Scientist
- Congressional Aid

Business/Media
- Compliance Manager
- Market Research Analyst
- Journalist
- Public Relations Manager
- Editor
- Labor Relations Specialist
- Information Manager
- Travel Agent
- Community Relations Mgr.

Nonprofit
- Archivist
- Resource Librarian
- Curator
- Historical Preservation Specialist

TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

- Political Action Committees
- Peace Corps
- Preservation Firms
- Educational Institutions
- Government Agencies
- Political Organizations
- Large Corporations
- Museums & Archives
- Library of Congress
- Historical Societies

PREPARING FOR YOUR CAREER IN

Government: Gain knowledge about local, state, and federal government organizations and the various branches of government, seek leadership roles in campus organizations like the model United Nations and student government, complete a thesis to demonstrate research and writing skills, intern at a government agency, acquire a foreign language, public interest group, or law firm to gain experience and confirm your direction, participate in a debate, mock trial, or forensic team, build skills working with diverse populations, be prepared to begin a political career as a volunteer before moving to paid positions, take courses in statistics and public policy

Law/Politics: Join a business-oriented student organization, do an internship in a corporation or publisher, take business elective classes, hone leadership, public speaking, and writing skills, be willing to start in a management-trainee program, become proficient in computer and software use

Nonprofit: Gain experience through extensive volunteering or interning as this is crucial in finding full time positions, develop strong communication and researching skills, learn about fundraising, budgeting, and grant writing, earn a graduate degree in library/information science or museum studies

RELATED WEBSITES

American Historical Association
www.historians.org

American Cultural Resources Association
www.acra-crm.org

American Society of Journalists & Authors
www.asja.org

The Society for History Education
www.thehistoryteacher.org

HOW DO I KNOW IF IT'S RIGHT FOR ME?

ASSESS: Take a career assessment, such as the Strong Interest Inventory or MBTI, to see how your interests, values, and personality fit with majors and careers.

RESEARCH: Research the careers on this WCIDWAMI and thousands of other careers using these top career websites:


EXPLORE: Learn more about a career field of interest by job shadowing, attending a career panel, or participating in a Company Trek. Further your exploration while gaining valuable skills by completing an internship, co-op, volunteer, or research experience.

For the expanded version of this WCIDWAMI, visit career.uncc.edu/majors/history