MASTER OF ARTS IN HISTORY

Welcome

Our mission is to engage students in the pursuit of knowledge while preparing them for a wide variety of careers. We believe that asking questions and seeking knowledge, either for practical reasons or out of curiosity, is one of the most worthy of all pursuits.

The study of history flows from our desire to understand how humans have tried to turn their hopes into reality. Examining these past efforts can be both exhilarating and humbling. The human past is a record of remarkable achievements, astonishing in their variety. The past, however, also gives evidence of the fragility of those achievements.

This program is designed to prepare students for the teaching of history on the junior and senior college level; to provide the initial graduate work for those who intend to pursue a doctoral degree; and to enhance the preparation of secondary teachers of history who desire to meet certification requirements through such a program.

Applying for Admission

Application and all supporting materials (i.e., transcripts, GRE scores) need to be received in Graduate Studies by the dates listed below to ensure adequate time for departmental review. Applicants can apply online at www.wku.edu/graduate.

Application Deadlines

Fall Semester: April 15

Spring Semester: October 15

Please note: To be eligible for any type of financial aid or a graduate assistantship, you must be admitted in good standing to a degree program. Non-degree seeking students are ineligible for financial aid and graduate assistantships.

Admission Guidelines and Requirements for the History M.A. Program

- Bachelor’s degree from an accredited institution
- Official transcripts from undergraduate institution, if degree granting school is not WKU
- Application and fee must be submitted to the Graduate School, and may be done so online at www.wku.edu/graduate.
• A GRE Verbal Reasoning section score of at least 500 (prior to August 2011) or 153 (after August 2011)
• A GRE Quantitative Reasoning section score that meets the University minimum for admission
• Completion of at least 18 undergraduate credit-hours in history with at least a 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
• An overall undergraduate grade point average of at least a 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.
• A brief (approximately 750 words) personal statement that discusses why they wish to pursue a Master of Arts degree in History
• A sample research paper (at least five pages long)

Standardized Examination Scores

All degree-seeking students must submit appropriate standardized test scores regardless of their undergraduate grade point average. Standardized test scores must be received by the Office of Graduate Studies prior to admission. The admission decision will be based upon both the transcript grade point average and the test score. Registration materials for the GRE are available by logging on to www.gre.org.

Admission decisions are based upon the undergraduate grade point average, the GRE General Test Score, the writing sample and personal statement.

The History Department will admit students twice a year on a competitive and academic merit-based basis. The History Department may limit the number of students admitted to maintain the quality and size of the program’s student body.

The M.A. in History offers students flexibility in the course work they pursue by encouraging that the program for each individual be built around areas of interest. The History Department offers two graduate programs leading to the Master of Arts degree.

• “Plan A” (Thesis Option) requires 24 hours of course work plus a 6 credit-hour thesis. (Not available for online students)
• “Plan B” (Non-Thesis Option) requires 36 hours of course work. (All online students take this option)
• All students must take HIST 535: Historiography
• All students must demonstrate competence in a research tool. In order to fulfill this requirement, students may pass a foreign language proficiency exam or take certain courses that develop research skills

To learn about course offerings and other program requirements and to build a program that’s right for you, please contact the History Department’s Graduate Program Advisor, Dr. Marko Dumancic at marko.dumancic@wku.edu.

Financial Aid

Eligibility Requirements and the Application Process

Financial Aid includes grants, scholarships and loans for educational purposes. To qualify for federal student aid you must meet certain requirements. General eligibility requirements can be reviewed on the Federal
Student Aid website at [https://studentaid.ed.gov/eligibility/basic-criteria](https://studentaid.ed.gov/eligibility/basic-criteria). Here are a few basics to keep in mind:

- Your eligibility is determined through an application process. So, your first step is to fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov). Even if you doubt your eligibility, apply. Approximately 90% of those who apply qualify for some form of aid. A step-by-step guide through the application process can be found at [https://www.wku.edu/financialaid/applyfa.php](https://www.wku.edu/financialaid/applyfa.php).
- Distance learning courses at WKU meet federal financial aid eligibility requirements. If your application is approved, you may elect to take web, on demand or face-to-face courses. Distance courses through On Demand require same semester completion, when using federal financial aid to pay for the course, and an [On Demand Agreement](https://www.wku.edu/financialaid/il.php).
- You must be classified as a degree-seeking student to qualify.
- You must be registered at least half-time to receive aid (6 credit hours for undergrad students; 4.5 credit hours for grad students).
- You must meet federal and state regulations regarding Satisfactory Academic Progress (SAP) to remain eligible. The complete SAP Policy is available at [https://www.wku.edu/financialaid/sap.php](https://www.wku.edu/financialaid/sap.php).
- The WKU School Code for the FAFSA application is 002002.

**Veterans and Active Military**

WKU is a military friendly school. Veterans and active military are required to file additional forms for military tuition assistance. The Office of Veterans Affairs unit that helps ensure all appropriate information is on file. For additional information visit [https://www.wku.edu/veteran/](https://www.wku.edu/veteran/) or email va.questions@wku.edu.

**Helpful Resources**

- WKU Student Financial Assistance | Email: fa.questions@wku.edu | Phone: 270-745-2755 | Website: [www.wku.edu/financialaid](http://www.wku.edu/financialaid)
- Student Aid: Types, who qualifies and how to apply: [https://studentaid.ed.gov](https://studentaid.ed.gov)

**Recommended Sequence of Courses**

Certain courses may be offered on a rotating basis, so please plan your program of study carefully. Contact Dr. Marko Dumancic, the graduate advisor for the program, for additional information on course offerings at marko.dumancic@wku.edu.

**Contact Information**

**Graduate Advisor:** Dr. Marko Dumancic  
**Email:** marko.dumancic@wku.edu  
**Phone:** (270) 745-4348  
**Website:** [http://www.wku.edu/history/grad/ma/ma-program.php](http://www.wku.edu/history/grad/ma/ma-program.php)