

DEFIANCE COLLEGE

History majors dream into the past and investigate events the way others manipulate objects. They believe in changing the world through political action. And while others may know that terrorism, religious strife, and civil unrest exist, history majors are driven to understand the causes.

The study of history is not just a chronicling of the human past, but an analysis of past events in an effort to explain the social, cultural, and political effects that shape the present. Thus understanding history helps one understand the world today.

History majors dig into the ever-present, ever-shifting past to uncover the future.



“Human history becomes more and more a race between education and catastrophe.”

- H.G. Wells

701 North Clinton Street
Defiance, OH 43512
www.defiance.edu
419-784-4010
1-800-520-GO DC

History

Bachelor of Arts Degree with a major in History



Top 10 Reasons to Study History

1. *“So we may profit by their experiences without paying the price it cost them.”*
- John Jay, Federalist, No. 5
2. In order to improve ourselves by following the examples of great men and women of the past.
3. In order to understand, live, and exist in our present world.
4. To ensure order in society by creating global citizens.
5. To help us put things into perspective.
6. To help solve our problems by showing what has worked and what has not worked in the past.
7. In order to remove prejudices and increase understanding.
8. To keep our principles alive.
9. To judge what can be done and has been done.
10. To help (to some extent) predict the future.

As an intellectual discipline, the history program at Defiance College provides students with skills applicable to many careers: the ability to read critically, organize ideas clearly, synthesize extensive materials, and write with clarity.

Defiance College students gain skills that transcend the academy. They do not just theorize about history; they make history. Moreover, they think and act within their discipline, utilizing classroom knowledge and practical skills to make an impact within their communities and beyond. Such experiences provide them with the skills to be better employees, better leaders, and responsible citizens.

At Defiance College, history professors value logical thought and detailed knowledge of past and current events. They are equally at home with the commentators of the past and present. DC history professors enjoy working with students who take pleasure in analyzing events, understanding historical cause/effect sequences, and identifying subtle relationships between the past and present.

Unique Opportunities

International History Honors Society

Defiance College’s Iota Pi Chapter of Phi Alpha Theta is the international history honors society “whose mission is to promote the study of history.” Members participate in yearly conferences which allow students to present their original research to a panel of their peers and distinguished historians.

McMaster School

Students will not be just theorizing about history—they will have the opportunity to make history and advance humanity through Defiance College’s innovative McMaster School. Participation enables students to become active world citizens by researching and planning projects that address a global issue, then teaming with faculty to carry out the project in an effort to alleviate human suffering in the world.

www.defiance.edu/pages/AH_majors_history.html

Donald H. Buerk, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of History
dbuerk@defiance.edu | 419-783-2454

Michelle M. Tabit, Ph.D.

Assistant Professor of History
mtabit@defiance.edu | 419-783-2305

Additionally, part-time instructors may teach specialized courses.

- HI 201 US History to 1877
- HI 202 US History from 1877
- HI 204 Europe: Italian Renaissance to the Present
- HI 205 The 20th Century World
- HI 207 Ages of Empires
- HI 336 History of the Constitution

Two of the following:

- HI 340 History of the Middle East
- HI 350 History of Asia
- HI 360 Latin American History

- HI 398 Historical Methods and Public History
- HI 498 Seminar: Senior Capstone Experience

One of the following sets of classes:

- GE 231 Geography of the Americas
- HI 311 Colonial America
- HI 345 Ohio Area
- or*
- GE 232 World Geography
- HI 328 Political Geography
- PS 237 American Government and Politics

History Minor

- HI 201 US History to 1877
- HI 202 US History from 1877
- HI 204 Europe: The Italian Renaissance to the Present *or*
- HI 207 Ages of Empire
- HI 205 The 20th Century World
- HI 340 History of the Middle East *or*
- HI 350 History of Asia *or*
- HI 360 Latin American History
- HI 398 Historical Methods and Public History

And two of the following:

- HI 311 Colonial America
- HI 336 History of the Constitution
- HI 345 Ohio Area
- HI 498 Seminar: Senior Capstone Experience



New Orleans McMaster Scholar Laura Derov helping a docent make 19th century-style corn bread at the Destrehan Plantation in New Orleans.

"Defiance College's small class size and engaging professors have prepared me for a successful career in the history field."

Laura Derov

Defiance College admits students regardless of race, color, creed, sex, national or ethnic origin, disability, or sexual orientation. 6/11

After College — What's Next?

Many people who study history are employed in the education field, public relations, editing, and research. Moreover, they work for a broad spectrum of organizations, from museums to corporations, which call upon the skills of an historian to help document and organize information about the past or to educate the public.

A history degree offers excellent preparation for careers in law, library science, journalism, business, and social and government service. The major at Defiance College can be directed toward a career in any of these fields, or it can concentrate on a culture, an area, or era which especially appeals to the student. Areas of particular strength of the teaching staff include 20th-century Europe and American history as well as the traditional, more general areas of United States and European history. In addition, this major has been newly redesigned to reflect these teaching strengths as well as to incorporate the skills necessary for careers outside the field of history. Integrated Social Studies is a major for those students who wish to become certified teachers.

Graduate School

Graduates of DC's history program have gone on to graduate schools across the country for further study in history, archaeology, law, library science, and business. This is one of the many majors at Defiance College which enjoys stellar placement of its graduates in graduate and professional

Our Mission Statement

Our departmental goal seeks to move students beyond the "traditional" timeline approach to the past and introduce them to a "minds on" approach where studying history is no longer simply learning and memorizing the facts, but rather analyzing, synthesizing, and evaluating the facts to broaden one's knowledge of both the past and present.

We encourage students to ask questions. Why do events happen? What implications do historical events have for understanding the human condition? Students address bigger questions by learning to use a wide variety of historical documents, such as newspapers, journals, primary sources, and electronic databases. By writing their own interpretations of these documents, students are partaking in history, not just learning about it.

Come for a Visit!

A campus visit is the best way to find out how Defiance College defies the ordinary college experience. We'll arrange for you to meet with an admissions counselor, professors, coaches, students, and learn about scholarship and financial aid opportunities. You can sit in on a class, tour campus, and stay overnight if you wish. Call our Office of Admissions at 419-783-2359 or 1-800-520-GO DC to set up your appointment.