



CAREER *services* CENTER

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XAVIER
UNIVERSITY

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR HISTORY MAJORS

SKILLS & ABILITIES OF THE HISTORY MAJOR

Cross-Cultural

- Analyzing impact of problems on society
- Knowledge of how societies cope with change
- Explaining the present by referring to the past
- Developing a world view

Research

- Analyzing ideas/information
- Organizing materials/ideas
- Compiling and evaluating information
- Comparing/contrasting ideas and information
- Adapting ideas
- Understanding or interpreting the present and the past
- Examining evidence
- Interviewing

Project Development

- Developing/generating ideas and projects
- Planning
- Organizing materials/information
- Seeing relationship between factors
- Decision-making

Communication

- Explaining ideas
- Describing and evaluating issues/problems/events
- Observing and comparing people/data/things
- Compiling research reports
- Interpreting events/ideas
- Summarizing
- Writing and presenting information clearly

**Partially taken from the University of Kansas University Career Center*

POTENTIAL CAREERS

- Environmentalist
- Historian
- History Teacher
- Explorer
- Trainer
- Curator
- Archivist
- Art Conservator
- Arborist
- Folklorist
- Preparator
- Publications Editor
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Coordinator of School and Youth Programs
- Director of Museum Education
- Director of Visitor Services
- Environmental Education Instructor
- Museum Educator
- Urban Park Ranger
- Biographer
- Database/Records Manager
- Genealogist
- Information Specialist
- Institutional Researcher
- Research Analyst
- Paralegal
- Public Relations Officer
- Tour Director
- Social Science Teacher
- Education Administrator

TYPES OF EMPLOYERS

- Museums
- Antiquarian and Landmark Societies
- Centers for Cultural Studies
- Centers for Science and Industry
- Children's Museums
- Historic Houses
- Historical Societies
- Oral History Centers
- Colleges and Universities
- National, State, and Local Government
- Nonprofit Organizations
- Botanical Gardens
- Zoos
- Libraries
- Business and Industry
- Research Centers
- Consulting Organizations
- Advertising Agencies
- Environmental Firms
- Public Relations Firms
- Sports-Related Organizations
- Hospitality Industry
- High Schools
- Bureau of Export Administration

TOP 10 OCCUPATIONS EMPLOYING PERSONS WITH A BACHELORS IN HISTORY

Top and mid-level managers, executives, administrators	12.7%
Teachers, secondary school	8.9%
Sales occupations, including retail	6.8%
Insurance, securities, real estate, business services	6.5%
Other management-related occupations	6.2%
Artists, broadcasters, writers, editors, entertainers, public relations specialist	4.8%
Other administrative (record clerk)	4.5%
Teachers, elementary school	4.2%
Accountants, auditors, other financial specialists	3.8%
Other marketing and sales occupations	3.0%

**Taken from Great Jobs for History Majors (Lambert & DeGalan) 2008*

ACTIVITIES ON THE JOB

- Persons with an undergraduate degree in history often have managerial and supervisory duties as a major component of their employment.
- About 1 in 3 employed history majors with a bachelor's degree are involved in the development or use of computer applications on the job.
- Accounting, contracting, and finance duties are a part of the job duties of most history majors.
- History bachelor's degree holders undertake little basic or applied research while on the job.

POST GRADUATION ACTIVITES

- Only 16% earn a master's degree in history.
- About 25% are earned in education.
- About 13% are earned in business administration and management.
- About 1 in 9 eventually earn a law degree.

**Taken from The College Majors Handbook (Fogg, Harrington, & Harrington) 2004*

RELATED BOOKS IN THE CAREER RESOURCE LIBRARY (GSC 310)

- *Great Jobs for History Majors*
- *Top Careers for History Graduates*
- *What to Do with Your History or Political Science Degree*
- *The Internship Series: The History Internship Book*
- *The Internship Series: Washington Internships in Law & Policy*
- *The Student's Federal Career Guide*
- *Resumes for Law Careers*