

WHAT CAN I DO WITH MY MAJOR IN

HISTORY

OVERVIEW OF MAJOR

At the undergraduate level, Concordia University offers a BA Honours in History, a BA Specialization in History, a BA Joint Specialization in English and History, a BA Major in History and a Minor in History. At the graduate level, Concordia University offers a Doctor or/Doctorate in Philosophy and a Master of/Magisteriate in Arts (History). For the latest information on programs, go to the Department of History's website at <http://history.concordia.ca>. The study of history and a liberal arts background prepare students for a wide diversity of careers. The skills that are developed by history majors are highly sought after by employers. In particular, understanding the viewpoints of those from international cultures is an advantage in the workforce.

CELEBRATED HISTORY MAJORS

Conrad Black. Newspaper Baron. Notorious CEO of Hollinger International

Lester B. Pearson. Canadian Diplomat/Politician. 14th Prime Minister of Canada.

Terry Copp. Concordia Alumnus. One of Canada's Foremost Military Historians

David Jay Bercuson. Concordia Alumnus & Historian. Officer of the Order of Canada

Patrick Reed. Concordia Alumnus. Film Director. Associate Producer, Shake Hands with the Devil.

Deborah Fletcher Award for Tsepong: A Clinic Called Hope

Annie Proulx. Concordia Alumnus. National Magazine Award for Brokeback Mountain

EXAMPLES OF JOBS ACQUIRED BY CONCORDIA GRADUATES

The following job titles are representative of the types of entry-level positions for which Concordia University students are qualified for upon graduation. Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>

- Archive Assistant (5211)
- Archivist (5113)
- Conservation Technician (5212)
- Curatorial Assistant (5212)
- Editor (5122)
- Ethnohistorian (4169)
- Foreign Service Officer (4168)
- Gallery Assistant (0511)
- Historian (4169)
- Historic Site Interpreter (5212)
- Interpretive Guide (5212)
- Office Assistant (1411)
- Public Relations Intern
- Publication Assistant
- Researcher (5123, 4164)
- Social Scientist (4169)
- Staff Writer (5123)
- Tour Guide (6441)
- Writer (5121, 5123)

MORE JOB TITLES

Many history majors work as teachers, managers and lawyers. Some work as writers, researchers, curators, archivists, military officers, businesspersons and historians. The titles below are not meant to be exhaustive but are representative of fields which history majors pursue. Keep in mind that some occupations require further education (e.g., a higher degree, second degree, diploma). Note that the numbers following each job title refer to Canada's National Occupational Classification (NOC) code. For details on these titles go to <http://www5.hrsdc.gc.ca/NOC/>

- Administrative Officer (1221)
- Anthropologist (4169)
- Archaeological Field Worker (4169)
- Archaeologist (4169)
- Bank Manager (0122)
- Biographer (5121)
- Broadcaster (5231)
- Canadian Security Intelligence Service Investigator (6261)
- Career Officer in Military Service (0643)
- College Professor (4131)
- Community Relations Director
- Contract Historian
- Cultural Advisor/Bilingual Consultant
- Cultural Resources Manager
- Curator (5112)
- Customs Officer (1228)
- Demographer (2161)
- Economist (4162)
- Educational Textbook Salesperson (6411)
- Election Officer (4168)
- Executive Assistant for Member of Parliament (1222)
- Foreign Correspondent (5123)
- Foundation Staffer
- Genealogist
- Historical Archivist (5113)
- Historical Artifact Conservator (5112)
- Historical Sites Administrator (0511, 5212)
- Information Broker
- Information Officer (5124)
- Intelligence Officer (0643)
- International Relations Specialist (4164)
- Journalist (5123)
- Judge (4111)
- Librarian (5111)

- Linguist (4169)
- Lobbyist (4164)
- Marketing Research Analyst (4163, 4161)
- Media Consultant
- Mediator (1121)
- Military Historian (4169)
- Municipal Administrator (0012)
- Museum Director (0511)
- Museum Researcher
- Museum Technician (5212)
- Paralegal (4211)
- Personal Historian (4169)
- Personnel Manager (0112)
- Political Historian (4169)
- Political Scientist (4169)
- Policy Analyst (4164, 4166)
- Project Manager (Community Agency)
- Public Relations Officer (5124)
- Radio/ TV Researcher (5123)
- Records Manager (0114)
- Technical Writer (5121)
- Television Production Assistant

POTENTIAL WORK SETTINGS

Many history majors work in the private sector, in the educational sector and for the government. Public historians work commonly for corporate bodies, museums, historical sites, archives, public policy organizations and marketing agencies. To research specific employers who hire those in the field, there are many resources available in such locations as the Career Resource Centre, the Webster Library, Vanier Library and the Internet.

- Advertising Agencies
- Art Councils
- Art Galleries
- Banks
- Book Publishers
- Canadian Overseas Agencies
- Census Department
- Community Service Agencies
- Consulting Firms
- Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade
- Embassies/ Consulates
- Federal Government Agencies
- Historical Societies/Associations
- History Consulting Firms
- Housing Agencies
- Interest Groups
- International Companies
- International Organizations

CON'T. – POTENTIAL WORK SETTINGS

- Investment Companies
- Labour Unions
- Law Firms/Legal Services
- Libraries
- Lobbying Firms
- Media Firms
- Multinational Corporations
- National Parks
- Newspapers & Magazines
- NGOs
- Non-Profit Organizations
- Police Departments
- Political Bodies
- Provincial & Municipal Government Bodies
- Public Interest Groups
- Public Relations Firms
- Radio and Television Industries
- Research Institutes
- Schools
- Tourist Attractions
- Transportations Agencies
- Travel Agencies
- Universities

SKILLS AND CHARACTERISTICS

Primary abilities needed for success in the field include good communication, problemsolving, research, analytical, writing and organizational skills. The knowledge of international, cultural and social traditions gained during the study of history will be a job hunting asset. Finally, students will find the following skills, interests, values and other characteristics valuable for career success.

- Ability to Analyze Information
- Ability to Argument Analytically
- Ability to Explain Present in view-of the Past
- Ability to Make Sense of Conflicting Information
- Accurate Evaluation of Past Events
- Communication Skills (Oral and Written)
- Creativity
- Curiosity About People
- Decision Making
- Detail Oriented
- Explaining Ideas
- Idea Analysis Skills
- Independence
- Intellectual Capacity
- Keen Observation
- Objectivity
- Persuasion
- Presentation Skills
- Problem Investigation Skills
- Problem Solving Skills
- Proficiency in Examining Evidence

- Proficiency in Reading
- Quick Mind
- Report Writing Skills
- Research
- Sound Judgment
- Time Management Ability
- Understanding of Present and Past

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION AND OTHER LINKS

Making wise career decisions requires exploring your field. A multitude of Internet sites and other resources will help you do this to the best of your ability. Professional association sites, in particular, are very useful for their career descriptions and job hunting tips. Moreover, these authoritative sites frequently provide links to Internet sites which announce job openings and list potential employers. A few recommended sites are included below.

CANADIAN

Canadian Council of Archives

<http://www.cdncouncilarchives.ca>

Provides information on funding, news, events and publications which students can use to network and advance their careers. Includes a database of Canadian archives and repositories where history majors might seek employment.

Canadian Historical Association (CHA/SHC)

<http://www.cha-shc.ca/>

Promotes the career advancement of those in all fields of history through its publication program, annual conference, historical scholarships and more. Also lists Job Opportunities. Provides links to numerous organizations related to history.

Canadian Museums Association

<http://www.museums.ca/>

Representing Canadian museum professionals, the Association offers much of interest to new graduates. Click on Careers for job openings and a listing of Museum Studies Programs in Canada.

Jurist Canada - The Legal Education Network

<http://jurist.law.utoronto.ca/>

Click on Studying Law for a list of links to Canadian Law Schools, information on law school rankings, Canadian Law School News and Canadian Law School Admission.

INTERNATIONAL

American Association for State and Local History

<http://www.aaslh.org/>

Serving the interests of state and local history, the Association provides a multitude of tools for enhancing the career development of history majors including workshops, a mentor program and Resource Links to other organizations.

American Historical Association

<http://www.historians.org/>

Quick Links Students provides much useful information on education, grants, jobs and careers. Also explore Jobs and Careers along the top bar.

Society of American Archivists

<http://www.archivists.org/>

North America's largest national archival professional association provides a multitude of resources for the new graduate. Scan The Archives Profession for career opportunities and Education & Events for programs. Be sure to explore Student Information under Members.

CREATE YOUR AMAZING CAREER – CAREER RESOURCE CENTRE TITLES

For those who need more help with their career and educational planning, the Career Resource Centre (CRC) offers books, pamphlets, DVDs and recommended Internet sites. It is located in the Hall Building, H-440, at 1455 de Maisonneuve Blvd. West. The following titles are just a few of the titles available in the CRC.

- Becoming a Historian
- Career Opportunities for Writers
- Career Opportunities in Library and Information Science
- Careers for Patriotic Types and Those Who Want to Serve Their Country
- Careers for Students of History
- Careers in Art History
- Careers in Government Panel Discussion – DVD
- Careers in History Panel Discussion - DVD
- Great Jobs for History Majors
- Life on the Tenure Track
- NGO and International Careers Panel Discussion DVD
- Opportunities in Museum Careers
- Opportunities in Teaching Careers
- So You Want to Be a Lawyer, Eh?
- Top Careers for History Graduates
- Tour Guiding Business