



CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY

HISTORY

Any fool can make history,  
but it takes a genius to write it.

*-Oscar Wilde*

The History major at Chapman University provides students with the knowledge and tools of history, a sense of roots and identity, and a broader perspective on the diverse regions and peoples of the world. The BA in History teaches students how to think critically, analyze a variety of problems, and gain an understanding of people, societies, and historic change. Our major provides a solid foundation for a wide range of areas in law, teaching, business, journalism, government, historical preservation, and archival management.

What makes Chapman's History Department unique? An award-winning undergraduate student online journal; best history honors society in the nation for the last five years; distinguished speakers visiting classrooms; student-curated museum exhibits; local, national, and global opportunities for research; a 4+1 Master's program in War and Society enabling students to earn their BA & MA in five years. These are just some examples of how our majors are not just studying history – they are becoming historians.

*Professors Lee Estes and Bill Cumiford (holding Chapman University pennant) taking students to see the Roman Coliseum as part of the European Civilizations Program.*



# Integrated

## Curriculum

All History Majors take a diverse variety of classes that accumulate to 45 units. The sophomore-level (HIST 296) seminar focuses on the critical reading of texts, developing historical arguments, debates among historians, and changing historical interpretations on an array of topics that alternate each semester. At the junior-level students take HIST 398 which introduces the philosophy of history and historical thought, historical methodology, and the craft of doing history. At the senior level, students take Advanced Research Thesis I & II to write an original research paper that students present at the Phi Alpha Theta (History Honors Society) Regional History conference and publish in *Voces Novae*, the department's online history journal. This course serves as a capstone experience and our students have consistently written award-winning senior theses that have received over 25 Phi Alpha Theta regional awards as well as national undergraduate awards.

## Phi Alpha Theta

Each semester, students who have taken at least four history courses and maintained at least a 3.1 GPA in their history courses, and a 3.0 overall GPA, are invited to join the Alpha-Mu-Gamma chapter of Phi Alpha Theta (PAT), the national history honors society. Once inducted, students become lifelong members of PAT and are eligible to compete for scholarships, essay contests, and attend regional and national conferences sponsored by PAT. In addition, the campus chapter regularly organizes history related events including lectures, film series, and visits to area museums and Medieval Times. Alpha-Mu-Gamma also holds its own annual in-house history conference to help students prepare for paper presentations at regional and national conferences. In 2011, PAT completed an oral history project that documented the university's rise to prominence over the last twenty years to help Chapman celebrate its 150th anniversary. The students edited and published the videos in an award-winning issue of *Voces Novae*, the department's online journal. See the video they made about their experience here:

<http://journals.chapman.edu/ojs/index.php/VocesNovae/article/view/179/428#Rise>



## Recent Awards



- 2014 Nels A. Cleven Div. II Best Chapter Award for Best Chapter 5 or more times (National Award)
- American Historical Association's 2010 Richard J. Cunningham Award to Hailey Giczy ('09)
- Best paper prizes at every Phi Alpha Theta regional conference that our majors have attended

- *Voces Novae*, Phi Alpha Theta Nash History Journal Prize for Best E-Journal (three time winner)
- \* Karen Liu ('15), Critical Language Scholarship from U.S. Department of State
- Gary Girod ('11), French Embassy residential teaching scholarship



# Individual

## Internships

Opportunities for internships abound, including:

National Archives – Laguna Niguel  
Richard Nixon Library – Yorba Linda  
The Paragon Agency – Orange  
Banning Museum – Wilmington

# Interdisciplinary

## Liberal Arts Core

Students have the opportunity to explore a range of topics, methodologies, iconography, material culture, social history, and gender studies within their General Education core. History majors are encouraged to study a foreign language and to conduct research in an overseas archives for their senior theses.

## Minor in Holocaust History

The minor includes study of the origins and history of the Holocaust within the context of European history as well as current Holocaust research. Students also participate in extracurricular activities through the Rodgers Center for Holocaust Education lecture series. These visits allow students to learn first-hand from extraordinary survivors, such as Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Wiesel.

▼ *Nobel Peace Prize winner Elie Weisel with Chapman Holocaust Education students*



◀ *Student curators from the history and art departments, along with their faculty advisors in front of WWI Exhibit*

# International

## Global Studies

All Chapman Students are encouraged to participate in study abroad programs available in almost every part of the world. Please visit: <http://studyabroad.chapman.edu>

The History Department encourages students to think about their senior thesis early and conduct original research on their chosen topic while abroad. We also offer grants to aid students in conducting their research. Past students have traveled to Paris, Lima, London, Florence, Dublin, and China to complete their research.

Travel courses tailored to History majors include A Tale of Two Cities (London & Paris) and Historic Rome. These trips provide hands-on introduction to the history and culture of Western European Civilization through a three week course of study that meets both the intent and, more importantly, the spirit of Chapman's general education program.

## M.A. in War & Society 4+1 Program

The War & Society Master's program and the B.A. program in the Department of History offer a 4+1 program option for undergraduates that enable students to begin taking M.A. coursework in their senior year and receive a Master of Arts degree within one year of finishing their undergraduate studies.

War & Society scholars expand the study of warfare beyond combat by examining the social and cultural aspects of how societies go to war, experience war, and its consequences.

▼ *British, German, and French helmets from World War I battlefields*



## The Chapman University application requires you to:

- 1. Submit your Application:** The Common Application, the Chapman University Supplemental Application and a \$65 application fee — through The Common Application website. *(We will receive your completed application only after you submit all three of these components.)*
- 2. Request Letter of Recommendation:** Ask someone who knows you well, a core-subject teacher, employer, or clergy member, to write a letter of recommendation using the Teacher Evaluation form in the Common Application or send the letter on his or her letterhead to Chapman University Office of Admission.
- 3. Secondary School Report Form:** Ask your school counselor to complete the Secondary School Report form through the Common Application.
- 4. Request Official High School Transcripts** to be sent to Chapman University Office of Admission. To be considered “official,” transcripts must remain in the envelope that’s been sealed by your high school records office or sent electronically by your high school through Docufile or Naviance.
- 5. Ensure all SAT or ACT scores are sent** to Chapman University by the testing company. We require results from all your testing attempts; please do not exclude any scores. Please note: The last acceptable testing date for Early Action consideration is the early November offering; we highly recommend submitting scores from the October test date or prior to ensure your file completes on time. *(Chapman’s SAT test code is 4047; our ACT code is 0210.)*
- 6. Send official college transcripts** (if applicable) in the envelope sealed by the college records office or have them sent electronically by your institution’s records office. We require official transcripts for all college course work you’ve attempted.

Please visit or contact us at:

Web: [chapman.edu/Wilkinson/history](http://chapman.edu/Wilkinson/history)

Phone: 714-997-6641

Office: Roosevelt Hall 200

E-mail: [history@chapman.edu](mailto:history@chapman.edu)

## BA in History Curriculum:

HIST 296 History Seminar

HIST 398 The Historian's Craft

four 100-level history courses

three 200-level history courses

four 300-level history courses

HIST 496 Advanced Research Thesis I

HIST 498 Advanced Research Thesis II

45 UNITS total

## Minor in History:

21 UNITS total

## Minor in Holocaust History:

21 UNITS total



#7 Regional Universities (West)

