

**Date:** February 27, 2008

**Subject:** Proposed Revisions to the History Minor

**From:** Jay Hobgood

Subcommittee B considered the proposal for the revisions to the History minor at its meeting on November 15, 2007. After a thorough examination and discussion of the proposal, the subcommittee unanimously approved the proposal with contingencies. The Department of History addressed the contingencies and the proposal is being moved to the CCI for its consideration.

The proposed revisions are:

1. To increase the credit hours required for the minor from 20 to 25;
2. To allow 5 credit hours from the GEC *Historical Studies* category taken at the 200-level and above to count in the minor;
3. To require History 398 (Introduction to Historical Thought) for all minors; and
4. To eliminate the geographical distributions currently required in the minor.

The principal rationale for increasing the number of credit hours from 20-25 is to add History 398 as a requirement for all students in the minor. The Department of History feels “*quite strongly*” that History 398 “*provides students with excellent foundations and skills in research communication and critical thinking.*”

The rationale for the elimination of the requirement of geographical distributions is to allow students to craft minors with more focus and substance, which is consistent with some of the learning outcomes articulated in the McHale report.

The principal foci for discussion were:

1. The increase in the number of hours required for the minor from 20 to 25. The subcommittee ultimately felt that the increase was justified in light of the goals and other revisions proposed by the Department of History;
2. Point 3 in the information on *The Undergraduate Minor in History* which stated that students must receive a minimum grade of C in History 398 was inconsistent with Point 7 in the *General Information on Minors in the Arts & Sciences* which stated that students must receive a minimum grade of C- in order for a course to count in a minor. The requirements for the minimum grade of C in History 398 are made explicitly in both places now.

Proposal to Revise the History Minor  
Submitted July 2007 – Revised October 2007

The Department of History proposes to revise the History minor in the following four ways:

- 1) the Minor should be increased from 20 to 25 credit hours;
- 2) 5 GEC credit hours in the Historical Studies category will be allowed to be counted from 200-level and above courses taken within the History Department;
- 3) History 398, Introduction to Historical Thought, will be mandatory for all minors;
- 4) the existing geographical distributions for the minor will be eliminated.

**Rationale:**

- 1) Increasing the credit hours to the Minor allows for a number of improvements:
  - a) this would bring our minor in line with many of the other existing minors at the University;
  - b) it would allow us to require 398, giving the minor more substance. We feel quite strongly that 398—the course in which we teach the students the methods of historical thought and practice—provides students with excellent foundations and skills in research, communication, and critical thinking.
- 2) The potential to count GEC credits would allow us to appeal to students who wish to do so, making the minor more attractive.
- 3) We see the elimination of geographical distributions for the remaining 20 hours as being a considerable draw for the minor. This will allow students to create a minor that has real focus, and can directly relate to their major. (For example, if a student is majoring in East Asian Languages and Literatures, they can craft a history minor in Chinese and Japanese history. Or if a student is majoring in World Economy and Business, the student could minor in the history of the region that they've decided to focus on.) By eliminating the geographical distributions, we will be encouraging the students to create minors that have focus and substance, which meets some of the learning outcomes called for in the McHale report. Towards this aim, the four main points of the minor requirements include an encouragement to take courses that focus on a particular theme, time period, or geographical region. In addition, the history department advising office will work with students who come in to help them bring thematic focus to their minor. Finally, we encourage the students<sup>1</sup> major advisors to take an active role in helping the students to think about crafting a related minor.

## **Committee Transmittal History for Revision to the History Minor**

### **Humanities College Curriculum committee minutes excerpt**

10-19-07

History minor – unanimously approved with contingency on changing (ii)

- i. history has not had any 200-level courses in proposal item 2)
- ii. revise p.3, point 3-- language: “GEC history sequence”—not existing anymore, change to GEC historical requirement

### **Revisions received from History**

10-26-07

Revisions:

1. Inserted "...in the Historical Studies category..." in item 2) on page 1
2. Inserted "...Historical Studies" in rationale 2) on page 1
3. Replaced "history" with "Historical Studies" in the third item of proposed changes on page 2
4. Replaced "...courses in history" with "...Historical Studies courses" in item 2. on page 3
5. Replaced "GEC History sequence" with "requirements" in item 3. on page 3

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James P Bach

### **CCI Sub B minutes excerpt**

11-15-07

History Minor – Approve with contingency

- a. Suggestion for History 398— reorganize the assignments listed in chronological order; add grading scale
- b. Point 3 & 7 in the proposal are inconsistent: make them consistent (except in the case of History 398)
- c. Point 7- add History 398 as the Comparison sheet suggests
- d. Current and proposed History Minor advising sheet should be provided

Comparison of Existing with Proposed Minor

<b>EXISTING</b>	<b>PROPOSED</b>
The Minor in History consists of 20 credit hours at the 200-level and above.	The Minor consists of 25 credit hours taken at the 200-level and above.
The 100-level history sequence does not count toward the minor requirements.	History courses taken at the 100-level do NOT count toward the minor requirements.
Courses counted as part of the student's College GEC requirements may not be used as part of the minor program.	5 credit hours may be counted from GEC courses in Historical Studies taken at the 200-level and above.
<p>1. A minimum of 10 hours will be chosen from one of the 6 Geographical Areas. This will be the student's Primary Geographical Field.</p> <p>2. A minimum of 5 hours will be chosen from one of the Geographical Areas in Group A, if the student's primary Geographical Area is in Group B, or from one of the Geographical Areas in Group B if the student's Primary Geographical Area is in Group A.</p>	Students may organize their Minor how they wish. But they are encouraged to take courses that focus on a particular theme, time period, or geographical region.
398 is not required	5 credit hours must be History 398. Students must pass History 398 with a minimum grade of a C to complete for a Minor in History.

The Ohio State University  
Colleges of the Arts and Sciences  
College of Humanities

Current

History Minor (History, 215)

Department of History  
106 Dulles Hall, 230 West 17th Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43210-1367; 614-292-2674;  
<http://.history.osu.edu/students/undergrad/minor.cfm>

The minor in history is designed to provide a student with substantial understanding of the human past. It should be organized to assure some depth of study in one particular field of history but may also contain work in at least one other field to allow for some breadth of treatment.

Courses counted as part of a student's GEC requirements may not be used as part of the minor program. All proposals for minor programs must be submitted in writing to the Undergraduate History Office and approved by that office. After your Minor Program Form has been approved, you must file the form with your college or school counselor.

The minor consists of 20 credit hours of history course work distributed in the following manner. Courses at the 100 level cannot be used on the minor.

**Geographical areas**

Group A Africa, East Asia, Latin America, Near East, Middle East, and South Asia

Group B Europe, North America

- A minimum of 10 hours chosen from one of the six geographical areas listed above. This will be your primary geographical field.
- A minimum of five hours chosen from one of the geographical areas in Group A, if your primary geographical area is in Group B, or from one of the geographical areas in Group B if your primary geographical area is in Group A.
- A minor may be organized around a thematic field (such as military, world, women's, or business history) within the broad categories of Group A or Group B. For thematic courses crossing geographical boundaries, you and your adviser will decide under which geographical group the course will be counted.

**History minor program guidelines**

The following guidelines govern this minor.

Required for graduation No

Credit hours required A minimum of 20

Transfer credit hours allowed A maximum of 10

Overlap with the GEC Not allowed

Overlap with the major Not allowed and

- The minor must be in a different subject than the major.
- The same courses cannot count on the minor and on the major.

Overlap between minors Each minor completed must contain 20 unique hours.

Grades required

- Minimum C- for a course to be listed on the minor.
- Minimum 2.00 cumulative point-hour ratio required for the minor.
- Course work graded Pass/Non-Pass cannot count on the minor.

Approval required The minor program description sheet indicates if the minor course work must be approved by:

- The academic unit offering the minor

Filing the minor program form The minor program form must be filed at least by the time the graduation application is submitted to a college/school counselor.

Changing the minor Once the minor program is filed in the college office, any changes must be approved by:

- The academic unit offering the minor

The Ohio State University  
Colleges of the Arts and Sciences  
College of Humanities

revised

**History Minor (History, 215)**

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Department of History  
106 Dulles Hall, 230 West 17th Avenue  
Columbus, OH 43210-1367; 614-292-2674;  
<http://.history.osu.edu/students/undergrad/minor.cfm>

The minor in history is designed to provide a student with substantial understanding of the human past.

All proposals for minor programs must be submitted in writing to the Undergraduate History Office and approved by that office. After your Minor Program Form has been approved, you must file the form with your college or school counselor.

The minor consists of 25 credit hours of history course work above the 100-level. Courses at the 100 level cannot be used on the minor.

- Students may organize their minor how they wish, but are encouraged to take courses that focus on a particular theme, time period, or geographical region.

**History minor program guidelines**

The following guidelines govern this minor.

Required for graduation No

Credit hours required A minimum of 25

- 5 credit hours must be History 398. Students must pass History 398 with a minimum grade of C to complete a minor in History. Students should take History 398 as soon as possible after completing the GEC Historical Studies requirement.

Transfer credit hours allowed A maximum of 10

Overlap with the GEC 5 credit hours may be counted from GEC courses in Historical Studies taken at the 200-level and above.

Overlap with the major Not allowed and

- The minor must be in a different subject than the major.
- The same courses cannot count on the minor and on the major.

Overlap between minors Each minor completed must contain 20 unique hours.

Grades required

- Minimum C- for a course to be listed on the minor (except for History 398, which requires a grade of C to count toward the History minor)

- Minimum 2.00 cumulative point-hour ratio required for the minor.
- Course work graded Pass/Non-Pass cannot count on the minor.

Approval required All proposals for an Undergraduate Minor Program in History must be submitted in writing to the Undergraduate History Office and approved by that office.

Filing the minor program form The minor program form must be filed at least by the time the graduation application is submitted to a college/school counselor.

Changing the minor Once the minor program is filed in the college office, any changes must be approved by:

- The academic unit offering the minor

*these are the old minor (before 11/2007)*

## THE UNDERGRADUATE MINOR IN HISTORY

The History Minor is designed to provide a student with substantial understanding of the human past. The Minor consists of 20 credit hours at the 200-level and above. The 100-level history sequence does not count toward the Minor. The Minor must be organized to assure some depth of study in one particular field of history, but it must also provide breadth of study in other fields.

### Geographical Groups and Areas

**Group A:** (1) Africa (2) East Asia (3) Latin America (4) Near East, Middle East and South Asia

**Group B:** (5) Europe (6) North America

Of the 20 credit hours required for the History Minor:

1. **A minimum of 10 hours** must be chosen from one of the 6 Geographical Areas. This area comprises the student's Primary Geographical Field.
2. **A minimum of 5 hours** must be chosen from one of the Geographical Areas in Group A, if the student's primary Geographical Area is in Group B; or from one of the Geographical Areas in Group B, if the student's Primary Geographical Area is in Group A.
3. A student may organize a Minor around a thematic field, such as Military, World, Women's, or Business History, within the broad categories of Group A or Group B
4. Courses counted as part of the student's College GEC requirements may not be used to fulfill the History Minor.

All proposals for a History Minor must be submitted in writing to the Undergraduate History Office and approved by that office.

### GENERAL INFORMATION ON MINORS IN THE ARTS & SCIENCES

1. Minor programs are not required for graduation.
2. A student may not take a major and a minor in the same subject.
3. Courses used for the minor may not be used for a major unless prior approval has been given by the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee. Overlap between the GEC and a minor is permissible unless specifically disallowed for an individual minor.
4. Students need not file their minor programs until they file their graduation applications (normally, two quarters before they plan to graduate).
5. Once a minor is on file with Arts and Sciences, any changes must be discussed with the faculty advisor and/or the ASC counselor.
6. No more than ten hours of transfer credit may be applied to the minor.
7. Although grades of C- are permitted in courses comprising the minor, the minimum overall cumulative grade point average of the minor shall be 2.0.
8. Courses taken Pass/Non-pass may not be applied to the minor.

*This is the newly approved minor (11/2017)*

### THE UNDERGRADUATE MINOR IN HISTORY

The Minor in History is designed to provide a student with substantial understanding of the human past. The Minor consists of 25 credit hours taken at the 200-level and above.

Of the 25 credit hours required for the History Minor:

1. History courses taken at the 100-level do NOT count toward the minor requirements.
2. 5 credit hours may be counted from GEC Historical Studies courses taken at the 200-level and above.
3. A grade of C- is permitted in courses comprising the Minor, except for History 398 which students must pass with a minimum grade of a C to complete a Minor in History. Students should take History 398 as soon as possible after completing the GEC Historical Studies requirement.
4. Students may organize their Minor how they wish. But they are encouraged to take courses that focus on a particular theme, time period, or geographical region.

All proposals for an Undergraduate Minor Program in History must be submitted in writing to the Undergraduate History Office and approved by that office.

#### General Information on Minors in the Arts & Sciences

1. •Minor programs are not required for graduation.
2. •A student may not take a major and a minor in the same subject.
3. •Courses used for the minor may not be used for a major unless prior approval has been given by the Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee.
4. •Students need not file their minor programs until they file their graduation applications; that is, two quarters before they plan to graduate.
5. •Once a minor is on file with Arts and Sciences, any changes must be discussed with the faculty advisor and/or the ASC counselor.
6. •No more than ten hours of transfer credit may be applied to the minor.
7. •Although a grade of C- will be permitted in courses comprising the minor (**except for History 398, which requires a grade of C**), the minimum overall cumulative grade point average of the Minor shall be 2.0.
8. •Courses taken Pass/Non-pass may not be applied to the minor.