Master of Arts Degree Programs in History and Religious Studies, History and East Asian Languages, and History and French

The Department of History offers Dual M.A. degree programs with the Department of Religious Studies, (RLST), the Department of Asian Languages and Civilizations (ALC), and the Department of French (FREN). Such programs serve the scholarly needs of students who seek a truly interdisciplinary experience among intellectually affiliated departments. The dual M.A. program enables students to receive two M.A. degrees upon the completion of 42 credit hours of coursework and thesis hours taken between HIST and RLST, ALC, or FREN. Three courses (nine credits) from each program may be double-counted toward both degrees.

Admission to the Dual M.A. program may be accomplished in one of two ways. Students can either be first admitted to one of the participating departments as a regular M.A. student, and upon consultation with his/her primary academic advisor about whether dual degrees are appropriate and feasible, decide to petition to add a second M.A. program from among the participating departments. It is recommended that students considering this option take at least one course from the other program during the first year of graduate studies and then consult with a potential advisor in the other department about making formal petition to that program. It is also possible to apply to both programs from the outset by making a separate application to each department, listing as your primary department the one in which you will write your thesis.

Requirements for admission are the same as for the standard M.A. program in each department: GRE scores, transcripts, recommendations, statement of purpose, writing sample, and language requirements as appropriate. Regarding admissions, the Directors of Graduate Studies in each department may communicate with each other and share application information in a confidential manner. Due to the demanding nature of the program, students will not be eligible to pursue other dual or joint programs or certificates while enrolled in the Dual M.A. program.

Dual degree programs may combine an M.A. Plan 1 (thesis track) with a Plan 2 (non-thesis track) or students may opt for non-thesis tracks in both departments. However, students may not write two theses; rather they are encouraged to select an interdisciplinary thesis topic if they opt for the thesis track. Thesis hours may be credited toward either degree.

Students must have a primary program, comprising their home department, and a secondary program, comprising their other department of choice. Students will have distinct primary academic advisors and thesis/examination committees in each of the two participating degree granting departments. Student committees will consist of three faculty members, including at least two faculty members of the department from which each respective M.A. degree will be conferred.

As this is a dual, as opposed to a joint, M.A. degree plan (i.e., students will be awarded separate M.A. degrees in each discipline upon successful completion of the program), it is anticipated that participants will fulfill all of the requirements for the standard M.A. in History as detailed on our website entry here: http://history.colorado.edu/sites/default/files/CUHIST_Rev_Grad_Hbk_MA_092014-s.pdf

It is understood, however, that the structure of the Dual M.A. program may require flexibility on the part of the Department of History to ensure timely progress to degree. With the endorsement of a student's departmental academic advisor and the consent of our Director of Graduate Studies, the requirements for the M.A. in History may be adjusted on an as-needed basis. A methods course in each program is the only specific joint program requirement for the dual degrees.
Students participating in the Dual M.A. programs will have four years from the inception of their programs to complete both degrees.