

School of Arts and Humanities

Master of Arts in History of Ideas



Program Description

The Master of Arts in History of Ideas degree program is designed both for students wishing to enhance their knowledge of the history of thought and culture and develop the skills for studying it and for those who intend to pursue a doctorate in a related field. Taught by internationally recognized faculty at the University of Texas at Dallas, students in the program developed advanced training in philosophy and history, with a focus on modern Europe and America.



The History of Ideas is an interdisciplinary program of study where students take the coursework in both history and philosophy, as well as having an option to take courses in other fields as supports their particular interests. Students in the master's program elect either a professional or research option, the latter being especially relevant for those who plan to pursue doctoral study.

Benefits

The History of Ideas program ensures that students gain a broad understanding of their chosen field or discipline, apply their knowledge in new, creative ways and communicate and work effectively in collaborative environments.

Other benefits include:

- *World-Class Faculty*: The program is led by the history and philosophy faculty of the School of Arts and Humanities who are widely cited experts in their respective fields.
- *Comprehensive Curriculum*: Courses in the program will introduce students to new ideas, methodologies and competencies while preparing them to succeed in both public and private sectors.
- *Location*: Situated in the greater Dallas region—recently rated by Forbes magazine as the #1 “Best City for Jobs”—UT Dallas provides students with easy access to employers and internship opportunities, not to mention a large and supportive alumni population.

Career Opportunities

In addition to law schools and PhD programs, graduates of the History of Ideas master's program are well-prepared for positions in both public and private sectors, such as:

- Teacher/educator
- Historian or historical site and museum curator
- Public history administrator
- Clinical or professional ethicist
- Researcher and archivist
- Public policy administrator
- Writer

Career settings may include higher education, non-profits, cultural and historical organizations, government agencies, international development organizations, museums and archives, business or corporate entities and independent consulting.

Contact Information

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Marketable Skills

Upon successful completion of the MA in History of Ideas, students will have attained advanced knowledge and skills for the study of History, Philosophy, and their intersection. They will have the knowledge and skills necessary to pursue doctoral work or to use their knowledge and skills in a wide variety of professional settings.

- Demonstrated capacity to synthesize and evaluate extensive bodies of information
- Recognizing evidence required to produce new knowledge
- Understanding complex theoretical paradigms
- Ability to critically evaluate arguments made orally and in writing
- Experience analyzing sophisticated, professional-level intellectual discourse
- Experience advancing complex arguments and defending them with evidence
- Ability to produce narratives, including continuity and change
- Ability to communicate complex ideas with clarity and accessibility

Application Deadlines and Requirements

Please take note of all application deadlines and visit the Apply Now webpage to begin the application process. See the History of Ideas program website for additional information.

Applicants to the History of Ideas master's degree program normally have:

- A previous degree (BA or MA) or its equivalent from an accredited institution of higher education in an arts and humanities or related field.
- A grade point average (GPA) of 3.3 out of a 4.0 scale.

Application requirements include:

- Letters of Recommendation: Applicants must submit 3 letters of recommendation from individual able to judge the candidate's potential for success in the master's degree program.
- Admissions Essay: Applicants must submit a 650-word narrative essay, which should be reflective rather than factual. The essay should address the applicant's academic interests and goals and indicate how the master's program would enable such pursuits.
- International applicants must submit a TOEFL score of at least 80 on the internet-based test. Scores must be less than two years old. See the Graduate Catalog for additional information regarding English proficiency requirements for international applicants.

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The University of Texas at Dallas
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About the School



The School of Arts and Humanities emphasizes education that seeks and creates connections, combining critical with creative thought, theory with practice and arts and humanities with other fields of knowledge. Our goal is to foster in students intense curiosity informed by rigorous attention and the ability not only to solve challenging problems but also to communicate the process and importance of the solution.

Our graduate programs provide students with a flexible, interdisciplinary context in which to pursue a personalized course of study. Rather than identifying fixed disciplinary areas, we have designed our graduate degrees around broadly defined areas of interest. The interrelationship and mutual influence of these broad areas is emphasized as the essential aspect of our approach to graduate education.

The School of Arts and Humanities offers the advantages of a research university and the nurturing atmosphere of a liberal arts college. Students in the School of Arts and Humanities are encouraged to explore the boundaries and the interrelationships of the major fields of study within the school. Consistent with this focus on the integration of the arts and humanities and a commitment to interdisciplinary education, the school has no conventional departments. Rather, its curriculum is designed to allow study that crosses and transcends traditional disciplinary lines. This flexible design allows faculty members to create learning communities based on mutual interests and in response to the educational needs of students.

Additional Facts

Several faculty members have been awarded prestigious fellowships, including those from the Guggenheim, Fulbright, Alexander S. Onassis and Woodrow Wilson foundations. Others are recipients of the Füst Literary Award, as well as awards from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

The school’s centers further enhance students’ educational experience by bringing the concept of globalism to campus, by bringing world events into focus through research and by encouraging innovation and creativity.

The National Science Foundation recently awarded a major grant to the school’s Center for Values in Medicine, Science and Technology to study the mentoring and education that occurs in science laboratories.

A&H Graduate Programs		
Art History	MA	
History	MA	
History of Ideas	MA	PHD
Humanities	MA	PHD
Latin American Studies	MA	
Literature	MA	PHD
Visual and Performing Arts	MA	PHD

Contact Information

Office of Admission and Enrollment

800 West Campbell Road
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Phone: 972-883-2270 or
1-800-889-2443
Email: interest@utdallas.edu
Website: utdallas.edu/enroll

AH Advising

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The School of Arts and Humanities has several centers that provide a foundation for growth both internally and throughout the community:

The Ackerman Center for Holocaust Studies

further contemporary attempts at understanding, speaking about, interpreting and representing this difficult period in history.

The Center for Asian Studies

is a hub for Asian scholarly study and cultural fluency. The center is devoted to Asian and Asian-American culture and the interaction of Asia with America..

The Center for Translation Studies

has a broad mission: enhancing the visibility and establishing the importance of the translator as the most important mediator between cultures; supporting the scholarly analysis and creation of literary translations; establishing partnerships with writers, scholars and publishers around the world.

The Center for U.S.-Latin America Initiatives (CUSLAI), reflects the importance of Latin America to the United States and, specifically, to the northern portion of Texas, in the context of historical mutual understanding and co-existence. CUSLAI offers exchange opportunities for U.S. and Latin American scholars, researchers and students in science, technology, management, social sciences, arts and humanities.

The Center for Values in Medicine, Science and Technology supports programs and projects that address the human implications of scientific investigation and technological innovation.

The Edith O'Donnell Institute of Art History is a center for innovative research and graduate education in the history of art. Research and teaching at the O'Donnell Institute focus on artworks held in Dallas-Fort Worth collections, which together open onto a history of art that ranges across geography, chronology and medium. The O'Donnell Institute is dedicated to intellectual creativity, exchange and collaboration in the form of lectures and symposia, exhibitions, publications and collaborations with area institutions.

utdallas.edu/ah/centers



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