GET INVOLVED!
7 Ways to Be a Part of History

1. Take History at Work

What can you do with a degree in History? Anything you want! Take History 300, History at Work, and hear about career options from alumni in fields like sports management, finance, IT, news media, non-profit administration, and public history. You'll also learn how to build a résumé, translate your degree into the workplace, and communicate your skills to potential employers.

2. Join ARCHIVE

ARCHIVE is the Department's award-winning, undergraduate-run academic journal. First published in 1998, it features research articles from students in History classes at UW and from around the country. Each year, an editorial board solicits, reviews, selects, and edits submissions, then creates the journal layout and oversees the publishing process. Students can receive credit for their work through History 601, Historical Publishing Practicum.

3. Hang Out with Phi Alpha Theta

Phi Alpha Theta, Lambda Xi chapter, is the primary student organization for UW's undergraduate History majors. General membership is open to everyone with a love of History and a keen sense of fun: past activities include the annual fall cookout and spring induction banquet, trivia nights, study sessions, and even a Brewers game! National membership requires an overall GPA of 3.0, a GPA of 3.1 in at least 12 credits of history courses, and a small membership fee. National members wear honor cords at graduation.

4. Complete an Internship

Imagine spending your summer exploring a Great Lakes shipwreck, mining the treasures of the National Archives and writing blog posts, working on an election campaign, or creating a podcast that conveys the experiences of Wisconsin soldiers returning from Afghanistan. History majors have done just that – and more! – through an internship. Students can receive academic credit through enrollment in History 301, History at Work: Internship.

Right: History/Political Science major Ryan Smazal on a Summer 2018 underwater dig with the Maritime Preservation Program. Photo courtesy of Tamara Thomson.
5. Be a Peer Advisor
Share your love of History with your fellow undergraduates as a peer advisor! Peer advisors hold weekly office hours and provide advice on course selection, review graduation requirements, and help prospective and declared majors explore all the History Department has to offer. Applications are accepted each spring for the following academic year; come develop your communication skills and help other majors as part of the undergraduate advising team!

6. Volunteer for National History Day
Middle- and high-school students come to campus each February and April to show off their historical knowledge and creativity at National History Day. Our majors can volunteer as judges at the Regional and State competitions, where they help evaluate the papers, exhibits, skits, and documentaries; serve as room monitors or guides for visiting students and their families; and help the NHD office prepare for the spring competitions. Volunteers are an important part of the event’s success, and all are welcome!

7. Write for Wisconsin 101
Learn more about local and state history by writing for Wisconsin 101, a state-wide project that explores Wisconsin’s history through everyday objects. Through images and essays in its online museum, Wisconsin 101 places objects in local, regional and even national history. Writing for Wisconsin 101 is a terrific way to learn more about conducting research and writing for a public audience and to get a publication you can put on your résumé.

Want to know more about how to be a part of History? See https://history.wisc.edu/undergraduate-program/!