Q: What can you do with a degree in History?

A: Anything you want!

A quick guide to career resources for majors and prospective majors

1. Talk to the History Career Advisor

Did you know the History Department has its own career advisor? Christina Matta is here to talk with you about your interests, craft your search for jobs and internships, review cover letters and résumés, match you with alumni mentors, and help you explore the many possibilities that the History major opens up for you. Walk-ins hours and appointments are available via Starfish or by emailing christina.matta@wisc.edu.

2. Take History at Work

History at Work (History 300) is a 1- to 2-credit course designed for students who want to get a head start on learning about career options and building a professional network. Guest speakers give students a glimpse of fields such as sports management, law, international affairs, news media, non-profit administration, information technology, and many more. You’ll also learn to prepare a résumé, write a cover letter, and communicate your skills to potential employers!

3. Learn from our alumni

Tap into the collective experience of other History majors through mentoring! Each fall, the Department sponsors mentoring circles that match students with alumni in their fields of interest, and mentors are available throughout the year for informational interviews, résumé advice, and networking help. Our mentors have even helped place students in positions with global companies like Deloitte & Touche. Contact Christina for more information.

4. Visit SuccessWorks

SuccessWorks (3rd floor, University Bookstore) is the comprehensive career resource for L&S students. The Career Communities can help you investigate clusters of careers based on your interests, and SuccessWorks also offers mock interviews with employers, guidance on preparing for the career fair, a Career Closet for professional attire, and so much more! For more information, see https://careers.ls.wisc.edu.

5. Visit the Career Exploration Center

The Career Exploration Center (114 Ingraham Hall) helps students identify potential majors and career paths based on their interests, strengths, values, and personality. CEC sponsors a number of interactive workshops each semester, and offers drop-in advising as well as access to career assessments and a lending library. For more information, see https://cec.ccas.wisc.edu.

6. Activate your Handshake account

Handshake is UW’s official job platform. There, you can find upcoming workshops and employer information sessions along with internships and full-time jobs with thousands of employers. Employers can view your credentials on and recruit you via Handshake as well. All students and recent alumni have access to Handshake; go to https://app.joinhandshake.com, select “University of Wisconsin-Madison” under “For students & alumni”, and log in with your NetID!