

History

Studying history involves much more than memorizing names, dates and places from the past. It means interpreting the significance of people and events and exploring the underlying causes that have given rise to particular outcomes and how they continue to affect us today. At Illinois Wesleyan, we strive to challenge students and expand their horizons. We believe history prepares students for life and can be an introduction to an unlimited number of exciting and rewarding professional careers.

Why History at Illinois Wesleyan?

- Your degree is enhanced by two required seminar courses: one in theory and writing, and another in historical research.
- You will also take eight additional history courses allowing you to pursue your particular historical interests in depth, concentrating on what you enjoy: a period of time or historical era, an area of the world, or a particular kind of history.
- Your major courses will help you polish your writing and speaking skills through debates, position papers and constant in-class discussion.
- IWU's flexible curriculum allows you to have a minor or second major in fields such as political science, literature, foreign language, economics, or other fields that interest you.
- Whether or not you opt for a second major or minor, you will have the opportunity to take courses outside your major in areas such as English, foreign language and the fine arts, benefiting from our University-wide emphasis on the liberal arts to develop the interdisciplinary tools and perspective that historians need.

Learning from a Quality Faculty

Learning is enriched at Illinois Wesleyan by the close, personal instruction you'll receive from our faculty. Our history professors were trained at the best institutions in the United States, and they are eager to share both their learning and their excitement for history with you.

- **Amanda Coles**, *Visiting Assistant Professor of History*
Ph.D. – University of Pennsylvania

Teaches a variety of subjects including Latin, Greek History, Roman History, Ancient Historiography, Roman Topography, and Roman Art and Architecture.

- **Gordon J. Horwitz**, *Professor of History*
Ph.D. — Harvard University

A modern Europeanist, teaches a survey of modern world history and more specialized courses about Germany, the Holocaust, Vienna and the two World Wars.



A Sampling of Courses Offered by History

American Environmental History
Art and Architecture of the Roman World
Century of Genius
Greek Civilization
Introduction to Chinese History
Latin America
Love and Death in Freud's Vienna
Sex, Gender, and Power Under King James
Spanish North America
The Beatles and Their World
The Gilded Age, 1865-1900
The Great Depression
Women, Work and Leisure, 1890-1930
World War II in the Pacific

Recent May Term Courses in History

"By Force, by Famine, and by Fabled Story": Irish Emigration to the U.S. (*Travel*)
China: The Cultural Revolution
Emperors and Revolutionaries: Chinese History Through Travel (*Travel*)
The Holocaust
The Sixties: Sex, Drugs, and Rock & Roll?
Vietnam War

—continues



“ I am regularly asked about the value of studying history at Illinois Wesleyan. Although we have trained numerous high school teachers, lawyers, and judges,

most Illinois Wesleyan history majors work for corporations and non-profit organizations. Students not only learn to appreciate the past, and thus be better informed about the present; but also, develop the writing and thinking skills necessary to be effective managers. An Illinois Wesleyan history major allows one to scale the heights of practically any endeavor.”

- **Thomas D. Lutze**, *Professor of History*
Ph.D. — University of Wisconsin-Madison

Specializes in Asian history and teaches a wide variety of courses ranging from introductory surveys of China and Japan to focused courses on 20th Century Asia, including WWII in the Pacific, the Chinese Revolution, modern Japan and the Vietnam War.

- **April Schultz**, *Professor of History*
Ph.D. — University of Minnesota

Teaches U.S. cultural and social history, including courses on the history of American women, immigration and ethnicity, and family and childhood.

- **Robert Schultz**, *Professor of History*
Ph.D. — University of Minnesota

Teaches courses on the Progressive and New Deal eras, the transformation of American life and culture that resulted from industrialization, the American West, and American history survey courses.

- **W. Michael Weis (chair)**, *Professor of History*
Ph.D. — The Ohio State University

Specializes in U.S. foreign relations, recent U.S. history, and Latin American history, with a special interest in Brazil.

- **Michael B. Young**, *Professor of History*
Ph.D. — Harvard University

Specializes in early modern England and Europe from the Renaissance to the French Revolution. In addition to his courses on English and European history, he also teaches the sophomore-level seminar required of all history majors that emphasizes skills in analyzing, writing and researching.

Putting Learning into Practice

Graduates of our history program enjoy a number of exciting careers. Many continue specialized study in prestigious graduate programs. Our alumni include many successful lawyers from top Chicago firms, as well as several judges. Indeed, history is a perfect pre-law major. Additionally, several of IWU’s history graduates have become involved in political careers both in Springfield and Washington, D.C. Still others have enjoyed exciting careers in journalism, public relations and corporations, as well as in elementary, secondary and post-secondary education.

Dr. W. Michael Weis
Chair and Professor of History



ILLINOIS WESLEYAN
UNIVERSITY

**For Further Information,
Write or Call:**

Dr. W. Michael Weis
Department Chair, History
Illinois Wesleyan University
P.O. Box 2900
Bloomington, IL 61702-2900
309/556-3049
mweis@iwu.edu

www.iwu.edu/history