University of California, Santa Barbara
Program Learning Outcomes

PhD in History

Upon graduation with a PhD in History:

Core Knowledge

- Students will be able to demonstrate a command of general theoretical issues and the historical literature in four chosen fields of study. The first field is the area in which the student is doing doctoral research, such as colonialism in Ghana, and the second is the general field in which that research is located, such as Africa. The third is another general field, often chosen as an area in which the student is trained to teach, such as the Middle East. The fourth field is either a cognate outside of the History Department, such as gender studies, or a general field in history that is outside the student’s geographical and cultural focus, such as South Asia or World history.
- Students will be able to demonstrate an understanding of the history of the development of scholarship in those fields.
- Students will be able to demonstrate advanced knowledge and expertise in those fields, including the ability to analyze and evaluate published research on the major issues in those fields.

Foreign Language

- Students will be able to analyze and evaluate published research in at least one language in addition to English.

Research Methods and Analysis

- Students will be able to demonstrate knowledge of the techniques of historical research based in primary documentation.
- Students will be able to demonstrate analytic writing skills.
- Students will be able to demonstrate the ability to construct and complete original historical research that has intellectual depth and demonstrates mastery of historical methodology and scholarship.

Teaching

- Students will be able to design effective undergraduate and graduate courses in history.
- Students will be able to develop assignments, lecture, conduct discussions, and grade papers and assignments.

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Scholarly Communication

- Students will be able to demonstrate writing skills that will enable them to present a historical question, locate it in the scholarship, structure an argument and marshal and analyze supporting evidence. They will be able to demonstrate the ability to write with clarity and authority, in a format and style appropriate to historical scholarship.
- Students will be able to demonstrate public speaking skills for the purpose of making effective presentations to scholarly audiences.