WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MAJOR IN …  HISTORY

OCCUPATIONAL OVERVIEW:
The UNM History (2013) degree “helps us to understand who we are and where we have been. That knowledge, in turn, helps to shape our future choices and directions. A major in history with its emphases on research, writing and creative and analytical thought prepares students for graduate student in history and in other fields, or for work in professions such as law, teaching, business, management, and publishing.”

EMPLOYMENT REQUIREMENT:
A bachelor's degree is the minimum formal education required. Some career paths may require graduate school (for example, many professional historical or academic jobs will require a graduate degree). Consult O*Net for more information on the specific KSAs (Knowledge, Skill, Ability) that are required for this career.

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO:
The UNM History Program offers a Bachelor's of Arts in History as well as an undergraduate minor and graduate program.

INDUSTRIES & TARGET EMPLOYERS:
A variety of employers specifically recruit UNM students and alumni. Consult UNM’s Lobo Career Connection for a complete list of employers and current job postings. Speak with a Career Development Facilitator at the UNM Office of Career Services for help with identifying employers or additional resources for your occupation of choice.

Government
Federal agencies (e.g., Smithsonian Institute, Library of Congress, Foreign Service), state and local agencies (e.g., archives and libraries, museums, parks, historical sites, arts and humanities councils), community affairs, social services, law enforcement, intelligence, foreign services

Education/Student Affairs
Elementary, secondary, higher education teaching, community education, public and private schools, colleges/universities, museums, zoological parks, gardens, conservatories, refuges, camps, national and state parks

Business/Industry
Management, sales, office administration, all major retail firms, wholesales, manufacturers, insurance and real estate companies, financial institutions, nonprofit organizations, human resources, training and development, public relations

Curatorial/Archival Management
Museums, historical homes, art galleries, special collections, historical societies, libraries, universities/colleges, national, state, local government, corporations, nonprofit organizations, research institutes

Nonprofit organizations
History museums and historical sites, historical associations/societies, cultural heritage organizations, historical projects, research and service organizations, grant writing, fund raising/development, community organizations

Law/Politics
Elected/appointed public officials, national political party headquarters, public interest/advocacy groups, campaigns, law firms, lobbying, government relations, public policy, research, immigration services, campaign management, elected/appointed civil servants, corporate legal departments, government agencies, public advocacy groups, mediation

SUGGESTED STRATEGIES:
• Consider specializing your skill set through a double major or minor in another area.
• Gain professional experience in your area of interest through involvement in international internships, student employment, Co-ops, and/or volunteer opportunities.
• Shadow professionals in your field of interest to gain a better understanding of their occupation and to build relationships with professional mentors.
• Build your network and get involved on campus through student organizations and campus events. Find more organizations and events at the Student Activities Center website.
• Attend career-related campus events such as career fairs, company information sessions, and or career workshops.
• Students who are interested in graduate school should maintain a high undergraduate GPA and develop relationships with faculty and community leaders.
• Speak with mentors and faculty about career opportunities.
• Job leads can be found on your department’s website, list-serv, newsletters, and social media sites.
• Consider working in multiple departments throughout campus to gain experience in areas you are interested in through work study or student employment.
• Focus on developing “transferable skills” such as computer competency, written/verbal communication, and project management.
• Seek leadership opportunities on campus. Some positions may require an advanced degree.
• Obtain experience with a campus newspaper or media.
• Research government internship program and think about interning with a government agency to get a foot in the door, as well as building your resume.
• Make sure to research organizational values in order to match with your own value set. Knowledge about organizations is critical, because it shows to employers that you’ve done your research and are committed to work for them.
• Develop foreign language skills for overseas work.
• Participate in pre-law associations and seek pre-law advising through the College of Arts and Sciences.
• Obtain teaching certification for public school teaching.
• Obtain graduate degree for college/university teaching.

STATE AND NATIONAL WAGES:
Adapted from Career One Stop 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>10%</th>
<th>25%</th>
<th>Median</th>
<th>75%</th>
<th>90%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td></td>
<td>$24,900</td>
<td>$30,000</td>
<td>$38,200</td>
<td>$51,700</td>
<td>$69,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Mexico</td>
<td></td>
<td>$25,200</td>
<td>$31,600</td>
<td>$39,000</td>
<td>$46,300</td>
<td>$59,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES:

H-Net Humanities and Social Sciences Resources  
American Association of Museums  
American Historical Association  
Museum Employment Resource Center  

http://www.hnet.org/  
http://www.aam-us.org/  
http://www.historians.org/  
http://www.museum-employment.com/  
http://onetonline.org  
http://www.bls.gov/  

REFERENCES