

APPLICATION FOR HISTORY HONORS PROGRAM – Fall 2009

This application form can be filled out and printed or saved.

Please read the instructions and provide the information requested in the fields provided below. This form and other required materials are to be submitted via the History Honors Application CTools site.

Application deadline: Wednesday, October 21, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

By this deadline your complete application must include the following items:

- 1) this application form**
- 2) statement of research interests**
- 3) writing sample**
- 4) letter of recommendation**
- 5) unofficial transcript (History Dept. will provide this)**

Items 1-3 are to be submitted via the History Honors Applications CTools site. **To gain access to the CTools site, please send an e-mail message to Kathy Evaldson (evaldson@umich.edu) stating your intent to apply to the History Honors Program by Monday, October 19th.** In your message, please also provide your full name as well as your UM unickname. For further instructions, see below. These instructions are also available on the CTools site.

Name:

UM ID#:

E-MAIL:

Phone number:

Local address:

Permanent address:

Overall GPA (3.4+):

History GPA (3.5+):

History courses previously taken: (Give course number, title, and instructor. Include AP credit.)

History courses in which you are currently enrolled:

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Statement of Research Interests: While good grades and a positive recommendation are a necessary part of a successful application, the research statement and the writing sample are the most important parts of the dossier, because they show us how you think as an historian. In two double-spaced pages, please tell us about

your experience doing research; describe what you learnt from it; and discuss in some detail a topic that you would like to pursue in your honors thesis. Although we recognize that, if admitted to the honors program, you may eventually choose a different topic, we strongly recommend that you be as specific as possible in describing your current research interests. The more specific the statement of your interests, and the more convincing the demonstration of the feasibility of your research (access to primary sources, knowledge of the necessary languages, and so forth), the stronger your proposal will be.

- Submit the statement of research interests as a PDF document via the History Honors Application CTools site.
- Please also provide the following information in the field provided:

Are you able to conduct research in a foreign language? If so, which one(s)?

If you will be **unable** to attend the junior year colloquium, please state the reason (e.g. studying abroad).

Writing Sample: Please include in your application a copy of a paper you have written for a course which best exemplifies your work. Ideally, this will be a research paper of 10-20 pages that preferably, but not necessarily, engages in primary sources. If you do not have such a paper, you may submit one from another course that deals with history or an historical issue. Other sorts of writing, e.g. literary criticism, fiction, etc., cannot be used as writing samples for this application.

- Submit the writing sample as a PDF document via the History Honors Application CTools site.

Recommendation letter: Please request a letter of recommendation from a faculty member, evaluating your work and preparation for undertaking an honors thesis. The recommender can be from any department, though someone with a background in history can often write a stronger letter. If the person who knows your work best is a history GSI, his or her letter is acceptable. There is no specific form that the letter should take. Letters should be addressed to the History Honors Committee. Please ask the instructor to send the letter to Kathy Evaldson, Department of History, University of Michigan, 1029 Tisch Hall, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1003; or by e-mail: evaldson@umich.edu. **Please bear in mind that your recommender will need a reasonable amount of time to compose a letter. We suggest that you contact your prospective recommender at least 2-3 weeks in advance of the application deadline.**

Name of recommender:

Unofficial transcript: The Honors committee will obtain an unofficial transcript and refer to it in their deliberations. No action on the part of the applicant is required for this part of the application.

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The Honors Committee meets in early November to consider all applications for the program. Decisions are based on academic performance, background in history, demonstrated ability to write, and faculty recommendations. Minimum requirements are an overall GPA of 3.4 (LSA Honors College requirement for graduation) and a 3.5 GPA in history courses; these requirements may be waived in exceptional cases.

Students are notified of the committee's decision by mid-November and those accepted begin their training in the program by taking History 398, the Junior Honors Colloquium, during the following winter term. Because of space limitations in History 398, admission to the program is limited.

*If you have specific questions, please contact the Honors Advisor, Professor Ian Moyer (ianmoyer@umich.edu) or the staff coordinator Kathy Evaldson (evaldson@umich.edu).
An informational meeting will be held in late September in 1014 Tisch Hall.*

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History Honors website: <http://www.lsa.umich.edu/history/honors.asp>