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## History of science phd programs

Students in our history and philosophy of science and medicine programs write comprehensive theses that push boundaries and engage diverse audiences. Contributing to Cambridge's rich academic landscape is a fulfilling experience. Our faculty's international reputation attracts students, with expert guidance from supervisors and advisors who help them develop their research skills. Regular meetings with mentors provide constructive feedback and support throughout the program. Our thriving community of around 45 PhD students offers valuable networking opportunities and access to top-notch resources like the Whipple Library and the Whipple Museum. As a Cambridge PhD student, you'll gain unique teaching experience through supervising undergraduate tutorials, which comes with a paid stipend. We welcome applications from students holding an Upper Second class Honours degree or equivalent in a related field, with some exceptions for Master's holders. Apply online after checking eligibility and speaking with the listed supervisor about your project or program. Before applying, think about your financial plan. Check our 'How to apply' page for more details and ensure you submit all necessary supporting documents at once. Visit our Faculty of Biology, Medicine and Health Postgraduate Research page for further information. PhD Y Y N N MPhil Y Y N N You can research in a field that excites you by joining a project tackling pressing challenges while working with top researchers and academics from Europe. Choose to study at a university ranked 6th in the UK (QS World University Rankings, 2025) and 2nd globally for social and environmental impact (THE Impact Rankings, 2024), where 93% of research is 'world leading' or 'internationally excellent' (Research Impact Framework, 2021). Get access to top-notch research facilities at the University, through our industry partners, and in hospitals around Greater Manchester. Receive dedicated support throughout your PhD journey from pre-application to graduation through our Doctoral Academy. Develop transferable skills essential for early-stage researchers and professionals via the Doctoral Academy's training program and transition into a career in research, academia, or industry. For September 2025 entry, tuition fees are as follows: PhD (full-time)UK students: Standard £5,006, Low £11,500, Medium £17,500, High £23,500 International, including EU, students: £27,000 PhD (part-time)UK students: Standard £2,503, Low £5,750, Medium £8,625, High £11,750 International, including EU, students: £10,250 Visit our dedicated EU page for more information about EU student fees. Use the links below to view lists of programs in related subjects. Biosciences Medicine The University of Manchester is governed by the Office for Students (OfS). The OfS aims to help students succeed in Higher Education by providing excellent information and guidance, ensuring high-quality education that prepares them for the future, and protecting their interests. More details can be found on the OfS website. You can find regulations and policies related to student life at The University of Manchester, including our Degree Regulations and Complaints Procedure, on our regulations website. Graduate program in history and social aspects of science offers specialized training for students to pursue careers in general history. The program's unique approach combines research techniques with formal qualifications in other areas of history, allowing students to teach and work in general history. Faculty members are also part of the Department of History. The maximum duration for regular enrollment is five years, with an option to extend up to two additional years in Dissertation Completion Enrollment status if needed. Students can expect a workload of 25-35 pages of academic writing per sample. During the first two years, students take graduate courses aimed at preparing them for the general examination and training in research techniques. They typically take three courses per term, including HIS 500 and HOS 595. Undergraduate courses are recommended for students lacking prior background. The program's curriculum is designed to meet the broad outlines set by the general examination, but students can also pursue suitable coursework or language study related to their interests. Language proficiency is required, with French and German being recommended initially, although other languages may be substituted with director approval. For two passages of translation, one will require dictionary use while the other won't. Semester announcements for language exams will occur at the start of each semester. Other exam schedules should be coordinated with the director of graduate studies and, if necessary, the relevant department. Research RequirementStudents must write two research papers based on primary sources prior to taking the general exam. These papers often stem from a combination of graduate seminar work and independent research. The first paper must be completed by June 15th in the student's first year, while the second is due April 1st of their second year.Responsible Conduct of ResearchStudents are required to complete the Responsible Conduct of Research seminar within their first year. The general exam, typically taken at the end of the second year, involves three sets of written and oral exams: one in a major field related to science, medicine, or technology; another in a minor field from a different history area; and a third option involving either a second specialized field in history of science, medicine, or technology; a second field in another area; or a related subject such as philosophy of science or anthropology of science. Field definitions and specializations within them are worked out with the director of graduate studies and relevant faculty members before the fourth semester of study. The Master of Arts (M.A.) degree is generally an intermediate step towards Ph.D. candidacy, but can also be awarded to students who leave the program for various reasons. Students must complete all required coursework, meet language requirements in their field, and finish two research papers to receive an M.A. The department tries to provide part-time teaching experience for most advanced graduate students who desire it. Teaching assistantships usually involve 2-4 classroom hours a week and shouldn't hinder dissertation progress. Appointments are made by the department chair based on undergraduate teaching needs. Prospectus:Students typically participate in the mandatory Dissertation Prospectus Workshop in June of their second year.To be eligible, students must pass their general exams no later than their fourth semester or have special permission from the Director of Graduate Studies. Passing the prospectus seminar is a required part of degree work in the department. Students are expected to actively engage and dedicate time and effort to completing a fully developed prospectus before summer's end. Given article text here As an enrolled student in the spring semester of G3, approval of the prospectus is required. Students must attend a meeting with their adviser and first reader (or two co-advisers) within weeks of the seminar to discuss project plans and formalise their agreement. This meeting should be followed by the signing and filing of the approval form with the Graduate Office before December 1st in the third year or six months after completing general examinations. Students spend three years researching and writing their dissertation, which is usually focused on a specific field within history. In some cases, research may take place abroad during the fourth year to coincide with job searches in the fifth year. Upon completion of the dissertation and its approval by at least two readers, students defend their work orally and discuss its implications for further research. PhD students can reenroll after completing a significant portion of their dissertation and demonstrating active research engagement. They must submit a Plan for Completion, detailing their progress and timeline, which is reviewed with their advisory team. The student's adviser must then sign a supporting form, which is filed with the History Graduate Office by April 15th in the fifth year. Students who exhaust their funding after five years may apply for additional fellowships. Graduate Certificate Program Overview The History of Science Interdepartmental Graduate Certificate Program provides fellowship support to its sixth-year students who demonstrate good progress toward completing their dissertations. Students in this program work closely with faculty, write dissertations on historical aspects of science, medicine, and technology, and receive a formal credential in History of Science. Certificate Requirements Many students complete a general field in history of science, technology, or medicine; however, this is not mandatory. The certificate will appear on the student's transcript once all requirements are fulfilled and a graduate degree has been awarded. Students can list the credential on their curriculum vitae. Eligibility and Registration The program is open to Princeton University Ph.D. students from any department who are not enrolled in History of Science. Students must be currently enrolled and register by submitting a form to the Graduate Program Assistant by the end of their fourth year of enrollment. They also need to complete HOS 595: Introduction to Historiography of Science, as well as two other history of science graduate courses. Research Requirement Students in this program engage in relevant research that is presented and discussed in the History of Science Program Seminar. They must regularly attend and participate in the seminar for at least two semesters to foster scholarly community among faculty, students, and visiting fellows. Full semesters of Program Seminar, including weekly reading and participation, equate to an additional semester-length course. Students must complete two presentations in the History of Science Program Seminar. One presentation involves pre-circulating original research related to the history of science or its intersection with technology, medicine, or gender. The second presentation can be another piece of original research, a formal commentary, or a draft of their dissertation prospectus. Completion of these presentations will be certified by the Director of Graduate Studies for the program. The course covers historical perspectives on technology in America from colonial times to the 20th century. A study of technological advancements over time highlights how scholars have interpreted technology historically. The class is open to graduate students from History, but other departments can apply too - they just need to get approved by the Professor first and meet with them before the start. The course often focuses on problems in medical history and science, though topics change yearly. Examples of subjects might include the history of health issues, medicine and the body, or mental illness and treatment. This year's topic is specifically about treating mental illnesses through various means from the 20th century onwards, looking at psychiatric institutions, psychoanalysis, somatic treatments, and more. By studying how people treated mental illness in key moments in history, we can gain a better understanding of its impact then and now. The course introduces graduate students to the core issues and important texts on the history of science from the Enlightenment to the 20th century. It's organized around different approaches, with readings from historians, anthropologists, sociologists, and philosophers. The department has about 70 PhD students working on various topics in the history and philosophy of science and medicine. They're part of a lively community with great opportunities for learning and exchanging ideas with staff, researchers, and visitors here and elsewhere at the university. Before starting their PhD, each student needs to find a supervisor who will guide them throughout their time at Cambridge. Each student is assigned an advisor by the end of their first term, who becomes part of the supervisory team along with the main supervisor. Students are encouraged to attend seminars, workshops, and reading groups that make our department so active. The department provides a postgraduate training programme that focuses on research skills and career development. Students who are continuing from an MPhil in History and Philosophy of Science and Medicine or Health, Medicine and Society can apply for PhD studies. The usual requirements for admission to the PhD programme include achieving a Distinction overall in the MPhil, agreeing with their proposed PhD supervisor, and performing well in an interview. The University regularly hosts fairs and events globally, both online and offline. Discover Cambridge: Master's and PhD study webinars are held Spring, providing detailed information on postgraduate studies. Postgraduate Virtual Open Days take place annually in November, focusing on subject and course details.