

## Major in History

### **Description of the Specialization (Major):**

This specialization aims to provide students with an advanced understanding and deepening of History by focusing on specific themes in each of the four periods constituting the discipline (Ancient History, Medieval History, Modern History, Contemporary History). Focus within the frame of the specific field of study will change every two years.

Courses take place at Centre Pierre Mendès France, 90 rue de Tolbiac, Paris 13. More advanced courses take place at Centre Sorbonne, 14 rue Cujas, Paris 5.

Courses are mostly taught in French and require a B2 level in French Language.

Each of these questions is dealt with in the form of courses (1 hour per week) and tutorials (2 hours per week).

[University courses fiche](#)

**Please note:** L = lecture; T = Tutorial

### Description of courses

Course 1 Relations internationales contemporaines			
The course proposes to study the construction of European multilateralism and the evolution of their principles, their organization, their actors, and their procedures from the mid-19th century to the mid-1970s. Particular attention will be paid to the temporalities and spaces of multilateralism. The first semester of the course will cover the years 1856-1914. The second semester will begin with the First World War and end in 1975. (Prof. Laurence Badel)			
Language of study	ECTS Credits	Semester	Hours
French	6	4	36 (12+24)

Course 2 Fondamentaux 1 : Histoire ancienne et médiévale
The course is divided in two sub-courses. The first sub-course, Histoire du monde hellénistique "Les cités grecques à l'époque hellénistique (336-168) : dynamiques institutionnelles, sociales et culturelles" presents the conquest of the Persian Empire by Alexander the Great opened a new period in Greek history, the Hellenistic period, which saw the expansion of Greek political and cultural models throughout the Near and Middle East. This course aims to examine the place of the Greek cities in this extended framework. It will highlight the dynamism of Greek civic life, society, and culture during this period, considered by many as a "golden age" of cities. The sub-course, Histoire du haut Moyen Âge "Féminin/masculin dans les sociétés dans le haut Moyen Âge" examines the whole of the early Middle Ages from the 6th to the 11th century in the long term, favouring

a thematic approach. After a general reflection on the construction of gendered identities in the early Middle Ages, it will address several major themes: the place of women and men within the family - particularly in the context of marriage and widowhood; the relationship between men/women and the sacred, particularly by examining the place of the body; and the gendered dimension of power. This course will attempt to show how the history of women must be understood as an essential component of the history of which they are a part, without isolating it from the whole of history, and how the female/male criterion makes it possible to reconsider the relations within the societies of the early Western Middle Ages.

Title of sub-courses	Language of study	ECTS Credits	Semester	Hours
Histoire du monde hellénistique (Prof. A. Carrara)	French	6	4	36 (12+24)
Histoire du Haut Moyen-Âge (G. Bühner-Thierry)	French	6	4	36 (12+24)
Total :		12		72

### Course 3

#### Fondamentaux 2 : Histoire moderne et contemporaine

This course consists of two parts. The first sub-course, – Histoire des relations internationales à l'époque moderne "Géopolitique, acteurs et pratiques, fin XVe-XVIIIe siècles", aims not only to acquire the chronological landmarks essential to the understanding of international relations in the modern era, but also to question the relevance of the paradigm of the nation-state in understanding relations from the Renaissance to the Enlightenment and to revisit the "invention" of modern diplomacy, which is at once the art of negotiating, representing and informing.

The first semester will be devoted to the actors and practices of a still largely informal diplomacy between the end of the 15th century and the middle of the 17th century. It is the history of exchanges, mobilities, radiations, and imaginations that unfolded in a space where the use of permanent ambassadors and other intermediaries became widespread, even if princes still played a major role. The second semester will focus on the question of the professionalization of diplomacy from the mid-seventeenth century to the French Revolution and will be more particularly devoted to the study of instruments that allow for both the thinking and the regulation of relations between states and between subjects. In this perspective, the aim is to study both the genesis of a "system of states" or "European order", as well as the increasingly decisive weight of cultural and economic issues in relations which, from interstate, progressively become international.

The second sub-course, Histoire Culturelle au XIXe siècle "L'Europe face à la modernité" seeks to follow up on the work of Christophe Charle on the concept of "modernity" which is unique to 19th century Europe. The Old Continent then entered a new regime of historicity, linear and no longer cyclical, characterized by faith in progress. But it is also a relationship to space that is modified: the increase in the speed of movement of goods, people and information shrinks the world, facilitates conquest and globalization as much as it sometimes encourages nationalistic or local withdrawal.

Drawing on the contributions of environmental history, this course will emphasize two aspects of this entry into modernity. First, its material and energetic substratum: it is indeed the conquest of fossil fuels that made it possible, by promoting the rise of industrialization. Secondly, its consequences on the relationship with the natural environment: the more external view of it and the now almost limitless power of mankind are at the origin of its unbridled exploitation, of a finer scientific understanding, but also of the first

attempts at protection. To better address these issues, this course will focus on the concrete dimensions of these transformations, as they are part of the daily lives of individuals and societies in full evolution.

Title of sub-courses	Language of study	ECTS Credits	Semester	Hours
Histoire des relations internationales à l'époque moderne (Prof. C. Lebeau)	French	6	4	36 (12+24)
Histoire culturelle au XIXe siècle (Prof. C.-O. Mathis)	French	6	4	36 (12+24)
Total :		12		72

#### Course 4

##### Fondamentaux 3 : Histoire européenne avant 1789

This course consists of two parts held simultaneously. A first course presents the producer and consumer theories. A second course is more advanced and explores the theoretical representations of imperfect competition (monopolies and duopolies) in partial equilibrium.

Title of sub-courses	Language of study	ECTS Credits	Semester	Hours
Histoire ancienne	French	6	5	36 (12+24)
List of available courses for the Fundamentals 3 course – Histoire ancienne				
Histoire de la Grèce archaïque et classique	French	6	5	36 (12+24)
Histoire de l'Empire romain	French	6	5	36 (12+24)
Histoire de la République romaine	French	6	5	36 (12+24)
Title of sub-courses	Language of study	ECTS Credits	Semester	Hours
Histoire médiévale	French	6	5	36 (12+24)
List of available courses for the Fundamentals 3 course – Histoire médiévale				
Histoire sociale et culturelle de l'Occident latin (XIIe-XVe siècles)	French	6	5	36 (12+24)
Histoire du haut Moyen Âge	French	6	5	36 (12+24)
Title of sub-courses	Language of study	ECTS Credits	Semester	Hours
Histoire moderne	French	6	5	36 (12+24)
List of available courses for the Fundamentals 3 course – Histoire moderne				
Histoire des relations internationales à l'époque moderne (Histoire des institutions)	French	6	5	36 (12+24)
Histoire des sociétés et des économies européennes (XVIIe et XVIIIe siècles)	French	6	5	36 (12+24)
Histoire moderne de l'Allemagne et de l'Europe centrale	French	6	5	36 (12+24)
Guerre et société à l'époque Moderne-	French	6	5	36 (12+24)

Course 5				
Fondamentaux 4 : Histoire moderne et contemporaine				
2 elective courses to be chosen.				
Language of study	ECTS Credits	Semester	Hours	
French	12	5	72	
List of available courses for the Elective cluster				
Title of available courses	Language of study	ECTS Credits	Semester	Hours
Histoire des sociétés arabes contemporaines	French	6	5	12 L + 24 T
Histoire sociale du XXème siècle	French	6	5	12 L + 24 T
Histoire contemporaine des relations Internationales	French	6	5	12 L + 24 T
Histoire culturelle et politique des sociétés contemporaines	French	6	5	12 L + 24 T
Histoire contemporaine de l'Europe centrale	French	6	5	12 L + 24 T
Histoire de la Russie contemporaine	French	6	5	12 L + 24 T
Guerre, politique et sociétés XIX-XXème siècle	French	3	5	12 L + 24 T