Should History have its own area in the Common Core, or be placed with either the Humanities or the Social Sciences?

This brief provides options for including History in the 30-credit Common Core, and context about the current place of History within academic departments at CUNY and within general education requirements.

Options for including History in the 30-credit Common Core

- Include History in a broad Social/Behavioral Sciences/History area
  - Colleges could decide whether to include History courses in the area as a choice for students or as a requirement all students must fulfill.
- Include History in a broad Humanities/Fine Arts/History area
  - Colleges could decide whether to include History courses in the area as a choice for students or as a requirement all students must fulfill.
- Include History as stand-alone area
  - All CUNY students would be required to complete History as part of the Common Core.

The placement of History in the academic structure of CUNY colleges

CUNY colleges sometimes classify History as humanities subject in terms of where it is placed in the college’s academic organization and sometimes as a social science.

History included with Social Sciences:

- Senior colleges – Queens, Hunter, Medgar, NYCCT
- Community colleges – BMCC, Hostos, LGCC

History included with Humanities:

- Senior colleges – Baruch, City, Lehman, York

History placed within combined Humanities/Social Science division:

- Brooklyn (History Department is now within the School of Humanities and Social Sciences)
- CSI (History within the Division of Humanities and Social Sciences)
- KBCC (Department of History, Philosophy, and Political Science)
History not grouped with other disciplines:

- BCC, QBCC, John Jay

The placement of history in CUNY colleges’ general education programs

History is usually a stand-alone requirement for general education. The following are exceptions.

- CSI requires a "US Focus" course (seems to be a combination US History/Social Science).
- York requires either Philosophy or History.
- NYCCT students may take History to fulfill the Social and Behavioral Sciences requirement.
- Some programs at KBCC allow History to fulfill Social Science requirements.
- CUNY BA lists History as option to fulfill Humanities requirement.