M.A. in War and Society

The Master of Arts Program in War and Society at Chapman University educates graduate-level students in the field of war and society by rigorously examining the social, cultural, political, and moral aspects of how societies go to war, experience war, and deal with war’s consequences.

The program in War and Society at Chapman University aims to become the nation’s premier graduate-level program for studying the global interrelationships between war and societies in the modern era. Unique to Chapman University, the program combines traditional graduate-level education with career enhancement credentialing for professionals working in the larger field of war and society. The program will establish an intellectual foundation for educators and professionals who, upon graduation, are capable of teaching, interpreting, and solving the problems of war and its impact on society.

Our goal is to be the nation’s leading institution in the study of war and society by fostering rigorous inquiry between students and faculty, preparing graduates to assume responsibilities as productive global citizens, and providing outreach and educational programming to the local community for enhancing the public’s understanding of the experience of war.

The program takes an interdisciplinary and comparative approach to the study of war and society and aims to develop graduate-level mastery in the topic by focusing on student writing, personalized education, faculty-student research, and critical thinking. Ultimately, the M.A. Program in War and Society at Chapman University aims to serve as a regional and national resource for practitioners contributing to the study and field of war and society—teachers, future diplomats, and career military and foreign service officers.

Program Admission

Students seeking admission should schedule a meeting with the Wilkinson College Graduate Programs Coordinator, Allison DeVries, at (714) 997-6752 or devries@chapman.edu and with the War and Society Graduate Program Director, Dr. Greg Daddis, at (714) 997-6834 or daddis@chapman.edu to review admission requirements.

Deadline: Rolling

- Official transcripts must be submitted from ALL degree granting (bachelor’s or master’s degrees) colleges and universities attended.
- Applicants with a GPA between 2.5 and 2.99, may be considered for admission by submitting a satisfactory Graduate Record Examination (GRE) with minimum scores of Verbal: 150, Quantitative: 145, and Analytical Writing: 4.0 or demonstration of significant relevant professional experience.
- A 500-word essay stating reasons for pursuing the M.A. in War and Society.
- A writing sample of 1200 words that demonstrates competency in scholarly writing.
- Two letters of recommendation that speak to academic preparation and aptitude for graduate study.
- Resume

How to Learn More

FOR ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS, contact the Office of Graduate Admission at (888) CU-APPLY or visit us online at www.chapman.edu/gradadmission.

FOR ACADEMIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, contact the M.A. program manager at (714) 997-6834 or daddis@chapman.edu to review admission requirements.
Program Themes

- The influence of societal and cultural beliefs on warfare and national military policies
- The impact of war on social and cultural institutions, values, and practices
- The interaction between the home front and the battlefield
- The impact of war on soldiers, civilians, and veterans
- The relationships between war, identity, and historical memory

Sample Curriculum:

Core Courses (9 Credits)

- HIST 500 Historical Approaches to War and Society
- HIST 696 Master’s Thesis Research and Writing I
- HIST 698 Master’s Thesis Research and Writing II

Specialized content courses

History Reading Seminars (6 credits)
(two of the following)

- HIST 510a Readings in War and American Society
- HIST 510b Readings in Global War in the Twentieth Century
- HIST 510c Readings in Home Fronts at War
- HIST 510d Readings in War, Identity, and Memory

History Research Seminars (6 Credits)
(two of the following)

- HIST 520a War and Grand Strategy in the Modern Era
- HIST 520b Memoirs of War and Resistance: The Holocaust
- HIST 520c Migration and War
- HIST 520d The Soldier’s War

Possible Electives (12 Credits)
at least two courses selected from a discipline other than history

- POSC 500 U.S. Presidents and War
- REL 500 Just War Ethics: Conflict in the Contemporary World
- SOC 501 Crimes of War
- ENG 541 Readings in War and Literature
- IS 680 Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Identities in Globalized World

Number of Units: 33

How to Learn More

FOR ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS, contact the Office of Graduate Admission at (888) CU-APPLY or visit us online at www.chapman.edu/gradadmission.

FOR ACADEMIC PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS, contact the M.A. program manager at (714) 997-6834 or visit us online at www.chapman.edu/war-and-society.