

The educational system in the field of *Historical studies* at the University of Craiova has a tradition of more than 45 years. Its beginning is located in 1961, with the establishment of the Faculty of History and Geography. As a result of the structural changes in the Romanian society after 1990, at the University of Craiova, was organized the Faculty of Letters and History, with two major fields: *History –a foreign language (English, French, Spanish, Italian, Russian, Hebrew and Latin)*, starting its operations from 1997 and *History*, four years at the full-frequency level, respectively five years for the *distance-studies* or *limited frequency* level.

The orientation in this direction was due to the increasing number of students and their interest to *Romanian History* and *World History*.

Since 2005, with implementation of the *Bologna Declaration* in the Romanian universities, only the field of *History* would continue its work based on three cycles: Bachelor, Master, and Ph.D.

The first cycle, which offers the graduate diploma, contains three years of studies, a wide range of theoretical and practical disciplines, representing the professional training of future specialists in education, research in museums, archives and other institutions.

A good example is the archaeological practice, developed with regularly since 1991, at the archaeological site from Sucidava (Corabia-Celei, Olt County), a site of great national value, explored since the second half of the XIXth century, by prestigious archaeologists from Romania. As a partner institution of our department, the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnography of Corabia, offers to our students the possibility to research a great diversity of historical vestiges here, from prehistory to the Middle Ages.

The second cycle, the Master (two years of studies), offers deepening expertise in programs entitled: *Romanians in the European history*, *History of ideas of Europe*, approved during 2008. Also continues its work the postgraduate Master Program named *European Studies*.

The last cycle, Ph.D. studies, resulted in the establishment of the Ph.D. School of History starting from 2005, which is a superior stage of studies within Department of History. 50 candidates have acquired a Ph.D. in History, under the guidance of five scientific coordinators, recognized nationally and internationally.

The scientific research is guided on multiple levels: research grants, scientific meetings, publishing studies and articles, works. The professors of our department obtained, in the last five years, research grants by competition within National Council of the Scientific Research in the University Education, Romanian Academy.

Our students, Master students and also the Ph.D. candidates are included in our research teams, having the opportunity to assimilate the special methodology.

Also, annually the History Department, organizes at the University of Craiova national and international scientific events, collaborating with prestigious institutions in this regard, such as: the County National Archives, Oltenia Museum, Art Museum.

The History Department has good relationships with other institutions of scientific research and superior education in the country: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romanian Academy, Academy for Advanced Military, Faculty of History, University of Bucharest, Faculty History of the University "Babes-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Faculty of History "Alexandru Ioan Cuza", Iasi, Research Institute of Humanities "C.S. Nicolaescu-Plopsor", Craiova History Institute "A.D. Xenopol", Iasi, Center for History and European Civilization, Iasi, Romania National History Museum, National Military Museum, Region of the Iron Gates Museum, Drobeta - Turnu Severin, Gorj County Museum Al. Stefulescu ", Targu Jiu, Museum County Valcea, Ramnicu Valcea, Diplomatic Archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Romanian Military Archives, Central Library University, Bucharest, etc.

The international relations of the History Department have materialized in the conventions of international cooperation programs Socrates/Erasmus and Tempus (exchange of students, teachers or joint scientific events, etc.): Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Universidad de León, Universidad de Salamanca, Universidad de Barcelona, Université Robert Schuman, Strasbourg University of Sorbonne, Paris IV, University of Bourgogne, Dijon, Université de Corse-Pascal Paoli, Boulder University of Colorado-USA; Università degli Studi di Torino, University per Stranieri di Perugia University degli Studi di Trento, Università degli Studi di Roma Tre University, Bologna; University of Innsbruck, Austria Bielefeld University, Germany.

Our students excelled, both at the scientific level, as well as participating in national reports and communication sessions, where they obtained prizes and awards.

The graduates of our department will acquire the qualifications to fill jobs as:

- History teacher
- Researcher
- Curator
- Archivist

The members of the History Department have participated in research programs in the country and abroad. The research results were published in the last years, in prestigious history journals and national and international volumes.

The members of the History Department participated as active members in professional associations. As recognition of the scientific merit of the teaching staff, some members of the History Department received national awards being included in some editorial boards of professional journals.

The journal of the History Department, named "Annals of University of Craiova. History" its included in International Data Bases.

The ongoing educational process takes place in appropriate spaces for classes and seminars, in research laboratories are endowed with special teaching means and latest information technology. The library of faculty provides the students an important number of books of specialty, over 25,000 titles published in foreign journals also, reading rooms and appropriate individual study.

The research concerns of our students are reflected in their participation of appropriate scientific reunions and to prepare the emergence of interdisciplinary journals.

In the frame of the *Center for Studies of International Relations*, students are working under the guidance of teachers; they participate in the preparation of bibliographies, articles, reviews, developing research projects, etc.

As the statistics show in the last years, the field of History represents a real interest from candidates, attracted by the diversity of disciplines in the curriculum and quality teaching.