DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

Samuel C. Smith, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.
Chair, Department of History
Professor

Sean Turchin, B.S., M.A.R, M.Div., M.A., Ph.D.
Online Chair, Department of History
Associate Professor

Purpose

The History Department is committed to teaching and training students toward a Christian worldview of history. Offering general education courses, major programs and graduate courses, the Department provides comprehensive instruction in history and historical methodology, encourages students to develop an integrated Christian worldview and an appreciation for America's cultural distinctives, equips them for service, and prepares them for further education and careers.

Phi Alpha Theta Honor Society

Advisor: Dr. David Snead

Phi Alpha Theta is dedicated to recognizing and encouraging excellence in the study of history. Chapter activities provide members with opportunities for sharing and advancing their professional interests. Lectures and field trips are designed to awaken historical interest, and to promote interaction between students and faculty. An annual regional meeting builds rapport with chapters at neighboring institutions.

Criteria for membership: An undergraduate student must have completed at least twelve semester hours in history with a grade in all history courses averaging at least a 3.10 and must have a general average of at least a 3.00 in all classes.

Courses

HIST 101 American History Orientation 3 Credit Hour(s)
An overview of American history, emphasizing America's Christian heritage, limited and Constitutional government, free markets, and individual freedom and responsibility.
Note: HIST 101 is NOT approved as a General Education elective in the Core Competency Requirements nor as an elective within the major. HIST 101 can only be taken as a Free Elective.

HIST 299 Internship 0 Credit Hour(s)
Registration Restrictions: Sophomore status, 2.00 GPA, two courses in major, declared major, not more than one CSER behind
Offered: Resident

HIST 300 Historical Methodology 3 Credit Hour(s)
Resident Prerequisite: RSCH 201 or Inquiry Research with a score of 80 or Research with a score of 80 or Research (prior to 2017-2018) with a score of 80
An invitation to explore the historical discipline. Students will be grounded in the meaning and interpretation of history, methodology, research techniques and career opportunities. Should be taken no later than the first semester of the junior year.
Offered: Resident and Online

HIST 305 Introduction to Public History 3 Credit Hour(s)
Provides an introduction to the major topics in the field of public history including the history of public history, employment opportunities for public historians, and public historical issues. Students will be introduced to public history methodologies such as conducting oral history interviews, historical preservation, documentary editing, digital media, event planning, and archival documentation.
Offered: Resident

HIST 419 Secondary Social Studies Teaching Methods 3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: Education Teacher Licensure with a score of 5 and (Background Check Clearance with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5)
A discipline specific social studies methods course with emphasis upon national and Virginia standards relating to the social studies. Content continues the development of lesson planning while adding specific discipline instructional strategies. Must be taken concurrently with HIST 420 - Secondary Social Studies Practicum.
Registration Restrictions: Approval for teacher training; have completed 50% of academic major
Offered: Resident and Online

Career Opportunities

- Archaeologist
- Architectural Historian
- Archival Management
- Bibliographer
- Data Processor for Investment Firms
- Diplomat
- Genealogist
- Historian for Government Agencies
- Historian for Business Corporations
- Historical Editor
- Historical Preservationist
- Information Consultant
- Lawyer

- Market Researcher
- Museum Curatorship
- Oral Historian
- Manager of Historical Societies
- Public Policy Director
- Records and Information Manager
- Research Assistant
- Research/Reference Librarian
- Researcher/Writer for Historical Films
- Researcher/Writer for Media
- Social Scientist
- Teacher
HIST 420  Secondary Teaching Methods Practicum  0 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: HIST 419 (may be taken concurrently) and Education Teacher Licensure with a score of 5 and (Background Check Clearance with a score of 5 or Background Clear Virginia with a score of 5)
Students will be required to prepare a unit, teach in a secondary classroom setting, and evaluate the experience.
Offered: Resident

HIST 490  Senior Research Seminar  3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: HIST 300 and (HIEU 321 or HIEU 322 or HIEU 360 or HIEU 370 or HIEU 380 or HIEU 390 or HIEU 450 or HIEU 455 or HIEU 460 or HIEU 466 or HIEU 485 or HIEU 485 or HIEU 310 or HIES 312 or HIES 314 or HIES 316 or HIUS 340 or HIUS 341 or HIUS 351 or HIUS 360 or HIUS 380 or HIUS 390 or HIUS 395 or HIUS 396 or HIUS 420 or HIUS 430 or HIUS 442 or HIUS 452 or HIUS 470 or HIWD 320 or HIWD 341 or HIWD 350 or HIWD 370 or HIWD 371 or HIWD 372 or HIWD 460)
Required capstone history seminar in a special field, emphasizing historiography and historical interpretation and requiring a major research paper.
Registration Restrictions: Senior Status
Offered: Resident

HIST 491  Senior Capstone Seminar  3 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: HIST 300 and (HIEU 321 or HIEU 322 or HIEU 360 or HIEU 370 or HIEU 380 or HIEU 390 or HIEU 425 or HIEU 450 or HIEU 455 or HIEU 460 or HIEU 466 or HIEU 485 or HIEU 485 or HIEU 310 or HIES 312 or HIES 314 or HIES 316 or HIUS 340 or HIUS 341 or HIUS 351 or HIUS 360 or HIUS 380 or HIUS 390 or HIUS 395 or HIUS 396 or HIUS 420 or HIUS 430 or HIUS 442 or HIUS 452 or HIUS 470 or HIWD 320 or HIWD 341 or HIWD 350 or HIWD 370 or HIWD 371 or HIWD 372 or HIWD 460)
A senior-level capstone seminar covering historiography, interpretation, research methodologies, Christian worldview approaches, vocational opportunities, and assessment.
Registration Restrictions: Senior Status
Offered: Resident

HIST 495  Directed Research  6 Credit Hour(s)

HIST 497  Special Topics in History  3 Credit Hour(s)
An in-depth study offered by members of the faculty on a selected topic of historical interest.
Offered: Resident

HIST 499  Internship  1-6 Credit Hour(s)
Prerequisite: HIST 300
Supervised applied learning experiences in archives, museums, government agencies, foundations, businesses, or public history sites. Applications are processed through the department Faculty Internship Advisor. Applicant must apply the semester prior to starting the internship.
Registration Restrictions: HIST 300; Junior or Senior status; 2.70 or higher GPA; a minimum of 12 hours in the major
Offered: Resident and Online