

RU Interested In...

# HISTORY

## AT A GLANCE...

Department at RU:	History	
Office Location:	CHIE 220	
Telephone:	(540) 831-5287	
Faculty Liaison:	Dr. Sharon A. Roger Hepburn, Chair	shepburn@radford.edu
College at RU:	Humanities and Behavioral Sciences	
Degree Type:	Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science	

## PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The major in History requires completion of 39 semester hours including both the American and World History surveys (12 semester hours) along with HIST 295 (The Historian's Craft) and HIST 495 (Senior Seminar). An additional 21 semester hours must be taken at the upper-level with courses chosen from American, European, and Non-Western areas of study. Majors are strongly encouraged to complement their study of History with an appropriate minor or second major. Students may use up to 9 semester hours of history to meet various General Education requirements. History majors upon graduation will have substantial awareness of historical methodology, content, and research. The major enhances the graduate's reading, writing, and oral skills and the ability to process diverse information into a coherent whole. In particular the History major will develop an understanding and appreciation of the relationship of History to the other social science disciplines. Graduates will also have been exposed to a wide diversity of cultures and develop a keen appreciation for the aesthetic and intellectual life.

The Department of History offers a wide variety of courses with emphasis upon regional, topical, chronological, social, military and gender studies.

## CAREER PATHS

The study of History is good preparation for individuals wanting to follow careers in law or paralegal studies, archival or museum work, politics and government, retail, administration and management, and the civil service. Depending upon career choice, close consultation with your department adviser for course selection and more generally with the Career Services Center is strongly recommended.

Students intending to teach History at the middle school or secondary level should declare a Social Science major (Teaching option). The largest core of that major (18-24 semester hours) is in History, but also requires the student to complete coursework in Political Science (12-18 semester hours), Geography (3-12 semester hours) and Economics (3-12 semester hours).

## FACULTY

**AMENT, SUZANNE E.**, Associate Professor of History; B.A., University of California-Santa Cruz; M.A., Georgetown University; Ph.D., Indiana University. Specialties: Russia, Eastern Europe.

**FERRARI, MARY C.**, Associate Professor of History; B.A., College of William & Mary; M.A., Old Dominion University; Ph.D., College of William & Mary. Specialties: Colonial & Revolutionary America, Women's.

**GINGRICH, KURT A.**, Assistant Professor of History; B.A., University of Virginia; M.A., Ph.D., University of Wisconsin-Madison. Specialties: Great Britain.

**MCCLELLAN, CHARLES W.**, Emeritus Professor of History; B.S.E., Emporia State University; M.A., Ph.D., Michigan State University. Specialties: Africa, Middle East, 20<sup>th</sup> Century World.

**MONTGOMERY, GARTH.** Assistant Professor of History; B.A., State University of New York-Purchase; M.A., Ph.D., State University of New York-Buffalo. Specialties: European, German, Intellectual.

**MOORE, JOHNNY S.**, Associate Professor of History; B.A., M.A., Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University; Ph.D., University of Virginia. Specialties: US Social & Religious History.

**MUNZINGER, MARK R.**, Assistant Professor of History; B.A., Wichita State University; M.A., Catholic University of America; Ph.D., University of Kansas. Specialties: Medieval Europe; Eastern Europe.

**OYOS, MATTHEW M.**, Associate Professor of History; B.A., Augustana College; M.A., University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Ph.D., The Ohio State University. Specialties: Military History, 20<sup>th</sup> Century US.

**ROGER HEPBURN, SHARON A.**, Professor of History. B.A., State University of New York-Geneseo; M.A., Ph.D., State University of New York-Buffalo. Specialties: African-American, Civil War, American Slavery

**STRAW, RICHARD A.**, Professor of History; B.S., M.A., Ohio University; Ph.D., University of Missouri. Specialties: US South, Appalachian.

## QUESTIONS STUDENTS OFTEN ASK

- **What are the specific requirements for the degree?**  
The History major consists of 39 semester hours. This includes the following required courses: HIST 101, 102, 111, 112 (12 semester hours) as well as HIST 295 (3 semester hours) and HIST 495 (3 semester hours). Students must complete an additional 21 semester hours in upper-level History including at least 9 hours in American history, 6 hours in European history, and 6 hours in Non-Western history (exclusive of 295 and 495). Courses are designated by category in the RU catalog.
- **What is the difference between the B.A. in History and the B.S. in History?**  
To earn a B.A. in History, the student must earn the equivalent of twelve semester hours in a foreign language. Students pursuing the B.S. in History must take 6-8 semester hours from the department-approved list of courses that include offerings in Science, Math and Computer Science, in addition to some in Anthropology, Art, Economics, English, Geography, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, and Sociology. Students who intend to pursue graduate work in History are strongly advised to meet the requirements of the B.A. degree, and to prepare themselves by choosing academically-sound and challenging courses in consultation with their advisers.
- **Are internships available?**  
Yes, students can earn 3-15 semester hours in History or related disciplines for a one-semester internship with a museum, historical society, public or private agency, or politician. The department can provide general advice in this area and arrangements can be made through the Center for Experiential Learning. The student should work in close consultation with the department granting credit for the internship since it will approve and supervise the course of study.
- **What special skills or abilities will I develop as a History major in a liberal arts context?**  
Skills acquired through a History major include the following: communications skills, including enhanced writing and speaking skills; ability to gather information through reading and research; ability to analyze large quantities of data; ability to summarize and synthesize information; ability to draw logical conclusions from information; critical thinking skills; and the ability to place specific events into a larger context. In addition students acquire an ability to draw and appreciate cross-cultural comparisons.
- **How do I receive certification to teach at the middle school or secondary level?**  
Such student should declare a Social Science major (Teaching option), and complete a specified core of semester hours in education, which includes classroom instruction, observation in the schools, and student teaching. Students should make application to the appropriate Teacher Education Program no later than their junior year and must pass through a screening program in the History department. A minimum 2.5 GPA is required for admission to the program, but is not in itself a guarantee of admission. Education courses are taken by students during their final four semesters before graduation. In addition, students anticipating a teaching career are encouraged to take COMM 114 (Public Speaking) as part of their General Education requirements. For additional information about the Teacher Education Program, contact the Department of Educational Studies.
- **Where can I obtain additional information about careers in History?**  
Department liaison, faculty and alumni  
RU Career Services Center (see website)  
RU McConnell Library  
RU Humanities and Behavioral Advising Center  
RU Admissions Office  
Various Professional Historical Organizations