WHAT CAN I DO WITH A HISTORY DEGREE?

You can preserve our past and teach people about who they are, become a lawyer or a public servant, analyze data, unearth artifacts or run a company! History is a broad based field that seeks to teach skill sets that are applicable across a wide range of professions. Students can go on to become researchers or advocates; caretakers of the past in museums and heritage sites; or analysts and policy makers for the future in a corporation or the government. A history degree is a gateway to every advanced degree that depends on critical and efficient reading, clear and effective writing, an ability to grasp details and to understand the interconnections between seemingly separate events, trends and people. This is why famous actors, billionaire CEOs and presidents have all started with a history degree.

HISTORY AT SRU

Through the history curriculum, students will be grounded in important thematic trends in both American and world history. Students will pursue a deep understanding of national histories or themes in historical knowledge at a high level. But they will also be able to pursue a specific interest and choose to concentrate their studies in a variety of fields, including American or European history, or the histories of Asia, Latin American and the Middle East. Students who are interested in the practical application of their historical studies have many opportunities to learn about museum methods, digital history methods and participate in internships and employment that can give them hands-on experience.

WHY CHOOSE HISTORY AT SRU?

1. Small class sizes: Students are never a faceless name in a giant auditorium. Introductory courses have 49 students and all upper-level courses have a limit of 25, giving students a more individualized classroom experience.

2. Experienced faculty: You will be taught by full-time faculty members who bring their own scholarly expertise and research into the classroom to enhance your learning experience and inspire you with their passion for their field.

3. Research with faculty and experiences in the community: History majors have numerous opportunities to collaborate with faculty in undergraduate research projects. Furthermore, satisfying, hands-on experiences are part of the undergraduate training for students in our program through the Old Stone House, the Center for Public Humanities and a variety of internship opportunities.

4. Support and guidance: Every undergraduate is assigned an academic adviser to guide you through your program of study and help you make decisions about educational and career goals. More than 90 percent of our students are accepted into their first graduate program of choice. We are dedicated to opening doors for our students beyond the obvious career paths of teaching and museum studies.

5. Long-lasting relationships: Our students go on to work all over the world in a wide range of careers. But they still return as members of our alumni advisory board and as participants in a wide variety of career events and celebrations.
INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
SRU History students have completed internships at various locations including:

- Smithsonian American Art Museum
- National Baseball Hall of Fame
- Heinz History Center
- Fort Pitt Museum
- National Park Service
- Old Economy Village
- Gettysburg Seminary Ridge Museum

CAREER OUTCOMES
Whether continuing their education after earning their bachelor’s degree or not, graduates of the department have secured careers in the following areas:

- Curator; Pro Football Hall of Fame, Canton, Ohio
- Procurement Agent; Boeing, Washington, D.C.
- Lawyer; prominent Cleveland, Pittsburgh and regional law firms
- Director; Daughters of the American Revolution Museum, Washington, D.C.
- Secondary Education History Teacher
- Regional Director, Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania
- Heritage Officer, State of West Virginia
- Field Archeologist; ERO Resources, Denver, Colorado
- Contracting officer; National Background Investigations Bureau, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Director, SRU Planetarium
- Professor; national and international colleges and universities

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS
- Phi Alpha Theta History Honorary Society
- The Old Stone House
- The Stone House Center for Public Humanities

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT
Rachel Lambert, ’17
Graduate student in public history, intern at the American Association for State and Local History, Middle Tennessee State University

“I didn’t realize until I left how much subject diversity there was in the History Department at SRU and how important that was to me. Also, every single professor I had really seemed to love and believe in what they were doing, which made their classes even better and more engaging to take!”

Kevin Lukacs, ’17
Graduate student in public history, American University, Washington, D.C.

“Whether it’s during the rigorous hours in graduate school, or while carving out my place in the professional world, the lessons I learned at SRU and the amazing faculty stick with me.”

Sean Deafenbaugh, ’12
Procurement agent for U.S. Space programs, Boeing, Washington, D.C.

“When I’m advocating for a particular contract, I’m able to use my education to be more effective. History is more than reading about a bunch of dates and people. It’s about how someone stopped and said, “Let’s try something different.”