

GRADUATE STUDIES AT TRENT UNIVERSITY



History M.A.

TRENT UNIVERSITY



LEARNING TO MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE.™

History M.A. at Trent University

The Trent University History M.A. offers unique fields of specialization, a close working relationship with award-winning graduate faculty, a structured approach, flexibility, intellectual rigour, and individualized guidance in a small class setting. The program seeks to provide students with a firm grasp of history, both as a scholarly discipline and as an applied profession. It expands their knowledge of historical theory and methods; it develops their research and analytical skills; it guides them in conceptualizing, designing, and carrying out major research projects based on extensive work with primary sources. Trent M.A. graduates will be finely equipped for doctoral work, teaching, or non-academic professions that call for the ability to understand and interpret history.



Rigorous, Supportive, Flexible

The Trent M.A. Program is demanding and intense. It suits students who appreciate challenge and wish to benefit from close scholarly association with their supervisor and other graduate faculty. The quality of scholarly instruction and ready access to faculty make Trent one of Canada's leading universities. The program encourages students to develop personal research interests and goals, promotes independent research, and demands originality. It teaches the historian's craft, from project design, advanced research techniques, and methodology to concise and well-argued scholarly communication. The program stresses theoretically grounded analysis and effective presentation of historical material.

The philosophy and physical setting of the program encourage interaction among graduate students. Different forums and platforms for intellectual discussion are available within the History Program, in cognate graduate disciplines at Trent (Public Texts, Canadian Studies, Indigenous Studies, as well as Theory, Culture and Politics) and in the University at large.

Test the limits of conventional disciplines,
and participate in a culture of intellectual
questioning and exchange – explore your
graduate studies options at Trent.

Innovative.

LEARNING TO MAKE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

Choices: Two Program Streams

Both full-time and part-time students can choose from two program streams: Course Work or Thesis. The Trent History M.A. thus offers flexibility and allows students to shape graduate work according to their interests, objectives, and time frame. The program's Core Course (HIST 5100, "Theory, Historiography, Methodology") provides a thorough grounding in historical issues, methods, theories and debates. Stream One (Course Work) requires students to take the Core Course and four elective half-courses in their



preferred field(s) of study, and to write a major research paper (MRP). The MRP will be approximately 60 pages long and will emulate a major scholarly article.

Stream Two (Thesis) consists of the Core Course, two elective half-courses, and a research thesis. The research thesis will comprise a minimum of 120 pages and will be defended before a committee of at least three faculty members. Both the MRP and the thesis must incorporate an appropriate theoretical framework, discuss the relevant historiography, and use original research (including primary sources). The projects will be guided by an appointed supervisor and subjected to assessment by an external reader.

Learn More

For more information about the program, graduate faculty, fields of study and their specific requirements or expectations, along with a detailed list of course offerings in any given year, please visit www.trentu.ca/historyma.

Our programs offer opportunities to collaborate with experts in their fields, inspiring new understanding while pushing the boundaries of academic possibility and discovery.

Progressive.

One of Canada's Most Research Intensive Universities

Trent University has consistently been recognized as a centre of high calibre research and scholarship. The total research funding to Trent has more than doubled over a five year period and the success of Trent faculty in attracting research funding from diverse sources continues to be remarkable. Trent's eleven Canada Research Chairs cover a broad spectrum of disciplines, reflecting the institution's careful balance between research in the humanities, sciences, and social sciences. As federal and provincial governments continue to make knowledge transfer and outreach a priority for post-secondary institutions, Trent will continue to draw on its key strengths to further its research accomplishments and reputation nationally and internationally.

Desarrollo sin Reformistas
Dictadura y Campesinado en el
alimento de una Nueva Sociedad
en Almeria, 1939-1975

Fields of Study

The Trent M.A. Program offers six fields of study, three of which (Colonialism and Conflict, Iberian-American History, and Regional and Trans-National History) are offered nowhere else in Canada. These three complement and work synergistically with the other three fields (Canadian, European, Social and Cultural History). The fields guide students in defining their research interests and structuring their course-work.

Canadian History - The program boasts an impressive number of leading Canadian historians, working in fields spanning a wide range of social, cultural, political and economic aspects of the country's history.

Colonialism and Conflict - The department is highly recognized in the study of Western colonial conquest, empire-building, and domination in various regions of Africa, Asia, the Americas, Eastern Europe and the Middle East. The impact and long-term consequences of these processes are commonly reflected in ongoing conflicts around the world.

European History - Seven faculty members working in this field offer a broad range of scholarship reaching from the Middle Ages to the present. The geographical areas of concentration range from the British Islands to the Mediterranean and to Central and Eastern Europe.

Iberian-American History - Five faculty members conduct research in various areas of Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American history. These include late medieval Portugal and Portuguese overseas expansion, modern Spanish history, ethnohistory of the Andean region, and relations between Canada, the United States and Latin America.

Social and Cultural History - The scholarly expertise of Trent's faculty in this area extends to work and labour, medicine, environment, visual culture, criminality, family, gender, and sexuality, in addition to other perspectives on society and culture.

Regional and Trans-national History - This innovative field uses the history of organic regions and sub-regions as a platform for advanced analysis of the complex effects of the circulation of people, ideas, and socio-economic factors beyond the conventional boundaries of nation-states.

Please note that more detailed descriptions for each of these areas of research are available at www.trentu.ca/historyma.

Financial Support

Trent University is committed to providing History M.A. students with the financial support necessary to help them focus on their academic work. All students accepted to the M.A. Program are guaranteed \$ 12,698*, which includes a research fellowship (\$ 4,000) and teaching assistantship (\$ 8,698). Students in the MRP Stream receive funding for one year, students in the Thesis Stream for up to two years. In addition, students may qualify for internal history-related scholarships or fellowships. All students are encouraged to compete for external funding, such as the Ontario Graduate Scholarship and the SSHRC Master's Fellowship. Students who receive a major external award will be provided with a GTA, however are not eligible for the Research Fellowship.

* Check for updates on new increased funding rates at www.trentu.ca/graduatestudies/financialsupport.php

Graduate Faculty

An accomplished and well-respected group of historians and researchers, Trent's History faculty offers M.A. students a wide range of scholarship and a strong tradition of excellence in teaching and research. Trent faculty publish in foremost refereed journals, and are noted for their output of scholarly monographs and for related research projects. Adherence to high standards has earned Trent's Department of History a sustained record in attracting external research funding, including SSHRC standard grants and Killam Fellowships.

The History Department graduate faculty also includes members of other Trent University departments (humanities, social sciences, and sciences) whose work is historical in nature and whose interests add complexity and a variety of intellectual dimensions to the program.

Among Trent's graduate faculty members are:

Joan Sangster - author of key research works on the history of twentieth-century Canadian working women and societal attitudes towards women. She is a Fellow of the Royal Canadian Society and the recipient of seven national prizes for outstanding scholarship and both Trent's top awards (Distinguished Research Award in 2002 and the Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching in 1989). She currently holds a Killam Research Fellowship.

David Sheinin - author of numerous publications on the history of Argentina, human rights in Latin America, and the relations between the United States and Latin America. He is the winner of several prizes, including the 2007 Harold Eugene Davis Prize from the Middle Atlantic Council of Latin American Studies. He is a corresponding member of the Academia Nacional de la Historia de la República Argentina, a rare distinction for a foreign scholar.

Carolyn Kay - 2005 winner of the Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching. She is a cultural historian of imperial Germany and the author of *Art and the German Bourgeoisie* (2002). Her current work focuses on child rearing and motherhood as reflected in German "advice" literature of the early twentieth century.

Keith Walden - commands much respect for his innovative research and publications on post-Confederation Canadian cultural history. He received the Chalmers Prize and the CHA 'Clio' Award for Best Book on Ontario for his 1997 book *Becoming Modern in Toronto* and the 1989 Canadian Historical Review Prize for the best article appearing in the journal.

Ivana Elbl - historian of late medieval Portugal and its overseas expansion. She serves as the Chief Editor of the *Portuguese Studies Review* and is the co-editor of *Women in the Lusophone World in the Middle Ages and the Early Modern Period* (2007). She is the recipient of the 2007 Symons Award for Excellence in Teaching and a winner of Ontario's inaugural Leadership in Faculty Teaching (LIFT) Award (2007).

Tim Stapleton examines the colonial conquest in southern Africa in the nineteenth and early twentieth-century from the perspective of resistance and agency of indigenous groups and states. A speaker of several African languages, he is recognized for his expertise in the use of oral tradition as historical evidence. He is the author or editor of four books and a number of article-length publications, the most recent of which is his monograph on the Rhodesia Native Regiment in World War I.



Life at Trent University

Trent University has earned a reputation for exceptional teaching and innovative research activity. The University as a whole nurtures a collaborative atmosphere in which students from across the country and around the world are encouraged to engage in interdisciplinary learning while enjoying a variety of social and cultural activities. For graduate students in particular, Trent affords a rich research and learning environment that facilitates an interdisciplinary perspective on just about any topic of interest - resulting in a broader range of options upon completion of your Trent degree. Graduate students at Trent also have access to a college dedicated primarily to graduate studies. Located in downtown Peterborough, Catharine Parr Traill College is a hub of activity for all graduate students.

The Peterborough Lifestyle

Trent University is located in Peterborough, Ontario on the banks of the Otonabee River just 90 minutes from downtown Toronto. A friendly, mid-sized city, Peterborough boasts a vibrant arts and music scene, a varied selection of restaurants, cafés and pubs, and a full complement of services combined with affordable accommodation and easy access to the surrounding lakes and wilderness of the world famous Kawartha Lakes region. It's no wonder so many people are recognizing the benefits of living and studying in Peterborough.

Admission Requirements

Applicants for Trent's History M.A. are expected to hold a B.A. Honours in history (or an equivalent) with an overall average of at least 80% (GPA 3.67). Beyond these baseline qualifications, admission to the program also depends on the following considerations:

- The applicant's previous education and training
- Availability of appropriate faculty as instructors, supervisors and committee members
- Feasibility of the proposed course of study & project
- Availability of suitable academic resources
- Command of relevant language(s)

The application deadline is February 1. Late applications will be considered if places remain available.



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