

Department of History

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for showing interest in the graduate program in history at Texas State University-San Marcos. As you expressed an intent to major in history, we ask that you submit a separate application for our departmental program, in addition to the application to the Graduate College.

Please complete all parts of the form on the following two pages. Do not be overly concerned if items about which we ask do not apply to your experience, or if you must answer in the negative to some questions. You will need two letters of recommendations, and a short essay, before your application can be processed. We also ask for you to submit your GRE scores and an official transcript to the Graduate College

Lack of facility in a foreign language could pose a problem for you if (and only if) you plan to work on a thesis in certain areas of European history or Latin American history in which such competency is essential to your research. If you intend to do research in United States history or even in some areas other than U. S. history, or if you intend to seek a master's degree which requires no thesis, a lack of competency in one or more foreign languages may pose no problem at all. If you intend to pursue a doctoral degree after finishing your master's with us, however, in whatever area you may choose, language competency will be required and we encourage graduate students to develop or maintain their language skills while part of our program.

If there are other matters with which I can assist you as you prepare to enter our program, do not hesitate to contact me and let me know. I would be more than happy to meet with you on our campus at a time convenient to you before you actually enter our program to discuss any issues that remain unresolved in your mind. I also expect you to confer with me about your program, from time to time as circumstances require, once you have begun your graduate studies with us. I look forward to meeting you in person, and to working with you as you plan and carry out your program of graduate studies with us.

Sincerely

Mary C. Brennan, Ph.D.

Director of Graduate Studies

Instructions

Be sure to provide us with at least two letters of recommendation from professors with whom you have worked as an undergraduate (or, if applicable, as a graduate student). If you wish to seek letters from additional references, provide them with copies of the form enclosed. Be sure to collect your letters of recommendation from your professors (in sealed envelopes, with their signatures over the seal) and include them with your application form and your essay for return to us.

When you have everything gathered together, send the completed packet to:

Director of Graduate Studies
Department of History
Texas State University-San Marcos
601 University Drive
San Marcos, Texas 78666-4616

or fax your copies of materials to: (512) 245-3043, and be sure that those writing letters of reference for you fax those letters to the same number.

To be considered for a Graduate Assistantship, completed applications, including all component parts of this packet, must be in the hands of the Director of Graduate Studies by March 31st.

To be assured consideration for admission to the graduate program in history, completed applications, including all component parts of this packet, must be in the hands of the Director of Graduate Studies by the following deadlines:

To enter the program in the Fall Semester, applications must be in hand by July 15th.

To enter the program in the Spring Semester, applications must be in hand by November 15th.

To enter the program during one of the summer sessions, applications must be in hand by April 15th or June 1st, depending on which session the student wishes to start.

According to the Texas State Graduate Catalog (see "Admission Policies"), under very special circumstances, applications may be accepted after these deadlines, at the discretion of the major department. The Department of History will accept NO applications under any circumstances within ten days of the first class day of the fall or spring semesters, or after the published deadlines for summer sessions.

Undergraduate Awards, Honors or Scholarships:

G.R.E. SCORE _____ Verbal _____ Quantitative _____ Analytical

Date to take G.R.E.: _____
(if not taken at time of application)

GRADUATE DEGREE (if any):

Institution Major Degree—M.A. or M.S. in Ed

REFERENCES (History Professors with whom you have had courses):

(Be sure to ask at least two of the individuals listed here to write letters of recommendation)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (if any):

PROPOSED GRADUATE CONCENTRATION (Check One):

- United States European
 Latin America Public History
 Undecided

FOREIGN LANGUAGE COMPETENCY

Speaking Competency _____

Reading Competency Only _____

Do You Wish to Apply for a Graduate Assistantship with this form?

Yes

No

APPLICANT ESSAY

Please write a focused, carefully developed essay of 400–500 words on how your undergraduate experience in history courses and as a student of history directed your career toward graduate level work in history, or how that experience shaped what you expect of your work in history at the graduate level.

Your essay should be typed or word processed and carefully proof read. Use and attach additional pages if necessary. Be sure to sign your name on the final page of your essay (and that it is typed at the top of any other pages of the essay) before returning it to the Department of History at Texas State with your application and letters of recommendations.

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION for an applicant for admission to the Graduate Program of the Department of History at Texas State University-San Marcos

_____ is seeking admission to the Graduate Program in History at Texas State University-San Marcos.

Please evaluate this person's prospects as a graduate student in history and (*if the student so requests*) as a prospective graduate assistant, who would be responsible for managing the routine duties of and grading examinations given in a large section (of 110–125 students) of our freshman survey course in United States history or our sophomore course in the history of western civilization.

Please return your letter on this form (or on your own institutional stationery) in a sealed envelope to the student named above or fax directly to the Department of History at (512) 245–3043. If the student handles your evaluation, its confidentiality can be further assured by signing the envelope over the seal. Unless you send it by fax, the student will be responsible for returning your letter to the Texas State History Department with her or his completed application packet.

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