WHY THE FIVE POINTED STAR??

The Five Pointed Star, the Lone Star, of Texas is ingrained in the mind and memory of all Texans. It is part of our state (dare I say, “national”) and local identity. Drive into downtown Kerrville on Water Street to the intersection of Water and Earl Garrett. There, in the center of the intersection is a large, five pointed star, located there to celebrate a unique part of the history of Kerrville. In the mid to late eighteen hundreds annually the cattle of South Texas would be driven north to the railroad. The trail would wind northward through the Rio Grande Valley through San Antonio and then Kerrville. When it was time to take the cattle to market, local cattlemen like Schreiner University’s founder, Captain Charles Schreiner, would drive their cattle into Kerrville and await the herd coming from South Texas. The intersection of Water and Earl Garrett was the gathering place for the local herd. So historic is this place in Kerrville that the local high school for many years held an annual homecoming dance on the site. Today the five pointed star and a limestone plaque explains the history of the site to the visitor. Long live the five pointed star.

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A HISTORY DEGREE?

Ask Tim Creamer who graduated from SU and then earned his MA in library science from North Texas State University if there are jobs to be had in history.

Today Tim is the curator of the Thaddeus Stevens Papers. Thaddeus Stevens was a primary mover and shaker in Reconstruction America after the Civil War. Tim tells us that he “feels” the presence of the man each time he holds the papers. For Tim Creamer, history is very real.

John Huddleston

THE FIVE POINTED STAR

HONORING THE SESQUICENTENNIAL OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR, 1861-1865

The most destructive war in our nation’s history occurred in 1861-1865. April 2011 marked the 150th anniversary of the beginning of this great American tragedy. The Civil War, as Abraham Lincoln called it, transformed America forever. The institution of slavery, a keystone element of Southern life, was ended by virtue of the North’s victory, as was the concept of nullification and ultimately secession from the Union. In America’s early colonial experience, our Puritan forefathers allowed no deviation from the goals of that society. Banishment into the wilderness was the punishment for non-conformity. Yet by Lincoln’s time, the nation had matured to the point that the South was not to be allowed to banish itself into the political wilderness, even if she desired to do so. Lincoln held the nation together at its most critical moment. To honor the sesquicentennial of the American Civil War, Professors Jeannette Roethler and John Huddleston began producing historical vignettes in March 2011 for Texas Public Radio. Visit http://tpr.org/articles/2011/03/civilwar.html to hear these vignettes from “This Week in the Civil War” – from Schreiner University. Professors Huddleston and Roethler hope that you will enjoy these historical vignettes.

CURRICULUM GUIDES

If you have not visited the SU website at www.schreiner.edu to review the history and history with teacher certification, 8-12, curriculum guides, you should do so. On the home page, click on Academics at the left of the page. Then on the Academics page, you will find on the right side of that page, the words Curriculum Guides and Course Rotations. Click on Curriculum Guides, and you will see the guide for History and History Teacher Certification. These curriculum guides should be consulted on a regular basis and should be used in conjunction with the Course Rotations to get you ready each semester to see your advisor.

FALL 2011 HISTORY CLASSES

As the edition goes to press, the SU History Department is offering the following upper division courses for the fall 2011: HIST 3305—U.S. Constitution and History, HIST 3307—Civil War and Reconstruction, and HIST 3313—American Women’s History. Low enrollments have forced cancellation of several, upper division classes; in a perverse way, history’s success at graduat-
HISTORY AT SCHREINER UNIVERSITY

Why study history at Schreiner?

Mostly because it’s fun and fascinating to fathom the foibles, foibles, and foibles of our forerunners. But more seriously, because this social science/humanities discipline prepares you to understand the present and to influence the future through a systematic study of the many cultures of the human past. Our history program helps you develop skills of analysis and problem-solving which can be used in both your professional and personal life. Our curriculum seeks a balance between breadth and depth to serve your interests in using your historical training as preparation for a variety of careers in law, business, government, or education.

OK, but you may have further questions like:

Who are the teachers and advisors?

What do I have to do to earn a degree?

What major advantage of an undergraduate degree in history is it relevant to a personal life. Our curriculum seeks a balance between breadth and depth to serve your interests in using your historical training as preparation for a variety of careers in law, business, government, or education.

Sample Careers with a B.A. Degree

Common careers include:

- Professional historians in positions such as editors, archivists, or museum and historical agency managers
- Teaching, especially when coupled with Secondary or Elementary programs
- Social/Welfare work
- Religious Life
- Department of Defense and U.S. Armed Forces
- Intelligence Agencies (NSA, DIA, CIA, etc.)
- Law Enforcement
- Library and information management
- Journalism/writing/publishing
- Public relations

Careers

People often ask: “What could I do with a degree in History?” The simple answer is: “Almost anything you want.” A major advantage of an undergraduate degree in history is its relevance to a diversity of career paths. History graduates practice law at every corporate, criminal, and international level they administer and teach at the secondary and college levels in every part of the country; they serve in local, state, and federal government as elected, appointed, and civil service officers; they work in journalism, advertising, and public relations; they pursue varied business careers as owners and managers. Our history curriculum helps prepare students for advanced education, professional training, and many possible jobs and careers.

So why not study history? You can both enjoy learning about the people of the past and have nearly unlimited opportunities for employment.

Sample Careers with a B.A. Degree

Common careers include:

- Professional historians in positions such as editors, archivists, or museum and historical agency managers
- Teaching, especially when coupled with Secondary or Elementary programs
- Social/Welfare work
- Religious Life
- Department of Defense and U.S. Armed Forces
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- Law Enforcement
- Library and information management
- Journalism/writing/publishing
- Public relations

Schreiner University Faculty

Jeanette Cockcroft, Ph.D., Associate Professor of History
Fred Hennenke, M.A., Instructor of History
John D. Huddleston, Ph.D., Professor of History
Renee McNeil, M.A., Instructor of History
Jeremy Roethler, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of History

See your history department advisor to plan your internship now.

INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES

Last year senior history student Courtney Skeen became the first SU history student to complete an internship in a variety of places, including the Gillespie Historical Society and even in the Alaskan State Legislature! Museum work and graduate studies are “natural byproducts” of an interest in history. Just ask Rebecca Borine who took advantage of her experiences in history, the new enrolled in the history doctoral program at Texas Tech University at Lubbock.

Be sure to see your history department advisor to plan your internship now. The opportunities are limitless.

COCKROFT’S COMMENTS

Are you curious about history? Do you wonder how museums choose to discuss politically sensitive issues, like the dropping of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima or the Clinton-Lewinsky scandal? Does the idea of poking around in Presidential papers have voyeuristic appeal to you? Could you walk the battlefield at Gettysburg until your feet fall off? If you answered “yes” to any of these questions, then you might be interested in public history without even realizing it. Public history is the presentation of historic issues and events to popular audiences. It moves the facts and controversies discussed in the classroom beyond the bounds of the university in order to shape the public understanding of who we are, how this country developed, and what our future could look like. Public historians include archivists, museum curators, and librarians and many of these positions require only a M.A. in public history. This is an exciting field of history with lots of job opportunities, so check out the website for the National Council of Public History at www.ncph.org. For post graduation educational opportunities, check out www.publichistory.org. And, of course, you are always free to come by and chat!