

**STATEMENT OF MISSION, DISTINCTIVENESS, AND ASSESSMENT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**  
(adopted by the Department of History, March 2009)

- *Mission Statement:* The Department of History offers a student-centered degree program that blends traditional and contemporary approaches, emphasizing global perspectives while recognizing the value of local and regional history. Students are mentored by a faculty of dedicated teacher-scholars, who are nationally and internationally known in their fields of expertise. Students have the opportunity to participate in unique experiences, including the History Lab and the Departmental Honors sequence.
- *As a distinctive program in History, the Department of History:*
  - Maintains a student-centered curriculum that offers both traditional and thematic courses, and emphasizes global perspectives while recognizing the value of local and regional history;
  - Has strengths in Modern Global History, Southern History (especially Georgia and rural South), Women's and Gender History, and Military History;
  - Serves History Education and Pre-Law students;
  - Maintains a unique Departmental Honors sequence for History Majors in the University Honors Program, and;
  - Prepares graduates to enter the workforce or graduate school with the ability to think critically, gather and analyze data, conduct original research, and communicate clearly and persuasively, and;
  - Recruits and retains a Faculty of dedicated teacher-scholars, who are nationally and internationally known in their fields of expertise.
- *As academic historians who are active members of an academic culture, the Faculty of the Department of History:*
  - Values diversity of historical approaches, and;
  - Recognizes the importance of skills students need to succeed in an ever-changing global and technology-based job market, and;
  - Is dedicated to excellence in teaching and scholarship as means to improve the program and continue individual professional growth.
- *To maintain a climate supportive of this distinction, the Department of History:*
  - Seeks and utilizes collegial approaches to maintain a challenging curriculum and provide excellent instruction to undergraduate and graduate History majors;
  - Designs and maintains a curriculum to impart historical content (upper-level courses) and process (Historical Methods and Senior Seminar);
  - Maintains classroom caps for upper-level courses to ensure small class size;
  - Is prolific in scholarly output and professional participation.
- *To determine the progress of achieving this distinction, the Department of History will:*
  - Annually assess student portfolios;

- Assess student competitiveness for scholarships, internships, service learning opportunities, and undergraduate research opportunities;
- Conduct exit surveys of graduates;
- Survey placement of graduates in the work force and graduate programs;
- Assess Faculty teaching and scholarly output through yearly reviews, tenure & promotion reviews, and post-tenure reviews.