Greetings from the Chair’s Office in the Macalester History Department! It is with great pleasure and optimism that I have the privilege of becoming the new Chair for such a distinguished department at Macalester College. The Fall 2023 semester has flown by and I’m thrilled to highlight a few of the outstanding accomplishments and events that the department has hosted these past few months.

At the beginning of the semester we were delighted to welcome two new visiting faculty to our department, Dr. Niharika Yadav and Dr. Lauren Henry. Dr. Niharika Yadav joins us this year and next as a Berg Postdoctoral Fellow. Dr. Yadav teaches courses that include Contemporary India Since 1945, Introduction to South Asian History, and The History of Caste. Her current book project is titled “Languages of Socialism: Caste and Democracy in Postcolonial India, 1930-1960.” Dr. Lauren Henry joins us as a Visiting Assistant Professor whose research explores the role played by French Jews in the colonization of Algeria and the regeneration of Algerian Jewry along Western lines. Dr. Henry teaches courses in modern European and Jewish history, including Postwar Europe, the Holocaust, and Antisemitism. Both Dr.’s Yadav and Henry, along with Visiting Assistant Professor Tara Hollies are advising the History Club this year. We are thrilled to have them all here and hope all of our students can engage with their courses and the History Club!

As it is the Fall semester, we have 23 students enrolled in two History Capstone seminars. On November 16, students presented their in-progress capstone papers to an enthusiastic audience of fellow Historians and History majors, friends, and family. Over the semester the History Department also hosted a Welcome Back Lunch and a Pre-Registration Lunch – both highly successful and well-attended events.

At the end of Spring Semester 2023 Professor Yue-Him Tam announced that he will retire from Macalester College. As he moves towards retirement, Professor Tam continues work this fall on his research about war crimes and memory in East Asia, creating a digital archive that will be hosted by the DeWitt Wallace Library. Stay tuned for more information about an opening event and celebration of Professor Tam’s long and distinguished career at Macalester!

In closing, I want to thank my History Department colleagues for providing a warm and welcoming space for our students to explore their ideas and imaginations of History across the globe, and for their open-minded and thoughtful support of my first semester as Department Chair. I want to especially thank our hard-working, enthusiastic and tremendously talented students for their dedication to History and for always seeking new ways of imagining and exploring global histories! Thank you and have a wonderful Winter Break!
Welcome New Visiting Faculty

Lauren Henry

Lauren Henry is a Visiting Assistant Professor in Modern European and Jewish History. Her research explores the intersections of race, ethnicity, and nation-building in modern France and its colonies. Her dissertation, entitled "Squaring the Hexagon: Alsace and the Making of French Algeria, 1830-1945," reconstructed a century of trans-Mediterranean migration by soldiers, settlers, workers and refugees; it is currently in revision for publication. At Macalester, Dr. Henry is teaching courses on the post-war European history and the history of the Holocaust. This spring, she will be "rewinding" from the postwar era to teach courses on the age of European revolutions and World Wars I and II. She is also teaching a thematic class on the history of antisemitism, which will examine the tragic continued relevance of the world's most ancient form of hatred.

Niharika Yadav

Niharika Yadav is a Berg Postdoctoral Fellow of South Asian history. Her research connects histories of political and literary practices with studies of language, caste, and gender in postcolonial India. On a broader scale, her work concerns global histories of democracy and socialism in the 20th century. Professor Yadav's current book project, *Languages of Socialism: Caste and Democracy in Postcolonial India, 1930-1960*, examines how a range of actors translated and reimagined a global political language of “democratic socialism” into new forms - as social theory, literary aesthetic, and mass movement. At Macalester, she is excited to be teaching courses on early modern, colonial, and contemporary South Asian History. In the spring she will be teaching “Global History of Caste,” a course which will focus on the interaction between caste and other hierarchies as well as its portrayal in film, literature, ethnographies, censuses, and legal documents.
Contemporary India, 1947 to Present
Taught by Niharika Yadav

In 1947, India embarked upon one of the world’s most ambitious experiments in postcolonial democracy. This course surveys the history of the Indian state and society in the decades following the formal end of colonial rule, as the country sought to rebuild its economy, institute a new political system, and usher in large-scale social change. Through a combination of secondary texts and a range of primary sources from postcolonial Indian history, we will develop a complex picture of the relationship, often contradictory, between the promises of democracy, development, and decolonization in postcolonial societies. You do not require any prior knowledge of Indian history or languages for this course.

Intro to South Asia, c. 1500-1900
Taught by Niharika Yadav

Encompassing a vast and diverse region that includes the present-day states of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka, Maldives, and Bhutan, South Asia is home to a fourth of the world’s population. What was political, social, and cultural life in this region like before modernity? How did the plural religious, linguistic, and social identities that shape everyday life emerge? How did the encounter with colonialism reshape the contemporary trajectories of South Asian cultures? Proceeding chronologically, we will explore important themes that continue to inspire a rich historical scholarship, namely: processes underlying the integration of diverse cultural traditions across the Indian Ocean; the emergence, and consolidation of Indo-Persian kingship and attendant forms of socio-cultural life; changes wrought upon this landscape by the arrival of European colonial rule; and the postcolonial trajectories of South Asian societies. We will explore these changes by engaging with sources and scholarship on different genres and mediums of communication ranging from art, architectural practices, music, film, fiction, and ethnography.

Wakanda Forever
Taught by Walter Greason

Wakanda Forever is a First Year Course that explores the creation of fictional worlds like Marvel Studios’ Wakanda in ways that advance the principles of a liberal arts education. The primary goal of the course is to foster new students’ academic curiosity about several different subjects. In the first month, they focus on information management skills so that they can ask more informed questions. Through the middle of the semester, they learn to write across academic disciplines effectively, so that they are more prepared to excel over the next four years. Finally, in the last few weeks of class, they apply these new skills in the construction of a virtual town that blends influences from literature and history to inspire new ways to see the world.
## Fall 2023 Course Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Instructor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 122-01</td>
<td>The Roman World</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>9:40 am-11:10 am</td>
<td>Beth Severy-Hoven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 137-01</td>
<td>From Confederation to Confederacy: US History from Independence to Civil War</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>10:50 am-11:30 am</td>
<td>Linda Sturtz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 137-02</td>
<td>From Confederation to Confederacy: US History from Independence to Civil War</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>1:10 pm-2:10 pm</td>
<td>Linda Sturtz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 140-01</td>
<td>Introduction to East Asian Civilization</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>9:40 am-11:10 am</td>
<td>James Coplin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 154-01</td>
<td>African Life Histories</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>10:50 am-11:30 am</td>
<td>Tara Hollies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 170-01</td>
<td>History of Childhood</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>3:00 pm-4:30 pm</td>
<td>Amy Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 181-F1</td>
<td>Introduction to Latin America</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>3:00 pm-4:30 pm</td>
<td>Ernesto Capello</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 194-01</td>
<td>Intro to South Asian History</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>9:40 am-10:40 am</td>
<td>Niharika Yadav</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 194-F1</td>
<td>Wakanda Forever</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>7:00 pm-10:00 pm</td>
<td>Niharika Yadav</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 209-01</td>
<td>Civil Rights in the United States</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>7:00 pm-10:00 pm</td>
<td>Walter Greason</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 225-01</td>
<td>Native History to 1871</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>9:40 am-11:10 am</td>
<td>Katrina Phillips</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 228-01</td>
<td>The Law, Economy, and Family in the Anglo-American Tradition</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>8:30 am-9:30 am</td>
<td>Linda Sturtz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 234-01</td>
<td>US Environmental History</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>1:20 pm-3:20 pm</td>
<td>Chris Wells</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 258-01</td>
<td>Postwar Europe</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>9:40 am-11:10 am</td>
<td>Lauren Henry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 271-01</td>
<td>Uses and Abuses: Drugs, Addiction, and Recovery</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>7:00 pm-10:00 pm</td>
<td>Amy Sullivan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 282-01</td>
<td>Latin America: Art and Nation</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>1:20 pm-2:50 pm</td>
<td>Ernesto Capello</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 294-02</td>
<td>Contemporary India since 1945</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>3:30 pm-4:30 pm</td>
<td>Niharika Yadav</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 294-03</td>
<td>The Caucasus: From Ancient History to Modern Problems</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>1:20 pm-2:50 pm</td>
<td>Artyom Tonoyan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 294-F1</td>
<td>Between Europe and Asia</td>
<td>MWF</td>
<td>1:20 pm-2:50 pm</td>
<td>Maria Federova</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 367-01</td>
<td>The Holocaust</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>1:20 pm-2:50 pm</td>
<td>Lauren Henry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 490-01</td>
<td>Senior Seminar</td>
<td>MW</td>
<td>8:00 am-9:30 am</td>
<td>Karin Vélez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 490-02</td>
<td>Senior Seminar</td>
<td>TR</td>
<td>8:00 am-9:30 am</td>
<td>Katrina Phillips</td>
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History on Campus

Sean Restivo ‘23 at the Summer Showcase

Sean’s research focuses on the relationship between climate change and coastal cultural heritage sites, using three low-lying islands in Virginia as case studies. This past summer, he spent a month and a half working with the Fairfield Foundation in Virginia, visiting the islands, conducting archaeological excavations, doing photogrammetry and 3D modeling work, and going through local archives for historical information. Sean had a great time presenting the work he’s done so far at the summer showcase, which took place on October 6th. The questions asked and the feedback he received were incredibly helpful in shaping how he will frame his final honors project.

Department Events

History Welcome Lunch

On September 19th, students and faculty gathered in Old Main to eat pizza and celebrate the start of the semester.

Pre-Registration Lunch

On October 21st, students and faculty gathered in Weyerhauser to learn about courses being offered in the Spring.

An Interview with John Esh, Archives Specialist at Macalester

How can history students utilize the archives and special collections?
Because we’re responsible for the institutional memory of the college going back over 150 years, we’re a veritable trove of research materials for History (and all other) students. With Macalester having such a focus on international relations and studies, our collections contain materials that touch on thousands of events from around the world. You just have to have a subject in mind, make an appointment, and we’ll see what we can’t find for you.

What role do the archives play in preserving the history of Macalester?
We’re the caretakers of Macalester’s history and that of its students, staff, and faculty. It’s our job to gather all these stories and create connections between them through time and space. A really good archivist is equal parts historian, anthropologist, writer, and documentarian.

What does a typical day in the life of an Archivist look like?
Archivists do so many things that no one day looks the same. I could be providing research or reference for a patron, teaching a class, conducting outreach, digitizing legacy media, cataloging donations, creating exhibits, or any other number of activities. It really does keep the work from becoming boring.

What is the most exciting discovery you have made in the archives?
I found an original Black Panther newspaper from 1969 in a box of materials from the Chapel of all places. It belonged to Alan Currier, Chaplain from 1964 to 1975, and who was heavily invested in civil and human rights activities on a local and global scale. It has great synergy with our recording of Emory Douglas (the Minister of Culture for the Black Panthers) speaking at Macalester in 1970.
The Life of Roman Mosaics

Rose Fanuzzi ’26 spent her summer working on mosaic conservation in Stobi, the capital of the Roman province Macedonia Salutaris in Late Antiquity. A declared History and Art History major and Spanish minor, Rose spent three weeks handling mosaic fragments on the grounds of a palace that housed emperor Theodosius I during his visit in Stobi in 388 AD. With a team of six individuals from around the world, Rose cleaned, consolidated, and replaced these fragments, known as tesserae, to revitalize the ancient past.

In March of last year, Rose was on the hunt for a summer experience when she received one of the department’s opportunity emails, a resource that is sent out to history students every week. This email’s list of summer programs led to her discovery of the Balkan Heritage Field School. Since 2008, BHFS has invited students from nearly 70 countries to immerse themselves in archaeological experiences related to civilizations that once existed in the Balkans.

The Republic of North Macedonia that exists on the map today was a region that was continually absorbed into empires that rose and fell during Classical Antiquity. Although Stobi was mentioned by the Roman historian Livy several times in his writings, it was only in the 20th century that the city began to receive renewed interest from scholars and archaeologists. The excavation site at the Palace of Theodosius project where Rose worked is part of an exciting effort to preserve this site of cultural heritage and ensure that its legacy will continue to be cherished by future generations.

Rose fondly recalls sharing authentic Macedonian meals with her fellow conservators and getting to know them outside of their time on the palace grounds. They often marveled at the likelihood that they would have all found themselves in the same ancient capital despite their diverse interests and backgrounds. Expeditions to sites outside of Stobi were opportunities to broaden their understanding of Balkan life. During a trip to Lake Ohrid, they explored the natural world heritage site and its surrounding orthodox churches, where mosaics and frescoes produced hundreds of years ago continue to captivate visitors. From Pella, the birthplace of Alexander the Great, to Vergina, where he would be proclaimed king, Rose was immersed in the rich history of another extraordinary civilization.

Although she had never taken a Classics or Art History course at Macalester before her time in Stobi, Rose is eager to incorporate her newfound interests in art conservation and museology into her path of studies. Her time at Stobi was a dive into how science, craftsmanship, and scholarship can be combined in fascinating ways to preserve beauty and function. During the rest of her time at Macalester, she is excited to continue to draw inspiration from this experience and see where it will lead her.
Capstone Presentations

HIST 490: Senior Seminar
Beginnings and Endings
November 16, 2023

Congratulations to our seniors and a special thank you to our faculty and staff for this year’s celebration of historical research!
CAPSTONE PRESENTATIONS

PANEL 1: DISPUTED SPACES

Emma Kopplin, “Land, Lineage, and Lore: Legacies of the Homestead Act in Spink County, South Dakota”

Josh Rollin, “An Empire's Eyes: The Visionary Cartographers of Tobolsk”

Max Zinman, “Ghosts of Empire: Analyzing Modern ‘Non-Self-Governing Territories through the Lens of the British Virgin Islands”

Jayden Sinclair, “The Hagia Sophia as a Contested Religious Space”

PANEL 2: VIOLENCE AND CONTESTED MARGINS

Sarah Beth Hobby, “Dispossession and the Construction of the American Identity: Agriculture, Ecosystem Change, and the Formation of What it Means to be ‘American' (A Minnesota Case Study)”

Morgan Niven, “Fading Drums: The Military History of Forgotten Wars”

Adam Rose, “How Could This Happen Here?”: The Assassination of Talaat Pasha as a Discursive Play of Transcendental Imperial Violence in the Metropol

Capstone Presentations

PANEL 3: FRESH ANGLES ON CONTEMPORARY UNITED STATES

Abi Janzen, “Why Native Food Sovereignty Efforts in Minnesota Matter”

Cheyenne Woerman, “‘That Heinous Mixed-Blood Order’: The Roots, Roles, and Repercussions of "Mixed-Race" Native Americans in Twentieth Century Film”

Reagan Kimzey, “‘There’s No Dang Hymnals in the Churches Anymore’: How the Southern Baptist Church Uses Music to Reach Different Generations”

PANEL 4: GLOBAL CROSSINGS & NEW NARRATIVES

Caedmon Kollmer-Dorsey, “Pierre Soulé: Antebellum Expansionism in the Atlantic World”


Emma Salomon, “In Defense of Narratives for Readers and Writers of Holocaust Testimonies”

Chao Qin, “‘The Hairy Man and the Water Monster’: A Rumor Spread in Rural Southern China in the 1950s”
PANEL 5: PRESERVATION & POLITICS

Fiona Mulholland, “It's Good to Forget’: Remembering and Reckoning with Recent Irish History”

Miles Bauer, “Oppression and Resistance: The Enduring Legacy of the Greek Civil War”


Sean Restivo, “Rising Tides and Eroding Stories: Three Virginia Islands Threatened by Climate Change and the Historiographic Challenges They Pose”

PANEL 6: (RE-)EDUCATION NEEDED

Jack Duffy, “Re-analyzing Medieval Medicine: An Examination of University-Trained Healers and Botanical Practices”


Hollis Quasebarth, “Educational Perspectives from Both Banks: A Study of Twin Cities' Public Education”

Leander Moe, “Greek Tragedy or European Farce? A Reassessment of the Greek Financial Crisis”
Spring 2023 Department Awards

The Yahya Armajani Prize in Global History
Established in 1983 by the colleagues, friends, and former students of James Wallace Professor Emeritus Yahya Armajani in honor of his retirement. Professor Armajani was an Iranian native who taught and chaired the History Department for many years. As a Presbyterian minister, historian, and international citizen, he advocated tolerance and acceptance of all people and faiths. Awarded to distinguished senior history majors.
Winner: Ana Berman

Yahya Armajani Endowed Prize
Awarded to an outstanding international student.
Winner: Janine Preko

The J. Huntley Dupre Prize in European History
Established in 1983 in honor of J. Huntley Dupre by the History Department. Professor Dupre served as a history and political science professor as well as the academic dean for 16 years until his retirement in 1962. He exuded incredible warmth and strength of character. Awarded to distinguished history majors for studies in European history.
Winner: Max Zinman

The Kenneth L. & Martha S. Holmes Prize in History of the Americas
Established by the History Department to honor former, distinguished colleagues. Awarded to a distinguished history major for studies in American history.
Winner: Carly Benusa

Case Prize in American Western History
Established by Leland D. Case, class of 1922. Awarded to a student who has conducted original research or study in the area of western American history.
Winner: Andie Walker

Kathleen Rock Hauser Prize in Women’s and Gender History
Established by the Women Historians of the Midwest, Dr. Donald Rock, and Mrs. Irene Rock in memory of Kathleen Rock Hauser, ‘62. Awarded to a student who has made a significant contribution to women’s history.
Winner: Ida Streeto

Ernest R. Sandeen Memorial Prize
Established in memory of Ernest R. Sandeen, Professor of History from 1963-1982, by his colleagues, friends, and family. Awarded to students who have completed an original project reflecting exceptional skill, imagination, and effort.
Winners: Noah Pelletieri and Oliver Soglin

Teresita Martínez Vergne Memorial Prize
Established in 2014 by her daughter, Irene Toro Martínez, with additional support from colleagues, family, and friends. Awarded to students for original research and study of Caribbean and Latin American history.
Winner: Cal Martinez
**Lily Deney | 2022 History Graduate**

Lily Deney, a History major and Anthropology minor, lives in Champaign, Illinois. They are in their first year of a dual MS in Library and Information Science/History MA program at the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana. She is shocked that there are two other sports historians in her cohort and excited to be a TA for two undergraduate classes and a co-organizer for their annual Women’s and Gender History Symposium. Their favorite history class at Mac is a tie between Professor Jess Pearson’s Global Tourism History and Professor Katie Phillip’s Imagining the American West.

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**Dee Mehl Ban | 1977 History Graduate**

Dee Mehl Ban lives in Des Pres, Montana but is moving to the Twin Cities next summer and hopes to find other Mac folk with whom to connect! She is very happy to share that she and her husband celebrated their 45th wedding anniversary in August and have become grandparents. She is a musician, teacher, and historian who combines all three when she takes her autoharp into classrooms and other venues. She teaches American history by way of musical intelligence and primary source music. She finds that lively discussions ensue as students encounter differing points of view passionately expressed in music.

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**Jane Zimmerman | 1983 History Graduate**

Jane Zimmerman, an International Studies and Political Science major with a History minor, lives in Arlington, Virginia. While Director of the Dean Rusk International Studies Program at Davidson College, she created and taught a course based on the memoirs and ADST oral histories of post-WWII career diplomats. The syllabus is publicly posted, and she is glad to share it with anyone interested in teaching it or adapting it to Mac. She also co-developed and co-taught a course with Dr. Peter Krentz, “Who Owns the Past?” It explores the legal, political, and socio-economic dimensions of cultural heritage. She is currently a Lecturer at the University of Virginia’s Batten School of Leadership & Public Policy, teaching Global Economic Policy Challenges.

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**Eliot Brown | 2006 History Graduate**

Eliot Brown, a History and Geography major, is from Amherst, Massachusetts and now lives in London. He recently wrote a book on the rise and fall of WeWork entitled “The Cult of We: WeWork, Adam Neumann and the Great Startup Delusion.” His favorite history class at Mac was Professor Paul Solon’s Renaissance to Revolution.

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**Greg Prickman | 1994 History Graduate**

Greg Prickman, a History and Studio Art major, lives in the Washington, D.C. area. He has been the Librarian and Director of Collections at the Folger Shakespeare Library since 2018. He is currently leading the complete redesign of their exhibition spaces in newly-built galleries, including a permanent public display of all 82 copies of Shakespeare’s First Folio that the Folger owns. He is also responsible for a complete reconfiguration of their collection spaces, and from re-imagining researcher services to scholars and the general public.
Angela Nguyen | 2022 History Graduate

Angela Nguyen, an International Studies and Asian Studies major with a History minor, lives in Washington, DC. She recently finished her Fulbright ETA year in Kinmen, Taiwan and started a new job at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace where she is the program coordinator for three programs: the Europe program; Sustainability, Climate, and Geopolitics program; and the global Order & Institutions program. Her favorite history class at Mac was Professor Karin Vélez’s Rumors in History.

Daniel Kerwin | 2010 History Graduate

Daniel Kerwin, a History Major with Media Studies and Japanese minor, lives in Denver, Colorado. After teaching English in Japan for three years, he received his Masters in Curriculum and Instruction from University of Denver in 2021. He now teaches Geography, US Government, and AP Human Geography at STEM School Highlands Ranch.

Sam Dolce | 2014 History Graduate

Sam Dolce, a History major, lives in Buffalo, New York and is happily married with a beautiful 3 year old daughter! He received a JD from SUNY Buffalo and is now the owner and executive of an awesome company. They have made the Inc 5000 list, been named the fastest growing company in Buffalo, NY, and a top 100 growth company in the state of NY. They’ve also won a bunch of great awards including “legal services innovator of the year” for 2023.

Pauline Knaeble Williams | 1988 History Graduate

Pauline Knaeble Williams, a Sociology major with a History minor, lives in Voorhees, New Jersey. She is married to Keith Williams ’89 and has two children! She published two novels of historical fiction, Finding Hollis and Night Shade, and is currently working on a third. She is a preschool teacher at a Moorestown Friends School, Lower School Diversity and Belonging Coordinator, and Clerk of the Environmental Stewardship Committee.

John Damon | 1976 History Graduate

John Damon, a History major, currently lives in Madison, Wisconsin. He is a retired circuit judge. His favorite history class at Mac was Professor Paul Solon’s Middle Ages.
Wendy White | 1975 History Graduate

Wendy White, a History and French major, lives in Fort Collins, Colorado. After graduating in 1975, she went to the U of M for a Masters in Library Science. After moving to Washington, DC, she worked in the international office of the National Academy of Sciences for almost 30 years. She was responsible for a number of books published by the NAS and got a kick out of having an editorial published in the New York Times! Although her career had little to do with French, History, or Library Sciences, she feels that the liberal arts education she received at Mac was the underpinning for all she did. Her favorite history classes at Mac were taught by Professor Paul Solon.

David Eng-Wong | 1985 History Graduate

David Eng-Wong, a History and Asian Studies major, lives in Cold Spring, New York. He currently works for Connecticut Education Association as a union representative. His favorite history class at Mac was Professor Emily Rosenberg’s American Foreign Policy.

Olivia Kimble | 2011 History Graduate

Olivia Kimble, a History major with a Statistics minor, lives in Pine Island, Minnesota. She is the owner and lead midwife of Rochester Community Midwives. She offers complete prenatal, birth, postpartum, and newborn care to families within the safety and comfort of their own homes. Her favorite history class at Mac was Professor Ellen Arnold’s History of Castles.

Emily Baran | 2003 History Graduate

Emily Baran, a History major, lives in Murfreesboro, Tennessee. She is a Professor of History and Chairperson of the History Department at Middle Tennessee State University. Her new book, To Make a Village Soviet: Jehovah’s Witnesses and the Transformation of a Postwar Ukrainian Borderland (McGill-Queen’s University Press), is in print!

Claire Menard | 2021 History Graduate

Claire Menard, a History major with Anthropology and Japanese minors, lives in Fairfield, Connecticut and recently attended the wedding of two Mac alumni, Alex Morateck and Ryn Morateck! This year she began working full-time at the Westport Museum for History and Culture in Westport, CT as their Programs Manager. Her job focuses primarily on research and writing for their exhibits as well as hosting their public events. Her favorite history class was Professor Karin Vélez’s Pirates, Translators, and Missionaries.
Rachel Gordon | 2003 History Graduate

Rachel Gordon, a History and International Studies major with a Women's and Gender Studies minor, lives in Greenfield, Massachusetts. She spent five years as a researcher following graduate school, with a number of publications to her name during that time, primarily focused on livelihoods and governance in South Sudan, northern Uganda, and Sierra Leone. Most of them can be found at securelivelihoods.org. During that time, she also co-edited a special issue of the journal Disasters on gender, sexuality, and violence as well as a book chapter using a gender lens to examine the recruitment of foreign fighters by ISIL. She currently works as Special Deputy to the Executive Director at Movement Voter Project, a progressive electoral philanthropy working across the US. Her favorite history classes at Mac were Professor Peter Rachleff’s labor history course and Professor Teresita Martinez Vergne’s Latin American history course.

Laura Paisley | 2002 History Graduate

Laura Paisley, a History major and French minor, lives in Los Angeles, California. She is the Director of Website and Content Strategy at Occidental College in LA. Her favorite history class at Mac was Professor Peter Weisensel’s Soviet History.

David Bliss | 2011 History Graduate

David Bliss, a History major and Classics minor, lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota. After almost 10 years away, he moved back to Minneapolis in 2020 and now works as the digital archivist at Carleton, where he preserves and provides access to digital/digitized records related to the history of the college. Prior to this, he worked as a digital archivist at the University of Texas at Austin, where he also received his Library Science degree. His work there was primarily focused on helping to build the Latin American Digital Initiatives, an online repository of digitized primary source materials held by partner institutions in Latin America: https://ladi.lib.utexas.edu/

Chelsea Hansen | 2013 History Graduate

Chelsea Hansen, an Anthropology major with History and Japanese minors, lives in Seattle, Washington. She is a Museum Curator for the Washington Masonic Library & Museum.

Candace Groth | 2011 History Graduate

Candace Groth, an International Studies major with History and Psychology minors, lives in Dallas, Texas. She is a Senior Attorney at Vela Wood PC in Dallas, TX. This year, Candace was named to the Women in the Profession Committee of the State Bar of Texas for 2023-2026 and to the Dallas Association of Young Lawyers (DAYL) Foundation Board of Trustees. She also organized and moderated three simultaneous continuing legal education programs for the DWLA/DAYL Women’s Mentoring Circles in June 2023, including a presentation on Lateral Hiring, a Roundtable about Outside Counsel Hiring, and a presentation on speaking to non-lawyers. Candace and her husband also welcomed their first child, a baby boy, in July 2023. Her favorite history class at Mac was Professor Ellen Arnold’s The Black Death.

Georg Leidenberger | 1987 History Graduate

Georg Leidenberger, a History major, lives in Mexico City, Mexico. He recently published his book Architect Hannes Meyer and Radical Modernism: A Biography. His favorite history class at Mac was Professor Peter Rachleff’s The History of the American Working Class.
Jennifer Arnold | 2020 History Graduate

Jennifer Arnold, a History major and Computer Science minor, lives in Seattle, Washington. She married a fellow Mac History graduate, Benjamin Trumble ’20 this year and has two cats, Chowder and Yucca. After graduating, she started her job as a Test Automation Engineer at Slack and transitioned to a new role as Frontend Engineer earlier this year. She is also beginning her second year pursuing a Masters in Data Science, Technology and Innovation at the University of Edinburgh in Edinburgh, Scotland, UK. Her favorite history class at Mac was Professor Amy Sullivan and Professor Rebecca S. Wingo’s Remembering Rondo: A History Harvest.

Cassandra Berman | 2006 History Graduate

Cassandra Berman, a History and Religious studies major, lives in Silver Spring, Maryland with fellow History major Dhruba Jaishankar ’05 and their two children. She completed her PhD in American History at Brandeis University in 2020 and recently had her article “Slavery’s Archive: Confronting Jesuit Slaveholding at Georgetown University” published in Perspectives, the magazine of the American Historical Association. She recently began as the first archivist at Georgetown Visitation Monastery, a convent in Washington, D.C. that was founded in 1799 - a great way to put her training in women’s and gender history to use! Her favorite history classes at Mac were with Professor Paul Solon and Professor David Itzkowitz, such as From Order to Occupation and Tudor-Stuart England.

Kenneth Bernstein | History Graduate

Kenneth Bernstein, a History major, lives in Dallas, Texas. He is married and has two children; his daughter went to Mac and his son recently graduated Washington University and both are now in Los Angeles, California! After receiving his MBA at the University of Chicago, he became CPA and Partner with Ernst & Young in Dallas and Cleveland and served clients across the US. He retired in 2014 and currently serves as the Audit Committee Chair for Texas Health Resources and the Board Chair of Metrocare Services. His favorite history class at Mac was Professor Peter Weisensel’s Interim in Russia.

Anne Reeder | 2009 History Graduate

Anne Reeder, a History major with Biology and WGSS minors, lives in Worcester, Massachusetts. She was married to Benjamin Knurr ’09 in 2014 and now has two children! She is currently pursuing a PhD in nursing at the University of Connecticut with a focus on the healthcare that is provided to people who are incarcerated in the US. She also works as a registered nurse at UMass Memorial Health. Her favorite history class at Mac was Professor Peter Rachleff’s American Labor Radicalism.

Dhruba Jaishankar | 2005 History Graduate

Dhruba Jaishankar, a History and Classics major and Geology minor, lives in the Washington, DC area. He married fellow Mac alum and History major Cassandra Berman ’06 in 2008. They just celebrated their 15th anniversary and have two lovely children together! In 2020, he founded and is executive director of a public policy think tank called the Observer Research Foundation America in Washington DC, an affiliate of the Observer Research Foundation in India. One of their summer interns in 2023 was a recent Mac grad, although an international studies major, for which Dhruba forgave him. His favorite history classes at Mac were anything taught by Professor Paul Solon.
Jen Agans | 2010 History Graduate

Jen Agans, a Psychology major and History minor, lives in central Pennsylvania. She submitted her dossier for tenure and promotion in the department of Recreation, Park, and Tourism Management at Penn State this fall. Her favorite history classes at Mac were any that were offered by Professor Andrea Cremer or Professor Ellen Arnold. She is happy to talk with other members of the Mac community interested in interdisciplinary research careers.

Christopher Hagens | History Graduate

Christopher Havens, a History major, lives in Red Bank, New Jersey. He received his Masters in Urban Planning and is a community development real estate broker active in the revival of Brooklyn from 2002 to 2021 and now working in Red Bank, NJ. He is going to be a substitute history teacher at the local high school.

Stephen Schroth | 1986 History Graduate

Stephen Schroth, a History major and Philosophy minor, lives outside of Baltimore, Maryland. His latest book, Outdoor Education: A Pathway to Experiential, Environmental, and Sustainable Education was published last month by Palgrave Macmillan! He currently serves as the Editor in Chief of the Journal of Advanced Academics, a SAGE publication, and is a Professor of Early Childhood Education/Gifted & Creative Education at Towson University. His favorite history class at Mac was Professor David Itzkowitz’s Tudor Stuart England.

Liam Bowen | 2006 History Graduate

Liam Bowen, a History major and Political Science minor, lives in Baltimore, Maryland with his wife and two daughters. He received his MBA and is the Head Baseball Coach at UMBC. His favorite history classes at Mac were anything taught by Professor Paul Solon.

India Lawrence | 1992 History Graduate

India Lawrence, a History and English major, lives in Brattleboro, Vermont. She has been married since 2008 and has worked as a high school English teacher for 24 years. She loves having famous historians and other writers visit each year for the Brattleboro Literary Festival! Her favorite history class at Mac was Professor James Stewart’s senior seminar American Biography, in which she researched and wrote about her ancestor.
We are excited to share the advice our department’s alumni have for current and future history students at Macalester.

(history Is) Just One Damn Thing After Another!

Wendy White ’75
History/French
Don’t worry too much about finding a career in your field of study. Be open to all possibilities. I traveled to more than 50 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and Europe and made friends everywhere I went. I would never have imagined such a career when I was a student at Mac.

Rachel Gordon ’03
History/International Studies/Women’s and Gender Studies
Being able to thoughtfully and critically engage with various historical narratives and perspectives is one of the skills I’ve used most throughout the past two decades! Don’t let anyone tell you that studying history isn’t useful.

Georg Leidenberger ’87
History
History matters!

Jennifer Arnold, ’20
History/Computer Science
I’ve been pleasantly surprised learning all the various careers History graduates pursue after graduating. I love sharing that I studied History in undergrad with peers even in working in tech! Macalester alumni enjoy connecting with students and are often very friendly if you ever wanted to chat with them.

David Eng-Wong ’85
History/Asian Studies
There are a lot of job opportunities in the labor movement right now.

Pauline Knaebel Williams, ’88
Sociology/History
“Don’t let your education get in the way of learning something.” Told to me by Professor El-Kati.

Anne Reeder, ’09
History/Biology/Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies
(The study of) history is relevant to everything! I now work as a nurse and am currently pursuing a PhD in nursing. I rely on the skills and mindset I gained as a student of history at Macalester every day in my clinical and academic practice. I am a more well-rounded nurse because of my background in history.

Lily Denehy, ’22
History/Anthropology
Don’t forget to have fun with history! Also make a trivia team with your friends because historians are the best at trivia, especially sports historians :)

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Greg Prickman, '94
History/Studio Art
When I was a History student at Macalester, I had no idea what my future career would hold. My interest in printing as a Studio Art student, combined with a love of history nurtured for the first time in my life in the History Department, eventually led me to discover the world of rare books, the history of printing, and librarianship. I work with historical objects every day and endeavor to bring them to a wide range of audiences. There is a wide range of jobs out there for students of history that are not necessarily strictly academic in nature, and the skills learned from historical analysis can lead in surprising directions.

Eliot Brown, '06
History/Geography
When I was at Mac, the History department emphasized how they were teaching us critical thinking above all else. It’s a skill that’s crucial in journalism and often very lacking in the areas I report on.

Claire Menard '21
History/Anthropology/Japanese
There are so many things you can do with a history degree - when job searching, try reaching out to smaller, local museums. Who knows - a volunteer position may turn into your next job!

Sam Dolce, '14
History
Have fun and explore. I never thought I'd be in the role I am, yet now I'm here and it fits me perfectly. It's okay to go in without a plan. Hard work, consistency and a little luck go a long way. I am happy to talk with other members of the Mac community interested in interdisciplinary research careers.

Angela Nguyen, '22
International Studies/Asian Studies/History
Never be afraid to explore outside your comfort zone - fun and unexpected opportunities will often arise, so adapt and enjoy!

Kenneth Bernstein
Macalester provided me a great foundation, and it led to a very unexpected, but very satisfying and rewarding life. I am a big proponent of a liberal education. Take the time to pursue your personal and creative interests in college. I have continued my interests in history, including taking courses at SMU.

Jen Agans, '10
Psychology/History
I am happy to talk with other members of the Mac community interested in interdisciplinary research careers.

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David Bliss, '11
History/Classics
If you're most passionate about the history of pre-modern or distant places, don't shy away from local history too! Even though it may be a step outside your comfort zone, local history provides great opportunities to conduct research in local archives and historical societies. Working in these places provides a compelling (and often very moving) sense of immediacy that can be much harder to find if you otherwise only ever study long-past or very distant topics. And there's so much local history yet to be written! You may be able to contribute your finished research to the archives or historical society there you worked, to help future researchers in their work.

Jane Zimmerman '83
International Studies/Political Science/History
In this later stage of an incredibly gratifying public service career, I give thanks every day for my education and grounding in the liberal arts. The threats to the humanities and social sciences are real, and if not overcome, the repercussions to our society and country will be devastating for generations to come.

Daniel Kerwin, '10
History/Media Studies/Japanese
Since I was in high school, I thought teaching would be a fun profession to get into (if not the most financially lucrative), but I allowed myself to be persuaded that teaching wasn’t “good enough” to aim for, and I didn’t really fully pursue it until I was already in my 30s. My advice is, if you like teaching, just go for it!

Olivia Kimble, '11
History/Statistics
Learning to understand and seek out different lenses to view our world and communities through is one of the most helpful tools I have when working with families that practice and live different values than my own. Pregnancy and birth are some of the most personal and profound times to interact with people and their values, and empathy, curiosity, and respect are paramount to safe care (just as much as medications).

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This edition of the newsletter was inspired by the beautiful history of our department and its home, Old Main. By incorporating the original template of our very first newsletter (pages 18-20) and photographs found in the Archives into this edition, we hope to have shown you just a piece of our vibrant heritage on this campus.