

HISTORY



You've studied history. Everyone does. But not every student leaves high school with a passion for the discipline. Nick Holt, however, discovered his passion early on, which is why he decided to major in history during the first semester of his freshman year.

"Some high school students aren't that serious about history," Nick says. "That's only because they don't really understand how important and relevant it is to the present. At the College, when you take a history course, you get an entirely different experience from what you've had up to that point. The people who teach it really care about the material they're teaching. They bring it to life, and at some point you realize that studying history puts you in the act of discovery - like reading a text that hasn't been touched in years, or finding something others have overlooked."

What really interests Nick is the medieval period. The first group outing he arranged as president of the History Club was a trip to Medieval Times, a themed resort in Myrtle Beach. "I wasn't sure that our faculty advisor would support this, but he did. Ultimately it was a fun, educational experience."

Nick feels fortunate to be in a department that not only supports such outings, but also endorses an interdisciplinary approach to

whatever the subject matter is. "In history, establishing context is important. And here, at the College, you have art historians and religious studies professors who also work in the medieval era. Having access to these different people, along with resources from the library, really enhances my work."

To further his studies in this area, Nick took courses in historic preservation, medieval Latin, the Hebrew bible and even political science. "I needed a basic government overview. It's important to understand how governments work, even if I'm applying that knowledge to past governments of the medieval period."

In a research seminar, he focused on religion in the medieval era. "The requirement in that class is that you do original work, so it's got to be more than an analysis of the literature. For me, that's great, because the paper I wrote can be used as a writing sample. You know the work is polished because you spend a whole semester on it, but it's also original work, and that can really distinguish you."

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

History offers a unique perspective on the human condition, past and present. When you study with inspiring professors from extraordinary backgrounds you end up with an appreciation of the global past - including its cultures, politics and societies - that will prepare you to engage the present, and ultimately to shape the future.

Facts

Our faculty research a variety of topics, ranging from the Civil War to Satan in American culture, from modern China to Egyptian tombs and more.

Our graduates have gone on to excel as actors, airforce intelligence officers, attorneys, historians, nurses, museum directors, teachers and more.

53 percent of history majors who apply are admitted to medical school; that's 10 percent more than biology or chemistry majors.

History majors have one of the four highest LSAT average scores.

History majors garner the highest average salaries among all majors from the humanities.

Opportunities

History majors do independent research with faculty and serve internships at a variety of sites from museums to private archives.

Our students study abroad all over the world, including Brazil, Britain, France, Gambia, Germany and Israel.

History provides grounding for many interdisciplinary fields, including African studies, African-American studies, Jewish studies, and urban studies.