

# MAP THE FUTURE HISTORY

A Guide For  
Optimizing Your Degree

This career map provides a general blueprint of how to navigate your under-graduate program. The map highlights quality experiences to supplement your coursework and identify academic milestones for years one through four.

Take advantage of the rich resources the university and Chattanooga community have to offer as you prepare for post-college years. During your time here, forge connections, participate in organizations and utilize exploratory learning options to gain real-world experiences outside of the classroom.

## ABOUT THE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Our mission is to provide an environment for intellectual curiosity and a foundation for life-long learning, thinking, reflection and growth. We do this by: equipping students with transferable skills, encouraging cultural and intellectual diversity and advancing knowledge through research and creative activities.

Small classes, careful advising and personal attention make our commitment work for students majoring in the fine arts, the humanities, the sciences and behavioral sciences, and for students preparing for professional study through a liberal education.

## YOUR HISTORY DEGREE

History is the study of the past, but its significance lies in the present and its power in shaping the future. Students of history are informed global citizens. They have the ability to understand and assess change, to think critically and to provide moral leadership.

A history degree from UTC is versatile, viable and valuable. Through our curriculum students master skills—critical thinking and analysis, written and verbal communication, cultural understanding, global perspective—that will allow them to succeed in any career they choose.

Our faculty offer courses in American, European, Asian, African, Middle Eastern and Latin American history. We expose students to a broad range of historical periods and geographical areas and introduce them to a wide variety of primary and secondary historical sources.

The department encourages and provides opportunities for students to explore their interests through a variety of elective courses, individual research projects (with the support of a faculty member), study abroad programs and history-related internships.

## EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING FOR HISTORY MAJORS

UTC emphasizes opportunities for meaningful learning experiences inside and outside of the classroom. History students have opportunities to participate in internships for course credit and complete research with the guidance of our faculty.

## INTERNSHIPS

The History Department has partnered with many of our region's outstanding historical institutions to offer the internships listed below.

Bessie Smith Cultural Center  
Chattanooga Women's Oral History Project  
Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park  
Friends of Moccasin Bend National Park  
Hunter Museum of American Art  
Museum Center at Five Points  
People's History of Chattanooga Project  
Red Clay State Park  
UTC Special Collections  
The Ed Johnson Project  
Jazzanooga  
Medal of Honor Heritage Center

## RESEARCH

Our students gain meaningful skills and experience through a variety of research opportunities. Recent student research includes:  
Collecting oral histories for Chattanooga's American Women Oral History Project  
Collecting oral histories for Cold War Oral Histories Collection  
Elsworth Brown: Chattanooga

[utc.edu/history](http://utc.edu/history)

## **CAREER POSSIBILITIES**

Are you starting college with a specific career in mind? History graduates excel in these fields and more.

Visit University Career Services at [utc.edu/career-student-employment](http://utc.edu/career-student-employment) for a detailed list of career possibilities.

These options do not represent all of the occupations you might consider. Some of the options listed below might require additional training.

## **LOCAL AND STATE GOVERNMENT**

- Public Policy
- Regional Planning
- City or Town Management
- Legislative, Executive or Judicial Services
- Program Administration
- General Services
- Community Affairs
- Social Services
- Law Enforcement

## **FEDERAL GOVERNMENT**

- Public Policy
- Research
- Intelligence
- Foreign Service
- Law Enforcement
- General Services
- Legislative, Executive or Judicial Services
- Program Administration

## **NONPROFIT**

- Administration
- Management
- Public Relations

- Program Coordination
- Fundraising/Development
- Grant Writing
- Writing/Editing
- Volunteer Coordination
- Community Education

## **LAW**

- Prosecution
- Defense
- Contractual
- Corporate
- Nonprofit or Public Interest
- Government
- Mediation
- Other specialties
- Law Assistance

## **INFORMATION SCIENCE/ CURATORIAL AND ARCHIVAL MANAGEMENT**

Functions: Acquisition, preservation, arrangement, cataloguing/categorizing, exhibition/installation, describing, analyzing, authenticating, maintaining records, library administration, research, education

## **EDUCATION**

- Primary and Secondary: Teaching, administration, library services
- Higher Education
- Community Education

## **BUSINESS**

- Sales
- Management
- Office Administration
- Human Resources
- Training and Development
- Public Relations
- Writing/Editing

## **MEDIA**

- Editing
- Reporting
- Circulation
- Sales
- Publishing
- Electronic Media
- Public Relations
- News Programming

	YEAR 1	YEAR 2	YEAR 3	YEAR 4	PROF. DEVELOP.
EXPLORATION	Explore what interests you and identify your strengths with resources available through University Career Services.	Attend department functions.  Talk with two faculty members about the program and your career plans. Seek out opportunities for entry-level professional experience.	Have conversations with faculty about what you might like to do professionally. Now is the time to be planning for internships, exploring job opportunities and perhaps researching graduate schools.	Attend History Department functions. Talk with the History faculty about options after graduating.	Use the networks you established (via the internship or otherwise) during your undergraduate work to make connections outside of campus with individuals (including alumni), businesses and organizations.
ACADEMIC MILESTONES	Complete HIST 2100 and either World History or U.S. History survey courses.  Complete General Education requirements where appropriate.	Begin taking distribution courses for the major.  Continue to take General Education courses.  Take first year of Foreign Language and declare a minor.	Continue taking distribution courses in history. Take year two of a Foreign Language.  Work on your minor.  Consider an internship.	Complete remaining distribution courses. Complete Senior Capstone course HIST 4020. Complete your minor.	Be able to talk about your accomplishments during your undergraduate work—specific research or projects in which you took part or played a major role.
CONNECTIONS	Regularly meet with your advisor in the Center for Advisement. Attend departmental events and follow history's Facebook page and website.	Get involved with a student organization and attend a concert, play or other cultural event on campus.	Contact faculty about possible student research projects.  Participate with Phi Alpha Theta, History Club and in social service projects.	If you have a senior internship, network with the internship organization/company and identify possible job opportunities and career paths.  Attend University Career Services opportunities.	Maximize your potential career options by attending graduate school. Your advisor can help you locate a program in areas of interest to you and get you started on applications.
READINESS	Meet with University Career Services.  Identify four skills employers want and begin cultivating them now.  Attend a part-time Job fair in fall or spring.	Discuss research opportunities with advisor.  Prepare your résumé or curriculum vitae (CV).	Apply for external internship opportunities and refine job interview skills. Consider proposing an Honors Thesis. Update résumé or CV.	Prepare to take the GRE if attending graduate school. Update your résumé or CV and prepare a professional LinkedIn profile.	
ACHIEVEMENT	Complete 30 credit hours. Meet with your Freshman Advisor twice.  Have your second year mapped out and a general plan for years three and four.	Complete 60 total credit hours.  Meet with your Academic Advisor three times.  Have your third year mapped out and a general plan for year four.	Complete 90 credit hours, including at least 15 hours of courses at the 3000-4000 level in your major and minor. Confirm graduation requirements will be met by the end of fourth year.	Complete 120 credit hours, including 39 hours at the 3000-4000 level. Attend commencement and prepare to join the Alumni Association.	