



HISTORY GRADUATE STUDIES

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS, AUSTIN



West entrance to Garrison Hall

The historical resources at The University of Texas at Austin (UT) constitute one of the strongest and largest conglomerates in the nation. UT features an extraordinary constellation of professors and graduate students who are intensely dedicated but genuinely friendly. The Department of History emphasizes substance and meticulous scholarship. In contrast to artificial and outmoded divisions of history, our department highlights the intersections among diverse areas of the human experience.

Thus we have major strengths in studies of Borderlands, Transnationalism, Empires, Atlantic History, Diaspora, Migration, and Globalization. While mastering intricate fields of expertise, we connect our particular works to broader concerns. Our community contributes to academia while actively engaging the public at large.



PHOTO BY MARSHA MILLER

Aerial view of the south entrance to the Tower and Main Building with Garrison Hall (L-shaped building on lower right) located to the east and directly across from Battle Hall Library

INSTITUTIONAL GROWTH AND FUNDING

In 2006, in the Inaugural Address as President of the University of Texas at Austin, William Powers announced his intention to convert UT into the best public university in America. He especially praised the Department of History for its achievements and selected it as the key program to advance by committing more than \$1.3 million in new recurring funds to hire more faculty, recruit world class graduate students, and establish a budget of excellence for speakers, symposia and visiting scholars. President Powers then announced the addition of \$1 million to improve graduate student stipends throughout the university.

Hence, our department proceeded to create the **Institute for Historical Studies**, to generate a premier center of cutting-edge historical activity nurtured by local and visiting scholars. In addition, the History Building, Garrison Hall (built in 1926), was extensively renovated at a cost of nine million dollars, a meticulous, award-

winning restoration carried out by Flintco Constructive Solutions, a construction company founded by Native Americans in 1908.

In 2007-08, UT Austin received \$360 million in gifts, the largest amount ever in its 125-year history, and more than double the amount from three years prior. UT Austin also received \$511 million in external research awards. In 2008, College of Liberal Arts Dean Randy Diehl reaffirmed the aim of our Chair, Alan Tully, with the President, "to build one of the best History departments in the nation."

In September 2008, President Powers announced a commitment to add another \$2 million to graduate student stipends, bringing UT's total to \$19 million annually. In addition to the first-year fellowship packages and Teaching Assistantships, nearly all of our graduate students receive also another full fellowship year, during their fourth, to conduct research. The department and the Institute for Historical Studies also offer funds for travel and research stipends.



PHOTO BY MARSHA MILLER



PHOTO BY TAYLOR JONES

North façade of Garrison Hall; (right) view of Tower from balcony doors

Moreover, with assistance from the faculty, our graduate students annually win multiple Fulbright Grants (both IIE and Hays), Ford Foundation Predoctoral Fellowships, Guggenheim Fellowships, Mellon Institute Fellowships, Rockefeller Archive Grants, DAAD Research Grants, Foreign Language and Area Studies Fellowships, ACLS Fellowships, Council for European Studies Fellowships, CAAS Research Fellowships, International Education Fee Scholarships, Alice Drysdale Sheffield Dissertation Fellowships, Field Research Grants, Lozano Long Travel Scholarships, SSHRC Doctoral Fellowships, Brockway Foundation Fellowships, Middlekauff Fellowships, and several UT fellowships including Curtiss Dissertation Fellowships, Rodgers Fellowships, Casteñeda Scholarships, Marston Endowed History Fellowships, and Adkins Fellowships.

FACULTY

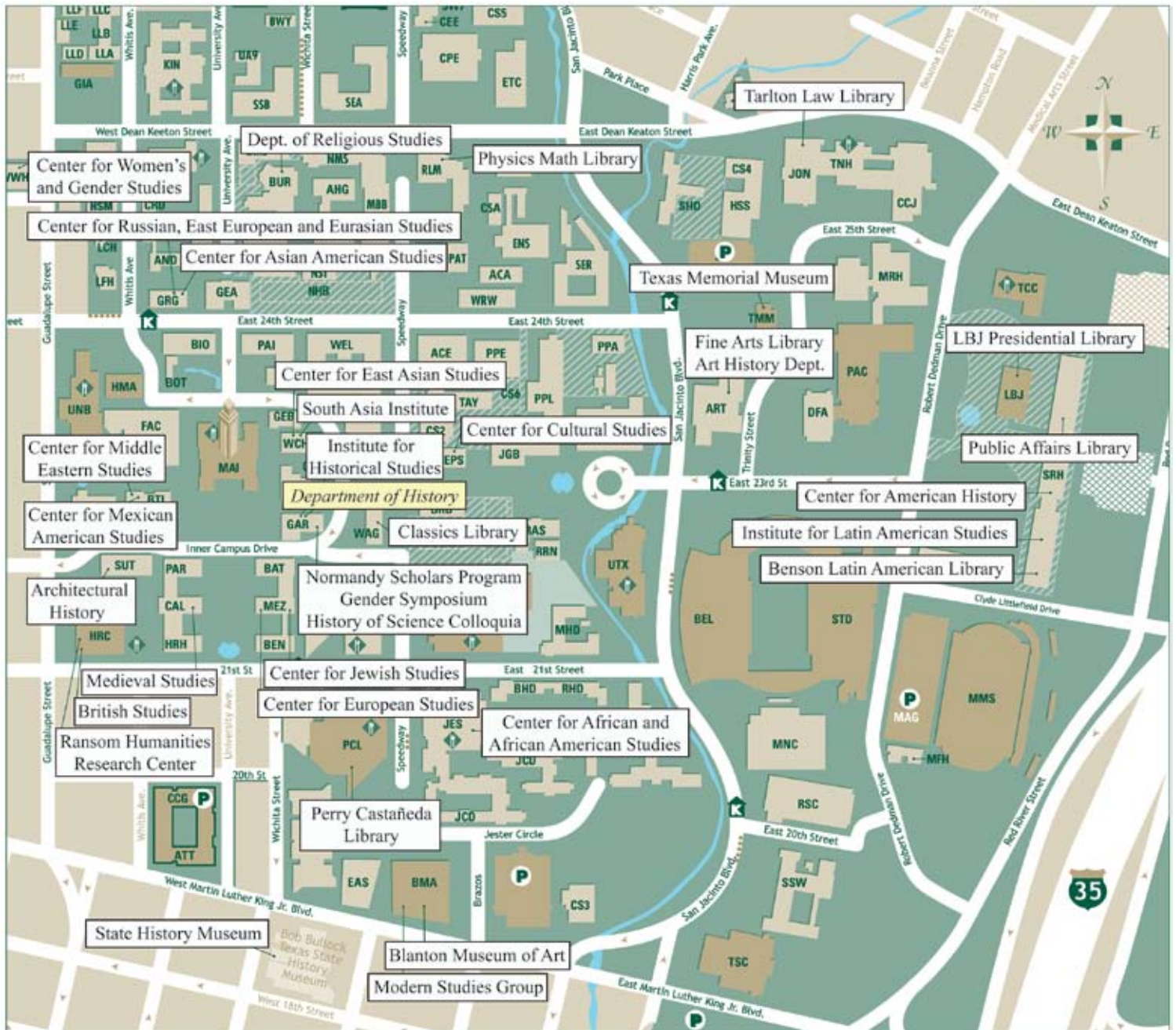
Our department has 73 tenured or tenure-track faculty, plus several Senior Lecturers and Lecturers (without counting numerous Emeriti, Visiting Fellows and Research Fellows), making us the fourth largest department in the nation (after Michigan, Columbia, UCLA), and dwarfing other well-known programs.

Our wealth in numbers translates into qualitative benefits: graduate students explore fields in many directions with expert support. Our faculty generates a wealth of activities and opportunities that are simply unmatched by most graduate history programs.



History faculty participate in Civil War Symposium hosted by the Institute for Historical Studies

CAMPUS MAP OF FORTY ACRES SHOWING THE MULTIPLE DEPARTMENTS, CENTERS, LIBRARIES AND OTHER HISTORICAL RESOURCES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS



The history resources at UT Austin involve various Libraries, Centers, and Departments, plus the Institute for Historical Studies. UT is a world hub of research, lectures, and conferences on history. Altogether, from August 2008 to May 2010, our campus hosted 968 talks on history. Among these talks, most by invited speakers, there were (with overlaps) 128 talks on American history, 330 talks on African history, 235 talks on European History, 234 talks on Gender, Sexuality and Family, 101 talks on British history, 95 talks on Empire and Globalization, 107 talks on Religion and Culture, and 73 talks on Environmental History.



History Graduate Council meeting at Caffé Medici, a popular coffee house on Guadalupe Street, where there are also various restaurants, shops, and a Renaissance market

Our faculty includes seven Guggenheim Fellows, a MacArthur Fellow, a Pulitzer Prize winner (plus two other Pulitzer finalists). The faculty also hold numerous fellowships: Mellon, Fulbright, National Endowment for the Humanities, Institute for Advanced Studies in Princeton, and more. The History News Network has selected several of our professors as "Top Young Historians."

Over the past six years alone (2004-10), we have hired 25 tenured and tenure-track professors. In that time our faculty have published no less than 64 books (by individual authors—not counting coauthored books, edited volumes, translations, etc.), by many of the most prestigious academic presses: Cambridge, Oxford, Princeton, and others.

Among the book awards won by our faculty are: major prizes from the American Historical Association, the Bancroft Prize, the Pulitzer Prize, the Taft Labor History Book Prize, the Gordon Prize for the best book in the field of Renaissance Studies, a New York Times Bestseller, the Quintessence Award from the African Writers Endowment, the Turner Award of the Organization of American Historians, the Hardeman Prize as the best book about the U.S. Congress, and various others.



Professor Jacqueline Jones (left) at a recent Symposium on Gender, History, and Sexuality panel discussion on "Gender at Work"

RESEARCH LIBRARIES

UT Austin main libraries:

- Perry Casteñeda Library (PCL), Harry Ransom Center (HRC), Tarlton Law, the Briscoe Center for American History
- Volumes: 9,323,252 (in 2006)
- Sixth largest academic collection in the United States
- Third largest in Electronic Resources Expenditures \$8,976,961 (after Columbia and Penn)

PCL Library:

- 500,673 sq. ft., 9.3 acres of carpet
- 70 miles of book stacks
- Building and resources cost: \$64.5 million (in 2002 dollars)

Manuscripts and Archives:

- 123,550 linear feet; UT Austin holds the fourth largest collection of manuscripts and archival items (after Columbia and Wisconsin; data unavailable for Harvard)



Doctoral candidate Takkara Brunson (center) holds Q&A after presenting work from her dissertation at the Symposium on Gender, History, and Sexuality

The Nettie Lee Benson Latin American Collection is the largest university library collection in the U.S. of Latin American materials in total number of volumes. It includes about 800,000 books, periodicals, and pamphlets; 2,500 linear feet of manuscripts; 93,500 photographs; 19,000 maps; 21,000 microforms; 11,500 broadsides; and 38,000 items in a variety of other media.

The Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center is one of the largest archival and rare book collections in the nation. It is the premier collection in the world of the papers of modern British and American literary authors, and houses one of the country's largest history of science collections and richest collections in history of photography, including the world's first photograph. It houses approximately 36 million manuscripts, nearly 800,000 rare books (including a Gutenberg Bible), 5 million photographs, and more than 100,000 works of art.

UT Austin includes 13 additional libraries, plus the LBJ Presidential Library.

Sources: *ARL Statistics 2006-2007* (Association of Research Libraries, Washington D.C., 2008); and the University of Texas Libraries online documentation.

LIVING IN AUSTIN!

The city is located on a greenbelt between three of the nation's 10 largest cities: Houston, San Antonio, and Dallas. Nationally, Austin is a top destination for migrating talent. The Austin metropolitan population consists of 1.6 million people, and it averages an annual growth of 3.4% since the 2000 Census (which showed that only four U.S. metros saw greater net migration since 1995).

Whereas the U.S. grew by 7.2% from 2000-07, Austin grew by 27.9%. Its population includes 33.1% of ages 25-44 (in contrast to 27.8% nationally). The University of Texas is one of 10 universities and colleges in the greater Austin area, with 20 more within 200 miles.

In contrast to other major cities, Austin is well known for its affordable living. There is no personal income tax in Texas. The state has one of the lowest tax burdens (45th) in the nation. The National Association of Realtors reports that the median



History faculty retreat at AT&T Conference Center

home price in Austin is \$34,000 less than the national median. The composite Cost of Living Index (U.S. = 100) is only 96 in Austin, far beneath those of Manhattan which is 210, Los Angeles 151, Boston 136, Chicago 112, and San Francisco 171. Whereas the cost of housing in Austin is indexed at 87 (U.S. = 100), the indexes for the cost of housing elsewhere are: Manhattan is 389, Los Angeles is 261, San Francisco is 279. This means that universities in such cities should grant incoming graduate students at least twice the amount of funding they will receive from UT in order to secure a comparable quality of life. There is no practical sense in which they offer more funding than UT.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Census, Austin Chamber of Commerce, National Assoc. of Realtors.

QUALITY OF LIFE

- Austin is known as: the “Best Place for Business and Careers,” the “Live Music Capital of the World,” the “Best City for Relocating Families,” one of the “Best Cities for Singles,” and more.
- Great climate! Average monthly temperatures range from 49°F in January to 85°F in July.
- A lush environment with parks, lakes and trails. Places to visit include: Barton Springs Pool, Zilker Botanical Gardens, Mount Bonnell, Lady Bird Lake & Trail, Hamilton Pool, and many professional and amateur sports venues and events. It's a great city for hiking, biking, running, and yes, it's very dog-friendly.
- More fine restaurants and clubs per capita than any other U.S. city.
- A creative culture that supports the arts, music and more than two dozen theaters. It also boasts the best movie theaters in the world: the Alamo Drafthouse—where beer, fried pickles, sangria, and previews from the early 1970s all come together.
- Year-round festivals and celebrations, including: First Thursdays on South Congress (SoCo), the Austin City Limits Music Festival, the Austin Film Festival, the Annual Kite Festival, SXSW (Music, Film/Media Conference and Festival), the decadent hippie fest known as Eeyore's Birthday, the Pecan Street Festival, the O. Henry Pun-Off, the Flugtag (homemade machines attempt to fly over the river), Science Fun Day, the Moonlight Prowl, the Weiner Dog Festival, The Louisiana Swamp Thing and Crawfish Festival, and the Lonestar Rollergirls Roller Derby.
- The UT bus and shuttle system is the largest in the nation; all UT, city buses, and light rails are free to UT Austin students.



*Climbing roses along Waller Creek
and San Jacinto Boulevard*

IN THE NEWS, AUSTIN IS RANKED AS:

- First in Best Big Cities for Jobs, 2010 and 2009 (*Forbes.com*, 4/20/10)
- Best College Town (*Travel Channel*, 2010)
- One of the 10 Greenest Cities in America (*Mother Nature Network*, 11/1/10)
- One of America's 25 Strongest Housing Markets (*Forbes*, 1/7/09)
- One of America's Most Wired Cities (*Forbes.com*, 1/22/09)
- One of the 15 Coolest North American Cities (*MSN Travel*, 1/22/09)
- America's "Best Bang for the Buck City" (*Forbes*, 10/10/08)
- Second Most Friendly and Most Athletic City (*Travel+Leisure*, 9/12/08)
- Fourth Best Performing City among the 200 largest metros (*Milken Institute*, 9/08)
- Fifth best city in volunteerism (*Corporation for National & Community Service*, 7/28/08)
- Second U.S. city for young adults (*American Cities Business Journals*, 2008)
- Most "Digital Savvy" City (*Scarborough Research*, 5/13/08)
- Third most Recession-Proof City (*Forbes*, 5/7/08)
- Best in Green Power Energy (*National Renewable Energy Laboratory*, 4/22/08)
- Austin is America's Best City for Hispanics (*Hispanic*, 08/07)
- Newsweek Names UT one of the Hottest Schools in America (*Newsweek*, 8/20/07)
- Second Best Walking City (*Prevention*, 04/07)



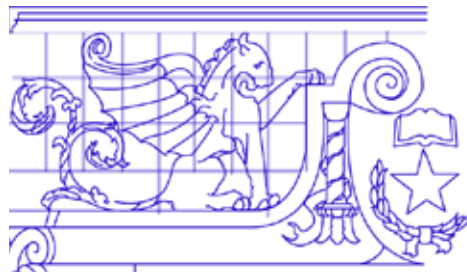
*Department of History
commencement is held in
Bass Concert Hall*

POST-GRADUATION JOBS

Our Ph.D. alumni hold tenured or tenure-track professorships at various universities and colleges, including: Vassar, Baylor, CUNY, Wake Forest, Roanoke, Yale, Indiana University (Bloomington), University of Kansas, Virginia Tech, Marquette, University of Michigan (Ann Arbor), Columbia, Brown, Loyola (New Orleans), Ohio State University, University of Alabama, LSU (Baton Rouge), UC San Diego, Tulane, UC Berkeley, Framingham State College, and University of Virginia.

In recent years, approximately 85% of our graduates have obtained tenure-track jobs. The remaining percentage includes graduates who have chosen to work in the private or public sectors, including the Office of the Historian of the U.S. State Department, the Defense and Foreign Policy Studies of the Cato Institute in Washington, D.C., the Texas State Historian, and more.

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