

Troy University Master's Program Announcement

One of the key goals of the History Department at Troy University for the past several years has been the development of a master's program in history. This project has been driven by faculty and the demands of our students. The department recently completed a survey of our history and history education majors and alumni, and 91.5% of those who responded indicated that they would be interested in a history master's degree if Troy offered one.

In November of last year, the university approved our plans and curriculum for a Master of Arts (MA) in History. We have one more step to go – approval by the state agency (the Alabama Commission of Higher Education) - before the degree will be finalized. We'll go before the state to present our case, answer any questions, and hear the vote on September 13, 2013. Assuming the state approves the degree in September, the department intends to begin the Master of Arts in History in the spring of 2014.

The master's program (the first MA to be offered at Troy University) will be a 36-hour program, with a choice of two tracks for students – either the Thesis Track or Non-Thesis Track. The Thesis Track is intended as the degree for students who wish to continue their graduate studies with a Ph.D., and will include the completion of a significant, original research paper. The Non-Thesis Track is considered a “terminal” degree for students who don't want to go beyond the master's degree. With either track, students must select a primary and secondary field (American or European history). Students will take a variety of readings and research classes in each field to complete their studies.

Assuming state approval of the program, graduate application packets will probably be due around mid-November 2013, with our first class expected to begin officially in the spring of 2014. However, for those of you who would like to get a “head start” on classwork, we will be offering the core classes for the degree online for the first time in the fall of 2013.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss the program more, please contact Dr. Scout Blum (sblum@troy.edu or 334-670-5663).