



**Department of History**

**Graduate Program Handbook  
for M.A. Students**

**2016-2017**

## **Department of History M.A. Program Policies and Procedures Manual Adopted Spring 2016**

The Department of History at the University of South Florida in Tampa offers two graduate degree programs. Students may enroll in an enriching program of study, coursework, and directed research leading either to a Master of Arts (M.A.) or a Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.). Areas of specialization cover a number of fields, including Colonial through Modern US, US in the World, the Ancient World, Medieval Worlds, Early Modern Worlds, Modern Europe, and Latin America. Our faculty also supports concentrations in thematic fields of research such as gender and sexuality, race and ethnicity, regional history, public history, science and medicine, and comparative empires.

The department's faculty creates a dynamic learning environment that fosters close interaction between students and teachers. Our seminar-based curriculum ensures that each student in the graduate program receives individual attention and guidance. We pride ourselves on training students to be scholars and teachers at all levels of education, while also offering preparation for careers outside academia in government agencies, historical societies, libraries, and museums.

This document describes the Department of History's key policies, procedures, expectations, and responsibilities for students in the M.A. program. Since it reflects the current status of our evolving programs, it is thus subject to change.

### **Important Contacts and Admission Requirements**

#### ***Important Contacts:***

Graduate Director: Julie Langford, SOC 213, (813) 974-3249, langford@usf.edu

Graduate Program Assistant: Connie Bryan, SOC 268, (813) 974-2784, cebyran@usf.edu

Office Manager: Theresa Lewis, SOC 260, (13) 974-2809, lewist@usf.edu

#### ***Admission Requirements***

The university's application for admission is available online at <http://www.grad.usf.edu/graduate-admissions.asp>. Applications will only be accepted for admission in the fall term of each year. The application deadline is January 15.

A B.A. with a major in History is preferred. The department will consider applicants without a recent background in undergraduate history but they may be required to complete Theory of History (HIS 4104) as well as several upper division and/or graduate level courses in relevant fields with a grade of B or higher. These should be chosen in consultation with the graduate coordinator or Major Professor.

The minimum requirements for consideration for admission to the M.A. program in history include a recent background in undergraduate history courses and all of the following:

1. **GPA** of at least 3.0.
2. **GRE scores** of at least 160 in verbal, 144 in quantitative, and 4.5 in writing. Only current scores (within the last 5 years) will be accepted. For information about GRE testing administered

through the USF Division of Evaluation and Testing, see <http://www.conted.usf.edu/testing/Details.asp?tcode=GRE>

3. **Letters of Recommendation:** Two letters of recommendation on behalf of the applicant are required. These letters should come from academic sources familiar with the quality of the applicant's college-level work and indicate his/her graduate program potential. Once the online application is completed, requests for recommendations will be emailed to recommenders.
4. **Statement of Purpose:** A two-page statement is required that delineates historical and intellectual areas of interest, proposed fields of study, educational and professional goals, the faculty the applicant is potentially interested in working with, and why the applicant sees him/herself as a good fit with our program.
5. **A Writing Sample:** A sample of written work that indicates the applicant's ability to write effectively and, preferably, to conduct historical research and analysis must be submitted. The sample should be approximately 15 pages in length. Appropriate examples include a term paper, research paper, or thesis chapter.

All application materials must be uploaded directly to the online application system found at <http://www.grad.usf.edu/> under the Degree Programs tab, Apply to USF Now. Requests for letters of recommendations will be sent directly to the recommender and submitted electronically as well.

## Program Details and Graduate Student Responsibilities

### *Graduate Student Responsibilities*

Graduate students are expected to maintain sufficient contact with their Major Professor to ensure that both stay informed about the progress of the student in the program. The graduate student must take the initiative to schedule meetings. It is recommended that this be done during the first 2 or 3 weeks of each semester, and at other times throughout the semester as needed.

Graduate students who wish to meet with their Major Professor should make arrangements in advance (except during regular office hours). In return, professors will respond to requests for appointments and meet with students as soon as is feasible. Students are responsible for being on time for appointments and for giving prompt notice if plans must be changed.

### *Meeting Official Deadlines*

Meeting all deadlines is primarily the graduate student's responsibility.

USF is a large institution, for which forms and procedures are critical to smooth transitions and complying with policies and requirements. Students should become familiar with Departmental and Office of Graduate Studies requirements and deadlines. Each semester, the Graduate Program staff will circulate a list of important Office of Graduate Studies dates; students should note these and take them very seriously, as they are non-negotiable. They should be aware that deadlines for such important things as scheduling of comprehensive exams, requests to graduate, and submission of theses/dissertations happen quite early in the semester. It is the student's responsibility to stay alert to these issues and plan ahead.

The Graduate Program staff handle the distribution and processing of forms, but students and Major professors must monitor and the creation and submission of both departmental and college forms and procedures outlined in this document, the Graduate Catalog, and the Office of Graduate Studies website ([www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu)). Doing so allows to the Major Professors and other program staff to guide them

through the system.

### ***University Academic Policies and Degree Requirements***

Although much of the information is presented in this manual, please make note to refer to the Office of Graduate Studies website ([www.grad.usf.edu](http://www.grad.usf.edu)) and the Graduate Catalog (<http://www.grad.usf.edu/catalog.php>) for current information on all requirements and policies included herein.

### ***Transferring Credits from other Institutions or those earned at USF as non-degree seeking students***

Students who have earned credit hours in graduate level courses as non-degree seeking students at USF institutions may apply up to 49% of graduate level coursework. The same is true for students who earned graduate level courses at other institutions. In both cases, courses will only be eligible to be accepted if the student has earned at least a 3.0 in the courses in question. To view the entire baseline University Policy on what may be transferred or waived, refer to the Transfer of Credit Policy in the Graduate Catalog online at [www.grad.usf.edu/catalog](http://www.grad.usf.edu/catalog)

It should not be assumed that courses will automatically be accepted. Major Professors must discuss this with students early, and make sure the appropriate steps are followed to transfer those credits. The Major Professor together with the Graduate Director will decide about the appropriateness of transferring credits. The Graduate Program Assistant will provide guidance about the procedural aspects of this process.

### ***Petitions to Waive or Substitute Courses***

Students seeking a waiver must request to do so within their first semester. In most cases, petitions to substitute or waive courses require the completion of a Office of Graduate Studies Petition. After the approval of the Major Professor and the Graduate Director, the student must complete this form with the assistance of the Program Assistant and Graduate Coordinator.

### ***Enrolling in Graduate Seminars***

All history graduate courses (and many in other departments as well) require a permit, which is granted only by the professor teaching the course. This necessitates students contacting instructors, usually initially by email, to explain their interest in the course and to request a permit to enroll. Since enrollments are limited, students are advised to begin the process of requesting permits long before the actual registration process. The instructor will notify the student once permission to enroll in a course is granted.

The schedule of classes is available online at <http://www.registrar.usf.edu/ssearch/search.php>. A list of seminar courses with descriptions will also be circulated via email each term prior to enrollment. Faculty email addresses are available on the department's website at <http://history.usf.edu/>. Please note that students cannot rely on the number of "spaces available" in a course listed on OASIS because a course may well be filled with permitted students who have not yet registered. In addition, courses often have a waiting list.

### ***Continuous Enrollment***

All graduate degree-seeking students must be continuously enrolled. Continuous enrollment is defined as completing a minimum of 6 hours of graduate credit every three continuous semesters. Students who will not be able to maintain continuous enrollment for extenuating personal circumstances must apply

for an official Leave of Absence. Students on an approved Leave of Absence are not subject to the enrollment requirement for the time approved for the leave. See also the Time Limitations Policy. Please contact the Graduate Program Coordinator or the Graduate Program Advisor in such situations.

Once a student has moved to the dissertation stage, he or she must register for a minimum of 2 credits per semester to remain in good standing. Students who are dropped from degree-seeking status and formally readmitted to the program must enroll in a minimum of 5 dissertation hours in the semester that the readmission is effective.

In addition, the student must register for a minimum of 2 credits in the semester in which they graduate, even if the student wishes to graduate in the summer term. In many cases, the student has completed the work, and may even have defended in the previous semester, but missed the deadline to submit the final dissertation and graduate. Even in those cases, Office of Graduate Studies regulations require enrollment in the semester of graduation.

### ***Minimum grade point average***

All graduate students must maintain a 3.00 overall GPA, and cannot earn any single grade below a 'C.' According to the USF Graduate Catalog,

To be considered a student in good standing, graduate students must maintain an overall minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.00 (on a 4.00 scale) in all courses taken as a graduate student, and in all courses taken in each of the student's degree-seeking programs.

No grade of 'C' or below will be accepted toward a graduate degree. Students with a GPA below 3.00 for two consecutive semesters will be prevented from registering for courses and may be Academically Dismissed at this point. Students must meet the requirements to be in good standing to graduate. All 'I' and 'M' grades must be cleared for graduation to be certified. Students who fail to maintain good standing may be placed on Probation or Academically Dismissed.

### ***Incomplete Grades***

The department recognizes that sometimes a student encounters extenuating circumstances that may prevent him/her from completing a course within the semester it was offered. Student may request an Incomplete Grade from the instructor, but only when the majority of work has been completed. It is the instructor's discretion on whether to grant the request. It is the responsibility of the graduate student to contact the professor and make the necessary arrangements for completing coursework by the agreed upon deadline. Please refer to the complete policy on Incomplete Grades in the Graduate Catalog.

All Incomplete Grades require the completion of an Incomplete Grade Contract form, available on the Office of Graduate Studies website. Grades for courses not completed within one semester will automatically be assigned an F. Because this grade will effect the GPA calculation, students should endeavor should to fulfill the requirements in the Incomplete Grade Contract to avoid being placed on Academic Probation (see *Minimum Grade Point Average*, above).

Graduate students with two unresolved Incomplete grades (of any credit total) will not be permitted to register for additional history courses until at least one Incomplete grade is resolved.

### ***Office of Graduate Studies Policy on Academic Integrity***

The Office of Graduate Studies and the Department of History hold academic integrity in the highest regard. Students are responsible for being aware of and complying with University Regulations and

Policies and must conduct themselves accordingly.

Per USF Regulation 3-0027 on Academic Integrity of Students, refer to the regulation for complete information and additional guidelines at: <http://usfweb2.usf.edu/usfgc/ogc%20web/currentregs/USF3-027.htm>:

Sanctions for Academic Dishonesty will depend on the seriousness of the offense and may range from the receipt of:

- An F or “Zero” grade on the subject paper, lab report, etc.
- An F in the course or activity in which credit may be earned,
- An FF in the course (leading to expulsion from the University)
- Academic Dismissal for any violations of academic dishonesty policies or regulations
- Possible revocation of the degree or Graduate Certificate following a thorough investigation

Graduate students who are assigned an FF grade will be academically dismissed from the University and will not be eligible to apply to any graduate program at USF.

### ***Academic Dismissal/Satisfactory Progress***

In order to maintain satisfactory progress:

- Students must complete at least 50% of their enrollment each term with a minimum grade of B
- Students may not request an incomplete, or I, grade for more than 50% of their enrollment each term
- Students must regularly attend scheduled course meetings and submit course assignments on time
- Students must not create a disruption of academic process, Cf. [http://www.grad.usf.edu/inc/linked-files/Catalog%20and%20Policies/2011-2012/Section7\\_DisruptAcadProc\\_2011-2012.html](http://www.grad.usf.edu/inc/linked-files/Catalog%20and%20Policies/2011-2012/Section7_DisruptAcadProc_2011-2012.html))
- Exceptions may be made for extenuating circumstances, at the discretion of the Graduate Program Coordinator

Failure to successfully satisfy requirements to meet Conditional Admission by the deadline established by the program may lead to the student being academically dismissed from their graduate degree program for the following reasons:

- Receiving an FF grade
- Failure to maintain "good standing"
- Failure to make satisfactory progress

Once processed, the student's status will be changed from Graduate Degree Seeking to Non-Degree Seeking. A change to Non-Degree Seeking status could adversely impact financial aid. Dismissal cannot be retroactive. The effective date will be entered into the student's record by the Office of the Registrar as the First Business Day after the end of the Semester, except in cases of academic dismissal due to academic dishonesty. To be readmitted, the student will need to reapply for admission, meeting the admission criteria in place at the time.

Graduate students who are assigned an FF grade will be academically dismissed from the University and will not be eligible to apply to any graduate program at USF.

## **Program Guidelines and Information for M.A. Students**

### ***Graduate Assistantships***

Graduate Assistantships provide a stipend plus nine credits of tuition waiver per semester. All M.A. students receiving funding receive the same stipend. Graduate Assistantships for M.A. students are one-year awards, distributed on a competitive basis. Applications are available on the History Graduate Program Canvas page under Files>Forms. This form is a fillable PDF and can also be found on the department webpage. The deadline for applications is January 15th.

Students awarded Graduate Assistantships for one year must reapply if they wish to be considered for an appointment for the following year.

New applicants for Graduate Assistantships must include two letters of recommendation and a personal statement. Returning applicants (those already holding a Graduate Assistantship) must include a recommendation from their Major Professor, teaching evaluations, and a personal statement.

### ***Plan of Study***

In addition to the general degree requirements of the University as explained in the USF Graduate Catalog, a candidate is required to complete a total of 30 hours in the following distribution:

- 3 hours in the core course, Analysis of Historical Knowledge (HIS 6112). Students are required to take this course during their first year in the program, except in special circumstances that must be approved in advance by the Graduate Coordinator.
- 15 hours in a major field of history (Combination of HIS 6939 and HIS 6925)
- 6 hours in a minor field (Combination of HIS 6939 and HIS 6925)
- 6 hours in thesis credits for students intending to write a thesis, or, for students who will not be writing a thesis, 6 credits of additional coursework completed within the student's major or minor fields. Non-thesis degree students must complete 6 additional hours of their program (in lieu of thesis credits) in formal, regularly scheduled history courses at the 6000 level, or in graduate courses from other departments pertaining to the students' major or minor requirements.

Of the 30 hours required for the Master of Arts, at least 20 must be in formal, regularly scheduled course work. A minimum of 16 hours must be at the 6000 level. Subject to the satisfaction of the above requirements, courses at the 5000 level are acceptable as part of a planned degree program. Students may take a maximum of 9 hours in "Colloquia" (HIS 6925). These are usually 4000 level courses that have been expanded to an appropriate graduate level of study. Students may take a maximum of 9 hours in Directed Research and/or Independent Study (HIS 6914 or HIS 6908). These courses are not considered "regularly scheduled" courses. A maximum of 12 hours of 6000 level courses above earned at USF Tampa as a non-degree seeking student may be transferred into the degree program.

### ***Language Requirement***

The language requirement can be satisfied in one of two ways:

1. A two-hour examination administered by the Department. The student will be expected to translate satisfactorily into English a 500-word passage from a foreign language appropriate to the student's concentration, with the assistance of a dictionary. Students are responsible for providing themselves with dictionaries and other supplies (pens, paper) they may require on the day of the exam. It is the responsibility of the student to meet the scheduling deadline for the

examination. The History Department will administer two language exams per year. **Fall term language examinations will be held on the last Friday of October:** Students must register for the exam on the Graduate History Program Canvas page no later than October 15. **Spring term language examinations will be held on the last Friday of March.** Students must register for the exam on the Graduate History Program Canvas page no later than **March 15.**

2. With the approval of the Major Professor, the student may take two semesters of an intermediate-level foreign-language course. These courses may not be taken Pass/Fail or Audit. In order to fulfill the foreign language requirement, the student must receive a B or above in each semester's course. Those students who have met these requirements as an undergraduate may have the language requirement waived by petitioning the Graduate Committee.
3. Students may substitute quantitative methods for the language requirement. The quantitative methods option will be fulfilled by earning a grade of B or higher in one of the following courses: ANG 5486 (Quantitative Methods in Anthropology); EDF 6407 (Statistical Analysis for Education Research I); or POS 6736 (Political Research Methods). Only POS 6736 has an explicit prerequisite (POS 3713 or equivalent), but students with limited mathematical backgrounds may first want to take STA 2122 (Social Science Statistics) to provide a foundation for any of these classes. A graduate course in quantitative methods cannot be used to fulfill any part of the minor field.

## Student Evaluation and Formation of Committees

### *Major Professor and Supervisory Committee*

After beginning course work and within the first year in the program, M.A. students select an advisor in their major field of study. Students arrange their programs of study and select appropriate courses with the guidance of their advisor, referred to as their Major Professor.

Additionally, during the second semester if not earlier, the student in consultation with the Major Professor asks one or two other members (normally one from the major and one from the minor fields) to serve on a supervisory committee. The student is required to have completed successfully at least 3 credits of course work with each member of his/her committee.

The committee, under the direction of the Major Professor, will supervise coursework in order to prepare for the comprehensive examination. The Major Professor and one committee member must be members of the USF Tampa Faculty. A student may choose to add additional members, either from within or outside the Department or University with the approval of their Major Professor; however, there must always be two History department faculty members on the committee.

Usually, the student makes the first contact with faculty who may be appropriate to serve on the committee, but it is usually helpful to discuss possible members with the Major Professor before approaching other faculty.

When inviting faculty members to serve on their committee, the student should apprise them in general terms about the nature of their research and disciplinary interests, so that the faculty member can make an informed decision.

### *Comprehensive Examinations*

- The examination questions and student answers will form part of the student's department file. A



student must have no incomplete grades and be enrolled for a minimum of 2 hours during the term the comprehensive examination is taken.

- **Preparing for the exam:** The student should prepare a bibliography of all reading completed in the major and minor fields. The bibliography should be logically organized by field, period and topic. The bibliographies should be presented to all committee members so that they can suggest any additional reading necessary in order to prepare the fields for the exam. Throughout the semester during which the exam is taken, the student is obliged to stay in contact with committee members to meet and discuss readings and prepare for the exam.
- **Scheduling the exam:** In consultation with the Committee Chair, the student should select a range of dates for scheduling the exam, and the Committee Chair will then inform the other members of the committee and Graduate Program Assistant of a range of possible dates for the exam so that the student can schedule the exam with Graduate Program Assistant at least 60 days in advance. The exam must be administered at least one week before final exams.
- **Taking the exam:** Each examiner asks two questions and the student answers one of the two posed by each examiner. The exam will be administered through Canvas, but the exact arrangements will be determined by the student's committee. In no case will the student have longer than six hours total to complete the exam.
- **Grading the exam:** Committee members will grade each question on a pass or fail basis. If merited, the committee as a whole can award the grade "pass with distinction." If any committee member requests it, an oral exam can be added to resolve any questions about a student's answers. The time necessary to grade the exam will depend on how long it takes each committee member, but the results should be available within a week. Faculty members away from USF at the time of the exam or from outside departments are also expected to adhere to this schedule as closely as possible. The committee chair will notify the student of the results.

### ***Master's Thesis***

Students who choose the thesis track must submit a Supervisory Committee form within the same semester that they have passed their Comprehensive Exams. Changes to a Supervisory Committee must be submitted on a Change of Committee Form. Both forms can be found in the Graduate History Program Canvas page under Files>Forms. Thesis Supervisory Committees must be composed of at least three members, and thesis writing students must have their committees approved through submission of the Supervisory Committee Form prior to submission of the Thesis.

Normally, graduate students are expected to enroll in thesis credit hours once they have completed their regular coursework and their comprehensive exams. Students submitting a thesis must be enrolled in a minimum of 2 hours of thesis writing credit in the term in which they submit their thesis and graduate.

Before a graduate student embarks on a thesis project, they are required to obtain approval from their Major Professor.

### **Defining Student Research Interests**

Major Professors and other faculty play a significant role in helping students define their interests and/or research plans. The Major Professor is not responsible for identifying and setting up the research project; the majority of the responsibility lies with each student. As students begin to develop research ideas, or when they find they are changing direction in interests, they should discuss these issues with the professor.

### **How long does it take to complete the composition of the thesis?**

Graduate students must allow plenty of time when planning to write the thesis. Hard deadlines for

submission of a final copy are generally in early November or early April, not the end of the semester. There must be opportunities for significant feedback, revision, and so forth, prior to that final copy being submitted. In practice this means it is highly unlikely that a student can start writing a thesis at the beginning of the semester, and submit it that same semester.

The thesis must be read and approved by the entire committee, and all members must have the opportunity to read it thoroughly and request changes and revisions. Students should not assume that because the Major Professor has approved a draft, that the other members are "rubber stamps." They may suggest substantial revisions, and time is needed to respond.

Students should not plan on going through the entire writing/revision process during the summer, when committee members and chair might not be on academic contract and therefore unavailable for the thesis review and revision process.

### **How does writing the thesis proceed?**

Individual thesis projects vary. The way in which a thesis prospectus or outline is written, the processes through which research is conducted, and the sequence in which the chapters are written should be discussed and coordinated between the student and Major Professor. It is also essential that a timetable be established for the submission of draft chapters.

The involvement of committee members during the creation of the first draft will depend on various factors, but the Major Professor is responsible for monitoring the student's progress and determining the point at which the draft thesis is ready to be circulated to the committee. Major Professors should provide timely feedback on drafts that are submitted and keep the other committee members informed about the student's progress.

Once the Major Professor is satisfied that the thesis is ready for review by the entire committee, the student should be instructed to provide copies to each of them. The Major Professor is encouraged to make sure the student provides copies to committee members in a timely fashion, allowing them sufficient time to read and review. The primary responsibility, however, lies with the student.

The final acceptance of the thesis occurs when all of the committee members have read and approved a complete draft. There is no formal defense of the thesis.

The Department requires that a bound copy of the thesis, preferably on acid-free paper, be submitted for deposit in the department's library.

Students are responsible for submitting everything to the Office of Graduate Studies by the posted deadlines, but advisors should be aware of these deadlines as well, and assist where appropriate.

For specific details about the required format of the thesis see: <http://www.grad.usf.edu/thesis.asp>

### **How is the final version submitted?**

Students submitting a thesis or dissertation must be enrolled in a minimum of 2 hours of thesis writing credit in the term in which they graduate.

The Office of Graduate Studies hosts several 'ETD Boot Camps' throughout each term to guide students through the submission process. All students submitting a thesis or dissertation must now attend an Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) workshop in the semester PRIOR to the semester in which

they apply for graduation (<http://www.grad.usf.edu/thesis.asp>).

Students must submit an Electronic Thesis and Dissertation registration to the Office of Graduate Studies and an application for graduation to the Registrar by the end of the 4th week of the term in which they intend to graduate (<https://www.grad.usf.edu/etd/>).

Theses must be approved by your committee and submitted to the Office of Graduate Studies by the 12th week of the semester, and FINAL submission of all revisions by the 16th week.

The final submission materials must be submitted by the posted deadline each semester. In order to finalize the submission, these steps must be completed:

- Manuscript is complete
- Dissertation/thesis is successfully defended/approved
- All changes required by the Major Professor and the Committee are complete and approved
- All changes needed to comply with University format requirements are done
- Certificate of Approval form is complete, with signatures of entire committee, as well as Graduate Director or Associate Dean for the committee verification line

The student must submit one hard-copy of the final version of the dissertation to the Department and one electronic copy, along with the required forms, etc., to the Office of Graduate Studies utilizing the Electronic Thesis and Dissertation submission process by the posted final submission deadline. This document must be in conformity with Office of Graduate Studies and disciplinary requirements regarding style and format, and it must bear the signatures of all committee members. This step is the responsibility of the student, but the Major Professor should be aware of the deadline for that semester and the procedures, and should offer appropriate guidance to ensure that it all gets done.

### ***Graduation***

Graduation requirements for the M.A. Program:

- Satisfactory completion of required coursework
- Successful completion of Comprehensive Exam
- Foreign Language: Students must demonstrate proficiency in the language(s) required by their field of study.
- Approval of thesis (if student has chosen the thesis tract)

All requirements for master's degrees must be completed within five (5) calendar years from the student's date of admission for graduate study.

In order to graduate, a student must apply for graduation through Oasis by the deadline noted in the Academic Calendar for the term during which graduation is anticipated. Students selecting the thesis option must submit an Electronic Thesis and Dissertation registration to the Office of Graduate Studies, attend an Electronic Thesis and Dissertation (ETD) workshop in the semester PRIOR to their graduation, and complete the final submission process in the Office of Graduate Studies to be considered for graduation. Refer to the Office of Graduate Studies website for complete information and deadlines. Students may not participate in commencement unless all requirements have been satisfactorily completed.

### ***Staying In Contact With The Department After Graduation***

We are interested in where our students go and how their careers progress. Please stay in touch with us

through the USF History Department Facebook page. Please be certain to notify us of address changes and new positions you accept. In exchange, the department will publicize details of students' post-graduate career accomplishments in our newsletters. We may also send out periodic surveys of former students, or call on alumni/ae for assistance perhaps to share your experience with a prospective student or assist current students in making important connections. The success of our graduates provides useful information to applicants to our programs.