

Carleton

Department of History

507-222-4217

Greetings,

Congratulations on your admission to Carleton! I am excited that you are interested in taking classes in history, and I would like to welcome you warmly to the department. You should feel free to reach out to me (vmorse@carleton.edu) or to our wonderful [Student Departmental Advisers](#) if you have any questions. Once you are on campus, the History lounge is a great place to work on a jigsaw puzzle, have a cup of tea, and meet other students.

Our department is a vibrant and diverse community, where students and faculty work together to uncover, create, and question accounts of the past. At Carleton, [studying history](#) is not just about appreciating the complexity and the contingency of past events; it is also about you learning to “make history” for yourself as a way of understanding our present world.

Consider choosing one of the [History A&I seminars](#) on topics ranging from food to exploration and from colonialism to music. Or get started by trying out one of our 100- or 200-level [courses](#) that let you explore people’s lives, worlds, and experiences from ancient times to the present. You will learn how to use a wide array of sources to investigate the past, from historical maps to oral histories and archival documents.

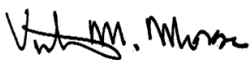
Putting history to work in the present, we foster [public history](#) through [student partnerships](#) with museums, historical societies, and environmental centers. In our course focused on academic civic engagement called “[Historians for Hire](#),” you will learn to recreate the past [using digital tools](#) and [video games](#), and will have the chance to work with faculty on research projects in [far-flung archives](#) and [right here in Northfield](#). Our department also provides [funding](#) for students to pursue their own independent projects in the summer before their senior year.

Most of our majors and minors study off campus at least once. History faculty take students to explore [medieval Rome](#), hike the [Grand Canyon](#), experience tours of [Revolutionary Boston](#), and discover the links between Arabs and Africans on the shore of the [Indian Ocean](#). Through these programs and many others, students come to understand the fascinating relationships between our present world and our pasts. One student said recently, “I love taking history courses at Carleton because they provide such a great context to help me understand the world today. Topics I studied in class end up being relevant in lots of other classes and in so many surprising ways. And they’re just a lot of fun!”

Everything has a history. As our students move beyond Carleton, they find that their ability to make sense of the past becomes a powerful tool for shaping their futures. Carleton [History students](#) go on to excel in diverse fields. They become influential in law and medicine, carve out successful careers in journalism and business, and make significant contributions to politics, education, and the historical field itself.

Our community of historians at Carleton and beyond is warm and welcoming to all.

I look forward to meeting you!



Victoria Morse
Professor of History
History Department Chair

