

Concentrations

- Civil War and 19th-Century America
- General History
- Historic Preservation and Public History

About the Major

The Department of History promotes the study and interpretation of the past through the integration of scholarship, undergraduate education, and public engagement. **Shepherd's location on the banks of the Potomac and in the lower Shenandoah Valley provides a setting especially conducive to historical study.** The oldest town in West Virginia, Shepherdstown is a living museum of architecture and material culture. James Rumsey built and operated the first steamboat here, and the contending forces of the Civil War fought the deadliest battle in American history across the river at Antietam. Three national historical parks—the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, Harpers Ferry, and Antietam—and other parks, historical sites, museums, and major research repositories are accessible by car or commuter train.

Careers

The history program **develops strong skills in writing, research, and critical thinking, which lead to exciting and meaningful careers.** Many of our alumni are professional historians who work in publishing, national and state parks, museums, historical societies, and archives. Others take the experience they gain at Shepherd to work in government agencies, journalism, business, diplomatic fields, law, and education.

Get Involved

- Students extend their interest for history outside of the classroom by joining **Phi Alpha Theta National History Honor Society** and **Shepherd University Student Living History Group.**
- Short term or faculty-led study abroad programs allow students to **explore history on the road and visit world-famous museums.**
- Shepherd University's George Tyler Moore Center for the Study of the Civil War, located on German Street in Shepherdstown, hosts many Civil War era collections. Several events provide students the opportunity for practicing **historic preservation, exhibit planning, and archives management.**



A History class learns to clean grave stones without causing damage.



Civil War Christmas

Points of Pride

- Each year we place students in **regional and national internships**, including Antietam National Battlefield, Berkeley County Historical Society, Harpers Ferry National Historical Park, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, National Conservation Training Center, the Jefferson County Historic Landmarks Commission, and institutions in the Washington, D.C., area.



Shepherd history students designed the Belle Boyd House exhibit as a part of their internship experiences.

- Our department actively collaborates with the Shepherd University community, as witnessed by our partnerships with Appalachian Studies, Gender Studies, and Global Studies.
- We offer **academic common market** status to students who are historic preservation/public history majors from Delaware or Maryland, and Civil War/19th-Century majors from Maryland. **These out-of-state students attend Shepherd for in-state tuition.**

Contact

For more information about the program, contact:

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Visit:

www.shepherd.edu/history

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