



UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST

Graduate Program
Department of History

15th Annual Graduate History Association Conference, March 8-9 2019

The Routes of History: Knowing Pasts, Envisioning Futures

In any historical moment, people's lives are affected by their knowledges and narratives of the past. History is not merely a record but felt experience: injustices, identities and memories at various collective levels, all inform conceptions of the past and commitments to the future. In today's world, we witness, for example, public figures and movements mobilizing historical identities; communities designing new memorials and sites; debates around the political and historical meanings of public monuments; and nations developing and fracturing their identities as people move across time and space. Historians and researchers must confront and study such processes, whether in the current context, or within documentations and archives. It is therefore imperative to interrogate how the past exists as a deeply potent force within the present, and is consistently utilized to shape imagined futures. We ask: what is the relationship between the past and the present in any society? How does History mediate the disparate routes through which the past travels as historical consciousness?

This conference welcomes papers that investigate relations across history in community contexts and history as an institutional discipline. We welcome abstracts from diverse historical periods, geographical regions, frameworks, and methodologies. The conference seeks an interdisciplinary engagement on the nature of historical consciousness and its practice in cultures, politics, economies, and environments in any given context.

Potential topics include, but are not limited to:

- Collective and Contested Memories
- Heritage and Monumentality
- Imperialism, Nationalism, and Colonialism
- Borders and Borderlands
- Work, Life, and Leisure
- Movement and Migration
- Environment and Sustainability
- Power and Resistance
- The Lenses of Identity
- History and Its Publics
- Practicing History: The Academic and the Everyday

We ask applicants to submit a 250-300 word paper or panel proposal, a biography, and a short CV to ghpage@umass.edu by **January 15th, 2019**. Submissions should include: paper/panel title, abstract, and any technological requirements. Accepted applicants will be notified by January 28th. We will be awarding a number of prizes, if you wish to be considered, please submit your paper by February 28th. Please email your documents in a .pdf, .doc, or .docx format.