

# DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN



## Greetings from the Chair

Winter 2022

Dear Friends, Alumni, and Fellow Historians,



Dr. Lisa Lindsay  
*Chair, Department of History*

Greetings from the UNC History Department! I am delighted to share with you some updates about the activities of our faculty, graduate students, alumni, and off-campus colleagues. As these indicate, the teaching, scholarship, and outreach of our department has returned to (just about) pre-pandemic levels—to the benefit of our academic and wider community. For more news of the History Department, please do see our website, [history.unc.edu](https://history.unc.edu), which is ably maintained by graduate students and Digital History Lab coordinators, Madeleine McGrady and Sarah Miles.

It is no small feat to produce biannual editions of *The Department Historian* while engaged in teaching, scholarship, and extensive service; yet Prof. Eren Tasar (who is also the department's Director of Graduate Studies) does so with aplomb. I sincerely thank him, as well as the graduate student contributors to this edition: Burak Bulkan, Tess Megginson, Donald Santacaterina, and Mark Thomas-Patterson.

We remain deeply grateful for the generous backing of our friends and alumni. Private contributions enable us to fund research opportunities for undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty; participate in and coordinate national and international conferences; and maintain our connections to the general public. Crucially, they allow the our department to enhance the minimum stipend that UNC pays to graduate students, which makes our program more attractive to the best future historians, who in turn help to stimulate faculty research and enrich undergraduate education. Thank you, truly, for your continued interest and support.

I hope you will consider [making a gift today](#) to help us continue our tradition of excellence in History at UNC. And please [stay in touch](#)—we'd love to hear from you.

Sincerely,

## In The News



### Update from the Director of Undergraduate Studies

I am delighted to step into the role of Director of Undergraduate Studies, taking over from Brett Whalen. Thank you, Brett, for your excellent work in this capacity over the past several years.

The History Department has been humming along this fall. [Read More.](#)

### Update from the Director of Graduate Studies

I'm pleased to have this opportunity to introduce myself to our readers as the new Director of Graduate Studies. My predecessor as DGS, Professor Sarah Shields, steered our graduate program through the unprecedented challenges imposed by the pandemic. [Read More.](#)



### New Faculty Spotlight: Professor K. Antwain Hunter

This Fall, the Department of History welcomed Dr. Antwain K. Hunter to its faculty. Professor Hunter is a historian of freedom and slavery, with a focus on North Carolina. In the midst of a busy teaching schedule in his first semester at Carolina... [Read More.](#)

### On Caroline Elkins' *The Legacy of Violence*

This Fall, the Department of History and the Center for Middle East and Islamic Studies have launched a groundbreaking lecture series bringing cutting edge historians of the Middle East and Central Asia to campus. The series, entitled "Legacies of the Middle Eastern and Muslim Experience of the 20th Century," will extend across the academic year. [Read More](#)



### The Carolina Russia Seminar

On Thursday night once a month, the Carolina Russia Seminar is one of the highlights of the calendar for the UNC History Department. Started by Drs. Donald J. Raleigh and Louise McReynolds, its leadership was handed to Eren Tasar in 2017. [Read More](#)

### Yusuf Sezgin: Historian of Liberation Theology, Rock Music Enthusiast

As one of the top graduate history programs in the world, UNC attracts a highly selective group of cutting-edge historians. Our graduate students are brilliant, creative, hard-working, and, unsurprisingly, eclectic. Yusuf Sezgin is a doctoral candidate conducting research for an ambitious history... [Read More](#)



### Students Talk about their Involvement with *Traces: The UNC Journal of History*

Each year, UNC-Chapel Hill history students publish *Traces: The UNC Journal of History*. First created in 2011 by UNC students G. Lawson Kuehnert and Mark W. Hornburg and supported by the UNC-Chapel Hill Parents Council, the journal features the work of students currently studying history. [Read More](#)

### UNC-Kings College London Partnership: History at the Forefront of International Exchange

Amidst calls for more globalization on US campuses, faculty and administration at UNC began imagining how to expand and deepen our school's intellectual partnerships abroad. Our own History Department, unsurprisingly, has been at the fore of such initiatives... [Read More](#)



### Graduate Student Profile: Alma Huselja's USHMM Research

This past summer, third year Ph.D student Alma Huselja was given the opportunity to conduct research at one of the most significant institutions for Holocaust research, the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) in Washington, D.C. [Read More](#)

You can read these stories and find back issues at [The Department Historian](#)

This email is for friends of the UNC Department of History, through the Arts and Sciences Foundation, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



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