

Appalachian State University Off-Campus Program MA degree in History / Secondary Education

The MA degree in history with a concentration in secondary education consists of 36 semester hours of graduate-level coursework and yields a North Carolina M-level teaching license. This off-campus program is scheduled to begin in Fall 2004 and finish in Summer 2006. Two courses will be taught each Fall, Spring and Summer by Appalachian faculty at the off-campus site. Each class will ordinarily meet one night per week from 6:00 to 9:00. (The off-campus site chosen for this cohort will be determined by November 2003.)

Benefits of the M.A. Degree

A master's degree yields many benefits. Research on effective teaching indicates, not surprisingly, that the teacher's content mastery has a significant impact on quality of instruction. North Carolina recognizes this improvement in instruction with a considerable pay increase.

Based on the 2003-04 pay scale, the 10% pay increase for a master's degree can mean around \$108,000 in extra earnings over a 30-year career. The addition of 12% for National Board of Professional Teaching Standards (NBPTS) Certification can mean over \$240,000 over 30 years. These estimates are conservative since they do not take into account future pay increases that will raise the state pay scale. In short, a master's degree and NBPTS certification mean thousands of extra dollars per year for teachers, and since both state retirement pay and Social Security are based on salary earned, that salary increase continues to accrue for life. In other words, every year a teacher works without a master's degree and/or NBPTS certification costs her/him thousands of dollars in potential income.

Two differences between the master's degree and NBPTS certification should be noted. While teachers may not begin NBPTS certification until their fourth year of teaching, they may begin master's work in or before their first year. Another distinction is that NBPTS certification must be renewed every ten years, but the master's degree need not be renewed.

Interested individuals should check with the central office of their school districts since some systems pay for their teachers to attend graduate school.

Courses in the Off-Campus History/Secondary Education Program

Required History Courses:

HIS 5000	Bibliography and Research
HIS 5206	Studies in American History
HIS 5450	History and Social Studies Education

History Elective Courses:

Seven courses (21 semester hours) of history electives will be offered. Courses are being selected from a spread including:

- American history
- European history
- Non-Western history (Asian, African, Middle Eastern, and Latin America)

Courses are being chosen based on their relevance to the North Carolina Standard Course of Study for secondary Social Studies.

Required Professional Education Courses:

CI/SPE 5045	Advanced Topics in Diversity
CI/LHE 5585	Teacher Leadership and School Improvement

Requirements for Admission

For this program, the Department of History is seeking individuals who possess a North Carolina A-level teaching license (or its equivalent) and who are currently teaching. In addition to the application form, candidates must submit a cover letter of application, scores from the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), official transcripts, 3 letters of recommendation, and a writing sample. A candidate will be selected based upon the strength of her/his undergraduate career, the scores on the verbal and writing sections of the GRE,

Application Process

The Graduate School Application (and the \$35 non-refundable application fee) and all supporting transcripts, letters of recommendation and the writing sample should be submitted to:

Office of Extension and Distance Education
Appalachian State University
PO Box 32054
Boone, NC 28608

The GRE test scores should be submitted directly to:

Cratis D. Williams Graduate School
Appalachian State University
PO Box 32068
Boone, NC 28608

Applicants are typically notified within one month following receipt of all application information.

Costs

Tuition and fees for the 2003-04 academic year are as follow:

In-State \$ 87.25 per semester hr.
Out-of-State \$553.25 per semester hr.

Textbooks and any supplementary materials required for courses are not included in these expenses. For continuing off-campus students, complete information regarding textbooks is listed in the online Schedule of Off-Campus Courses prior to each term. The services of the University Bookstore are available to off-campus students, and books can be shipped to a student's home address for a nominal charge.

TO CONTACT US

For an application packet contact:

Sandra Krause
Office of Extension and Distance Education
Appalachian State University
P. O. Box 32054
Boone, NC 28608

Phone
(800) 355-4084 or (828) 262-3113

Fax
(828) 265-8673

E-Mail Address:
krausesl@appstate.edu (for Sandra Krause)

Web Site: www.ext-dl.appstate.edu

Questions regarding the academic program may be referred to:

Dr. Michael Krenn, Chair
Department of History
Appalachian State University
Whitener Hall
Boone, NC 28608

Phone:
(828)262-2282

E-Mail Address:
krennml@appstate.edu

Web Site: www.history.appstate.edu

Appalachian State University is committed to equality of educational opportunity and does not discriminate against applicants, students or employees on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, disabling condition or sexual orientation. Moreover, Appalachian is open to people of all races and actively seeks to promote racial integration by recruiting and enrolling a larger number of African-American students.



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STATE UNIVERSITY