Faculty in History and Sociology

Daniel Amsterdam  U.S. Political and Urban History
Laura Bier  Gender and Modernization in the Middle East
Kate Pride Brown  Globalization and Environmental Sociology
Douglas Flamming  Race, Labor, and Politics in U.S. History
Lawrence Foster  U.S. Religious and Social History
Carla Gerona  Early American, Atlantic, and Borderlands History
Allen Hyde  Urban Sociology; Political Economy; Methods
Kenneth Knoespel  History of Science; Visualization and Design
John Kriege  History of Technology; Cold War Politics
Hanchao Lu  Asian and Urban History
Kristie Marzakis  History of Science; Modern Germany; Espionage
Mary McDonald  Sociology of Sport and Inequality; Gender
Willie Pearson, Jr.  Sociology of Science; Race and Inequality
Sherie M. Randolph  African American History; Gender; Politics
Jonathan Schneer  Modern British and European History
Jennifer Singh  Sociology of Health and Medicine
John Matthew Smith  History of Race, Sports, and Culture in the U.S.
John Tone  Spanish and Cuban Military History; Medicine
Steven Usselman  History of Technology; U.S. Political Economy
Bill Winders  Sociology of Development; Political Sociology

Engage the present.

For more information, please visit www.hsoc.gatech.edu or contact:

Graduate Programs
The School of History and Sociology
Georgia Institute of Technology
Atlanta, Georgia 30332-0225
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Georgia Tech consistently ranks among the top ten public universities in the United States. The campus occupies 450 acres in the heart of Atlanta, where more than 20,000 students receive a focused, technologically based education. Students come to Georgia Tech from all fifty states and from dozens of countries.

A lively city with a population of approximately five million, Atlanta offers many cultural and economic opportunities. The Georgia Tech campus is located near the High Museum, the Georgia Aquarium, the Carter Center, the King Center, Centennial Olympic Park, CNN, and Turner Field. Students are encouraged to supplement their academic education with the resources available in this bustling international center.

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Research in the School of History and Sociology

The School of History and Sociology (HSOC) is an interdisciplinary unit in the Ivan Allen College of Liberal Arts, consisting of scholars and educators from history and sociology. As part of a world-renown technological university situated in the heart of a global city, we focus on the dynamics of modern globalization, examining societies and nations as they experience rapid scientific discovery and profound technological change.

As a component of a premiere public research university located in the economic and cultural hub of the U.S. South, we analyze and address the enduring legacies and emerging challenges of our communities, our state, and our region.

Because of our commitment to outstanding teaching and research, HSOC faculty have won numerous awards in these areas.

Faculty in HSOC have a broad array of interests and expertise and are widely published in their fields. Among the diversity of specializations, the HSOC faculty has particular strengths in five areas of scholarship:

- History of Technology/Engineering in Society
- Global Cities and Urban Society
- Agriculture, Health, and the Environment
- Modern Global History/Science, Technology, and Nationalism
- U.S. Society and Politics/Policy Perspectives

Financial Support

We aim to ensure that students who perform satisfactorily in our program are fully funded for at least four years. Financial aid includes teaching and research assistantships, tuition waivers, and numerous fellowship opportunities. Students may also compete for national grants.

Prizes and Awards

The annual departmental award for graduate students is the Homer Rice Award, which is given to the graduate student who exemplifies excellence in scholarship in the history and sociology of technology and science.

Part-Time Students

Part-time students who can support their studies for a master’s degree are encouraged to apply. The program allows students to acquire a master’s degree by successfully completing the required number of courses or by combining coursework with writing a substantial master’s research paper. Students who wish to continue to a Ph.D. must first complete the research paper.

Graduate Student Community and Research

The School of History and Sociology graduate students are immersed in a culture of scholarly inquiry and research. Through courses, seminars, and individual meetings, they interact closely with faculty and colleagues who have earned international reputations for their outstanding scholarship. Numerous special initiatives and programs help HSOC sustain and reinvigorate this vibrant, creative atmosphere.

Examples of Recent Dissertation Projects


Ron Dempsey, "Engineering’s Gateway or Gatekeeper: The Role of Engineering Technology.”


Paul McKittrick, "Modernity and the Spirit of the Sea.”

Examples of Recent Masters Papers

Kera Allen, “I Was Supposed to Make Things Pretty”: Workplace Culture for Women in Computing and Information Technology.”

Mario Bianchini, "People Not Data: A Collective Biography of German Post-War Economists, East and West.”

Rebecca Watts Hull, "Organizational Variation in Change Agency: Explaining Sustainability at Three Georgia Universities, 1958-2010.”

Career Placements of Recent Graduates

Hyoun Jo An (Ph.D., 2015) Associate Research Fellow, Science and Technology Policy Institute, Korea

Gloria Ross (Ph.D., 2014) Research Analyst, Government Accountability Office (GAO)

Eric Hardy (Ph.D., 2011) Assistant Professor of History, Loyola University, New Orleans, Louisiana

Joel Hewitt (M.S., 2011) Research Associate, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Tennessee

Yu Tao (Ph.D., 2009) Assistant Professor of Sociology, Stevens Institute of Technology, New Jersey

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