# VIRGINIA WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

# **BIRDSONG SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE**

History is the core of the liberal arts. It provides an essential foundation for approaching and understanding life, culture, politics and economics and is an ideal major for success in politics, law, business, and life.

### **THE PROGRAM**

History majors gain knowledge of the past in diverse regions and cultures of the world while at the same time gaining essential critical inquiry and research skills necessary for success in a competitive and globalized world. Drawing on a wide variety of courses covering aspects of all of human experience, majors develop deep knowledge while gaining the valuable research expertise sought by today's employers in all manner of fields.

#### THE MAJOR

The Department of History at Virginia Wesleyan offers a major in History and a major in History and Social Science. A student majoring in History is required to complete 44 credits in history coursework. The major requirements are designed to ensure that students will gain deep knowledge of United States, Latin American, European, African and Asian history. A student majoring in History and Social Science is required to complete 48 credits in history and social science coursework. The History and Social Science major requirements are designed for students who plan to teach history and/or social studies at the secondary level.

## THE COURSES

Classes at Virginia Wesleyan are small and interactive. They incorporate critical thinking, writing, and independent historical research. Some courses within the Department of History include: The Atlantic World, African-American

History, Heresy and Witchcraft, The Holocaust, U.S. Foreign Relations, Modern Korean History, The Civil War and Reconstruction, Medieval Islamic World, Sound and Noise in American History, The U.S. West, Apparel in American History, History of Sexuality, and the Civil Rights Movement.

### **BEYOND THE CLASSROOM**

Virginia Wesleyan's location, in the heart of the historic Hampton Roads area, provides a special advantage for students pursuing a degree in history. The Department has a robust Internship program which places students at historical sites, museums, and archives in the region. History majors emerge from our program extremely well equipped to excel in today's competitive world with sharp and supple minds and a wide variety of important skills. The critical reading, writing, and thinking skills taught in the history classroom are essential for a variety of careers. Many history students work in law, journalism, government, politics, and international affairs, as well as other fields. Businesses seek history majors because of the keen analytical and writing skills they offer. History likewise offers excellent preparation for graduate school. Law schools, in particular, seek history majors because of their analytical skills.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

#### Dr. Richard Bond

Associate Professor of History Chair of the Department of History rbond@vwu.edu

