

SHIV NADAR

INSTITUTION OF EMINENCE DEEMED TO BE
UNIVERSITY
DELHI NCR

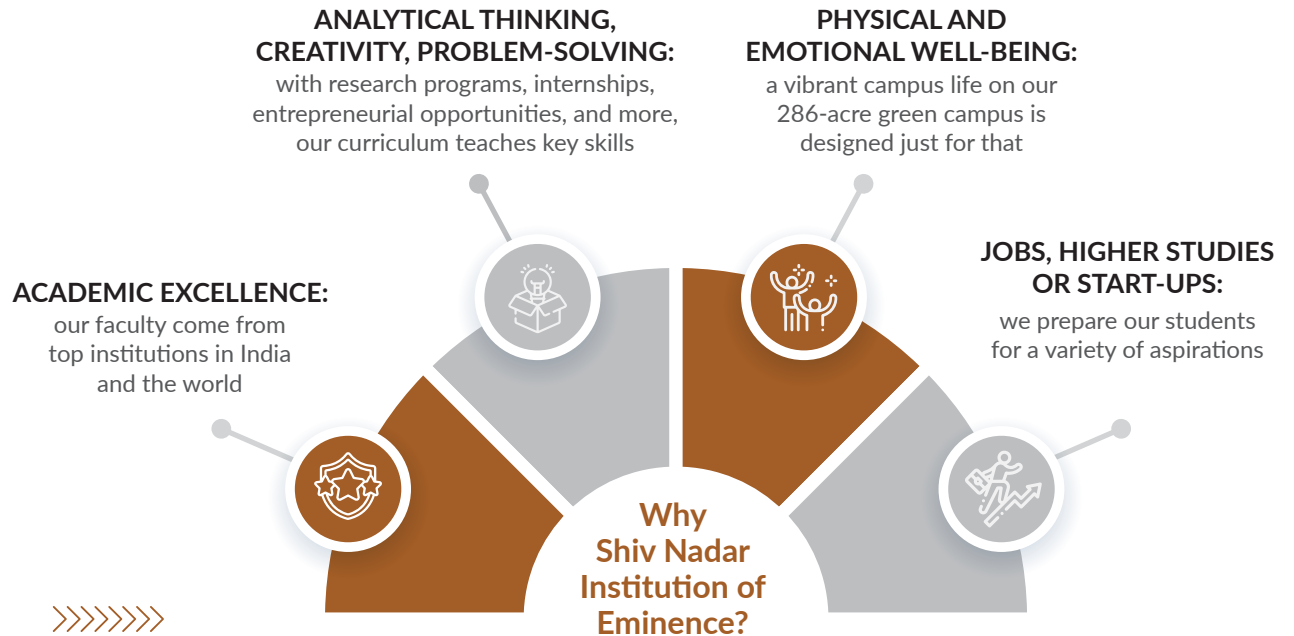
DEPARTMENT OF

**HISTORY &
ARCHAEOLOGY**



Why Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence (Shiv Nadar IoE)?

Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence is a multidisciplinary research university established in 2011 by Mr. Shiv Nadar, one of Asia's foremost philanthropists and a pioneer of the technological revolution in India. The four Schools at the university offer undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral degrees in Engineering, Natural Sciences, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Management & Entrepreneurship. It is the youngest university to be recognized as an Institution of Eminence by the Government of India, a distinct category of higher education institutions that "strive to become the top hundred Institutions in the world over time". In the Government's National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF), the university has been the youngest institution in the 'top 100' overall list for the last five years.



Why Study at the Department of History & Archaeology at Shiv Nadar IoE?

The Department is among the premier centres in India for the teaching and research in History and Archaeology. It is unique in offering students a combined study of the two disciplines, and a specialization in one of the following thematic clusters: Histories of the Contemporary, Archaeological Sciences, Literary Cultures and Intellectual History, and Museums and Heritage Studies. Additionally, the faculty student ratio allows for one-to-one supervision and individual attention to students.

The curriculum is carefully designed to impart intensive training in disciplinary methods and research practice. The range of courses on offer allow students to

participate actively and knowledgeably in debates and discussions. Teaching includes field studies, and students are encouraged to seek internships, which the Department helps them source particularly in archaeological excavations and explorations, museums, and heritage sectors.

Our graduates are able to access a large range of professions, such as policy analysts, media and journalism, publishing, law, management, development studies, civil service, curation, collections management and livelihoods. Many successfully opt for higher education in institutions of international renown.

Curriculum

The Department offers a four year BA (Research) in History

The curriculum is at par with the top departments of undergraduate teaching of South Asian history and archaeology worldwide. It is dynamic, innovative and interdisciplinary in makeup, and the courses provide strong foundational knowledge, and incorporate trends of emerging research.

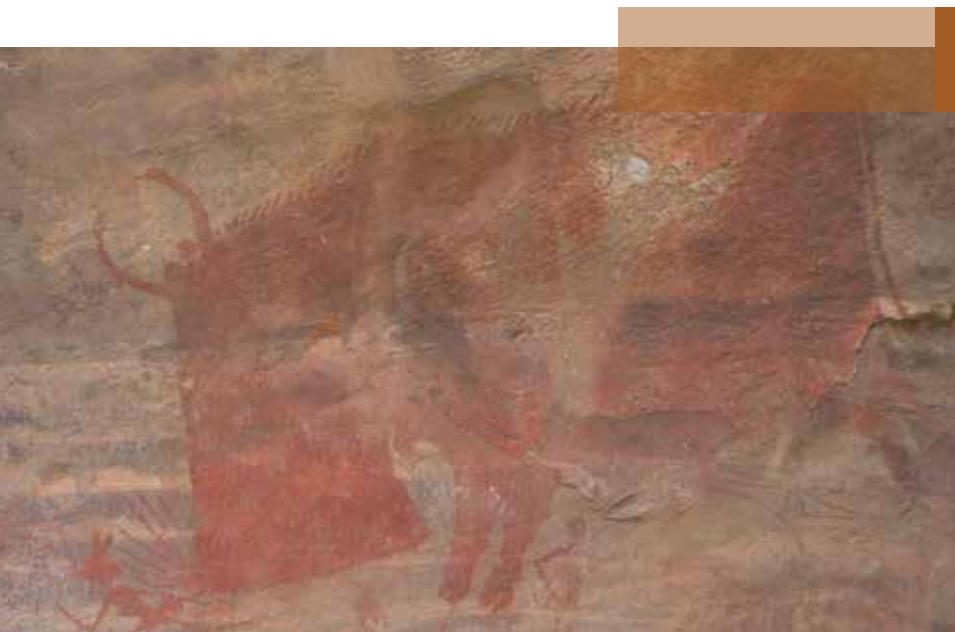
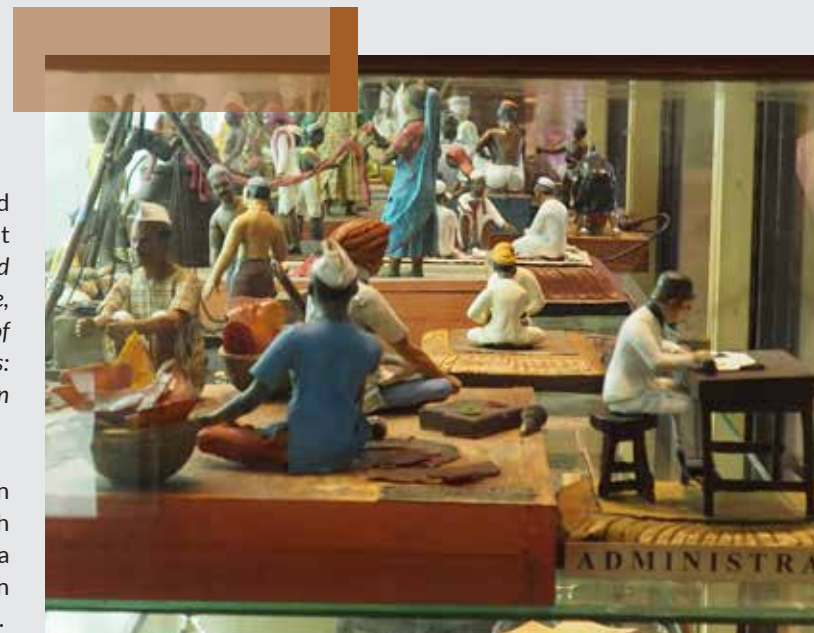
We are among the very few universities in India to offer a specialization in archaeology at the undergraduate level. Students are trained in archaeological field-work and laboratory-based skills, and they participate in ongoing archaeological projects.

In the first two years students acquire Domain Knowledge through a series of introductory courses that cover the entire chronological span of human history including contemporary times. The courses provide the fundamentals and lay

disciplinary foundations.

Students are able to select Elective courses during their third year. These are specialized courses and the Department offers a variety, such as: *Mapping New Frontiers: Networks and Mobility in the Early Modern World*, *Pastoralism and State*, *Histories of Childhood in South Asia*, *Archaeology of Landscapes*, *Medicine and the British Raj*, *Curating Cultures: Collections, Museums, Practices, and Globalization: An Intellectual History*.

Students write a Dissertation under faculty mentorship in their fourth year. This involves independent research through archives, collections, and/or fieldwork. In lieu of a dissertation, students can also do a semester of Internship in a recognized institution related to History and Archaeology.



Our Electives and Dissertation guide students to discover new areas of enquiry. Crucially, they lend to thematic clusters and Areas of Specialization in:

Histories of the Contemporary: Explores how the pasts are still alive in the present by recasting the connections between different periods in history. The courses place, historically, some of the most pertinent questions of our times, among them those which relate to issues of sustainability, ecology, conflict, war and peace.

Archaeological Sciences: Brings together the role of scientific reasoning, methods and specific tools that demonstrate the potential of archaeological investigations. The courses enable students to understand what, how, and why archaeologists use various field methods, laboratory techniques, analytical techniques and interpretive techniques.

Literary Cultures and Intellectual History: Global and comparative perspectives on complex histories of languages and literatures, writing systems, ideas and ideologies. The courses allow students to explore the lineages of dominant intellectual and ideological forms, such as histories of sovereignty and law, state and social systems.

Museums and Heritage Studies: Investigates histories of archaeologies, visualization, collections, collecting practices and heritage-making and draws attention to the importance of regarding museums as spaces for undertaking field research. Creates focus on aspects of materiality and the emerging scholarship of Museum Archaeology, and demonstrates the importance of negotiating disciplinary boundaries for sourcing and exploring objects of enquiry.

Following the University's cue to nurture an interdisciplinary orientation, the Department encourages students to seek relevant courses from departments in all Schools that show potentials of enhancing the academic content of their chosen area of specialization.

Minor

The Department offers three different Minors:

- History
- Archaeology
- A combined minor in History & Archaeology

Our minors attract a large number of students from across the University. They learn concepts and methods, and of some of the historiographic issues, key concerns and research enquiries of the disciplines.

Post Graduate Study

The department's doctoral program comprises coursework and the completion of a dissertation under expert supervision. Ph.D. students receive a stipend for five years, and provide teaching assistantship to the Faculty.

The Ph.D. research within the Department allows a glimpse of the wide-ranging expertise that is nurtured. Some examples of the topics are: 'Cleaning Up After a City: Sanitation and the Politics of Waste in Bombay (1850-1950)', 'Collections, Museums, Heritage: The Making of Bihar and its Identities', 'The Thar Desert as a Connected Space: the 18th to the 20th centuries CE', 'Capital and Community: Formation of Business Identity Among Syrian Christians of Travancore, 1890-1960', and 'Tea Plantations as an Artefact in Time: Dwelt Environments, Technological Expertise and Non-Human Movements.'



The Faculty

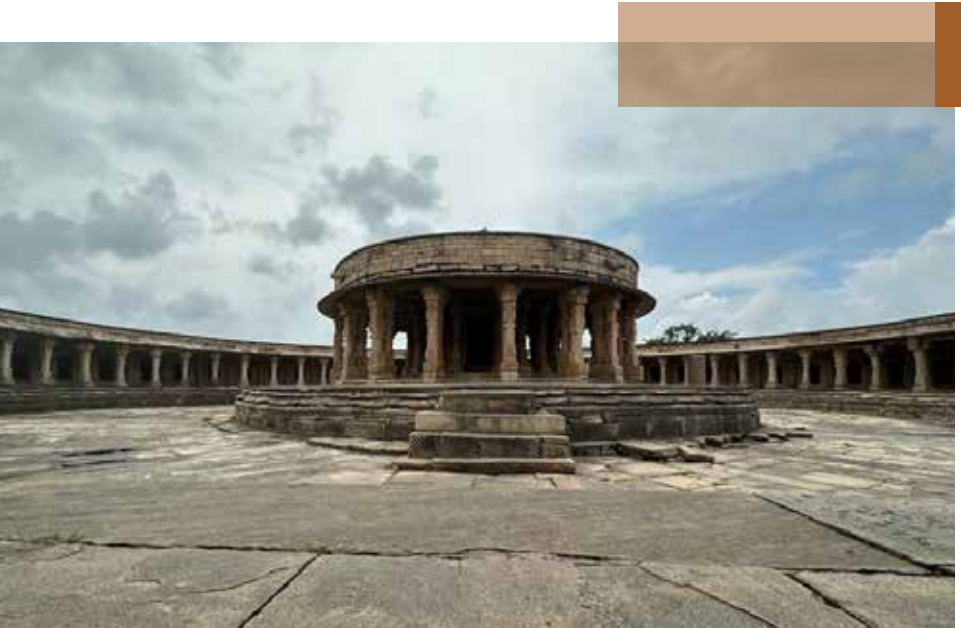
The Department is helmed by exceptional scholars and teachers. Their research has brokered new and important areas of enquiry and is highly regarded nationally and internationally. They bring teaching expertise from previous academic positions in eminent universities and academic institutions, including Tata Institute of Social Sciences, and universities of Cambridge, Delhi, Heidelberg, Gottingen and Michigan.

The Faculty nurtures the passion for deep scholarship and intellectual curiosity, and offers expertise of Pre-Colonial, Modern and Contemporary South Asia, World History, Histories of Ideas, Archaeologies of the Bronze Age and Medieval, Historical and Contemporary period, Visual History, and Curatorial and Collecting Practice.

Academic Collaborations

Students of BA (Research) at Shiv Nadar IoE can study for one semester at an overseas university and transfer the earned credits to the program they are pursuing. The placements in host institutions are facilitated by the International Office of the University.

Students of the Department have successfully completed exchange semesters at the universities of Warwick (UK) and Bologna (Italy), and Nanyang Technological University (Singapore). Additionally, the Department hosts academic partnerships, also through the MoU's of the University: with universities of Michigan and Pennsylvania (USA), Universitat Pompeu Fabra (Barcelona, Spain), The French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD, Paris) and University of Brighton (U.K).



Internships

Our students have interned with renown academic and cultural organizations such as: Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH), The Habitats Trust, Eka Resources, The Kala Chaupal Trust, Tibet Museum (Dharamshala), Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya (Bhopal), Maharaja Sawai Mansingh II Museum (Jaipur), American Institute of Indian Studies (Gurugram), All India Congress Committee (New Delhi) and India Fellow Program (Bengaluru). They have participated in the archaeological project at Mandu (M.P.), and a new collaborative Maski Archaeological Research Project (Maski, Karnataka) promises a future site for field-studies. Moreover, the Department anticipates new internship opportunities in museums and visual arts, and in education, development and livelihoods sectors.

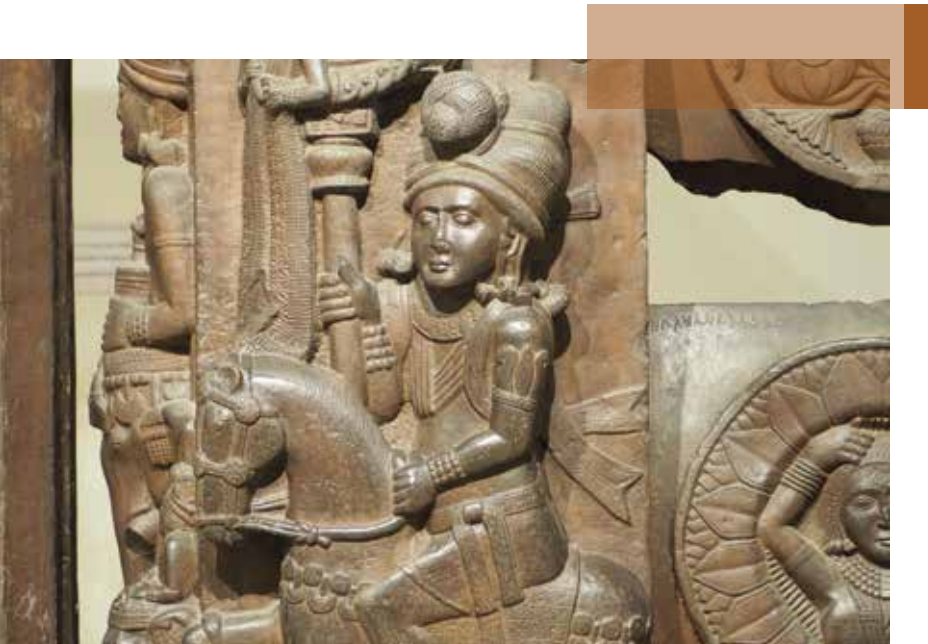
The work experience and practical skills acquired through the internships have facilitated well-placed jobs and admissions into higher education programmes, particularly in universities outside India.



Opportunities for Undergraduate Research (OUR Program)

Students start their research journeys early in Shiv Nadar IoE. Classroom projects rapidly lead to deeper academic quests, and the University's pioneering OUR program provide funding and faculty mentoring for promising pilot studies.

Over the years, our students have produced many good research papers through the OUR scheme. The versatility of the research is represented through topics such as: 'An Archaeological Ethnography of the Tibetan Community in India', 'Rock Art and Archaeology: Analysing Space and Meaning in Adamgarh', 'Curatorial Practices at the Hill Palace Museum, Cochin', 'Medieval Delhi and the Patterning of the Domestic Space', 'Effects of Territorialisation on Census Data in Madras Presidency and Mysuru', 'A Palaeobotanical Study from Rohana Khurd, Uttar Pradesh, c. 4th Century BCE - 10th Century CE', 'Analysing Heritage Making Through a Comparative Study of Humayun's Tomb and Sultan Ghari (New Delhi)', and 'Memory, Material, Museum: Investigating the Exhibition of Dissonant Histories through Partition'.



Pathway To Progress

Look around you! Top positions in many public and private institutions in India and elsewhere are held today by people with degrees in History.

The Department has trained future journalists, scientists, engineers, economists, development specialists among a host of other professionals, and it is apparent that the versatility of History and the methodological rigour required for study, also of archaeology, facilitates securing well-placed jobs.

Area Specialization opens up career opportunities in several sectors, including administration, policy research, environment, management, conservation, museums and heritage.

Student Outcomes

Our alumni excel in academic and professional fields. Many have chosen to study for an M.A. or Ph.D. in prestigious universities, such as School of Oriental and African Studies, University College London, universities of Oxford and Bristol (UK), University of Cape Town (South Africa), Northwestern University (USA), and universities of Delhi and Ambedkar (India). Others have embarked on successful professional careers in sectors ranging from the arts, law, development and management.



Devina Dimri,
M.A. Museums
Studies
University College
London, U.K.

I recently finished an MA in Museum Studies from the Institute of Archaeology, University College London. I have worked at HCL Museum, Noida, Partition Museum, Delhi, Tibet Museum, Dharamshala, Horniman Museum and Gardens and Natural History Museum, London. Over the years, I have also been fortunate to have presented my research at international conferences, in Belfast, Cambridge, Leeds and Milan. The rigorous training I received from the Department of History at Shiv Nadar IoE, and the University's OUR scheme can be credited for kindling my interest in researching museum narratives and relationships between people and their past. The fact that my training did not focus on sequences of political dynasties and dates but instead laid emphases on critical thinking and writing speaks volumes about how dynamic yet well planned the curriculum was. The Department trained me to think and question. I was taught to realise the politics and subjectivities that come with history writing and to navigate, acknowledge and investigate these. These key learnings have informed my choice of work in museums, and provide reasons for me to make a career in research and academia.



Prapti Panda,
Ph.D. Candidate,
Department of
Archaeology,
Northwestern
University, Illinois,
USA

After graduating from Shiv Nadar IoE, I currently work as a Learning Resource Coordinator at The Language Unschool, Portugal (TLU). TLU is an application-based online program geared toward teaching Portuguese to adults. My role involves researching linguistics and foreign-language acquisition to create more effective learning strategies. I also lead reading and writing workshops, prepare teaching material, and curate collections of language resources for groups ranging from 10-40 people, all of whom come from diverse regional and linguistic backgrounds. As an undergraduate student at Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence, I learned how to independently read, interpret, and apply published research, which has been essential in my work. Coursework in History and other social sciences, with its focus on developing critical observation skills and understanding contemporary society, has helped me appreciate and accommodate cultural differences in TLU's student body. But perhaps most importantly, my undergraduate training helped me develop strong writing and communication skills, which are intrinsic to my job role today.'



Angel Roy Thomas,
MA, History of Art
University College
London, UK

I graduated with a Bachelor of Arts (Research) in History degree from Shiv Nadar Institute of Eminence, where I developed my critical thinking skills, research, and academic writing in the discipline of History. Throughout the degree, I carried out research independently through the Opportunities for Undergraduate Research (OUR) project and my final dissertation, which spanned a year. The course structure enabled me to undertake a double minor in Communication and Sociology, which facilitated an interdisciplinary study and opened up new sources and ways of thinking that I bring to my study of the History of Art. I am currently pursuing a Masters of Arts in History of Art at University College London. I am undertaking special subject modules such as 'Vision, Tourism, and Imperialism: Art and Travel in the British Empire' and 'Race/Place: Exotic/Erotic: Difference and Desire in Modernist and Contemporary Art.' My research interests in the areas of race, gender, and colonialism are strongly influenced by visual material and scholarly work that was introduced to me during my time at Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence.'



Zaffer War,
Commonwealth
Master Fellowship,
MA, Modern
South Asian Studies,
University of Oxford
UK

Applying to and choosing Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence in 2017 was a risk for me knowing next to nothing about the University. Looking back, it was probably the best decision that I made. For me, the History Department of Shiv Nadar Institution of Eminence had the best Faculty I have studied under and is on par with the likes of the University of Oxford. My Undergraduate degree in History taught me to think independently and creatively, and the standards of teaching and coursework were of the highest level, ensuring that I have never been out of my depth, irrespective of my environment. I have recently graduated with an MSc in Modern South Asian Studies from the University of Oxford and was awarded the Commonwealth Master's Scholarship. I have recently started working with ETI Services as a Research Assistant. In addition, I am hoping to start a Ph.D. and have applied to various universities, including Harvard, Stanford, and Berkeley. The History Department has played a vital role in my development as an individual and a student of History. I have the Faculty to thank for standing by me within the classroom and throughout my journey with compassion and empathy that I had never envisioned.'

I owe my fascination with and commitment to the discipline of history to the Department of History & Archaeology. As an undergraduate student (2016–2020), I had the opportunity to learn history from some of the best practitioners of the discipline. As someone who had no humanities background in school, the faculty members, with the utmost care and attention, cultivated in me and many others the critical sensibilities and dispositions required to acknowledge and appreciate the complexities of the past. The history curriculum at Shiv Nadar IoE is distinct from most of the undergraduate history programmes offered in India. Students are trained not only in history but also in disciplines such as archaeology and museum studies. This allowed me to question narrow, artificial chronological labels such ‘ancient’, ‘medieval’ and ‘modern institutionalised by history departments across India, and think of the past from different vantage points. Disciplines such as archaeology equipped me with tools and methodologies to visualise and imagine our deep past. Similarly, Museum Studies provided me with an axis to think about categories as broad as culture, politics, and economy through the politics of objects. It is because of this training that I decided to pursue the discipline for my higher education. In the end, I would say what I appreciate most about the department is not only the rigour they bring to their teaching but also the way they cater to the needs of each student when it comes to learning. This is the reason why I decided to come back to the department to pursue a Ph.D. in history.



Vaibhav Srivastava
Ph.D candidate, Department of History & Archaeology,
Shiv Nadar IoE

Admissions Eligibility

Bachelor of Arts (Research)

Program	Selection Criteria	Class 12 th Eligibility
History	SNUSAT Score + Interview	Aggregate of best 4 academic subjects in the marksheet must be $\geq 65\%$ (must include English)
	CUET 2024 Score + Interview	
	Valid SAT (College Board) Score	
	Valid ACT Score + Interview	

Financial Support

Funding for Tuition and Stipends are available for deserving students applying for BA (Research) History.



Contact Details

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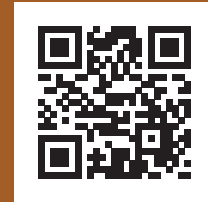
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