



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 18, 2009

UTEP History Department Creates New MA Degree for History Teachers

El Paso, Texas – The History Department at the University of Texas at El Paso is pleased to announce the creation of a new Master’s Degree in History with a concentration in History Teaching. In conjunction with the degree plan, the department has created half a dozen new courses designed specifically for persons desiring to teach history at the university, college, or secondary levels.

Candidates for the teaching concentration may complete 30 hours of coursework and an acceptable thesis or 36 hours of coursework and an acceptably revised seminar paper. Coursework will include research seminars, studies courses, supervised writing, and the new teaching courses.

“This is an exciting development for UTEP’s history department,” said Dr. Keith Erikson, director of the department’s teacher education programs. “We are strengthening our programming, training better prepared teachers, and reaching out to the community like never before.”

The department recently created a Center for History Teaching & Learning to promote scholarly teaching among department faculty, to support teacher education among our students, and to provide professional development opportunities for area social studies teachers. The Center hosts an annual summer institute for teachers, a regular social studies workshop series, and an online clearinghouse of teaching resources. All of the materials are free for students and teachers.

CONTACT:

Keith A. Erikson, Director, Center for History Teaching & Learning, kaerikson@utep.edu

URL for the new MA Program: <http://academics.utep.edu/Default.aspx?tabid=57420>

URL for the Center for History Teaching & Learning: www.utep.edu/chtl