

About History Masters Program at Trent University

3 minutes, 35 seconds in length

What do you do when you apply to a graduate school, how do you begin?

Dr. David Sheinin – Professor, History responds:

The first thing to do is in conjunction with people who teach you as an undergraduate identify works that you've read that have turned you on, where is that Professor, where is she, what University is she at? Second the and related to that, the area you might wanna workin. Is it African history, is it Labor Studies, whatever, based on the answers to that question see where people are, see what's going on at a University like Trent, but any university for that matter, and you should certainly be applying to several. Here's where I think you'll find a difference at Trent. That first email probe is crucial, what's the answer going to be? First impressions are key in my experience, tell you something about the program that you'll find if you get a strong response up front think about that. It might be worth committing to and I think it generally is whereas if you don't, if you're not responded to quickly, if you get a couple of lines in response, that might be a red flag for you

Student comments on their experience at Trent University

Andrea Samoli – Student, History:

Trent has been a fantastic place for an MA. It's a lot different from the U of A which is where I came from, so University of Alberta is a very large institution you know 35,000 students, so it was really nice to come someplace smaller the Trent has, you can actually talk to your professors, you actually know people in the department, that it feels a lot different and a lot more personal. There's something really special about being able to dedicate so much of your time to reading and discussing with other people.

The Graduate studies are just, they're a step up in beyond fourth year level seminar, and just reading 500, 600, 700 pages up text in a week that you don't think you can get through it at the beginning when you start and then you realize you can and you realize how much information you can absorb at one time how well you can put things together.

Why come to Trent University

Dr. David Sheinin:

If you come to Trent, and if you do a thesis, you're guaranteed two years of funding. That is not true for a majority of universities in Ontario Canada and let's face it it's a big advantage for Trent. That is to say if you come to Trent, a combination of grants, fellowship, teaching assistantship, which is wonderful experience teaching a classroom, and remission of tuition and fees, so you come to Trent you get in, you're on a full ride for two years. If you do thesis. If you enter the major research paper or MRP stream you get that same for ride for one year. The thesis is a longer researching writing project and more or less it mimics the exercise and prepares the student for the exercise of writing a book. So its a longer piece of work perhaps up to 120 pages with chapters. The major research paper shorter and that exercise mimics the writing of a professional and scholarly article.

Apply now

Andrea Samoli

Apply early and don't be afraid to contact a potential supervisor. I mean it can be pretty scary when they're big names in their field but I found people at Trent extremely approachable and very happy to correspond with you very happy to answer questions.