
Katharine Dahlstrand '11 & '13 Alumnus

MAJOR: History

DEGREE: Bachelor of Arts in English with a History Minor, 2011
Masters in History, 2013

CURRENT POSITION: PhD candidate and teaching assistant at the University of Georgia

FIRST JOB: Upon completion of my MA, I worked as an adjunct history professor at Palm Beach State College and Northwood University. A December graduate, these positions allowed me to get my feet wet in the field I want to pursue while I waited to hear about admission to doctoral programs.



BIGGEST CHALLENGES: Walking the fine line between academic goals and my personal life. Giving my attention to one always left me feeling guilty about the other and both will always be important. Luckily, I am married to a man who understands how important my professional goals are and encourages me throughout the process.

BEST FAU MEMORY: Spending time with incredible people within any given office in the History Department. The TA office was always a relaxed place where colleagues offered support, laughs, and new ideas. The offices of the professors were always open and welcoming, pushing me to think outside the box and consider alternate approaches. The history department main office had the smiling face of Zella Linn and I always knew where to go if I had a university (or life) problem.

ROLE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY PLAYED IN YOUR CAREER:

The History Department at FAU provided the definitive turning point in my life. I walked into a classroom, as an undergraduate, an English major with a piqued interest in history. I walked out of that classroom with an understanding that American History would be what I researched and studied for the rest of my life. Dr. Stephen Engle converted me and I've never looked back. His

support and encouragement, coupled with the rest of the faculty, ensured that I was making the right decision in pursuing academia.

GOAL: To earn my PhD at the University of Georgia, find a tenure-tracked position at a university, and hopefully make a difference in the classroom and in my writing.

FAVORITE BOOK: *The Burden of Southern History* by C. Vann Woodward

PERSONAL: I'm a happily married Veteran with three dogs who is ready to change the world while wearing a Peyton Manning jersey.