The Master of Arts Degree in History Program at Arkansas Tech University has been designed along the recommendations of the American Historical Association's Committee on the Master's Degree, which developed several essential "elements of mastery" that should be expected from a history master's degree. While the ATU Program prepares students for doctoral programs in the field, it also conforms to the AHA Committee's position that M.A. program graduates should be "educated history generalists."

**GOAL ONE:** A graduate of the M.A. in History program at Arkansas Tech University should possess a base of historical knowledge, combining both a breadth and depth of knowledge; a familiarity with multiple historiographic traditions; and the ability to synthesize different types of historical knowledge such as might be required to construct a survey course.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE A:** A graduate of the M.A. in History program at Arkansas Tech University should be able to weigh competing historical interpretations carefully and to understand the methodological assumptions, biases, and pressures that shape those interpretations.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE B:** A graduate of the M.A. in History program at Arkansas Tech University should be able to demonstrate appropriate knowledge in the field of either United States history or modern European history as a primary focus, and demonstrate appropriate knowledge in the field of United States, modern European, world, or public history as a secondary focus.

**GOAL TWO:** A graduate of the M.A. in History program at Arkansas Tech University should possess research and presentation skills, evidenced by the completion of a substantial research project.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE A:** A graduate of the M.A. in History program at Arkansas Tech University should be able to conduct research in appropriate primary-source collections.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE B:** A graduate of the M.A. in History program at Arkansas Tech University should be able to demonstrate proficiency in research methods, including reasoning, problem-solving, and the synthesis of ideas, as well as the ability to identify, analyze, and evaluate primary and secondary sources.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE C:** A graduate of the M.A. in History program at Arkansas Tech University should be able to produce scholarly written works that demonstrate evidence of critical stance and the ability to place work in the context of relevant scholarship.

**GOAL THREE:** A graduate of the M.A. in History program at Arkansas Tech University should possess a solid introduction to historical pedagogy.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE:** A graduate of the M.A. in History program at Arkansas Tech University should be able to demonstrate skills relevant to the teaching of a college-level survey course, including the ability to present lectures, or lead a class discussion, or deliver learning modules for an online course.

**GOAL FOUR:** A graduate of the M.A. in History program at Arkansas Tech University should possess the foundations for a professional identity as a historian, including a familiarity with the historical development of the discipline, an introduction to ethical standards and practices, and an awareness of the multiple contexts of professional practice. Master's programs should promote collaboration and provide a model for collaborative work among historians.

**LEARNING OBJECTIVE:** A graduate of the M.A. in History program at Arkansas Tech University should be able to present effectively a scholarly research paper to an audience.