Oral and Public History (Open Rank):

Virginia Tech’s Department of History invites applications for a position at all tenure-track and tenured ranks (Assistant/Associate/Professor) in Oral and Public History. This position is part of a robust, diverse cluster of faculty contributing to transdisciplinary research, teaching, and outreach initiatives that align with the university’s Global Systems Science Destination Area.

Responsibilities:
The successful candidate will contribute to research, teaching, and service and outreach in ways that support History Department objectives and contribute to the Global Systems Science Destination Area. Some possible areas of specialization include Environmental History, Digital History, Appalachian History, Local or Regional History, Agricultural History, or the History of Science, Technology, or Medicine. Preference will be given to applicants who have managed projects with community partners, museums, or libraries and who have a record of success securing external funding. The successful candidate will teach courses at the undergraduate and graduate level in Oral and Public history and other areas related to their expertise, contribute to innovative curricula, identify and supervise internship opportunities, and mentor undergraduate and graduate students. The normal teaching load in the History Department is two courses per semester. The new faculty member will also contribute to the university’s service and outreach missions by building partnerships with area cultural institutions and community groups, working with regional or federal agencies, and collaborating on multidisciplinary projects.

The Global Systems Science Destination Area is focused on the transdisciplinary study of the dynamic interplay among natural and social systems. Faculty in this area are collaborating toward transdisciplinary solutions to critical social problems emergent from human activity and environmental change. Work in this area also embraces equity in the human condition by seeking the equitable distribution and availability of physical safety and well-being, psychological well-being, respect for human dignity, and access to crucial material and social resources throughout the world’s diverse communities. Visit provost.vt.edu/destination-areas.html for more information about this initiative. This position will be based on the main campus at Virginia Tech, a land-grant university in Blacksburg, Virginia, situated in the scenic New River Valley.

The successful candidate will join a team of Virginia Tech researchers working in rural communities and specializing in geography, natural resources and ecology, public health, Appalachian studies, and environmental engineering. This growing team will provide collaborative opportunities for a community of scholars taking a holistic approach to understanding the connections between human and ecological health in rural environments.

Virginia Tech recognizes the critical importance of diverse teams of scholars. Our university seeks to diversify its faculty along multiple dimensions, including those that have been historically marginalized and excluded. Virginia Tech is a public land-grant university, committed to teaching and learning, research, and outreach to the Commonwealth of Virginia, the nation, and the world. Building on its motto of Ut Prosim (that I may serve), Virginia Tech is dedicated to serving in the spirit of community, diversity, and excellence—InclusiveVT. We seek candidates who adopt and practice efforts to increase access and inclusion to create a community that nurtures learning and growth for all of its members. Virginia Tech actively seeks a broad spectrum of candidates to join our community in preparing leaders for the world.
Required Qualifications:
- A Ph.D. in History or a related field is required at the time of appointment
- Assistant Professor level candidates must show potential for significant scholarship and teaching ability, while Associate Professor or Professor level candidates must demonstrate significant scholarship and teaching ability
- Excellent communication and collaboration skills
- Commitment to engage in a campus community working to grow an inclusive culture and practices while building diversity among faculty, staff, and students
- Strong interest in, and commitment to, working with diverse populations

Preferred Qualifications:
- Interest in working across boundaries in transdisciplinary teaching, research, outreach, or mentoring initiatives
- Interest in developing and pursuing curricula and scholarly initiatives that consider issues of the human condition as a foundational element
- Experience and engagement with federally funded programs designed to broaden access or participation, or experience working with minority-serving institutions or underrepresented community organizations and programs

Application:
Applications will be accepted online at https://listings.jobs.vt.edu/postings/80310. Applicants must submit a formal cover letter addressing scholarship interests and qualifications, a brief statement describing the applicant’s interest in and experience working with diverse groups and underrepresented populations, a brief statement of teaching philosophy/experience, a brief statement of research interests/experience, a current curriculum vitae, and the names and contact information of three references who can assess the applicant’s qualifications for this position. Inquiries concerning the position or application process should be directed to Dr. Mark V. Barrow, Chair, Department of History (barrow@vt.edu). Review of applications will begin December 1, 2017.