I am a community development planner working on resident-led neighborhood improvement projects at a local non-profit.

I received tremendous support from faculty in the History Department... they provided mentorship and guidance that challenged me to be a more rigorous writer and researcher.

The department provided opportunities to be part of a community of scholarship, encouraging me to present, attend conferences, and collaborate with peers.

I would advise students to keep their eyes open for opportunities they aren't currently aware of. Travel abroad, submit a paper, go to an academic conference, work on a project that isn't necessarily listed on a syllabus.

Developing an "historical lens" on current events and conditions helped inform my decision to enter the community development field. We're working to make positive change, and having a framework to understand where we've been and how we can move forward isn't just helpful, it's necessary. I get to work with people who are working to *make* history. It's exciting stuff.