

The  
University of North  
Carolina *at* Chapel Hill  
Department of History



**Career Mentors Coalition**

*Preparing History Majors for Their  
Next Chapter*

APRIL 2021

# Overview & Purpose

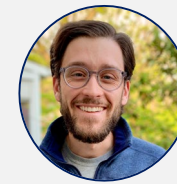
**“I’m majoring in History, but I’m considering careers that aren’t traditionally fed by this educational track. What if I want to work in investment banking?”**

This may be a question you’ve asked recently, and it’s one many of us have shared when wanting to transition to careers traditionally fed by STEM, business, marketing, or other similar majors.

**This coalition is here to tell you that your degree in History has prepared you for any career and to help you understand how to effectively market it in your post-graduation aspirations.**

Established in 2020 – a year of unprecedented uncertainty – the History Department Career Mentor Coalition is a group of former History Majors and Minors who are here to provide mentorship and guidance to those majors and minors that seek it out.

We hope this coalition serves as a valuable resource and provides an immediate professional network of Carolina individuals that share your passion for the study of History.



**Bailey White**

*Class of 2016, Founder,  
Deloitte Consulting*



UNC

Department *of* History  
Career Mentor Coalition





## *The Career Mentor Coalition*

Will Almquist   McKinsey & Company	4
Teddy Batchelder   BlackArch Partners	5
Brooke Bekoff   PwC	6
Ross Cidlowski   The LEGO Group	7
Alexis Hawk   Believe Memphis Academy	8
Alex Hodges   Owens & Minor	9
Matthew Humphries   The Link Group	10
John McColl   Jefferies	11
Justine Orlovsky-Schnitzler   Grad. Student	12
Christian Poveromo   AvidXchange	13
Jessica Sawyer   Newell Brands, LLC	14
Sarah Schauber   World Learning	15
Bailey White   Deloitte Consulting, LLP	16

### How to Use this Document:

The Coalition will not host many formal events – students interested in guidance from the mentors listed left should identify the industry of interest and contact the respective mentor.



## History Major, Class of 2016 | Engagement Manager

Will is an Engagement Manager out of McKinsey's Atlanta office with 4+ years of experience serving consumer and business to business clients on growth and commercial topics to help them reach their full potential. This service has spanned industries across travel, logistics, basic materials, retail, and consumer packaged goods .

Will believes that critical thinking and communication skills honed through a broad-based liberal arts education has been an invaluable foundation to build deeper professional expertise. Will can serve as an informal mentor to those considering careers across business sectors. This includes: general advice, resume review, thoughts on translating skills gained at Carolina into additional professional contexts.

**Contact Information:** [will.almquist@gmail.com](mailto:will.almquist@gmail.com) | [LinkedIn](#)



## History Major, Class of 2020 | M&A Analyst

Teddy is an M&A Analyst at BlackArch Partners and joined the firm after graduating in 2020. As an analyst, he focuses on sell-side transactions in the building products and infrastructure space. Prior to joining BlackArch, Teddy was an Investment Banking Summer Analyst at AGC Partners.

While at Carolina, Teddy earned a BA in History with Honors and graduated with Distinction. He is passionate about history and believes the major provided him with all the necessary tools for success in investment banking. History majors seeking careers in finance should contact Teddy for resume advice and interview preparation.

**Contact Information:** [batchelder@blackarchpartners.com](mailto:batchelder@blackarchpartners.com) | [LinkedIn](#)



## History Major, Class of 2019 | Management Consultant

Brooke is a management consultant in PwC's Asset & Wealth Management Operations Transformation Advisory practice in New York City. Brooke has served in her role since graduating UNC in 2019 with a degree in History & Political Science. Her work focuses around guiding alternative asset firms (e.g. private equity) through tech transformations and introducing tech-based strategy solutions to streamline manual processes (all things that she had no prior experience or knowledge of before joining PwC). Because of her History background, Brooke has been able to recognize patterns, to think critically, to argue for strategic solutions based on evidence, and to tell effective stories to her clients.

Brooke is passionate about helping fellow History majors and minors looking to pursue careers in consulting, finance, private equity, or business generally. As someone who felt extremely nervous and intimidated navigating the corporate recruitment process as a non-business major just a few years ago, Brooke is excited to serve as a mentor, and can help with: providing general career advice and guidance, interview preparation, resume reviews, and strategies to market non-business internship experience & skills during interviews.

**Contact Information:** [brooke.bekoff@pwc.com](mailto:brooke.bekoff@pwc.com) | [LinkedIn](#)



## History Major, Class of 2003 | Dir. of Strategy, Americas

Ross is currently the Director of Strategy, Americas for the LEGO Agency. He's focused on creating strategic value at the intersections of culture, consumption, and content. He has 18+ years of experience leading cross-functional teams to grow global brands with strategic rigor while delivering measurable results for Google, Nike, ESPN, Gatorade, Diageo, Bacardi, Pepsico, Bank of America, Merrill Lynch, and Nickelodeon among others.

Ross's experience is split across San Francisco, New York, and Boston; including time at Hill Holliday, Modernista!, Y&R, and Redscout. His work has garnered merit at Cannes, ARF, One Show, Clio, Shorty, and the Webby Awards among others.

Ross is proud native of Chapel hill, father of two imaginative little girls, a die-hard UNC basketball junkie, former member of UNC Swimming & Diving, addicted surfer, and recovering sneakerhead. Ross is willing to support history majors by providing general career advice and guidance, interview preparation, and resume / portfolio reviews.

**Contact Information:** [ross.cidlowski@LEGO.com](mailto:ross.cidlowski@LEGO.com) | [LinkedIn](#)





## History Major, Class of 2019 | Corps Member & Literacy Teacher

Alexis is in her second year of teaching foundational literacy to students in grades 4 through 7 in Memphis, Tennessee through Teach for America. She is currently in school to receive her Masters in Education from Christian Brothers University and her teacher certification in K-12 Special Education.

Alexis believes that the inquisitive, analytical nature of studying History at Carolina has allowed her to become an effective problem solver in and outside the classroom, and can serve as an informal

mentor to History majors who desire a career outside of Law and Academia. This includes: general advice and resume/cover letter review

**Contact Information:** [alexis.e.hawk@gmail.com](mailto:alexis.e.hawk@gmail.com) | [LinkedIn](#)







## History Major, Class of 1990 | VP of Marketing & Global Strategy

Alex is the VP of Marketing & Global Strategy for the Global Products Division of Owens & Minor, a leader in advancing healthcare through the manufacturing and distribution of medical products and services. He has been on the front lines in responding to the global demand for Personal Protective Equipment during COVID-19 with industry leading infection prevention products under the Halyard brand.

His career spans over 30 years of marketing, innovation, and general management roles at both consumer and B2B companies including Glaxo SmithKline, Eastman Kodak, Russell Athletic, Kimberly-Clark, and Halyard Heath. He has lived and worked in Latin America and Europe and is fluent in Spanish.

Alex graduated with Highest Honors following his thesis on the role of Josephus Daniels in precipitating the Wilmington massacre of African Americans in 1898. He was a strong advocate for the removal of Daniels' name from the UNC student stores in 2020. Alex is a firm believer that his history degree instilled the critical thinking, research, and communication skills that have translated to a fulfilling career in global business. He welcomes the opportunity to serve as a mentor for career guidance in any capacity.

**Contact Information:** [alexwhodges@yahoo.com](mailto:alexwhodges@yahoo.com) | [LinkedIn](#)



## History Major, Class of 2013 | Research Director

Matthew is a Research Director at The Link Group, an AMA Top 50 Marketing Research Consultancy with offices in Atlanta, GA and Durham, NC. Over the last 7 years, Matthew has delivered consumer insights to his clients across a myriad of industries through both qualitative and quantitative marketing research initiatives. Today, Matthew specializes in healthcare marketing research, leading individual interviews, focus groups, and advisory boards with patients, physicians, and Key Opinion Leaders to help shape brand strategy for clients who work for some of the largest pharmaceutical companies in the world.

Matthew wholeheartedly believes that his studies in the History Department helped shape the analytical and critical thinking skills needed to thrive in his career. Collecting and synthesizing feedback from customers – and meaningfully translating those learnings into actionable insights for his clients – is largely facilitated by the research tools he gleaned during his time at UNC. Beyond influencing the WAY he thinks, Matthew's experiences as a History major have also informed WHAT he knows about the world; a critical lever in conducting effective global research.

**Contact Information:** [matthew@tlg.com](mailto:matthew@tlg.com) | [LinkedIn](#)



## History Major, Class of 2013 | Investment Banking Associate

John is currently an Investment Banking Associate in the Mergers & Acquisitions group at Jefferies. Based in New York, John advises clients in the Industrial, Consumer & Retail and Technology verticals. Prior to joining Jefferies, John worked as an analyst at Morgan Stanley in Atlanta, where he was a member of a private-wealth management team that managed \$1.3 billion in assets for high net worth families, private business owners, and professional athletes and coaches. John is a proud “double Tar Heel”, receiving his MBA from Kenan-Flagler in 2019 and graduating from the University of North Carolina in 2013 with a B.A. in History.

John looks forward to serving as an informal mentor to those History majors who may be interested in pursuing a career in Finance or any other path outside of Law and Academia. This includes: general career guidance and advice, interview preparation and resume review.

**Contact Information:** [mccolljohn10@gmail.com](mailto:mccolljohn10@gmail.com) | [LinkedIn](#)



## History Major, Class of 2017 | Graduate Student

Justine Orlovsky-Schnitzler is a second-year graduate student in Folklore at UNC-Chapel Hill, researching the music of Jewish partisans as performed for a modern audience. Prior to beginning graduate school, she worked with No More Deaths/No Más Muertes in Arizona.

Justine would not have enrolled in a master's program without having cultivated the analytic, research, and writing skills provided through studying History at Carolina—but also believes firmly that her History degree was invaluable for her work outside of the academia, too. She's happy to mentor anyone interested in pursuing advanced degrees in the humanities, as well as advise on finding meaningful employment in so-called nontraditional fields.

**Contact Information:** [justineschnitzler@gmail.com](mailto:justineschnitzler@gmail.com)





## B.A. History 17', MAC 18' | Senior Financial Analyst

Christian is a Senior Financial Analyst within the FP&A group at AvidXchange, a privately held tech company in Charlotte, NC. He supports operational partners within the company and provides financial insight/support to various department leaders to help align operations and finance.

Christian enjoyed his time as a History major at Carolina. He never aspired to study History, but he had taken several history classes at UNC in order to fulfill graduation requirements and really enjoyed the critical thinking that the History classes challenged him to bring. That led to him running with the idea of a History degree, much to the chagrin of his parents (only kidding!). He knew that he would enjoy his studies as a History major and would become a better analytical thinker, something that he would benefit from regardless of the career path he chose.

Christian is happy to be a resource for students at Carolina who are hungry for career advice or just need someone to talk to about career planning. Christian also worked as the Head Student Manager for the football team at Carolina and welcomes any and all discussions that pertain to Carolina Athletics.

**Contact Information:** [cpoveromo13@gmail.com](mailto:cpoveromo13@gmail.com) | [LinkedIn](#)



## History Minor, Class of 2015 | Global Brand Manager

Jessica is a Brand Manager with 5+ years of international experience within the consumer products goods industry at Newell Brands. Newell Brands is a distributor of consumer and commercial products with a portfolio of brands including Sharpie, Graco, Coleman, Mr. Coffee, Yankee Candle, Rubbermaid, Ball and many more. Although based out of Atlanta, the brands she has led span sales across the globe often requiring working with coworkers and distributors outside of the US and requiring international travel. Today, she leads brand strategy and product development for the Baby Jogger brand, a global baby gear brand that specializes in strollers.

Jessica feels strongly that the experience she gained from studying History at Carolina has enabled success in understanding how culture affects international business in terms of communication, etiquette and organizational hierarchy. She is available to serve as an informal mentor to History majors and minors who desire to pursue careers outside of Law and Academia and are interested in brand marketing, brand strategy and international business. This includes: general advice, advice regarding Atlanta, interview preparation and resume reviews.

**Contact Information:** [jessica.sawyer@newellco.com](mailto:jessica.sawyer@newellco.com) | [LinkedIn](#)





## History Major, Class of 2017 | Senior Program Associate

Sarah is a Senior Program Associate at World Learning in Washington, DC, where she implements the U.S. Department of State-sponsored International Visitor Leadership Program (here: <https://eca.state.gov/ivlp>). Prior to joining World Learning (as an intern!), Sarah completed a term of service with AmeriCorps in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where she worked in Refugee Resettlement.

Sarah is grateful for all of the mentors she had along the way, including many in the UNC History department, and is eager to be a resource for fellow History students and alumni. She can provide informational interviews and/or general advice on entering the non-profit world, assist with interview preparation, and review resumes and cover letters.

**Contact Information:** [sarah.schaubert@gmail.com](mailto:sarah.schaubert@gmail.com) | [LinkedIn](#)



## History Major, Class of 2016 | Senior Consultant

Bailey is Senior Consultant with 4.5+ years of experience serving government clients in Washington, DC and Los Angeles on organizational and workforce transformations, specifically leading clients to the identification of levers that must be pulled to enact significant change at the core of organizations. This service has spanned clients at the Federal, State, and Local level, with key clients including the Department of Homeland Security, the State of California, and local government entities in Los Angeles.

Some of Bailey's fondest memories are tied to his studies of History at Carolina. Whether it be a year of in-depth study of North Carolina history or working to master Air and Sea Power with Dr. Caddell, Bailey feels strongly that the analytical thinking gained from pursuing a History major at Carolina has enabled success in consulting, and can serve as a mentor to those majors who desire to pursue careers outside of Law and Academia. His guidance can include: general advice, pathways into the consulting industry, interview preparation, resume review, and thoughts on how to market the skills you've gained studying history to employers in any field.

**Contact Information:** [bawhite@deloitte.com](mailto:bawhite@deloitte.com) | [LinkedIn](#)



# Thank You!

---

Questions? Please Contact:

**Dr. Brett Whalen**

Dir. Undergraduate Studies  
[bwhalen@email.unc.edu](mailto:bwhalen@email.unc.edu)

**Bailey White**

Coalition Founder  
[Bawhite@Deloitte.com](mailto:Bawhite@Deloitte.com)

