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# Jessica Swigger (PhD '08) Talks About How Steve Hoelscher Inspired Her Career

by joshkopin

**AMS :: ATX** is a blog dedicated to representing the many activities and interests of the department of American Studies at The University of Texas at Austin. Together with the department's Twitter feed, this blog exists to serve the AMS and Austin communities by acting as a hub for up-to-date information on events and opportunities at UT and beyond.

In a  
short  
post  
featured  
on the  
Pearson  
website,





Jessica  
Swigger  
(PhD  
'08)

describes how UT AMS Faculty Steve Hoelscher has inspired her in her career as a professor. We've included an excerpt below. Congratulations to Jessica and Steve!

*"Steve informed everything about how I approach my job," Jessie, an associate professor of history at Western Carolina University, said about her inspirational professor.*

*Jessie first met Steve when she took his Memory and Place course at the University of Texas (UT), Austin. "The point of the course is to examine how members within different cultures and societies do certain things to remember a shared past as well as to forget a shared past," explained Steve, a professor of American Studies.*

*"I was really inspired by that class," Jessie recalled. "Steve*



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*was studying the kind of things that I was interested in.” His enthusiasm for the subject was infectious, and it sparked her interest in public history, the way history is put to work in the world in fields like museum curatorship and historic preservation. Jessie eventually decided to specialize in this area of American Studies, writing her dissertation on the history of Henry Ford’s Greenfield Village and choosing Steve as her advisor.*

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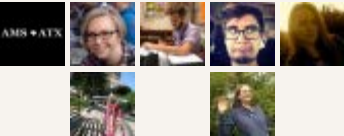
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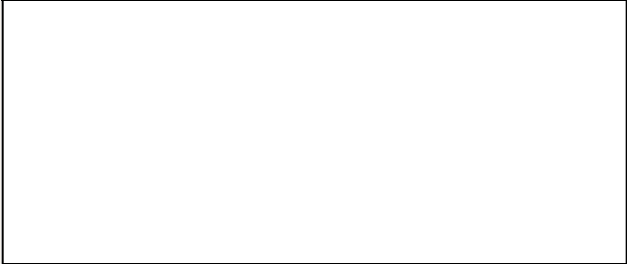


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