

GRADUATE PROFILE:



STEPHEN

HISTORY

WHAT SUBJECTS DID YOU STUDY PRIOR TO ARRIVING IN DURHAM?

A levels in History, Ancient History and Economics

WHAT WERE THE HIGHLIGHTS OF STUDYING AT DURHAM?

I really enjoyed a second year course on the Italian City states which looked at art as well as political history, and particularly an essay on whether Leonardo's achievements as a painter marked a watershed in the history of Renaissance art! A third year course on the Enlightenment was also engaging. I guess I am a europhile.

Of course the real highlight was meeting my wife who studied history too! We're still together 41 years later.

WHAT WAS THE TOPIC OF YOUR DISSERTATION?

I did not do a dissertation but my final year special subject (two papers) was Gentry and Aristocracy 1485-1640.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING NOW AND HOW DID YOUR DEGREE HELP PREPARE YOU?

I became a chartered accountant and then a finance director. Today I am a non executive director of a number of different styles of organisation - private, public and third sector. In all my roles being able to assimilate significant amount of information, to think critically and to present clearly have been really important.

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR PROSPECTIVE APPLICANTS TO HISTORY AT DURHAM?

There is lots to look at within a History degree. Find a subject that interests you and you will enjoy it.