

COLLEGE of CHARLESTON

SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

HSS Scholar

Joseph Bradshaw

MAJOR: HISTORY

MINOR: ASIAN STUDIES

Educational Highlights: I have maintained an overall 3.78 GPA and a 3.9 GPA within my major. In 2011, I received the Albert R. Simonds Special Merit Award and the Douglas and Elizabeth Clark Memorial Scholarship. In 2012, I was inducted into the College of Charleston's chapter of *Phi Alpha Theta*, the History Honors Society.

Research Focus or Project: I am currently working on a project titled "Coasting Lower Guinea African Markets and Atlantic Connections," that examines the transatlantic trade in gold and slaves along the Lower Guinea Coast in the early 18th century. The project illustrates the use of a British trading stratagem called "coasting" in which traders sailed down the area of what is now the Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo and Benin, purchasing slaves, gold and ivory at a number of ports, and then selling as many slaves as possible to Portuguese vessels for Brazilian gold. I hope to demonstrate a connection between gold markets and this region of Africa's increased reliance on the Atlantic Slave Trade.

Future Plans: I was accepted directly to a Ph.D. program in African history at Michigan State University and received five years of full funding. I will begin my program next fall. I plan to continue studying Africa's connections to the Atlantic World and eventually become a professor of African history.



This award presented by Maureen Hays, Interim Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, and the Department of History at the College of Charleston on the 10th day of May 2013.