

Thank you for submitting an application for the MU-MUSE Program. Below is your submission.

**Student Name** [REDACTED]

millersville university, 229 reighard hall

Millersville, PA 17551

US

**Major** Multidisciplinary Studies (BA)

**Overall GPA** 3.89

**GPA in Major** 4.00

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**Faculty Mentor** Clarence Maxwell

**Faculty Department** History

**Faculty MU Email** clarence.maxwell@millersville.edu

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**Project Title** Privateering, Smuggling, and Diplomacy

**Starting Date** 06/14/2019

**Ending Date** 08/23/2019

**Other Funding for this project**

Other

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**Project Abstract:**

The succession from one ruler to the next is often a time of crucial observation for historians. This research project will be looking at the transition from Queen Elizabeth of England to King James I, specifically on the development of foreign policies. The policies we will be looking at specifically pertain to smuggling, piracy, and privateering and how it impacted both Bermuda and the Dutch. Traveling to Bermuda will provide the key aspects for the primary sources both archaeological and in writing. Paired with an internship at the National Museum the research will be a vivid account emerged in the country of impact so many years ago. There are many shipwrecks that have washed up on the Bermudan shore that are remnants of Dutch privateering ships that the peoples of Bermuda tore apart piece by piece for scavenging while saving the crew. The impact and enforcement of these foreign policies left a large area for the conceptualization that the transition had on all three countries.

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**Attached:**

Grant Uploaded

Project Narrative

Faculty Letter of Endorsement

cc: Faculty Mentor

MUSE Committee

For as long as I can remember history has always been a passion of mine. Often I found it difficult to concentrate in school but the one thing that has always clicked for me was history. I found solace in the continuous learning process of the subject that was abstract from any rules as well as the ability to hold a constant debate on the ‘what if’ history defining moments. For most of my academic career before college, I found myself entranced by the Mediterranean world, the mythology as well as the very beginnings of a government we attempt to idolize. However, this all changed when I decided to continue my academic career here at Millersville University. Since beginning my classes here I have found my new passion in history, the Atlantic world. As part of the university’s Honor College, I was fortunate enough to take ‘History of Ideas’ which introduced me to this topic. This research project for my thesis grants me the opportunity to further my knowledge and passion on this subject.

To be in the profession of history you have to be both detail-oriented as well as a diligent worker whos up to debate and interpret various texts and research. These skills are extraordinarily valuable to possess in a multitude of subjects and these are skills which I came to college with after over a decade of being a Girl Scout. The summer before attending Millersville University as a freshman I was honored to have received my Gold Award, which is the highest award bestowed on a girl in the program and it taught me these lessons which I have been able to improve upon by holding a leadership position within the Honors College Student Association. My passion for this research and knowledge propels me to crave the ability to absorb all the information I could be able to get while being abroad on this internship.

Being apart of MU-MUSE would provide me with an immense feeling of reassurance for the remainder of my academic career beyond my undergraduate. After the completion of this

research for my thesis as well as the internship, I look forward to presenting my findings to my peers and hopefully introducing and sparking a new interest amongst them. As a historian, research is crucial to formulating new theories as well as piecing together an adequate representation of the past. The internship and research project in conjunction with my thesis advisor will help me to develop and solidify techniques that extend into the rest of my career. The purpose of this research is to examine the succession from one ruler to the next and the effect that transition had on the foreign policy at that time. The research will be primarily focused on the reign of King James I of England who marked the transition of piracy, smuggling and privateering from a “[n]efarious act” as Bermuda’s Governor Nathaniel Butler stated, to a form of foreign policy for both the English and the Dutch. The new updated foreign policy comes from a period of immense, unexpected profit from the Elizabethan era as well as a decline in Spanish power. At the center of this, is the island of Bermuda which at this time was colonized by the British empire, and under the rule of both Queen Elizabeth and King James I. This research will aim to provide answers to numerous questions such as what the foreign policy was under King James I and how it differed from Queen Elizabeth and why it had such a profound effect throughout English, Dutch, and Bermudian history. Privateering, piracy, and smuggling made popular under the reign of Queen Elizabeth would become a precedent for her successor after her death. These tactics under King James I transitioned from an unknown, surprising source of income to an exceedingly profitable foreign policy. The island of Bermuda is home to an abundant amount of shipwrecks, more commonly the Dutch pinnace or warship which was found wrecked on the islands Morgan bay. The Dutch ship provides a unique opportunity to

examine the material remains of this time period as well as present answers for the study mentioned above.

The tools used to collect research on the foreign policy of these nations is multidisciplinary in its essence. The archaeological finds are the cornerstone to the historical documents preserved from this time. By conducting both an accurate chronology as well as historiography we are able to piece together the similarities and differences between the foreign policies from Queen Elizabeth and King James I as well as determine the impact these policies had not only on Bermuda but the empires surrounding England. There is a myriad of first-hand accounts from this time from not only the monarchs who created the policy such as the 'Rich papers' but, the governors of Bermuda as well as privateers, and smugglers themselves. Using these resources in addition to the research produced by other historians we are able to create an accurate representation of the impact of these activities and policies coincided.

The expected outcome of this research project is to gain more knowledge regarding the subject matter and to answer the research questions proposed. After the completion of the internship, I hope to present at Made in Millersville as well as any other opportunity that presents itself. I will also be attempting to publish an abridged version of my thesis into the *Bermuda Journal of Archaeology and Maritime History* with the help of my advisor. I look forward to sharing both my research and thesis with everyone around me and will seek out opportunities to do so.

Over the course of the ten weeks in the summer I will complete the remainder of my secondary sources needed to find the correct primary sources for my research. Following that, I will travel to Bermuda to begin my internship at the National Museum of Bermuda. While interning I will go to the National Archives with my advisor and learn how to properly conduct research there

and find primary sources for my thesis. After the completion of my internship and research, I will compile all of the documents and sources to formulate a cohesive thesis to answer the research questions from above. Once finished with my thesis and the defense portion is over I will be presenting it at Made in Millersville in 2020 and begin to focus on getting my work published in the *Bermuda Journal of Archaeology and Maritime History*.

Department of History  
Phone: 717-872-3555  
Fax: 717-871-2485

To whom it may concern:

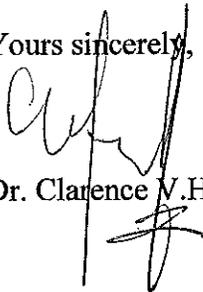
██████████ is currently completing a BA degree in multidisciplinary studies/Atlantic World. She is presently undertaking research within the ambit of Atlantic history, focusing on the development of seventeenth-century privateering and piracy as a political tool. This she is developing into an Honours thesis under my supervision.

██████████ had demonstrated keen abilities in writing and research. She was formerly in my SSCI 203 History of Ideas class, in which the A reflected her mastery of each. She has begun her work on privateering with an exhaustive study and analysis of secondary literature related to this period, and has developed a comprehensive understanding of the politics and diplomacy in the early British Atlantic. Toward that end she has enrolled in HIST 401 Cultural Interactions across the Atlantic World to broaden her understanding.

This grant will allow her to intern at the National Museum of Bermuda and, as part of a research group, access primary materials at the Bermuda National Archives as well as archaeological data at the National Museum. None of this material is accessible elsewhere.

It is my pleasure to provide any further information that will support her application, and I thank you for your kind attention to this letter.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. Clarence V.H. Maxwell.