



Wendy Giere-Frye
AA in Psychology, May 2011
BA in History, May 2014

Resides: McDonough, Georgia
Hometown: Rochester, Minnesota

Honors:

Honors Program Graduate	2014
Summa cum Laude	2011 & 2014
Phi Alpha Theta Honors Society	2014
Phi Theta Kappa Honors Society	2010
TAGS President	2010-2011
Best Paper Gordon Symposium	2012
Best Paper Honors Council Conference	2014

Brief Bio:

It was blind faith that made me return to college in my forties as a first generation scholar. I returned with the purpose of formalizing my education so that I could formalize my education so that I could continue the work I performed as a volunteer chaplain on a professional level. I have dyslexia and so I was not convinced I could make it through college algebra, let alone four years of college. I chose my “two-year plan” at Gordon because I believed I needed the intimacy of a smaller school, one where I could complete two years and gain the confidence to transfer to a four-year institution.

When I was conferred my AA in psychology in 2011, I had expected to leave Gordon because they did not have a four year program, and in order to pursue peace psychology, I had to move on. I joked with my husband that if Gordon ever got a psychology or history program, I’d stay at Gordon. Not a week later, the divine happened, and I was asked to consider staying on at Gordon State College because they had just been conferred approval for a BA program in history the subsequent fall.

In 2014, I graduated with my BA in history and was accepted into a graduate program at Georgia State University to pursue my Master’s and PhD. It was only through the tutelage of the professors at Gordon State College that this became possible. Attending Gordon State College was the best decision of my life. I will be a lifelong advocate, and while Gordon did not miraculously get a master’s program in history, I was blessed to be able to give back to Gordon the way they gave to me. In September I began working part time within the Department of History and Political Science as an Academic Service Assistant, so I get to remain at Gordon while working on my MA/PhD at Georgia State University. Who said you can’t have your cake and eat it too? Feel free to come see me in Russell Hall 102A!