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The Institute for Historical Research (IHR) at the University of the Western Cape initiates, conducts and promotes research and teaching of Southern African history, particularly the history of the Cape, from pre-colonial times to the present. ...

An important component of the IHR, the Mayibuye Centre for History of Apartheid, resistance, social life and culture in Southern Africa, collects and maintains archival material, films, videos and photographs, visual arts holdings and audio-taped interviews.

The IHR believes that South African History - how the past is understood and represented - is of heightened importance during the current transitional context. Fundamental questions about the origins and development of South African society will continue to make searching demands of historical scholarship. The IHR hopes to play its part in responding to such demands; in stimulating debate within the academic discipline; and in developing an informed historical awareness in the public at large. The IHR publishes an accredited academic journal, KRONOS: Journal of Cape History. Other research findings have been published in **book form or as occasional papers**. The IHR has established its own archives and documentation centre on the main campus. It also serves as the official archive of the University of the Western Cape. Other items in its collections include books, manuscripts, newspapers, private and public papers, and microfilm material on Family History & Genealogy of people of Khoisan and slave descent. The IHR also houses the documentary collection of its component, the Mayibuye Centre; these include organizational and private collections, press clippings and periodicals, and microfilm material. The IHR cooperates closely with the Department of History and its Research Staff teach courses at graduate and postgraduate level in the Department. The IHR, in partnership with the Robben Island Museum Training Program and teaching departments at UWC and UCT, offers a postgraduate Diploma in Heritage and Museum Studies as part of the Institute's Public History Program. The IHR/Kagiso School History Textbooks Series project is since 1996 based at the IHR.

The IHR, jointly with the Department of History, conducts a seminar on South African History and Contemporary History. The IHR is under the supervision of a Board of Management to which it reports its research programme and activities, and submits an annual budget. The IHR and its component, the Mayibuye Centre, welcome academic contacts and visitors. Anyone interested is cordially invited to contact the Director or other staff and/or pay a visit to the IHR.

TO SUMMARIZE: the IHR's primary responsibility is to conduct and promote research and teaching of South African and, especially, Cape history. It seeks also to play a vigorous role in shaping how the past is