Howard University

Department of History
Graduate Bulletin

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Revised August 18, 2013
Table of Contents

Introduction 2

Mission Statement 3

Graduate Program

  Degrees Offered 4
  Admissions Policies 4
  Financial Assistance 5
  General Requirements 6
  Guidelines for Graduate Courses 7
  The Master of Arts Program 9
  The Ph.D. Program 13
  African Diaspora History 19
  Public History Program 22
    Advising Procedures 25
  Evaluation and Dismissal 25
  Appeal of Academic Decisions 26
  Courses 27
Introduction

The Graduate Program of Study in the History Department reflects the Department’s concurrent commitment to (1) an accurate reconstruction and interpretation of the collective experiences of the world’s people and (2) a special emphasis on African America, Africa, and the African Diaspora. These concordant concerns are in keeping with Howard University’s unique character and role as a major American university with a predominantly black constituency.

The program is designed to allow for both diversity and specialization and is sufficiently flexible to permit the students to have a significant role in selecting courses that fulfill specific degree requirements. The Department offers major and minor fields in African, Latin American/Caribbean, and United States history for the MA and PhD degrees. Students may select Modern European history or Public History as major fields for the MA degree or as minor fields for the PhD. Students may also create a program, which is a combination of courses and research projects that will enable them to specialize in African American, African Diaspora, Public, Comparative, or Women’s history. The excellent research and educational facilities in the Washington, DC area—including the Library of Congress, National Archives, and Smithsonian Institution—provide an added dimension to the program’s value and make its high objectives more readily attainable.

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See faculty bios online: [http://www.coas.howard.edu/history/faculty.html](http://www.coas.howard.edu/history/faculty.html)
Mission Statement

In keeping with the character of Howard as a major historically Black university, the mission of the Department of History derives from the determination of people of African descent to advance and affirm the cause of human freedom, equality, and dignity. Intrinsic to this mission is a perspective on the world that conveys full respect for the integrity and dignity of all peoples, and particularly emphasizes the history and culture of peoples of African origin. It is within this context that the community of scholars in the Department of History is committed to seek truth, increase knowledge, produce excellent scholarship and approach the education of students from multiple dimensions.

The faculty’s seminal concern is to nurture the discipline of history by creating the opportunity for students to acquire both breadth and depth of knowledge, as well as understanding, of peoples and cultures worldwide. Thus, it is the History Department’s mission to provide the student at the undergraduate level with: 1) an appreciation of the discipline of History as a tool for critical thinking and learning, 2) an understanding of the process of historical research and reconstruction, 3) the substantive knowledge as well as the accurate reconstruction and interpretation of the collective experiences of the world’s people, and 4) a keen perspective on the history of people of African descent. At the graduate level, the Department’s mission is to train professional historians and to provide specialized training in the methodology of historical interpretation and research as a basis for leadership in the profession and scholarly community.
Graduate Program

I. DEGREES OFFERED

The Department of History offers a graduate program leading to the degrees of Master of Arts and Doctor of Philosophy, with specialization in the history of the United States, Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and the African Diaspora. It also offers a Master of Arts degree in Public History and European History.

Several combinations of course clusters within the designated fields of specialization may be used to concentrate on certain areas of interest, such as African-American, Comparative or Public History. The student is also given the opportunity to sample courses in other departments and schools of the University, while the Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metropolitan Area allows students to select courses offered at nearby institutions (www.consortium.org/).

II. ADMISSION POLICIES

All applicants must complete application forms and submit to the Office of Graduate Recruitment and Admissions the following documents:

- official transcripts from all post secondary institutions previously attended
- three letters of recommendation
- GRE (Graduate Record Examination) scores
- a writing sample (seminar paper, etc.),
- a statement of purpose indicating their reasons for desiring to pursue graduate study at Howard University.

The Committee on Graduate Studies of the History Department, composed of the Department’s members of the Graduate Faculty of the Graduate School, is charged with reviewing applications and deciding on admissions. (See Graduate School website for application procedures: http://www.gs.howard.edu/admissions/application.htm/)

Applicants who have earned a bachelor’s degree or its equivalent will be considered for admission to the Master of Arts degree program or the Doctor of Philosophy degree program if they have completed their major with a grade of B or better and have a cumulative average of 3.0 or better. Non-history undergraduate majors are advised that they will be competing on an equal basis with students who have had preparation in discipline of history and that it may be necessary for them to make up deficiencies or show evidence of comparable mastery.

Students whose undergraduate training does not meet the stated requirements, or who have received degrees from non-accredited schools, may be granted provisional admission for one
semester. They must enroll in courses yielding a total of nine hours of graduate credit and at the end of the semester may be considered for admission to the Master of Arts program only if they have completed their course work with an average grade of B or better.

Students who have done work beyond the Bachelor of Arts degree at another university will be considered for admission to the MA or PhD programs if the level of performance has been satisfactory. Upon recommendation by the Departmental Committee on Graduate Studies, students may transfer a maximum of 6 credit hours of graduate study towards the MA degree or 24 credit hours toward the PhD degree in history at Howard.

Students pursuing a MA degree in history at Howard University must seek formal admission to the PhD program before continuing work for the doctorate. Students may apply during the semester in which they expect to complete the course work for the MA degree.

Students who have earned a MA degree in history at Howard University must also seek formal admissions to the PhD program before continuing work for the doctorate. The completion of the MA degree does not guarantee admission to the PhD program.

The MA degree is not required for students entering the PhD program, but the candidate must have a minimum GPA of 3.5. Students who have earned a Master of Arts degree in history at another university will be considered for admission to the Doctor of Philosophy program upon submission of proof that work completed for their degree is equivalent to the requirements for the MA degree at Howard, or upon completion of those requirements. Students may transfer up to 24 semester hours of graduate credit towards the Doctor of Philosophy degree.

At the discretion of the graduate faculty, applicants may merit direct admission to the Doctor of Philosophy program when not covered by the above. Those seeking consideration under this category should submit relevant career credentials or evidence of exceptional academic performance.

III. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Departmental assistantships may be awarded to students who have been admitted to the Graduate Program in History, whose scholastic average is B or better, and who meet other requirements established by the Departmental Committee on Graduate Studies.

Assistantship awards are granted every year on a competitive basis. Only applicants seeking first-time admission to the Graduate School may compete for the Frederick Douglass Fellowship or the Ronald E. McNair Fellowship and must meet deadlines set by the Graduate School early in the spring semester.

Upon admission to candidacy, students whose topics involve overseas research should work with their advisors to submit applications to the Graduate School for the Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship program.
Students should consult the Graduate School (www.gs.howard.edu), the Director of Graduate Studies in History, and their advisors about other sources and types of research funding.

IV. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Students are expected to complete the requirements in accordance with the Rules and Regulations of the Graduate School and the Department of History: the MA degree within two to three years, the PhD degree within five to seven years from the date of initial registration in the respective program. Those who have not graduated within the time frame established will be discontinued and no longer eligible for degrees in the Department of History at Howard University. (http://www.gs.howard.edu/pdf/GSRulesRegs2007_FINAL.pdf)

The Graduate School requires 30 hours of graduate credit for the MA degree. Additional credit hours for a total of 72 are required for the PhD degree. Various factors may cause the candidate to go beyond the minimum credit requirements (i.e., financial aid rules, leaves of absence, foreign language courses, study abroad credits, international student visa regulations, etc.).

All course numbered above 200 earn graduate credit. Courses numbered 170 to 199 also earn graduate credit, but only a maximum of 9 hours earned in courses below 200 will be counted toward the degree.

Credit hours earned more than five years prior to the term in which the student takes the final oral examination will not be accepted in fulfillment of degree requirements. Courses can be counted toward the fulfillment of degree requirements only if they are restored with the approval of the Departmental Committee on Graduate Studies and the Dean of the Graduate School. The student must pass an examination administered expressly for the purpose of restoration of credits in the course(s) concerned or a comprehensive examination in the field in which the course falls. (Rules and Regulations, pp. 11-12)

Expository Writing Examination
In order to become degree candidates, students must first demonstrate proficiency in the English language by passing an Expository Writing Examination course. The importance of this requirement cannot be overemphasized. It is recommended that the student register online to take the examination during the first semester after entering the Graduate Program. Information concerning this requirement may be obtained online at www.gs.howard.edu or at the Graduate School. The results are forwarded to the Director of Graduate Studies in History.

Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR)
The Responsible Conduct of Research (RCR) Workshop is intended to provide students with information on pertinent federal and University guidelines and regulations pertaining to the responsible conduct of research as well as to instruct them in a method of utilizing moral reasoning skills in responding to ethical dilemmas in research. Workshop topics include intellectual property, data sharing and understanding of Institutional Review Board (IRB) policies and procedures, data acquisition and management, and mentoring. The RCR training workshop is a requirement for admission to candidacy. To receive the RCR certificate, students
must complete all required training sessions and successfully complete a learning assessment exercise at the end of the workshop.

V. GUIDELINES FOR GRADUATE COURSES

The guidelines distinguish between graduate courses in terms of the type of preparation which different courses will offer the student. Level A courses are primarily informational in purpose, Level B courses concentrate on research and research skills. Level C courses are designed for individualized instruction. In each field, students are normally expected to follow a level of progression from one level of study to the next. The order in which courses are listed reflects that progression.

Level A
(1) Lecture courses emphasize the accumulation of basic information about a given field, including sources, research trends, and major themes. Evaluation is based on readings, short papers, and performance on examinations.

(2) Reading courses allow the student to review a given body of historical literature, as directed by the instructor. There may be regular weekly meetings devoted to discussion, explanation, exchange of ideas, and critical analysis of texts. Written reviews may be required, but not a research paper.

Level B
(1) Methodology courses are designed to train students in historical writing, interpretation of data, investigative techniques, and research skills. (Problems, Historiography, etc.)

(2) Seminar courses allow the student to concentrate on materials and methods of research within a given field, including work with primary sources. Whenever feasible, a specific problem or topic should be chosen as the central theme with assigned readings for general discussion. There will be weekly meetings of at least two and a half hours throughout the semester, where progress reports and final presentation of research paper will be subject to critical analysis by the group. No examination will be required. Students must earn a grade of B or better to receive credit for a research seminar. Students receiving a lesser grade will be required to repeat the series of courses and obtain a grade of B or better in each.

Level C
(1) Independent Readings will provide an opportunity for students, particularly those preparing for the qualifying examination, to fill gaps in their background, synthesize materials, and accumulate historiographical information under the supervision of an instructor. Meetings are arranged on an individual basis. Normally, written reviews and analyses and historiographical essays may be required, but not an examination nor a research paper.

(2) Independent Research Projects will accommodate the specific research interests of a student, who, working under the supervision of an instructor, will set specific objectives or goals for the
semester. Meetings are arranged on an individual basis. Students will be evaluated on their expected outcomes and progress toward a completed project, thesis, or dissertation.

At the start of Independent Readings and Independent Research courses the student should file a project description with the Director of Graduate Studies. The independent course description should be submitted by the second week of the semester. The Graduate School accepts a maximum of 12 credit hours of independent courses for standard grades applied to the GPA. Additional courses are limited to “pass” or “fail” evaluation.
VI. MASTER OF ARTS PROGRAM

Students seeking the Master of Arts degree in history have a choice between two plans of study, both requiring a total of 30 credit hours.

Plan A requires the submission of a formal thesis and allows 3 to 6 credit hours for thesis writing. A minimum of 24 to 27 hours of course work, including one seminar course, must be completed in addition to thesis writing credit hours.

Plan B does not require the submission of a thesis. A full 30 hours of course work must be completed, including two seminar courses. Often referred to as the “seminar paper option,” the student must enroll in the seminar at least one semester before seeking admission to candidacy. The revised seminar paper is submitted as evidence of mastery in formal research techniques. Plan B is ordinarily considered a terminal program; however, an exceptionally strong student might be recommended for the PhD program by the final examination committee, subject to the approval of the Committee on Graduate Studies.

MA Major Fields
Students must choose a major field from those offered by the Department for specialization at the MA level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Africa</th>
<th>Modern Europe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>African Diaspora</td>
<td>Public History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
<td>United States</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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In addition, students must fulfill the foreign language requirement and pass a final oral examination on the major field and the thesis or seminar paper. (See details on the Public History Program and the African Diaspora Program in separate sections of this bulletin.)

A. Plan A (Thesis Option)

The course distribution is as follows:

1) History 200 (Historiography) .......................................... 3 credit hours
   This course sequence is required of all graduate students and should begin the first semester of graduate work.

2) Lecture and Readings Courses.......................................... 12 credit hours
   All 12 hours must be selected in one field and constitute the student’s major. Methods courses and thesis-writing courses are excluded from this category.

3) Seminar in History...................................................... 3 credit hours
   Preferably, the student should select a seminar in the major field or in the field of the thesis topic.

(4) Masters Thesis Writing (HIST 300-301) .......................... 3 to 6 credit hours
At least 3 credit hours in a thesis writing course are required for this option. A maximum of 6 credit hours is allowed. A student must continue to enroll in a thesis course as long as University facilities are being used or the thesis supervisor director is advising. Continuing students who have already earned 6 credit hours in 300-301 may enroll in a one (1) credit hour section of the course or audit. Under no circumstances will any student be given credit for more than 6 hours in Thesis Writing. An “I” or incomplete grade is submitted for the course and changed to a standard letter grade after the thesis is presented. (NB: International students and students receiving federal support from the Office of Financial Aid should see the Director of Graduate Studies for additional information regarding alternatives to incomplete grades. It is recommended that these students take HIST 300 or 301 credits in the final semester of the program.)

(5) Electives………………………………………………………………… 6 to 9 credit hours
The number of electives depends on the number of credit hours allotted to thesis writing. A student may select electives from offerings in the History Department or in other departments or schools as long as they are relevant to the student’s program. At least 6 hours in one field in history or in one related discipline may be selected as a minor.

B. Plan B (Seminar Paper Option)

The course distribution is as follows:
(1) History 200 (Historiography) ………………………………………….. 3 credit hours
This course sequence is required of all graduate students and should begin the first semester of graduate work.

2) Lecture and Readings Courses……………………………………………….12 credit hours
All 12 hours must be selected in one field and constitute the student’s major. Methods courses and thesis-writing courses are excluded from this category

3) Seminar in History………………………………………………………………….. 3 credit hours
Two seminar courses are required, and least one should be in the student’s major field. To fulfill the seminar paper option, the student must offer a paper written for a seminar in the major field of study. The seminar course for Option B cannot be taken in the same semester in which a request for admission to candidacy is submitted. The seminar paper written in the major field will be revised for presentation. An “I” or incomplete grade is submitted for the seminar course and changed to a standard letter grade after the paper is presented. (NB: International students and students receiving federal support from the Office of Financial Aid should see the Director of Graduate Studies for additional information regarding alternatives to incomplete grades. It is recommended that these students take HIST 300 or 301 credits, if needed, in the final semester of the program.)

(4) Electives………………………………………………………………………… 9 to 12 credit hours
A student may select electives from offerings in the History Department or in other departments or schools as long as they are relevant to the student’s program. Six to nine hours in one field of history or in one related discipline may be selected as a minor. No elective course can be applied to the requirements in more than one field.
C. Foreign Language Requirement

Under both Plan A and Plan B and as part of the requirements for the Master of Arts Degree, a student must demonstrate ability to read historical materials in one foreign language. This requirement may be fulfilled by (1) passing the standardized test administered by the Educational Testing Service in appropriate language with a minimum score of 470; or (2) having taken a minor field (15-18 hours) at the undergraduate level in an appropriate language department at Howard University; or (3) passing an examination prepared for the Department of History in consultation with the World Languages and Cultures Department (Locke Hall); and (4) earning a grade of B or better in either an advanced level course in an appropriate language or a course in an appropriate language especially prepared by a language department for graduate students.

D. Admission to Candidacy

A student must be formally admitted to candidacy for the Master of Arts degree. Application for admission to candidacy may occur after two semesters of residence or 12 hours of course work in the major field, but a student is not eligible to apply until the thesis or seminar paper topic has been approved in writing and the foreign language requirement fulfilled.

E. Thesis or Seminar Document and Final Oral Examination

(1) Thesis Option (Plan A only)
A candidate choosing Plan A must notify the Director of Graduate Studies to initiate the process of securing formal approval of the thesis topic from the graduate faculty member who has agreed to serve as the thesis supervisor. In consultation with the thesis supervisor, the candidate shall request two additional graduate faculty members to serve as readers. The thesis supervisor and the two readers shall constitute the candidate’s Thesis Committee.

Following approval of the completed thesis by the Thesis Committee, the candidate will be required to pass a two-hour oral examination that may be administered by the same three faculty members of which two members should represent the major field and the thesis. After the oral examination committee formally certifies that the candidate has passed the examination, the thesis will be submitted to the Graduate School in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Master of Arts degree. A grade change form (Special Grade Report) is filed to replace the “I” incomplete marks given for the MA Thesis Writing credits. (NB: International students and students receiving federal support from the Office of Financial Aid should see the Director of Graduate Studies for additional information regarding alternatives to incomplete grades. It is recommended that these students take HIST 300 or 301 credits in the final semester of the program.)

Additional information concerning deadlines, format, and other technical details for submission of a thesis is available at the Graduate School.

(2) Seminar Paper Option (Plan B only)
A candidate choosing plan B must notify the Director of Graduate Studies to initiate the process of securing in writing from the professor conducting the selected seminar permission to use the proposed paper for this option. An “I” or incomplete grade is submitted for the seminar course and changed to a standard letter grade after the student presents the revised paper written for the seminar and passes the oral examination in the major field. Therefore, a seminar course taken in the same semester as the application for admission to candidacy cannot be accepted for this option. In consultation with the seminar professor, the candidate shall ask another graduate faculty member to serve as a reader. (NB: International students and students receiving federal support from the Office of Financial Aid should see the Director of Graduate Studies for additional information regarding alternatives to incomplete grades. It is recommended that these students take HIST 300 or 301 credits, if needed, in the final semester of the program).

Following approval of the completed paper by the seminar professor and the reader, the candidate will be required to pass a two-hour oral examination administered by a committee of three faculty members, of which at least two should represent the candidate’s major field. The chairman of the committee must be a graduate faculty member. The committee must formally certify that the candidate has passed the oral exam before a grade change is filed to replace the “I” incomplete given for the seminar course.

Deadlines, format and other technical details prescribed by the Graduate School office for a Master of Arts thesis also apply to the seminar paper. Additional information on these matters is available from the Graduate School office or the Director of the Graduate Program. (http://www.gs.howard.edu/forms/MastersProcedures.pdf/)

F. Change of Options

In consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies, a student may transfer from one plan of study to another. However, a candidate for the Master of Arts degree who fails to complete a satisfactory thesis may not then transfer from Plan A to Plan B, and a candidate who fails to complete a satisfactory seminar paper may not transfer from Plan B to Plan A.
VII. THE PhD PROGRAM

Students seeking a PhD degree in history must complete a minimum of 72 hours, which may include credit earned at the MA level. Various factors may make it necessary to go beyond the 72 hour minimum, such as a recommendation for further training in some area of fulfillment beyond the four-semester, full-time residency required by the Graduate School.

Satisfactory completion of course work is only one of several requirements for the doctorate. Particularly important is the student’s performance in the qualifying examination. In addition, students must also fulfill the foreign language requirement, submit a formal proposal for admission to candidacy, write an acceptable dissertation, and successfully defend the dissertation at a final oral examination.

A. Fields of Concentration

All students are required to choose one major field of concentration and two separate minor fields. The fields offered by the Department at the doctoral level are:

**Major Fields**
- Africa
- African Diaspora
- Latin American and the Caribbean
- United States

**Minor Fields**
- Africa, specific chronological period
- Africa, a specific region
- African Diaspora
- Caribbean and Latin America
- Modern Europe
- Public History
- United States

A student may select from the above for major or minor fields. *When the student chooses course clusters within the major field in order to concentrate on a special interest, the student continues to be held responsible for the entire field.* (See details on the Public History Program and the African Diaspora Program in separate sections of this bulletin.)

B. Course Distribution

The 72 credit hours required for the doctorate, including credit earned at the MA level, are distributed as follows:

**(1) History 200 (Historiography)......................................................... 3 credit hours**

These courses are required of all graduate students in history, should be in sequence and a grade of B or better must be earned. Students receiving a lesser grade will be required to repeat either of both until the B is earned. (After two attempts, failure to do so will automatically lead to a review of the student’s graduate status by the Committee on Graduate Studies.)
(2) Major field ......................................................................................... 12 credit hours

2a. Readings Courses................................................................................6 credit hours
Students must take two courses of 3 credits that cover the bulk of the major field.

2b. Seminar Courses ................................................................................6 credit hours
Students must take two research seminars for three credits each. Students who completed a
MA in History at Howard may count one seminar towards this requirement.

(3) Minor field ....................................................................................... 6 credit hours

Readings Courses.................................................................................. 6 credit hours

(4) History 420 - Directed Reading in the Major Field ........................1 to 12 credit hours

Open to Ph.D. students only, this course aims to prepare students in a chronological or
thematic subfield to sit for their qualifying examination in their major field. In an effort to
gain mastery over the literature in his or her major field, the student will meet with the
instructor and agree upon a reading list in the instructor's general area of specialization. The
list should reflect scholarship deemed essential for demonstrating competence in the subfield
and therefore likely to be reflected on the qualifying examination. Over the course of the
semester, the student will meet with the instructor to discuss the readings. Written
assignments should aim at assisting students with their exam preparation or in demonstrating a
broad knowledge of the field. Course may be taken for a total of 12 hours, but no more than
six hours may be taken per semester. No more than six hours may be taken from the same
instructor.

5) Electives

To complete the remainder of their program, students are allowed to take further courses in the
following areas with the stipulated credit-hour limitations.

Independent Study/Research ...............................................maximum 15 credit hours
Primarily for students seeking a dissertation topic or conducting dissertation research.

When undertaken for dissertation purposes, students will be supervised by their advisor
and may take up to four credit hours per semester. Will be taken for “pass/fail” credit.
Upon application to the Chairman of the Department and the Director of Graduate
Studies, students not working on a dissertation may pursue independent study or research
under a graduate faculty member who agrees to direct the project, establish assignments,
and assign letter grades. Under this option, students may enroll for no more than three
hours per semester.

Lecture Courses ..............................................................maximum 15 credit hours
Students may enroll in undergraduate lecture courses at the 200 level or above.
Courses outside of the Department of History ……maximum 6 credit hours
Students may take electives from outside of the Department.

(6) PhD Dissertation Writing (HIST 500-501) .............................. 6 credit hours
All students preparing a dissertation are required to enroll in Dissertation Writing. No more than 6 credit hours in 500-501 will be counted toward the degree, but a student must continue to enroll in these courses as University facilities are used and the student is receiving regular supervision in the dissertation. Continuing students who have already earned 6 credit hours in 500-501 may enroll in a one (1) credit hour of the course. These courses are marked “I” incomplete at the end of each semester and changed only after the PhD dissertation is completed and ready for submission. (NB: It is recommended that international students and students receiving federal support from the Office of Financial Aid take HIST 500 and 501 in the final semester of the program. See the Director of Graduate Studies for additional information.)

C. Foreign Language Requirement

As part of the requirements for the doctorate and before admission to candidacy a student must demonstrate reading ability in two foreign languages approved by the graduate faculty. Upon approval of the student’s advisor, a specific skill related to the student’s research project (such as computer language or statistical analysis, or oral or quantitative history) may serve as a substitute for one of the languages. The expected level of language proficiency may vary depending on the student’s major field and the favorable results of the standardized language test at the MA level may not satisfy the doctoral requirement.

Upon recommendation of the student’s advisor and during residency at Howard, this requirement may be fulfilled by (1) passing the standardized test administered by the Educational Testing Service in appropriate language with a minimum score of 470; or (2) having taken a minor field (15-18 hours) at the undergraduate level in an appropriate language department at Howard University; or (3) passing an examination prepared for the Department of History in consultation with and graded by the World Languages and Cultures Department (Locke Hall); and (4) earning a grade of B or better in either an advanced level course in an appropriate language or a course in an appropriate language especially prepared by a language department for graduate students.

Foreign Language Requirements for African History

As part of the requirements for the doctorate and before admission to candidacy a student must demonstrate reading ability in a European language, preferably French, and one African language related to the area of research. If the MA degree and the PhD degree are continuous in the Department at Howard University, the minimum ETS score of 470 at the Masters level may also satisfy the European language requirement by a waiver of the ETS by demonstrating an existing minor (15-28 hours) in the required language as shown on the undergraduate transcript with a B average in the same language.

The student must demonstrate speaking and reading ability in an African language for the region of PhD fieldwork. This requirement may be fulfilled by (1) the completion of 9 hours course
work in an appropriate African Language Program with a grade of B or better (e.g., Title VI Programs or African language courses offered at Howard University or elsewhere), or (2) by waiver of this requirement proving after consultation that the language in question is the first language of the student or that mastery was attained through other means. Languages may include—but are not limited to—Arabic, Wolof, Fulfulde, Mande, Akan, Yoruba, Igbo, Hausa, Amharic, Swahili, Zulu, etc. Any exception to the fore-mentioned options requires approval of the Committee on Graduate Studies (e.g., whether to allow Krio to satisfy the African language requirement or other similar examples).

**Substitute for a foreign Language**

One of the foreign languages can be substituted by **two courses in a research skill** (such as a computer language, statistical analysis, quantitative methods, or oral history) with a grade of B or better on both, or by presenting a research project in which the foreign language or the specific research tool is used. This option must be approved in writing in advance by the student’s advisor and the Director of Graduate Studies. If the research project is directed by faculty in departments other than History, the completed project must be approved by the supervisor and one additional graduate faculty member selected by the Director of the Graduate Studies.

**D. Qualifying or Comprehensive Examinations**

As part of the requirements for the doctorate, a student must pass a written comprehensive examination in the major field designed to test the student’s specialized knowledge of the subject matter, historiography, and important unresolved problems or debates within the field. Each semester, students planning to take the examination shall so notify the Director of the Graduate Program, who shall make the appropriate arrangements for the comprehensive examination, including the written examination and oral interview.

The examination will be given once each semester during a time span specified shortly after the semester begins. This time span will not coincide with other examination periods. Students may be allowed a week or so to submit the typewritten examination to the Director of Graduate Studies. Each field will be judged by a committee of up to three faculty members who are in the graduate faculty. Individual appointments for oral interviews will be made upon request of the major field reading committee. **Students must pass the entire examination (written and oral), including parts they previously may have failed, within a time span not to exceed three consecutive semesters (exclusive of the summer sessions).** Exceptions to this rule can only be made by vote of the Committee on Graduate Studies.

The written examination is divided into two parts based on the conceptual, thematic, or chronological paradigms associated with the major field. Students select three questions from each part and are expected to write an eight- to ten-page essay in response to each question. The essays should be well documented and demonstrate the student’s breadth of learning, depth of critical thinking, and capacity for historical reflection. Questions refer to the major fields rather than specific course work and are designed to evaluate the student’s competence in the major field, preparation for teaching survey courses at institutions of higher education, and grounding in methodology and historical interpretation.
In order to help students prepare for the qualifying examination, students should seek additional information from their advisors and faculty in the fields in which they are preparing to take their exams. The faculty teaching graduate courses in each field is responsible for advising students, preparing the questions and grading the qualifying examination. The student is responsible for making appointments for advising and following up with the faculty in the major field.

Grades will be expressed in terms of “Pass,” “Fail,” “Honors,” and will be reported to the Chairman of the Department, who shall notify the student of examination results. Any student who opens the envelope containing the examination questions or leaves the presence of the Director of Graduate studies with the envelope is considered to have attempted the examination even without submitting written responses. A student who does not return the written examination within the time frame required will fail the written examination. A student who does not appear for the oral interview in a timely manner without notification will fail the oral examination. A student who fails the examination may take a second exam within the following three consecutive semesters. A student who fails for the second time is disqualified from continuing in the PhD program and will be dismissed from the Graduate School.

E. Admission to Candidacy

After successful completion of the foreign languages requirement, the writing competency exam, and the qualifying exam, the Director of the Graduate Program will submit to the Graduate School a formal application for admission to candidacy. No dissertation writing (HIST 500, 501) credits will be accepted prior to admission to candidacy. A dissertation proposal approved by the Committee on Graduate Studies must be part of the application.

F. Dissertation and Final Oral Examination

As part of the requirements for the doctorate, the candidate must submit a dissertation representing an original contribution to historical research. The student begins his dissertation formally (by registering in Dissertation Writing course) only after admission to candidacy.

A candidate must secure formal approval of the dissertation topic from the Committee on Graduate Studies. A list of procedures for gaining approval must be obtained from the Director of Graduate Studies and online at the website for the Graduate School (www.gs.howard.edu/). These stipulate that the student should first establish an agreement with a graduate faculty member to serve as the dissertation supervisor. Then, in consultation with the supervisor, the candidate will request two additional graduate faculty members to serve as readers. The dissertation supervisor and the two readers shall constitute the candidate’s Dissertation Committee, which will guide the final formulation of the proposal as well as its execution upon approval. The composition of the Dissertation Committee is also subject to the approval of the Committee on Graduate Studies.

After formal approval of the candidate’s dissertation by the Dissertation Committee and as part of the requirements for the doctorate, the candidate must pass a final oral examination to defend
arguments presented in the dissertation and to show proficiency in the general field of research and related areas of study.

The examination will be administered by a panel of five, including one person from outside the Howard University community. At least three of the others must be History Department graduate faculty members, one of whom shall be the dissertation supervisor. The Director of the Graduate Program, and the Department Chairperson and the Dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences or his representative may also participate. Other members of the University may attend but not participate.

Departmental procedures governing the writing and approval of a dissertation are available from the Director of Graduate Studies. Additional information concerning deadlines, format, and other technical details prescribed by the Graduate School for the submission of a doctoral dissertation is available from the Academic Coordinator in the Office of Educational and Research Affairs at the Graduate School and online: http://www.gs.howard.edu/announcements/ThesisDissertationManual-Feb08update.pdf/.
AFRICAN DIASPORA HISTORY (effective in the Fall 2012)

African Diaspora Ph.D. Program

The African Diaspora Graduate Program examines past and present peoples of African descent from a broad-based historical approach that is both interdisciplinary and global. The Program consists of a core faculty with a focus on the following key areas: slavery, emancipation, comparative; Black Power as a global phenomenon, transnational political/social movements; and, multi-dimensional historical linkages between the continent of Africa and rest of the world.

The Program’s requirements are designed to provide graduates with cross-disciplinary training, research and teaching skills, as well as a broad understanding of the black historical experience for the primary purpose of academic careers.

Course Distribution:
The doctorate in African Diaspora History follows guidelines set up by both the Graduate School and the History department. The 72 credit hours includes up to 24 credit hours that may be transferred from the M.A. degree and are distributed as follows:

1. History 200 (Historiography)……………………………………………………………3 credit hours.
   This course is required of all graduate students in history and a grade of B or better must be earned. Students receiving a lesser grade will be required to repeat until the B is earned. (Failure to do so after two attempts will automatically lead to a review of the student’s graduate status by the Graduate Faculty).

2. Major field ……………………………………………………………………………………15 credit hours.

2a. Problems in African Diaspora: Theory & Methods
   This course introduces students to the theoretical, conceptual, and methodological themes of Africa Diaspora scholarship with a particular emphasis on Howard University’s impact on the development of the field of African Diaspora Studies…………………..(3 credit hours).

2b. Readings Courses…………………………………………………………….. (6 credit hours).
   Students must take two African Diaspora-based reading courses from the core faculty.

2c. Seminar Courses …………………………………………………………………………... (6 credit hours).
   Students must take two African Diaspora research seminars for three credits each.
   Students who completed a M.A. in History at Howard may count one seminar towards this requirement.

3. Africa Elective………………………………………………………………………………….6 credit hours.
   Students must take two courses in African History.

4. Minor field ……………………………………………………………………………………9 credit hours.
   Students must take two readings courses and no more than one seminar….. (9 credit hours).
(5) History 420 - Directed Readings in the Major Field ................. 1-12 credit hours.
Open to Ph.D. students only, this course aims to prepare students in a chronological or thematic subfield to sit for their qualifying examination in their major field. In an effort to gain mastery over the historical literature in his or her major field, the student will meet with the instructor and agree upon a reading list in the instructor's general area of specialization. The list should reflect scholarship deemed essential for demonstrating competence in the subfield and therefore likely to be reflected on the qualifying examination. Over the course of the semester, the student will meet with the instructor to discuss the readings. Written assignments should aim at assisting students with their exam preparation or in demonstrating a broad knowledge of the field. Course may be taken for a total of 12 hours, but no more than SIX hours may be taken per semester. No more than SIX hours may be taken with the same instructor.

(6) Electives.................................................27 credit hours.
To complete the remainder of their program, students are allowed to take further courses in the following areas with the stipulated maximum credit-hour limitations.

6a. Independent Study/Research ..................................(15 credit hours max.).
This is primarily for students seeking a dissertation topic or conducting dissertation research. If undertaken for dissertation purposes, students will be supervised by their advisor, and may take up to four credit hours per semester. Will be taken for “pass/fail” credit. Upon application to the Chairman of the Department and the Director of Graduate Studies, students not working on a dissertation may pursue independent study or research under a graduate faculty member who agrees to direct the project, establish assignments, and assign letter grades. Under this option, students may enroll for no more than THREE hours per semester.

6b. Lecture and Reading Courses ...............................(15 credit hours max.).
Students may enroll in undergraduate lecture courses at the 200-level or above to satisfy this requirement.

6c. Courses outside the Department of History ...............(12 credit hours max.).
Students are encouraged to take electives in other disciplines.

(7) PhD Dissertation Writing (HIST 500-501) .......................6 credit hours.
All students preparing a dissertation are required to enroll in Dissertation Writing. No more than 6 credit hours in 500-501 will be counted toward the degree, but a student must continue to enroll in these courses as University facilities are used and the student is receiving regular supervision in the dissertation. Continuing students who have already earned 6 credit hours in 500-501 may enroll in a one (1) credit hour of the course. These courses are marked “I” incomplete at the end of each semester and changed only after the PhD dissertation is completed and ready for submission. (NB: It is recommended that international students and students receiving federal support from the Office of Financial Aid take HIST 500 and 501 in the final semester of the program. See the Director of Graduate Studies for additional information.)
African Diaspora M.A. Program

M.A. 30 total hours.

1) History 200 (Historiography) .........................................................3 credit hours.
This course sequence is required of all graduate students and should begin the first semester of graduate work.

2) Problems in African Diaspora: Theory & Methods ...................3 credit hours.
This course introduces students to the theoretical, conceptual, and methodological themes of African Diaspora scholarship with a particular emphasis on Howard University’s impact on the development of the field of African Diaspora Studies.

3) Readings Courses .................................................................6 credit hours.
Students must take two Diaspora-based reading courses from the core faculty. Methods courses and thesis-writing courses are excluded from this category.

4) Africa Requirements .............................................................6 credit hours.
Students must take two courses in African history.

5) Seminar in African Diaspora ......................................................3-6 credit hours.
A thesis option (Plan A) requires one seminar. A seminar paper option (Plan B) requires two seminars. Courses may include one African Diaspora seminar and one other field seminar in which a community of African descent is selected for study.

(6) Masters Thesis Writing (HIST 300 or 301 if Plan A) .........3-6 credit hours.
At least 3 credit hours in a thesis-writing course are required for this option. A maximum of SIX credit hours is allowed.

7) Electives ..........................................................3-6 credit hours.
The number of electives depends on the number of credit hours allotted to thesis-writing. A student may select electives from offerings in the History Department or in other departments or schools as long as they are relevant to the student’s program.

African Diaspora Minor (9 hrs).

1) Problems in African Diaspora: Theory & Methods ...............3 credit hours.
This course introduces students to the theoretical, conceptual, and methodological themes of Africa Diaspora scholarship with a particular emphasis on Howard University’s impact on the development of the field of African Diaspora Studies.

2) Readings Courses .................................................................6 credit hours.
IX. PUBLIC HISTORY PROGRAM

The field of Public History has as its main focus the preparation of scholars for careers outside of academia. Public Historians work in a variety of positions which demand the research, writing, insight, and analytic skills that historians bring to bear on subjects with a historical dimension. The broader perspectives, specialized techniques, and modes of presentation of public historians have redefined what it means to be a historian. These professions include specialists in museums, archives, manuscript collections, government agencies, historical societies, and businesses. This field also includes persons involved in local, regional, and national historic preservation programs.

A. General Information

Although traditional history programs can include some aspects of public history, the Public History Program at Howard University is uniquely structured to provide students with exceptional opportunities in public history. The public history courses, ranging from the introductory class to the advanced research seminars, all include instruction from professional historians with expertise in various areas of public research. Every scholar imparts scholarship that has public history’s distinct investigation characteristics, aspects, and segments of attention. The specializations of the faculty reflect the diversity of the practice of public history today.

Internships play a central role in the program. Internships engage each student in the practice of public history as part of the degree requirement. Internships stress the development of new personal and professional experiences for each student. Each internship placement focuses on the practical application of public history tenets. The educational experience of each intern is enhanced by the varieties of work in which they are engaged, the job titles they hold, and the varied responsibilities of each placement. Interns collaboratively assess problems and provide solutions to diverse questions at the institutions in which they work. Internship assignments are experience-based and carried out away from the university.

Career counseling is an essential part of this professional educational experience. Professionals draw upon their own experiences to encourage each intern’s understanding of the field’s scope of practice, areas of competence, roles, and responsibilities within a specific agency. The professionals delineate the issues, processes, and products of work for each intern. The multidisciplinary research activities, career counseling, and professional linkages foster an unwavering commitment to innovative inquiry, continuing education, and professional networking.

Many historians today are employed in the broad spectrum of this occupation. The varieties of professions encompassed by the term public history include:

- Curator
- Archivist
- Historical Researcher
- Public policy specialist
- Material culture analyst
- Archival records manager
- Cultural resources manager
- Documentary film producer
- Historical agency researcher
- Preservation/historic site administrator
Each segment of public history the field has its own rich literature. Public history specialists, as they apply the field’s theories in malleable contexts, transform the practices and assumptions of the discipline. The complex dimensions of public history, and its rich variety of activities, are central to the Howard University program (Howe Gardner LaPaglia).

**B. MA in Public History**

**30 credit hours**

The Department of History offers a comprehensive program in each of these areas of public history. Students in the MA program in public history must earn a minimum of 30 hours, which, in addition to the requirements all students must fulfill, also includes an introductory course and a required student internship. The Graduate Program in public history at Howard University offers a sequence for studies at both the master’s and doctoral levels, leading to careers in the expanding filed of public history. Located in Washington, DC, a major center for public history research, Howard University offers a broad education in the entire range of public historical activities. The M.A. and Ph.D. programs combine a sound grounding in history and historical methods with courses and internship experiences in both the procedures and practice of public history. Strong links with local, federal, and non-profit agencies allow the History department to give students the opportunity to enhance research, administrative, and policy making skills.

The MA in Public History follows guidelines set by the Graduate School and the History Department. It requires the completion of a minimum of 30 hours of course work with at least a 3.0 GPA. The course distribution is as follows:

1. **Historiography (HIST 200)** ................................. 3 credit hours
2. **Lecture and Reading Courses** (listed below) ....................... 12 credit hours
   - Introduction to Public History ... 3 credit hours
   - Public History courses .......... 9 credit hours
3. **Internship** ................................................................. 3 credit hours
4. **Seminar(s) in Public History** ................................... 3 to 6 credit hours
   A thesis option (Plan A) requires one seminar. A seminar paper option (Plan B) requires two seminars in Public History areas.
5. **Electives** ............................................................... 6 credit hours
   Public history courses or courses in another discipline approved by the Director of the Public History Program.
6. **Masters Thesis Writing (HIST 300 or 301 if Plan A)** .......... 3 credit hours
C. Minor Field in Public History (Doctor of Philosophy)
18 credit hours

The Department of History encourages its PhD students to explore studies in public history fields and at the same time gain comparative knowledge in related areas. Public history is accepted as a minor field of specialization and it falls under the rubric of United States history. Students must complete a minimum of 72 hours beyond the baccalaureate, including 3 hours of historiography, 6 hours of seminars beyond the master’s level, and 6 hours of dissertation writing. Candidates must concentrate in one major history field (24 or 12 hours depending on the major), the public history field (18 hours from courses listed above), and additional 12 hours of graduate coursework. Students are required to pass a qualifying examination in their major field. Passage of an expository writing and two foreign language examinations are also required. Submission and acceptance of a dissertation proposal and the completed dissertation are required. Candidates must successfully pass an oral examination of the dissertation.

D. Internships

The Department of History provides realistic exposure to the public history environment. Students work in public and private sector agencies and are assigned on-the-job responsibilities that may include: records management, curatorial assessment, historical preservation, public policy/issues analyses, archival records administration, oral history project coordination, community cultural resources management, or museum program development and evaluation.

E. Placement

X. ADVISING PROCEDURES

The Graduate Program in History is administered by the Director of Graduate Studies. The Director is elected by the Committee on Graduate Studies in the Department whose members have been appointed by the Graduate School.

The primary duty of the Director of Graduate Studies is to serve as a resource person for both faculty and students, to facilitate the flow of information concerning student records, admission requirements, current regulations and policies, proper procedures, and deadlines.

Upon admission, each student is assigned an academic advisor by the Director in consultation with the student and in consonance with the student’s field of interest. Students are expected to meet with the assigned advisor at least once during each semester. As the student determines the direction of research for the thesis or dissertation proposal, the faculty supervising the research will replace the assigned advisor. The Director of Graduate Studies should be notified immediately thereafter.

Changes in the Departmental Bulletin
The Committee on Graduate Studies of the Department of History reserves to itself the right to make further changes in the Department’s requirements. Upon approval of such changes by the Graduate School due notice will be given to graduate students prior to implementation.

IX. EVALUATION AND DISMISSAL

The following information is provided to assist students in maintaining good standing in the Graduate Program in History and the Graduate School. See Rule and Regulations and the Student Code of Conduct for more detailed information on student responsibilities, rights, and procedures.

Course Performance
A student may earn no more than two grades below “B-,” or they will be dismissed from the Graduate School. A student who demonstrates an inability to perform satisfactorily at the graduate level should be recommended for dismissal.

Grade Point Average in Major Field
Students must maintain a grade average of 3.0 or better in the major field. Students readmitted to the program must maintain a grade point average of 3.0 or better in the major field subsequent to their readmission. Any student failing to maintain such an average will be dropped from the program.

Cumulative Grade Point Average in the MA Program
A student who accumulates more than ten (10) credit hours of grades below “B” shall be dismissed from the Graduate School.
Cumulative Grade Point Average in the PhD Program
A student who accumulates more than ten (15) credit hours of grades below “B” (inclusive of the MA degree) shall be dismissed from the Graduate School.

Procedures for Dismissal
A student who falls below the 3.00 GPA shall be warned and informed by the Graduate School and must raise the quality point index to 3.00 in the next two terms in residence. Students failing to do so will be dismissed from the Graduate School.

Course Viability
Credit for courses pursued more than seven and less than ten years, prior to the term in which the student presents herself/himself for the final examination, can be counted toward the fulfillment of degree requirements only if they are restored as described in this paragraph with the approval of the departmental Committee on Graduate Studies and the Dean. In order for a course to be restored under this paragraph, the student must pass an examination administered expressly for the purpose of restoration of credits in the course concerned or a comprehensive examination in the field in which the course falls.

XII. APPEAL OF ACADEMIC DECISIONS

According to the Rules and Regulations of the Graduate School, the following procedure is applicable in the case challenges of decisions made either about a course or a comprehensive examination required for a degree program. Such a challenge may be considered only when a student has grounds for charging that the decision reflects legally impermissible considerations. Such an appeal begins with the student requiring a conference with the instructor. If the issue cannot be resolved then the student should request that the department chairman appoint a committee to make an informal investigation involving a hearing of both the student and the professor(s) and attempt to settle the dispute. If still unresolved, the problem should be taken to the Dean of the Graduate School. In all such instances, the standard university practices and procedures governing such matters shall prevail. (www.gs.howard.edu/)
XIII. COURSES

The courses are listed by major and minor fields of study. See the Department of History Graduate Bulletin (Section V. Guidelines for Graduate Courses) for an explanation of course offerings (lectures, readings, seminars and independent study). Courses may be taught on alternate semesters or periodically. Topics discussed in Readings and Seminar courses may vary. Check Bison Web each semester to update course offerings or contact the Director of Graduate Studies for further information. Unless otherwise indicated, all courses earn 3 credit hours. See the following websites for course descriptions:
http://www.provost.howard.edu/PROVOST/bulletin2/u/v2uhistory_c.htm
http://www.provost.howard.edu/provost/bulletin2/g/v2ghistory_a.htm

Required

HIST 200. Historiography.

United States

HIST 174. Women in American Society to 1890
HIST 175. Women in American Society since 1890
HIST 176. Afro-American History to the Civil War.
HIST 177. Afro-American History since the Civil War.
HIST 211. US Foreign Relations to 1914
HIST 212. US Foreign Relations since 1914
HIST 219. US South to 1877
HIST 220. US South since 1877
HIST 221. Colonial America
HIST 223. Jacksonian Era, Reform, and Sectionalism
HIST 224. Civil War and Reconstruction
HIST 226. US since World War I
HIST 227. US Reform Movements

HIST 309. Problems in US History to 1865.

HIST 310. Problems in US History since 1865.

HIST 312. Afro-American Social Institutions and Culture.

HIST 318. Readings in US Foreign Relations to WWI.

HIST 319. Readings in US Foreign Relations since 1914.

HIST 324, 325. Readings in Afro-American History.

HIST 326, 327. Readings in Selected Periods and Topics in US History.

HIST 328. District of Columbia History.

HIST 409, 411. Seminar in US History to 1877

HIST 410, 412. Seminar in US History since 1877.

HIST 413, 415. Seminar in Afro-American History to 1877.

HIST 414, 416. Seminar in Afro-American History since 1877.

**Africa**

HIST 192. Islam in Africa.

HIST 230. East Africa to 1800

HIST 231. East Africa since 1800

HIST 232. Central Africa to 1800

HIST 233. Central Africa since 1800

HIST 234. West Africa to 1800

HIST 235. West Africa since 1800

HIST 236. Southern Africa to 1910

HIST 237. Southern Africa since 1910
HIST 238. North Africa and the Maghreb to 1800
HIST 239. North Africa and the Maghreb since 1800
HIST 330. Problems in African History I
HIST 331. Problems in African History II
HIST 334. Readings in West Africa.
HIST 335. Readings in Southern Africa.
HIST 336. Readings in East Africa.
HIST 337. Readings in Central Africa.
HIST 338. Readings in African History
HIST 339. Readings in African History
HIST 382. Colonialism in Africa
HIST 387. African-Americans and Africa
HIST 430 through 433. Seminar in African History

**African Diaspora**

HIST 173. Comparative Slavery in the Americas
HIST 193. Pan-Africanism.
HIST 385. Readings in the African Diaspora
HIST 386. Readings in the African Diaspora
HIST 387. African-Americans and Africa.
HIST 388. Problems in African Diaspora: Theory & Methods
HIST 389. Readings in the African Diaspora
HIST 438, 439. Seminar in the African Diaspora
Europe

HIST 184. Early Modern Europe I
HIST 185. Early Modern Europe II
HIST 251. Modern Europe 1650-1848
HIST 250. Modern Europe since 1848
HIST 252, 253. Topics in European History
HIST 354 through 357. Readings in European History
HIST 450 through 453. Seminar in European History

Latin America and Caribbean

HIST 195. Ideology and Politics in Latin America and the Caribbean
HIST 240. History of the Caribbean I
HIST 241. History of the Caribbean II
HIST 245. Introduction to Latin America to 1825
HIST 243. Introduction to Latin America since 1825
HIST 340. Race Relations in Latin America and the Caribbean
HIST 341. Problems in Latin American and Caribbean History
HIST 342. Problems in Latin America and Caribbean History Since 1821
HIST 344, 345. Readings in Latin America
HIST 346, 347. Readings in the Caribbean
HIST 440 through 443. Seminar in Latin America and the Caribbean
HIST 444. Seminar in the History of Afro-Latinos
HIST 446. Seminar in Caribbean Economic History
Public History
This list is subject to change depending on semester offerings and special topics in the Problems in Public History course and the Readings in Public History course.

HIST 189. Public History
HIST 289. Introduction to Public History
HIST 402. Museums and Archives
HIST 403. Archives and Film
HIST 404. Problems in Public History
HIST 405. Seminar in Public History
HIST 406. Readings in Public History
HIST 408. Historical Editing
HIST 470. through 473. Graduate Internship in History (variable credit).
HIST 476. Graduate Internship in History
HIST 477. Graduate Internship in History

Special Topics
HIST 171. Human Geography of Africa
HIST 190, 191. Modern Revolutions and Liberation Movements
HIST 400. Oral History I (Methodology)
HIST 401. Oral History II (Methodology)
HIST 407. Seminar in Comparative History
HIST 480 through 489. Independent Readings
HIST 490 through 499. Independent Research Projects
HIST 510 through 518. Independent Research (PhD Candidates only) 1 – 9 cr.
Writing

HIST 300, 301. M.A. Thesis Writing. 1-3 crs.