

Winthrop University
Department of History
Master of Arts in History – Thesis Track
30 Credit-Hours

First Year

- **First semester**
 - HIST 603 (offered in fall) / 604 (offered in spring)
 - 500 or 600 level history courses or other relevant graduate courses
 - Begin to consider a Thesis topic

- **Second semester**
 - 500 or 600 level history courses or other relevant graduate courses
 - **Complete and submit prospectus** (see deadlines below)
 - Your **MA Thesis Prospectus** must follow these guidelines:
<https://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/cas/history/ProspectusGuidelines2016Update.pdf>
 - First draft of completed prospectus is due to the Director of the History Graduate Program **and** your thesis advisor **6 weeks prior** to the prospectus deadline
 - You will receive feedback on your prospectus from the Director of the History Graduate Program and your thesis advisor.
 - Complete revisions and submit the final draft to the Director of the History Graduate Program **and** your thesis advisor by the appropriate deadline.

Second Year

- **First semester**
 - HIST 695 (students can only register for HIST 695 after their prospectus has been approved)
 - 500 or 600 level history course or other relevant graduate course

- **Second semester**
 - HIST 696 (Students can only register for HIST 696 after completing HIST 695, which includes writing a draft introduction and one other chapter. Both should be distributed to the thesis committee by the end of the semester)
 - 500 or 600 level history course or other relevant graduate course
 - Complete and submit the MA Thesis
 - Your MA Thesis must follow these Graduate School guidelines
<https://www.winthrop.edu/graduateschool/thesis-guidelines-and-instructions.aspx>
 - Formatting for your MA Thesis must follow these Graduate School guidelines
<https://www.winthrop.edu/uploadedFiles/graduateschool/applicationforms/ThesisGuidelines.pdf>
 - The completed draft of the MA Thesis must be submitted to the committee for review and then the Graduate School by the appropriate deadlines.

Deadlines

- **Prospectus**
 - Prospectus Draft is due the Director of the History Graduate Program **and** your thesis advisor **6 weeks prior** to the deadlines.
 - Deadline if you enroll in fall – **April 15**
 - Deadline if you enroll in spring – **November 15**

- **Thesis**
 - The thesis is a minimum **two-semester** project, for which a student receives **six hours of credit**.
 - A student whose prospectus has been approved may register for HIST 695, and, on the successful completion of that course, he or she may register for HIST 696 during the next or any subsequent semester. Further information on the specific requirements for HIST 695 and 696 are found on the syllabi for those courses.
 - **Fall Graduation**
 - Complete MA Thesis Draft due to Thesis Committee by **October 1**.
 - Final Complete Draft of the MA Thesis will be due to the Graduate School on or around **November 15**.
 - **Spring Graduation**
 - Complete MA Thesis Draft due to Thesis Committee by **March 1**.
 - Final Complete Draft of the MA Thesis will be due to the Graduate School on or around **April 15**.

Additional Information

Students who take the Master's Thesis option are required to take 30 credit-hours of courses, including HIST 695 and HIST 696, which are the official classes wherein the Master's Thesis is written. That means students should take nine credit-hours in their first two semesters to ensure that they are considered full time; however, six credit-hours per semester is enough to ensure financial aid. Generally, after the first full academic year, students would take six credit-hours per semester including HIST 695/696 as they complete the thesis (18 credit hours in the first year and 12 in the second year to make 30 credit hours total).

*Full time for graduate students is at least **9 credit hours**. However, graduate students need at least **6 credit hours for financial aid eligibility**.

*A Master's Thesis is ideally a multi-chapter project comprised of at least one hundred pages.

*The prospectus and thesis, including the citation format, must be done in accordance with the most recent editions of *Chicago Manual of Style* or Kate Turabian's *A Manual for Writers of Research Papers, Theses, and Dissertations*.

Contact Information

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*If you have specific questions, contact your Thesis advisor or Dr. Lee and they will be able to assist you or point you to the appropriate person/office.