

**Lamar University**

**Department of  
History**

**Graduate Handbook**

**Last updated**

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## **Introduction**

### **Background Knowledge**

Applicants for admission to the master's program are expected to be familiar with a basic body of historical knowledge

one or more grades of C or lower may be granted full admission into the M.A. program. For that reason, enrolled postbac students will not be advised or allowed to register for a second or subsequent semester until final grades for the current semester are posted. Postbac students granted full admission may apply as many as two graduate courses (6 credit hours) taken as postbacs toward graduation.

As a general rule, the College of Graduate Studies accepts no more than six hours of credit transferred in from another institution toward an M.A. at Lamar. In certain circumstances, with the approval of the history department chair, students may petition the graduate school to accept more than six transferred hours. In all cases, however, a majority of credit hours toward a Lamar M.A. in history must come from Lamar University. Consequently, students on the thesis track may transfer in no more than 12 credits; those on the non-thesis track no more than 15. Only courses in history may be transferred in toward an M.A. in history.

*Application deadlines.* Domestic students (U.S. citizens and permanent residents) must submit all application materials at least 30 days before Fall, Spring, or Summer registration. Deadlines for international students are April 15 for Fall semester, September 1 for Spring, and January 15 for Summer terms.



### **Graduate Coursework in History**

HIST 5300 Historiography

Mandatory course for all graduate students.

HIST 5390-5391 Thesis

*Prerequisite: Approval of graduate advisor. Must complete*

International students who are required to pass the Michigan Test to indicate English proficiency must do so before they can be admitted to candidacy.

*The committee.* A graduate student's committee typically consists of three members – a supervising professor as well as two other professors from the history department. Usually these professors are those from whom the student has taken the most classes. If the student has a minor field from outside the history department, o

Whether the graduate student pursues the Thesis or Non-Thesis Option, DegreeWorks is used to note the outcome of the oral and/or written exam.

*Application for graduation.* Graduate students must apply and pay for graduation by the first Monday in October or March or second Monday in June, for a December, May, or August graduation, respectively.

All graduate students should secure a copy of the graduate calendar that the Office of Graduate Studies makes available each semester.

*Survey & exit interview.* In the interest of self-assessment and program improvement, graduate students, in the final semester before graduation, after the completion of all program requirements, complete a brief survey regarding their graduate experiences and meet with one or more members of the faculty to discuss the program.

### **Progress Tracking Worksheets**

Below are two unofficial worksheets, one for the Thesis Option and one for the Non-Thesis Option, that students and the graduate advisor may use to monitor student progress through the program and prevent any unpleasant surprises.





