HISTORY, MA

Banner Code: LA-MA-HIST

Academic Advising
B359 Robinson Hall
Fairfax Campus

Website: historyarthistory.gmu.edu/programs/la-ma-hist

The History MA is at the forefront of both traditional historical study and innovative digital approaches to the past. Students select from a variety of course topics while also selecting an area of historical specialization that accommodates their interests and furthers their career objectives. Students come to the program with diverse career objectives, and the program is designed with that diversity in mind. Students take classes in which they discuss history alongside future academics, public historians, teachers, military officers, non-profit professionals, government officials, and entrepreneurs.

Admissions & Policies

Admissions
Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For specific information, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (http://historyarthistory.gmu.edu/programs/application/LA-MA-HIST) on the departmental website.

Policies
For policies governing all graduate degrees, see Graduate Policies.

Foundation Courses
Students may be required to take up to 12 additional credits of foundation courses, which cover broad thematic areas (HIST 601 Themes in U.S. History I, HIST 602 Themes in U.S. History II, HIST 605 Themes in European History I, HIST 606 Themes in European History II), to remedy gaps in their undergraduate preparation. If required as foundational, these credits cannot be applied toward the credits required for the degree.

If foundation courses are not required at admission, students in the concentrations in enrichment and teaching may apply up to one thematic course (3 credits) toward their degree. Students in the other concentrations may not apply these courses toward their degree.

Reduction of Credit
The program does not permit a reduction of credit based on a previously conferred graduate degree. Students may apply no more than 6 credits earned through study abroad courses toward their degree.

Requirements

Degree Requirements
Total credits: 30 or 36

Students should be aware of the specific policies associated with this program, located on the Admissions & Policies tab.

Students pursuing this degree must complete the requirements for one of the concentrations below. The concentrations in higher education and teaching require 36 credits, all others require 30 credits.

Concentration in Predoctoral History (AH1, EH1, WH1)
This concentration is for students planning to pursue doctoral studies. Students choose one of three geographic specializations and a chronological or thematic minor field within that specialization. Students complete coursework and a research seminar in their geographic specialization and an additional independent project or thesis in their minor field.

Required Course
HIST 610 The Study and Writing of History 1
Total Credits 3

1 Must be taken within the first 9 credits

Specialization
Students complete one of the following geographic specializations.

Specialization in U.S. History
Select four courses from the following: 1

Origins to 1861

HIST 613 The Colonial Origins of American Society
HIST 618 The Age of Jackson, 1815-1854
HIST 620 Development of the Early Republic, 1783-1815
HIST 631 Era of the American Revolution
HIST 661 Religion in North America to 1870
HIST 615 Problems in American History (when topic applies and with department approval)

Other appropriate course with department approval

1861-1914

HIST 617 Topics in the American Civil War Era
HIST 622 U.S. South Since 1865
HIST 629 The Gilded Age and Progressive Era
HIST 633 Reconstruction
HIST 662 U.S. Religion since 1870
HIST 615 Problems in American History (when topic applies and with department approval)

Other appropriate course with department approval

1914 World War I to the Present

HIST 622 U.S. South Since 1865
HIST 623 Recent U.S. History, 1945 to Present
HIST 634 Interwar America: 1918-1939
HIST 662 U.S. Religion since 1870
HIST 677 The Vietnam War
HIST 615 Problems in American History (when topic applies and with department approval)

Other appropriate course with department approval
Select at least 3 credits from each group.

### Specialization in European History

Select four courses from the following: 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 642</td>
<td>Humanism and the Renaissance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 643</td>
<td>Religion and Society in the Reformation Era</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 644</td>
<td>Society and Culture in Early Modern Europe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 645</td>
<td>The Russian Revolution and the Origins of the Soviet State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 635</td>
<td>Problems in European History (when topic applies and with department approval)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other appropriate course with department approval

Select at least 3 credits from each group.

### Specialization in World History

Select four courses from the following: 1

<table>
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<tr>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 510</td>
<td>Approaches to Modern World History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 565</td>
<td>Problems in African History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 555</td>
<td>Problems in Asian History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 575</td>
<td>Approaches to Middle East and Islamic History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 585</td>
<td>Problems in Middle Eastern History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 525</td>
<td>Problems in Latin American History</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other appropriate course with department approval

Select at least 3 credits from each group.

### Research Seminar in a Geographic Specialization

Select one research seminar from the following: 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 711</td>
<td>Research Seminar in U.S. History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 731</td>
<td>Research Seminar in European History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 751</td>
<td>Research Seminar in Comparative World History</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 3

### Minor Field Concentration

In consultation with the graduate director and other faculty, students identify a chronological or topical subspecialty and select two courses that relate directly to that subspecialty. 6

### Total Credits: 6

### Language Proficiency

Language proficiency sufficient to conduct primary source research in the student's intended area of concentration, as demonstrated by thesis or independent research project.

### Project or Thesis

Select 6 credits of Project or Thesis 6

### Project and Additional Elective

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 798</td>
<td>Directed Research and Writing in History 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional 3 credits from Specialization

### Thesis

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 799</td>
<td>Thesis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 6

1 requires the completion of a major paper that is a substantial and original contribution to historical knowledge on the model of an article in a scholarly journal. If students choose to take , they complete an additional 3 credits in their specialization.

### Concentration in Applied History (AH2, EH2, WH2)

This concentration is for students seeking expertise in applied history fields, such as archival management, museum studies, historic preservation, and historical editing. It is also suitable for professionally employed historians who desire to further their careers.

### Required Course

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 610</td>
<td>The Study and Writing of History 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 3

1 Must be taken within the first 9 credits

### Specialization

Students complete one of the following geographic specializations.

### Specialization in U.S. History

Select four courses from the following: 1

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<td>HIST 613</td>
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<td>HIST 618</td>
<td>The Age of Jackson, 1815-1854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 620</td>
<td>Development of the Early Republic, 1783-1815</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits: 12

1 Select at least 3 credits from two regions.
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<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 631</td>
<td>Era of the American Revolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 661</td>
<td>Religion in North America to 1870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 615</td>
<td>Problems in American History (when topic applies and with department approval)</td>
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**1861-1914**

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<td>HIST 617</td>
<td>Topics in the American Civil War Era</td>
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<td>HIST 622</td>
<td>U.S. South Since 1865</td>
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<td>HIST 629</td>
<td>The Gilded Age and Progressive Era</td>
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<td>HIST 633</td>
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**1914 World War I to the Present**

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<tr>
<td>HIST 622</td>
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<td>Recent U.S. History, 1945 to Present</td>
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</tr>
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</table>

**Select at least 3 credits from each group.**

### Specialization in World History

Select four courses from the following:  

- **World**
  - HIST 510 Approaches to Modern World History
- **Africa**
  - HIST 565 Problems in African History
- **Asia**
  - HIST 555 Problems in Asian History
- **Middle East**
  - HIST 575 Approaches to Middle East and Islamic History
- **Latin America**
  - HIST 525 Problems in Latin American History

**Select at least 3 credits from two regions.**

### Research Seminar in a Specialization

Select one research seminar from the following:  

- HIST 711 Research Seminar in U.S. History
- HIST 731 Research Seminar in European History
- HIST 751 Research Seminar in Comparative World History

**Total Credits**  

### Applied History

These include courses in historic preservation, museum studies, archives, historical editing, or new media and information technology.

Select two to three courses from the following:  

- HIST 680 Introduction to Digital Humanities
- HIST 685 Topics in Applied History
- HIST 688 Topics in History and New Media
- HIST 689 Teaching and Learning History in the Digital Age
- HIST 690 The Administration of Archives and Manuscripts
- HIST 691 Museum Studies
- HIST 692 Historical Editing
- HIST 693 Historic Preservation
- HIST 694 Digital Public History
- HIST 695 History Symposium
- HIST 696 Clio Wired: An Introduction to History and New Media
HIST 697  Creating History in New Media  
HIST 698  Programming in History and New Media  
Other appropriate course with department approval  
Total Credits 6-9  

Internship  
If students chose to do a 3-credit internship, they will take an additional 3 credits in applied history course work from the list of courses above (HIST 680 - HIST 698).  
HIST 794  Internship in Applied History 3-6  
Total Credits 3-6  

Proficiency in a Relevant Research Tool  
Demonstrated by course work or exam in computers, statistics, or a modern foreign language  

Concentration in Applied History with New Media and Information Technology Emphasis (AH4, EH4, WH4)  
Students pursuing this concentration take:  

Required Course  
HIST 610  The Study and Writing of History 1 3  
Total Credits 3  

1  Must be taken within the first 9 credits  

Specialization  
Students complete one of the following geographic specializations.  

Specialization in U.S. History  
Select four courses from the following: 1 12  

Origins to 1861  
HIST 613  The Colonial Origins of American Society  
HIST 618  The Age of Jackson, 1815-1854  
HIST 620  Development of the Early Republic, 1783-1815  
HIST 631  Era of the American Revolution  
HIST 661  Religion in North America to 1870  
HIST 615  Problems in American History (when topic applies and with department approval)  
Other appropriate course with department approval  

1861-1914  
HIST 617  Topics in the American Civil War Era  
HIST 622  U.S. South Since 1865  
HIST 629  The Gilded Age and Progressive Era  
HIST 633  Reconstruction  
HIST 662  U.S. Religion since 1870  
HIST 615  Problems in American History (when topic applies and with department approval)  
Other appropriate course with department approval  

1914 World War I to the Present  
HIST 622  U.S. South Since 1865  
HIST 623  Recent U.S. History, 1945 to Present  
HIST 634  Interwar America: 1918-1939  
HIST 662  U.S. Religion since 1870  
HIST 677  The Vietnam War  
HIST 615  Problems in American History (when topic applies and with department approval)  
Other appropriate course with department approval  

1  Select at least 3 credits from each group.  

Specialization in European History  
Select four courses from the following: 1 12  

Ancient, Medieval, Early Modern to 1789  
HIST 642  Humanism and the Renaissance  
HIST 643  Religion and Society in the Reformation Era  
HIST 644  Society and Culture in Early Modern Europe  
HIST 645  The Russian Revolution and the Origins of the Soviet State  
HIST 635  Problems in European History (when topic applies and with department approval)  
Other appropriate course with department approval  

1789-1914  
HIST 637  Great Britain: Empire to Commonwealth, 1870-1970  
HIST 639  Society and Politics in Western Europe, 1750-1914  
HIST 640  Metropolitan Cities of Europe in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries  
HIST 635  Problems in European History (when topic applies and with department approval)  
Other appropriate course with department approval  

1914 to the Present  
HIST 637  Great Britain: Empire to Commonwealth, 1870-1970  
HIST 640  Metropolitan Cities of Europe in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries  
HIST 645  The Russian Revolution and the Origins of the Soviet State  
HIST 635  Problems in European History (when topic applies and with department approval)  
Other appropriate course with department approval  

1  Select at least 3 credits from each group.  

Specialization in World History  
Select four courses from the following: 1 12  

World  
HIST 510  Approaches to Modern World History  
Africa  
HIST 565  Problems in African History  
Other appropriate course with department approval  
Asia  
HIST 555  Problems in Asian History  
Other appropriate course with department approval  
Middle East  
HIST 575  Approaches to Middle East and Islamic History  
HIST 585  Problems in Middle Eastern History
Other appropriate course with department approval

**Latin America**

<table>
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 525</td>
<td>Problems in Latin American History</td>
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<td>Other appropriate course with department approval</td>
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</table>

1 Select at least 3 credits from two regions.

**Research Seminar in a Specialization**

Select one research seminar from the following:

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<td>HIST 751</td>
<td>Research Seminar in Comparative World History</td>
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</table>

Total Credits

**New Media and Information Technology**

Select two courses in new media and information technology

1

Total Credits

**Proficiency in a Relevant Research Tool**

Demonstrated by course work or exam in computer science, statistics, information technology, or a modern foreign language

**Concentration in Enrichment (AH3, EH3, WH3)**

This concentration is for students who want to study history for intellectual self-fulfillment or vocational reasons. It allows more flexibility in the selection of courses and does not have a foreign language requirement.

**Required Course**

<table>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 610</td>
<td>The Study and Writing of History</td>
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Total Credits

1 Must be taken within the first 9 credits.

**Specialization**

Students complete one of the following specializations.

**Specialization in U.S. History**

Select four courses from the following:

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Other appropriate course with department approval

**1861-1914**

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**1914 World War I to the Present**

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Other appropriate course with department approval

**Specialization in European History**

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<td>HIST 642</td>
<td>Humanism and the Renaissance</td>
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<td>Religion and Society in the Reformation Era</td>
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<td>Society and Culture in Early Modern Europe</td>
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<td>The Russian Revolution and the Origins of the Soviet State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 635</td>
<td>Problems in European History (when topic applies and with department approval)</td>
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Other appropriate course with department approval

**Ancient, Medieval, Early Modern to 1789**

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<td>HIST 642</td>
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Other appropriate course with department approval

**1789-1914**

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<td>HIST 637</td>
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<td>HIST 639</td>
<td>Society and Politics in Western Europe, 1750-1914</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIST 640</td>
<td>Metropolitan Cities of Europe in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries</td>
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Other appropriate course with department approval

**1914 to the Present**

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</table>
History, MA

HIST 635 Problems in European History (when topic applies with department approval)
Other appropriate course with department approval

Select at least 3 credits from each group.

Specialization in World History
Select four courses from the following:

World
HIST 510 Approaches to Modern World History

Africa
HIST 565 Problems in African History
Other appropriate course with department approval

Asia
HIST 555 Problems in Asian History
Other appropriate course with department approval

Middle East
HIST 575 Approaches to Middle East and Islamic History
HIST 585 Problems in Middle Eastern History
Other appropriate course with department approval

Latin America
HIST 525 Problems in Latin American History
Other appropriate course with department approval

Select at least 3 credits from two regions.

Research Seminar in a Specialization
Select one research seminar from the following:

HIST 711 Research Seminar in U.S. History
HIST 731 Research Seminar in European History
HIST 751 Research Seminar in Comparative World History

Total Credits

Course in a Field Outside of Geographic Specialization
Select one course from U.S., European, or world history (listed above) that is not in their chosen specialization.

Total Credits

Elective Courses
Students can choose to pursue a Thesis in lieu of two electives

Select three elective courses

Thesis
HIST 799 Thesis
Select one elective course

Total Credits

Concentration in Higher Education (HEDU)
The concentration in higher education is intended for students who want to teach history at community college. It includes coursework in both history and education, including a course on college teaching. Students are required to take at least one history course in each of three areas (U.S., European, and world history), and they are encouraged to take two courses in each area to prepare them to teach the U.S., western civilization, and world history survey courses most commonly offered at the community college level.

HIST 610 The Study and Writing of History 1
Total Credits

1 Must be taken within the first 9 credits.

Additional Courses in History
Select six courses in history

Total Credits

1 Must include at least one course each from U.S. European, and world history.

Research Seminar
Select one course from the following:

HIST 711 Research Seminar in U.S. History
HIST 731 Research Seminar in European History
HIST 751 Research Seminar in Comparative World History

Total Credits

Graduate Education
Select four courses from the following:

HE 602 College Teaching
HE 685 Practicum
Six credits of HE electives

Total Credits

Concentration in Teaching (HS4)
This concentration offers students interested in a career in secondary education the option to devote part of their History MA to graduate coursework that can be applied toward the requirements for licensure in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Students who have an interest in obtaining licensure to teach should meet with a pre-Education advisor in the College Of Education and Human Development at the beginning of their program to create a plan for completion of the required content-coursework prerequisites (Endorsements). You can view information here: https://cehd.gmu.edu/endorse/ or contact the Pre-Education Advising Coordinator at endorse@gmu.edu. Students seeking licensure must also enroll in the Secondary Education Licensure Graduate Certificate program (E1-CERG-SELC), a state-approved educator preparation program. Upon completion of the discipline-specific content competencies coursework; the MA in History, concentration in teaching; and the Secondary Education Licensure Graduate Certificate, students will be eligible for recommendation for an initial teaching license in Secondary Education History and Social Science.

Required Course
HIST 610 The Study and Writing of History 1
Total Credits

1 Must be taken within the first 9 credits.

History
Select six courses in history, at least one course each from U.S., European, and world history

Total Credits
Research Seminar
Select one research seminar from the following: 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HIST 711</td>
<td>Research Seminar in U.S. History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 731</td>
<td>Research Seminar in European History</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIST 751</td>
<td>Research Seminar in Comparative World History</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 3

College of Education and Human Development Graduate Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDCI 567</td>
<td>Teaching Social Studies in the Secondary School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 522</td>
<td>Foundations of Secondary Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDRD 619</td>
<td>Literacy in Content Areas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDUC 672</td>
<td>Human Development and Learning: Secondary Education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Credits 12

Accelerated Master’s

History, BA/History, Accelerated MA

Overview
Highly-qualified Mason undergraduates may apply to the accelerated master’s degree program and obtain both a BA and a MA in history after satisfactory completion of 144 credits. The BA and MA earned separately require 120 and 30 credits respectively. If accepted into the program, they must have completed 90 credits including HIST 300 Introduction to Historical Method (Mason Core) with a minimum grade of B+ before they can enter the program.

Interested students should contact the Director of Undergraduate Programs for details about the application process.

For more detailed information, see AP.6.7 Bachelor’s/Accelerated Master’s Degrees. For policies governing all graduate degrees, see AP.6 Graduate Policies.

Application Requirements
Applicants to all graduate programs at George Mason University must meet the admission standards and application requirements for graduate study as specified in Graduate Admissions. For information specific to the accelerated MA in history, see Application Requirements and Deadlines (http://historyarthistory.gmu.edu/programs/la-ma-acel-hist/application) on the departmental web site.

Accelerated Option Requirements
Applicants accepted to the accelerated MA program must have completed 90 credits including HIST 300 Introduction to Historical Method (Mason Core) with a minimum grade of B+ as a condition to entry into the program.

While undergraduate students, accelerated master’s students complete two graduate courses (HIST 610 The Study and Writing of History and one additional 3 credit HIST course at the 500-level or 600-level), as indicated on their Accelerated Master’s Program Application, with a minimum grade of 3.00 in each course. These credits cannot replace HIST 499 RS: Senior Seminar in History (Mason Core). Once admitted to the accelerated master’s pathway, students must maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.25 in all coursework and earn a B or better (3.00 or higher) in coursework applied to their major. On completion and conferral of the undergraduate degree in the semester indicated in the application, they submit the Bachelor’s/Accelerated Master’s Transition Form and are admitted to graduate status.

As graduate students, accelerated master’s students have an advanced standing. They must meet all master’s degree requirements except for the two courses (6 credits) they completed as undergraduates. Students must begin their master’s program the semester immediately following conferral of the undergraduate degree.

Reserve Graduate Credit
Students may take up to 6 additional credits of HIST courses at the 500-level or 600-level as reserve graduate credit. These credits do not apply to the undergraduate degree. To apply these credits to the master’s degree, students should use the Bachelor’s/Accelerated Master’s Transition Form.

The ability to take courses, including ones not listed above, for reserve graduate credit is available to all high achieving undergraduates with the permission of the department. Permission is normally granted only to qualified Mason seniors within 15 hours of graduation. See AP.1.4.4 Graduate Course Enrollment by Undergraduates.