HIST 5190–007: Thesis – 2 hours

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Course Description:
A 1-3 hour course dedicated to research and writing connected to the completion of the M.A. Thesis.

Course Requirements:
As this course is based on the research and writing of the thesis proposal and the thesis itself, the student is required to make progress on the thesis as outlined by the professor and student at the start of the semester.

Course Calendar:
Tentative timeline for the course (tailored to student: William Carter).
- Have proposal completed by Sept. 7
- Have Introduction completed by Sept. 21
- Have rough drafts of chapters completed by end of the semester

Program Learning Outcomes:
To make progress on thesis project; specifically, the student will conduct research and draft chapters.

Graduate Student Learning Outcomes:
The SFA History Department has identified the following Program Learning Outcomes (PLOs) for all SFA students earning an M.A. degree in History:
1. The student will be able to explain the key issues and developments in at least two historical periods (one per course).
2. The student will be able to identify the main historical works and interpretive debates associated with an event or period.
3. The student will be able to locate, identify, and critically analyze primary sources.
4. The student will be able to research and analyze effectively an issue or topic in writing.
5. The student will be able to present written work in an appropriate academic style, including the proper citation of sources using Chicago Manual of Style (15th or most recent edition).

This course will incorporate to varying degrees on each of these PLOs, with a particular emphasis on PLOs 3, 4, and 5.

Explanation of credit hours awarded for course:
Students completing a thesis must register each semester university resources are being utilized until the thesis is completed and successfully defended. During the research phase, the student works independently with a list of sources developed in consultation with the thesis director (who is listed as the course instructor of record). The student meets regularly with the director, and as needed with other members of the thesis committee, to discuss the progress of the project during the research phase. The student also works independently during the writing phase of the project, according to the plan of the approved thesis proposal, under the direction
of the thesis director. Once again, as during the research phase, the student meets regularly
with the director, and as needed with other members of the thesis committee, and submits
drafts of the thesis as per the schedule outlined in the thesis proposal until the thesis is
successfully defended and approved by the committee, a process that must occur according to
university deadlines. Students are expected to produce 100-140 pages of formal writing. The
course is for variable credit. Generally, the student registers for 6 hours of credit during the first
semester of the thesis work and for 1 hour of credit during subsequent semesters until the
thesis is successfully defended.

For this course, the student is taking one hour only as she works on preliminary research
materials.

**Academic Integrity**
Academic integrity is a responsibility of all university faculty and students. Faculty members
promote academic integrity in multiple ways including instruction on the components of
academic honesty, as well as abiding by university policy on penalties for cheating and
plagiarism.

**Definition of Academic Dishonesty**
Academic dishonesty includes both cheating and plagiarism. Cheating includes but is not limited
to (1) using or attempting to use unauthorized materials to aid in achieving a better grade on a
component of a class; (2) the falsification or invention of any information, including citations, on
an assigned exercise; and/or (3) helping or attempting to help another in an act of cheating or
plagiarism. Plagiarism is presenting the words or ideas of another person as if they were your
own. Examples of plagiarism are (1) submitting an assignment as if it were one’s own work
when, in fact, it is at least partly the work of another; (2) submitting a work that has been
purchased or otherwise obtained from an Internet source or another source; and (3)
incorporating the words or ideas of an author into one’s paper without giving the author due
credit.

Please read the complete policy at [http://www.sfasu.edu/policies/4.1-student-academic-

**Withheld Grades (Semester Grades Policy, A-54)**
Ordinarily, at the discretion of the instructor of record and with the approval of the academic
chair/director, a grade of WH will be assigned only if the student cannot complete the course
work because of unavoidable circumstances. Students must complete the work within one
calendar year from the end of the semester in which they receive a WH, or the grade
automatically becomes an F. If students register for the same course in future terms the WH will
automatically become an F and will be counted as a repeated course for the purpose of
computing the grade point average.

**Students with Disabilities**
To obtain disability related accommodations, alternate formats and/or auxiliary aids, students
with disabilities must contact the Office of Disability Services (ODS), Human Services Building,
and Room 325, 468-3004 / 468-1004 (TDD) as early as possible in the semester. Once
verified, ODS will notify the course instructor and outline the accommodation and/or auxiliary
aids to be provided. Failure to request services in a timely manner may delay your
accommodations. For additional information, go to [http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/](http://www.sfasu.edu/disabilityservices/).