

HISTORY, MA, EXAMINATION OPTION

Arts & Humanities (ah) (<https://catalog.csub.edu/general-information/csub-information/school-arts-humanities/>)

Department of History (<https://catalog.csub.edu/general-information/csub-information/school-arts-humanities/department-history/>)

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www.csub.edu/history/M.A.%20Program/index.html (<http://www.csub.edu/history/M.A.%20Program/>)

Program Maps for Arts and Humanities (<https://programmap.csub.edu/academics/interest-clusters/b25268bc-3d3d-44bd-8366-730406c8a906/>)

Program Requirements Program Options

There are two program options leading to an MA degree in History: the examination option and the thesis option. HIST 6970 Master's Thesis and HIST 6980 Comprehensive Exam are credit/no-credit courses. Graduate students are encouraged to earn as many units as possible in 5000- or 6000-level courses. A maximum of 12 semester units, however, may be earned in 4000-level courses.

Once students decide on the examination or thesis option, they should secure the appropriate Plan of Study from the Graduate Program Coordinator. This Plan of Study, which will be kept in individual students' files, will formally indicate committee members, coursework leading to the MA degree, date of classification, and satisfaction of the GVAR (see below).

Graduation Writing Assessment Requirement (GVAR)

All MA candidates must demonstrate writing competency at the upper-division level. Students who have not had the equivalent of an upper-division writing course in history, in consultation with the Graduate Coordinator, may be required either to take HIST 3008 Historical Writing or the waiver exam. Details on the GVAR waiver exam are available at: www.csub.edu/testing/tests/test%20description/GVAR/ (<http://www.csub.edu/testing/tests/test%20description/GVAR/>).

Waiver of GVAR

MA students may be exempted from the GVAR if the following apply:

- The student has graduated from a CSU or UC since 1980.
- The student earned the following score on a standardized test taken since 1980: CBEST—41 or higher on the writing portion; GMA
- 4.5 or higher on the writing portion; GRE—4.5 or higher on the analytic writing portion of the GRE General Test.
- The student has had one or more articles published as a first author in a refereed professional journal (student must submit this work

to the chair of the university-wide GVAR committee with a formal request to waive the GVAR).

- The student already holds an MA or MS in any discipline that included a master's thesis or project. (The student must submit this work to the chair of the university-wide GVAR committee with a formal request to waive the GVAR).

The Master of Arts in History - Examination Option (30 units)

The examination option path to the MA degree provides an excellent foundation for those who plan to teach at the high school or community college level, as well as those considering the PhD. It generally is completed in less time than the thesis option and provides student with a broad base of knowledge and bibliography that will be of significant value when they are preparing courses in their teaching career.

Code	Title	Units
Required Courses		
HIST 5030	Historical Research Methods and Historiography	3
HIST 6980	Comprehensive Exam	3
Graduate Seminar Courses		
<i>The Americas</i>		
Select at least one of the following:		3
HIST 5110	Reading Seminar in US History to 1865	
HIST 5120	Reading Seminar in US History in 1860	
HIST 5130	Reading Seminar in the American West	
HIST 5310	Reading Seminar in Latin American History	
<i>World History</i>		
Select at least one of the following:		3
HIST 5410	Reading Seminar in the Asian World	
HIST 5420	Reading Seminar in African/Middle Eastern History	
HIST 5510	Seminar in European History	
HIST 5610	Reading Seminar in the Ancient Mediterranean World	
HIST 5620	Reading Seminar in the Atlantic World	
Additional Graduate		
Graduate or 4000-level courses ¹		12
Total Units		24

¹ Students may take no more than 40% of the program (12 units) in 4000-level courses

Examination Committee

The examination committee will consist of three members, one for each of the three fields in which the student will be examined. Two of the members shall be History Department faculty members who taught two of the student's four reading seminars. The third member may also be one of the faculty who taught one of the four reading seminars, or the student may choose a faculty member to give an exam in a thematic field. The student shall choose one of the committee members (subject to that member's consent) to chair the committee. The committee will help students prepare for MA exams. The examination results will be forwarded to the Graduate Program Coordinator, using the following grading scale: Honors, Pass, or Fail.

Written Examinations

Students who have maintained at least a 3.25 GPA in their graduate coursework should obtain the signature of their committee chair prior to taking their exams, and must be enrolled in the university in HIST 6980 in the semester in which they take the exams. The exams shall consist of three two-hour written exams, with one exam administered by each member of the committee. The exams are scheduled over a one-week period and are offered once a semester. *(Note: No student shall be permitted to take an examination in a field in which he or she has not had formal course work.)* Any failed examination may be repeated one time within the following 12-month period.