The Master of Arts in History program at Florida Atlantic University draws on the unique qualities of the discipline of history to give students a distinctive and foundational knowledge of the full scope of the past and how it contributes to a better understanding of the present. Graduates will be prepared for careers in a variety of fields, including teaching, historic preservation, public history, government service, journalism, consulting, institutional research, and the religious and legal professions.
Faculty
The 23 members of the Florida Atlantic history department are highly recognized authors of numerous scholarly books and articles. Several faculty members have been recipients of Excellence in Teaching and Excellence in Research awards while directing over 165 theses. While the department’s major strengths are in U.S. and modern European history, courses are also offered in Asian, Latin American, and public history.

Course of Study
The Master of Arts in History has both a thesis track and non-thesis track. The thesis track requires 30 credit hours, with a minimum of 24 hours of graduate coursework and the completion of a M.A. thesis, for which a minimum of 6 additional credits must be earned. The non-thesis track requires a total of 36 hours of graduate coursework. All students are admitted as non-thesis. Following completion of 18 hours of graduate study, those students wishing to pursue the thesis track must petition the Graduate Program Committee. Once students are granted thesis track status, they must work in conjunction with the director to create a thesis committee. All students must complete HIS 5060: The Historical Experience in their first semester if they enter in the fall and in their second semester if they enter in the spring. Students then complete their coursework by taking a combination of readings and research seminars.

Language Requirement
Competency in at least one foreign language is required for the master’s degree. Students must demonstrate reading knowledge of a foreign language appropriate to their area of specialization. It is the responsibility of students to see that this requirement is met. Students writing a thesis must fulfill the requirement before registering for thesis research. To fulfill the foreign language requirement students may take and pass the intermediate level course, or take and pass the Reading for Research course (FRE/GER/SPN 5060), or achieve the required score on the CLEP exam.

Further Study
The M.A. program will provide students who wish to pursue further study in history at the Ph.D. level with a strong academic foundation, professional relationships, the chance to work with established scholars, and numerous opportunities to produce high-quality research.

Qualifications for Admission:
The program seeks students who have a B.A. or equivalent degree in history, but also accepts applicants with degrees in other fields who may become eligible through completion of a minimal amount of extra coursework. Students whose native language is not English are required to demonstrate strong English skills on the TOEFL exam for admission.

Financial Aid:
The M.A. program offers a number of graduate teaching assistantships which provide a tuition waiver and a stipend for eligible full-time students. Anyone who wishes to be considered for an assistantship should apply directly to the Director of Graduate Studies by either February 15 or September 15, depending on the semester for which the student is seeking admission. All assistantships are competitive and awarded on the basis of the GPA, letters of recommendation, the GRE score, academic honors, and, if feasible, an interview with the graduate committee.

More Information:
For further information, visit www.fau.edu/history/graduate.php and/or contact Dr. Ben Lowe, Director of Graduate Studies bplowe@fau.edu

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