

UGPC APPROVAL _____
 UFS APPROVAL _____
 CATALOG _____

Graduate Programs—PROGRAM CHANGE REQUEST

DEPARTMENT: HISTORY

COLLEGE: D.F. SCHMIDT COLLEGE OF ARTS & LETTERS

PROGRAM NAME:

M.A. WITH MAJOR IN HISTORY (THESIS OPTION)

EFFECTIVE DATE

(PROVIDE TERM/YEAR)

FALL 2015

PLEASE EXPLAIN THE REQUESTED CHANGE(S) AND OFFER RATIONALE BELOW AND/OR ATTACHED:

THE PURPOSE OF THE REQUESTED CHANGE (FOR WHICH, SEE ACCOMPANYING MEMORANDUM) IS TO MORE CLEARLY DEFINE THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THOSE STUDENTS IN THE HISTORY MA PROGRAM WHO WISH TO BE ADMITTED TO THE THESIS OPTION. THE PROPOSED PROGRAM CHANGE DOES SO IN TWO WAYS. FIRST, THE CURRENT REQUIREMENT DOES NOT SPECIFY THE POINT IN THE PLAN OF STUDY AT WHICH STUDENTS SHOULD APPLY FOR THE THESIS OPTION. CONSEQUENTLY, THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES APPLICATIONS TO SWITCH FROM THE NON-THESIS OPTION TO THE THESIS OPTION WHEN STUDENTS ARE AT AN ADVANCED POINT IN THE DEGREE PROGRAM, AND WHEN MAKING THE SWITCH WOULD EXTEND THE TIME TO DEGREE. BY SPECIFYING THAT STUDENTS MUST APPLY FOR THE THESIS OPTION AFTER 9 CREDIT HOURS, THE NEW REQUIREMENTS WILL ENSURE THAT STUDENTS MAKE AN EARLY DECISION, AND SHAPE THEIR PLAN OF STUDY ACCORDINGLY. SECOND, THE REQUESTED CHANGE IMPLEMENTS A MINIMUM GPA REQUIREMENT. THE INTENT OF THE GPA REQUIREMENT IS TO ENSURE THAT ONLY STUDENTS OF THE HIGHEST CALIBER, WHO ARE MOST LIKELY TO COMPLETE A THESIS SUCCESSFULLY, ARE ADMITTED TO THESIS TRACK. THIS CHANGE SHOULD ASSIST WITH RETENTION AND IMPROVE TIME-TO-DEGREE AMONG THE THESIS TRACK COHORT.

Faculty contact, email and complete phone number:

Douglas Kanter
 Dkanter1@fau.edu
 7-3593

Consult and list departments that might be affected by the change and attach comments.

N/A

Approved by:

Department Chair: *Douglas Kanter*
 College Curriculum Chair: *Margaret DeDau*
 College Dean: *Mark Miller*
 UGPC Chair: *Chuck Miller*
 Graduate College Dean: *John H. Stoy*
 UFS President: _____
 Provost: _____

Date:

2/27/15
2-27-15
2-27-15
3/25/15

Email this form and syllabus to UGPC@fau.edu one week before the University Graduate Programs Committee meeting so that materials may be viewed on the UGPC website prior to the meeting.



10/20/12

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

10/20/12
10/20/12

10/20/12
10/20/12
10/20/12

Draft, spring 2015

**FLORIDA ATLANTIC
UNIVERSITY™**

Department of History

Application for the MA Thesis Option

All students admitted to the MA program in History will be on a non-thesis trajectory. Students may switch to the MA thesis option under the following conditions:

1. Students must have achieved a minimum overall GPA of 3.75 in their graduate program by the end of the second semester of full-time study (or after completing 15 credits studying part-time).
2. Students must submit to the Director of Graduate Studies prior to the last day of class of the second semester of full-time study (or the last day of class of the semester when the student will have completed 15 credits studying part-time) the following:
 - a. A brief paragraph indicating which professor ideally would serve as thesis advisor, and explaining why they would like to work with that particular professor.
 - b. A 3-5 page overview of the thesis (explain what the thesis is about, how existing literature on topic is deficient, and what thesis is proposing that is new) plus a preliminary bibliography.

After grades are in for the semester during which the student is applying for the thesis-option, the Director of Graduate Studies will verify applicant's overall GPA; if this falls below 3.75, the student will have to pursue the non-thesis option.

If the student meets the GPA requirement, the Director of Graduate Studies will forward the application to the Graduate Committee members. The committee will communicate its decision to the Director of Graduate Studies, who will inform the student whether the project is accepted and, if so, under what conditions the student may proceed to write the thesis. If the application is not approved, the student must pursue the non-thesis option.

This policy will be implemented beginning Fall 2015