

Graduate Studies Committee Report to SENATE, Fall 2014

Policies passed during the FALL 2014 Academic Semester

Graduate Studies Policy Changes

1) Change to the GSC Bylaws to let alternates serve on standing committees. The rationale for this addition is to broaden the diversity of membership on these committees.

This addition is noted in Section IV Standing Committees of the sentence “Alternates may serve on standing committees in place of a department or program’s regular member.”

2) Changes to existing application procedures for all graduate programs, to accommodate the new fully online application process to be used for future applications. The GSC policy committee is currently reviewing the application process of all graduate programs in conjunction with Graduate Admissions, and will propose modifications to those processes that will make full (or best) use of the new online application system being implemented. Language across the catalog as well as on department websites will need to be altered to reflect this change.

3) Thesis completion deadline: policy change for Departments to opt to use a thesis completion deadline that occurs before the graduate school six-year deadline.

Rationale: Based on requests from a limited number of graduate programs that consistently experience problems with students not completing their theses based on the six-year timeline, it was decided that a department may enact an individual deadline to keep students on track. In some cases a shorter deadline than the full six years would be imposed. This change would allow the program, faculty advisors and students to agree to shorter deadline if they chose. The deadline could be further revised if needed. (Some departments feel that this would facilitate more timely completion of theses particularly for students who are working and need specific deadlines to finish their degree prior to the six years. This option that will be framed as a “choice” provides an individualized route to keep students on track.

Department Policy Changes

1. DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY

- MA History, MA Public History, change of application submission dates. Change in priority dates from April 1 to March 1.

Master of Arts in History

CORE (18 credits) at 500 level; ELECTIVES (No more than 6 credits at the 400 level); CAPSTONE

Program Rationale:

The MA degree in history is offered for students who desire to do further historical study and research beyond the bachelor's degree. It serves students interested in graduate study of U.S., modern European, and comparative world history. The degree is designed to meet the varied needs and Interests of students seeking an advanced degree in history. For secondary teachers, it fulfills Connecticut State Department of Education requirements and may lead to other employment opportunities. Some who earn the MA will use it as a foundation for undertaking doctoral work in history, law, government, international affairs, and other relevant fields.

Because the majority of students in the master's program are employed full-time during the day, graduate courses are offered in the evening, usually on a one-night-a-week basis. This schedule allows students time to complete regular assignments, carry on research, and make regular progress toward the MA degree.

Program Learning Outcomes:

Students completing the MA will be expected to:

- demonstrate an understanding of historiography and its relevance for the study of history;
- develop historical arguments and present them effectively, orally and in writing;
- produce examples of various types of historical writing, such as book reviews, bibliographic essays, research papers, prospectus, and theses; and
- Present original historical arguments using both primary and secondary sources.

Admission Requirements:

To be considered for admission to the M.A. in History, you must meet the following requirements:

1) Applicants must have an undergraduate (or combined undergraduate/graduate) GPA of 3.00 or higher, as well as a degree in history or related field. If you do not meet this admission standard, please see the "NOTES" below.

2) Applicants must submit the following materials to the Graduate Recruitment and Admissions Office:

- The graduate school admissions application and application fee
- Official transcripts from each college and university attended (except Central Connecticut State University)

3) Applicants must also submit the following materials to the History Department

- two letters of recommendation
- two essays. Write a 500-word essay that discusses a work of history that has influenced the way you think about the past, and write a 250-word essay that describes your career aspirations and any opportunities for career preparation that you have had.

4) All application materials must be received by the Graduate Recruitment and Admissions Office and the Department of History no later than November 1 for spring

admissions {with a priority date of October 1 for spring admissions) and May 1 for fall admissions (with a priority date of **March 1** for fall admissions). Applicants who do not meet the admissions deadline may enroll in courses on a non-matriculated basis, subject to course availability.

- **Master of Arts in Public History**

CORE (18 credits), ELECTIVES (6credits), CAPSTONE

PROJECT: Plan C (3 credits) Program Rationale:

Public historians are front line interpreters, bringing historical knowledge to a broad public audience beyond the traditional academic classroom. The Masters of Arts in Public History is designed to prepare students for careers in history museums, historical societies, historic preservation, cultural resource management, government agencies, heritage tourism, and other fields in which history is presented to public and client based audiences. The degree also provides 1<-12 history educators with tools to energize their classroom teaching. Students receive traditional training in the areas of historical research, writing, and interpretation, along with job specific skills and the hands on experience necessary to become efficient and ethical stewards of the past. This degree is also appropriate for those seeking to pursue further study in American history or public history at the doctoral level.

For more information, visit the department's website at www.history.ccsu.edu/ma_pubhist.html.

Program Learning Outcomes: Students in the program will be expected to:

- conduct original research;
- Interpret primary sources;
- evaluate the historiography of a specific historical topic;
- demonstrate knowledge of public history practices and techniques; and
- Communicate effectively with a non-academic or client-based audience

Admission Requirements:

To be considered for admission to the M.A. In Public History, you must meet the following requirements:

1) Applicants must have an undergraduate (or combined undergraduate/graduate) GPA of 3.00 or higher, as well as a degree in history or related field. If you do not meet this admission standard, please see the "NOTES" below.

2) Applicants must submit the following materials to the Graduate Recruitment and Admissions Office:

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2. DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELOR EDUCATION AND FAMILY THERAPY

- **MS in Marriage and Family Therapy**; change of application deadline from April 1 to March 1.

The recommendation for change is based on being more competitive in attracting applicants to the program. Many other universities have an earlier admission deadline and the department has lost applicants due to the lateness of the current policy.

For School Counseling, Professional and Rehabilitation Counseling, and Student Development In Higher Education the wording is changed from: "The deadline for receiving all admissions materials is April 1st **to:** *"The deadline for receiving all admissions materials is March 1.*

For Marriage and Family Therapy the wording changes from: *Admission for the Evening Track occurs two times per year (Fall and Spring).* All applications must be completed by May 1 for Fall admission of the following year; April 1 for priority admission) and by November 1 for admission for the following Spring semester" **to:** *"Admission for the Evening Track occurs two times per year (Fall and Spring). All applications must be completed by March 1 for admission for the following Fall semester and November 1 for admission for the following Spring semester."*