

**HISTORY DEPARTMENT THESIS SCHEDULE (suggested)**  
**Fall Semester, 2017**

Week of September 4	Working bibliography due to thesis advisor
Week of September 11	Outline of thesis due to thesis advisor
Week of September 18	First draft of the first chapter due to thesis advisor Draft must include documentation
October, November	Chapters due as scheduled between students and advisors
December 8, Friday	Final version of thesis due in History Department, 4:00 P.M. <i>(History Reception Celebration for Fall Thesis Writers!)</i>

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**HISTORY DEPARTMENT THESIS SCHEDULE (suggested)**  
**Winter Semester, 2018**

January 9, Tuesday	Working bibliography due to thesis advisor
January 16, Tuesday	Outline of thesis due to thesis advisor
January 26, Friday	First draft of the first chapter due to thesis advisor Draft must include documentation
February, March	Chapters due as scheduled between students and advisors
April 6, Friday	Final version of thesis due in History Department, 4:00 P.M. <i>(History Reception Celebration for all Thesis Writers!)</i>

*(Over)*

## USEFUL INFORMATION

Credit: seniors must be registered for History 457 in the fall semester or History 458 in the winter semester to receive thesis credit.

Length and organization: Theses vary greatly in length. Quality is more important than quantity. A rough Departmental guideline is 50 pages of text in addition to footnote citations, bibliography, title page, table of contents and acknowledgements. The number and organization of chapters varies according to the way you choose to present your argument and evidence. Many theses have five chapters, three of which are substantive, one introduction and one conclusion.

Mechanics: Check with your adviser to review proper forms of style and citation. The History Department recommends the use of footnotes following the Chicago Manual of Style, available on-line through the Ladd Library's web site. You should adopt the "humanities style" for all footnotes and bibliography (not the "author-date" system). See the "Chicago-Style Citation Quick Guide" for examples of correct citation. Review also the first six pages of the Bates College Statement on Plagiarism and a Guide to Source Acknowledgements. Knowing exactly what plagiarism is can help avoid an unintended disaster.

Grading: The grade is primarily based on the completed thesis, but at your advisor's discretion, he or she may include the process of writing the thesis as part of the final grade.

Due date: Extensions beyond the final due date are almost never granted. The rare exceptions are granted only by a meeting of the full department and the advisor must present extraordinary evidence.