



DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
2015-2016
GRADUATE HANDBOOK

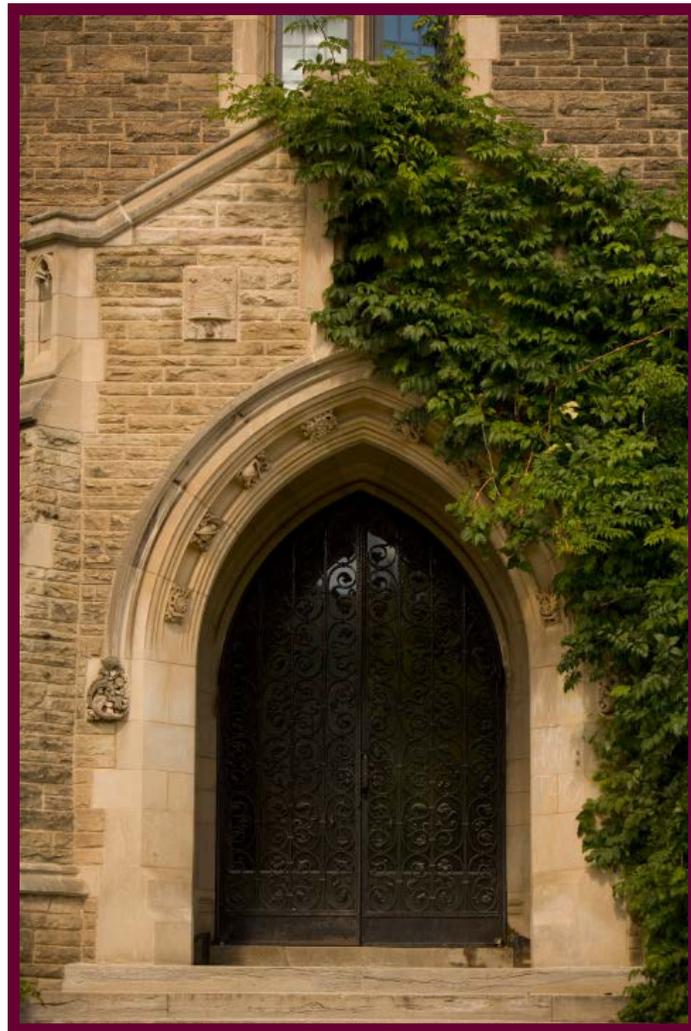


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QUESTIONS

Enquiries should be directed to Dr. Martin Horn, Graduate Chair, or to Wendy Benedetti, Graduate Secretary at:

Department of History
Chester New Hall, Room 620
McMaster University
1280 Main Street West
Hamilton, ON L8S 4L9

905-525-9140, ext. 24416
histdept@mcmaster.ca

Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

From the Graduate Chair

On behalf of the faculty and staff of the History Department at McMaster, I extend a warm welcome to prospective, incoming and returning graduate students. This handbook sets out the broad outlines of our graduate programs and provides information on how to make the most of what our department offers.

The History Department is proud of the reputation we have developed for providing a rigorous graduate educational experience within a supportive environment. We have endeavoured to encourage excellence by limiting admittance to students with outstanding records, and by pushing those in the program to excel in their coursework and research projects. This emphasis on high academic achievement is matched by our commitment to individual mentoring, collegiality, and professional development. The faculty and staff view the Department's graduate students as our junior colleagues, and we value highly their teaching, research and social contributions to the life of the department.

In the coming year, in addition to the regular course instruction and research supervision, we will again be offering departmental colloquia by international scholars, departmental faculty, and our own graduate students, participating in the events of the Wilson Institute for Canadian History, as well as hosting our own annual graduate colloquium on a specialized theme. We also hope that our graduate colleagues will again help us organize and participate in some of the many social activities that we have enjoyed in the past.

I offer you my best wishes for a challenging and rewarding year as members of the Department.

Sincerely,

Martin Horn

Up to date information on the happenings in the department can be found on the Department's Website: <http://history.mcmaster.ca/>

SESSIONAL DATES FOR 2015/2016

Student On-line Registration (Mosaic)	TBD
Late Registration	TBD
Chair and Graduate Chair Meeting with incoming students/TAs	Wed. Sept. 9, 2015
Graduate Seminars Begin	Mon. Sept. 14, 2015
Departmental reception for all graduate students by faculty	Sept. 11, 2015
Completion deadline: Outgoing Graduate complement degree requirements including theses to SGS for Fall convocation	Sept. 23, 2015
Deadline for adding full/half courses, as well as registration on Mosaic	September 25, 2015
Deadline for submission of MA thesis proposals to the Department	Fri. Oct. 23, 2015
Deadline for OGS applications to Department	TBA
Deadline for dropping Term I half courses	Oct. 9, 2015
Deadline for SSHRC applications to Department	Oct. 23, 2015
Mid-term recess	Oct. 12 – 17, 2015
Autumn Convocation	TBA
Graduate Seminar examinations	Dec. 7 – 11, 2015
Deadline for submission of Term 1 written work	Dec. 31, 2015
Deadline for submission of MA Research Paper topic (797)	Jan. 31, 2016
Midterm recess	Feb. 15 – 20, 2016
Deadline for submission of PhD theses to Graduate Studies for Spring Convocation prior to Defence	Feb. 23, 2016
Deadline for submission of MA theses to Department (Spring Convocation)	Mar. 11, 2016
Deadline for submission of Term II written work	April 1, 2016
Deadline for completing of all degree requirements, including filing of theses with Graduate Studies for Spring Convocation	April 20, 2016
Deadline for submission of Final Grades to Graduate Studies	April 15, 2016
Spring Convocation	June 2016
Deadline for submission of PhD theses to SGS for Fall Convocation prior to Defence	July 15, 2016
Deadline for submission of MA Research Paper to Department	Aug. 2, 2016
Deadline for submission of summer grades (History 797) to Graduate Studies	Aug. 26, 2016
Deadline for submission of MA theses to Departments (prior to Defence)	Aug. 12, 2016

IMPORTANT DATES

On-Time Registration on Mosaic	July 9 – July 30, 2015
Chair/Graduate Chair Meeting with incoming graduate students	Wed. Sept. 9, 2015
Graduate Seminars begin	Mon. Sept. 14, 2015
OGS application internal deadline	TBA
SSHRC application internal deadline	Oct. 23, 2015
Midterm recess	Oct. 12 – 17, 2015
Graduate Seminar examinations	Dec. 7 – 11, 2015
Deadline: Term 1 work	Dec. 31, 2015
Midterm recess	February 15 – 20, 2016
Deadline: Term 2 work	Mar. 30, 2016
Deadline: MA research paper topic (797)	Jan. 31, 2016
Deadline: MA research paper to the Department	Aug. 2, 2016

PROGRAM INFORMATION AND REQUIREMENTS

GRADUATE SEMINARS

Seminars are one term in length, and are rated as half-courses by the Graduate School.

Seminars meet regularly for discussion of course material. Written work varies according to whether a student is in the MA or PhD stream. An examination may be scheduled at the end of the course.

INDEPENDENT STUDIES: In exceptional cases, reading courses listed in the calendar but not offered this year may be taken on an independent study basis. Students are responsible for obtaining the approval of the appropriate faculty member and the Graduate Committee, and must do so before registering on Mosaic. Students may not take more than one course by independent study.

COURSES OUTSIDE THE DEPARTMENT: One half course in lieu of a graduate seminar may be taken by MA and PhD candidates outside the Department, subject to approval of the instructor and the History Department Graduate Committee.

MA REQUIREMENTS

MA by course work and research paper consists of 6 graduate seminars and the MA Research Paper (History 797).

In the fall term students will take the mandatory seminar in Historiography (History 741), and will choose two seminars.

In the winter term students will take three seminars.

Following completion of the above seminars, students will begin work on the MA Research Paper. Length of paper: about 30 pages of text (8,000-10,000 words), exclusive of footnotes and bibliography. The paper is due the first week of August.

MA by course work and thesis consists of 4 graduate seminars and a thesis. Thesis proposals must be submitted to the Department in early October. In the fall term students will take the mandatory seminar in Historiography and will choose two reading seminars. In the winter term students will take one seminar, which may be a research or reading seminar.

The thesis will be supervised by a member of the Department. Length: about 80-100 pages of text (25,000 words), exclusive of footnotes and bibliography. The thesis is due the last week of August, following which an oral examination will be held.

PhD REQUIREMENTS

The Department supervises doctoral research in a variety of areas of specialization. Prospective applicants are directed to consult the Department's website which details research specializations. Candidates must contact individual faculty for guidance on appropriate thesis topics.

When admission to Ph.D. work has been granted a candidate will, in consultation with his or her prospective supervisor and the Graduate Studies Chair of the Department, select two Minor Fields and one Major Specialization. Minor Fields and Major Specialization will cover the principal literature in the areas of concentration.

Minor fields normally consist of two half-year 700-level graduate reading seminars (offered in the first term) in each of which a major historiographical essay and a written course examination are required. The grade for a minor field will consist of the grades for the in- course requirements, the examination, and the historiographical essay, in combination as indicated by the minor field supervisor.

While some overlap may be deemed beneficial, the Minor Fields should not duplicate Major Specialization reading. All doctoral candidates must have a minimum of three, and usually four, instructors supervising the combination of their Minor Fields and Major Specialization.

Major Specialization preparation begins in January and takes the form of a reading course. The reading for the course will be determined by the course instructors with oversight from the department's Graduate Studies Committee to ensure appropriate breadth and depth of the reading list. As part of the reading course candidates will complete a significant historiographical paper or papers. The Comprehensive Examination, comprised of written and oral components, will be held in the month proceeding September 15 of the second year of the program. It will test the candidate's knowledge of the area of concentration and ability to deal with broad historiographic questions.

Successful completion of 6 units of Minor-Field coursework and 6 units of Major Specialization coursework, and the Comprehensive Examination, fulfill the course requirements of the School of Graduate Studies for doctoral candidates. Satisfactory performance in doctoral Minor Field and Major Specialization courses is a minimum grade of B-. A single grade of F on any course in the Ph.D. program, or two B- grades, entails automatic withdrawal from the program. The comprehensive Examination in History requires a minimum grade of P (Pass) for successful completion.

Following successful completion of their Comprehensive Exam, doctoral candidates will present the supervisory committee with their thesis proposal. This should be about 10 pages in length, and should indicate the scope and structure of the thesis, the theoretical and research perspectives involved, and the principal archival sources to be used (along with brief mention of major secondary sources). The thesis proposal must be approved by the supervisory committee by early October, so that the candidate has a completed proposal ready for the OGS application deadline (normally mid-October). Length of thesis: 300 pages (75,000 words), exclusive of footnotes and bibliography.

Language requirement for doctoral candidates: competence in English and one other language is the minimum requirement of the Department of History. For candidates working in Canadian, British, or thematic areas, the other language will normally be French, although utility in the candidate's proposed field of research will be the governing consideration. Candidates researching in European History must demonstrate competence in two appropriate languages.

Competence in a modern non-English language is deemed to mean the ability to translate standard historical prose with the aid of a dictionary. Specific expectations for translation competency are explained in the Ph.D. regulations which are available on the department website. Written tests are administered by the Department for Ph.D. candidates at intervals throughout the academic year. In particular cases the Supervisory Committee may recommend that a candidate demonstrate proficiency in an additional language or in special methodological skills, such as statistics or advanced cartography, in preparation for her or his research. All such recommendations must be approved by the Graduate Studies Committee. One language requirement for the Ph.D. must be cleared by the time the Comprehensive Examination is completed. Candidates requiring two or more languages should complete the language requirement most relevant to their dissertation topic before completion of their Comprehensive Examination; the other language requirements may be completed while working on the dissertation but must be cleared prior to the dissertation defense.

Graduate Funding

The Department attempts to provide all full time MA candidates with at least a one term (i.e., half) Teaching Assistantship. A number of scholarships of between \$1,500 to \$10,000 will be awarded by the Graduate Committee to incoming candidates.

Candidates accepted into the PhD program are guaranteed a minimum of \$17,500 of support annually for four years. This amount will be made up of a scholarship awarded by the Department and a Teaching Assistantship. PhD candidates are expected to apply for awards and scholarships from external sources (i.e., outside the university). The 2014-15 value of a full Teaching Assistantship as set in the CUPE contract was \$10,680.; value of a half Teaching Assistantship is \$5,340. Part time PhD candidates are not eligible for funding.

Major Scholarships

All eligible doctoral students are required to apply for OGS (Ontario Graduate Scholarships, value \$15,000) and SSHRCC (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, value \$20,000 and SSHRC CGS, value \$35,000.) awards. Preparation of applications should begin early, as completed applications are to be submitted to the Department in October.

Grants for Research and Travel

MILDRED ARMSTRONG FUND: Offered to MA and PhD students. A maximum of \$1,000 in any academic year to support presentation of papers at conferences, research travel to archives or purchase of research materials or attendance at conferences.

RICHARD FULLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS: For travel and other research related costs. All doctoral students who have completed their major field comprehensive examination may draw on this fund (maximum \$5,000). Preference is given to non-Canadianist candidates. Apply through the Department.

L.R. WILSON GRADUATE TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIPS: Currently offered for travel and other research related costs. All doctoral students who have completed their major field comprehensive examination in Canadian history may draw on this fund (maximum \$5,000). Apply through the Department.

Female students in History (and English) may apply for **EDNA ELIZABETH ROSS REEVES SCHOLARSHIPS** for research and travel costs (one to four scholarships awarded annually, value up to \$2,500). Apply through the Department.

FURTHER SOURCES OF TRAVEL SUPPORT FOR CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND RESEARCH:
(See SGS Calendar: Fellowships, Scholarships, Bursaries & Other Awards)

GSA TRAVEL ASSISTANCE GRANTS (SGS Calendar 8.5.1): For research and conference presentations (\$500).

JAMES AND HELEN HARVEY TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP (SGS Calendar 8.5.2): For research (\$1,000).

YATES SCHOLARSHIP FUND (SGS Calendar 8.5.6): For research and conference presentations (unspecified amount).

Specific History Awards:

THE RICHARD FULLER MEMORIAL AWARDS To be awarded to in-course PhD candidates on the basis of their performance. Two may be awarded by the School of Graduate Studies on the recommendation of the Chair of the Department of History. (\$1,500)

THE EDITH M. WIGHTMAN TRAVEL SCHOLARSHIP Awarded by the School of Graduate Studies on nomination from the Departments of Classics and History to help support travel costs associated with thesis research or sponsored archaeological projects in Europe and the Mediterranean. (\$1,000)

E.M. WIGHTMAN ESSAY PRIZE Awarded to an M.A. Student in History who submits an essay "which is judged best to display a combination of imagination and originality with a comprehensive and accurate command of relevant scholarship". (\$100)

H.W. MCCREADY GRADUATE PRIZE IN HISTORY Awarded annually to a worthy M.A. graduate on the recommendation of the Department of History. (\$500)

THE JAMES ROBERTSON CARRUTHERS MEMORIAL AWARD Available to students in the Faculty of Humanities. Preference to be given to students in the Department of History. (\$1,250)

THE JAMES ROBERTSON CARRUTHERS MEMORIAL AWARD Available to students in the Faculty of Humanities. Preference to be given to students in the Department of History. (\$1,250)

THE EZIO CAPPADOCIA GRADUATE PRIZE IN HISTORY Honours excellence in graduate course work in European History. Awarded annually to an M.A. graduate on the recommendation of the Chair of the Department of History. (\$260)

THE BUCHANAN'S BOUNTY TRUST BOOK PRIZE Awarded annually to one or more graduate students in English or History programs at McMaster. (\$500)

THE RICHARD A. REMPEL AWARD IN HISTORY To be awarded annually by the School of Graduate Studies to a currently registered MA or PhD student upon the recommendation of the Department of History. (\$500)

THE UNITED EMPIRE LOYALISTS (HAMILTON BRANCH) SCHOLARSHIP Established in 2004 by the United Empire Loyalists' Association of Canada (Hamilton Branch) to support research in Canadian History. The award to be made by the School of Graduate Studies on the recommendation of the Department of History to a graduate student conducting archival research in Canadian History for the period 1750 to 1850.

Graduate Activities

Thursday Colloquium Series Lectures

The department strives to promote intellectual exchange between faculty and students. Departmental members, graduate students, and invited visitors speak at the regular Thursday Afternoon series, which is open to the university committee to attend. It is required that all Ph.D. students will present at some point in their programme a paper based on their research. For a listing of the past year's presentations see:
http://www.humanities.mcmaster.ca/~history/news/2014_2015colloquia.html

Annual Graduate Colloquium

The department presents an annual Graduate Studies Colloquium, which is organized around a broad topic directed towards a wider audience.

History Graduate Students' Society (HGSS)

Departmental students established the History Graduate Students' Society in 2003 to foster professional academic development by and for students and to provide a collegial scholarly environment. (Elections are held on TA-day in September.) In its inaugural year, the HGSS hosted a Masters' colloquium where students presented their major research papers. Social functions are organised by the HGSS with activities ranging from sporting events to potlucks to 'mock' conferences (i.e., the Annual Elvis Studies conference). The HGSS has a voluntary membership fee of \$5.00. All McMaster University history graduate students are invited to participate in any or all activities and to present ideas that will help the HGSS serve the professional and social needs of history graduate students.

Professionalization Committee

Department and student reps organize a series of professional and development sessions throughout the year.

Seminars

Department of History 2015-2016 Graduate Courses

http://www.humanities.mcmaster.ca/~history/courses/q2015_2016.html

School of Graduate Studies 2015-2016 Calendar:

<http://academiccalendars.romcmaster.ca/index.php?catoid=4>

Thematic Breakdown of Faculty Interests

Faculty	Global Imperial, Diasporic, Migration	Political, Legal, Rights	Diplomatic, Warfare, Violence	Business, Economic, Labour	Social	Urban	Gender, Women, The Body	Environment, Science, Technology	Culture, Intellectual, Religious	Health, Medicine, Welfare	Visual & Material Culture	Modern*	Medieval, Early Modern
Amster	✓							✓		✓		✓	
Armstrong									✓		✓		✓
Balcom	✓				✓		✓		✓	✓		✓	
Bouchier					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
Cruikshank		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				✓	
De Barros	✓				✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	
Egan	✓							✓		✓		✓	
Frager	✓	✓		✓			✓					✓	
Gauvreau		✓							✓			✓	
Harris				✓	✓	✓						✓	
Heathorn	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
Horn			✓	✓								✓	
Ibhawoh	✓	✓	✓		✓				✓			✓	
McDonald		✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
McKay		✓		✓	✓				✓				
McQueen						✓					✓	✓	
Song	✓	✓	✓						✓				✓
Streeter	✓		✓									✓	
Swett	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	
Weaver	✓	✓			✓	✓				✓		✓	

*post c. 1800

Other potential categories: Childhood, Sport, Rural/Agrarian, Animal Studies

Geographic Breakdown of Faculty Interests

	The Americas*	Africa	Asia	British Empire	Canada	Europe
Amster		✓				✓
Armstrong						✓
Balcom	✓				✓	
Bouchier					✓	
Cruikshank	✓				✓	
De Barros	✓			✓		
Egan	✓					✓
Frager	✓				✓	
Gauvreau					✓	
Harris	✓			✓	✓	
Heathorn				✓		
Horn						✓
Ibhawoh	✓	✓		✓	✓	
McDonald			✓			✓
McKay					✓	
McQueen						✓
Song			✓			
Streeter	✓					
Swett						✓
Weaver				✓	✓	

Department of History Faculty

For further information about faculty members' research and teaching interests, as well as major publications, see the History Department website: <http://history.mcmaster.ca/>

CANADA

N. Bouchier, (sport, social)	bouchier@mcmaster.ca
K. Cruikshank (business, politics, environment)	cruiksha@mcmaster.ca
R. Frager (labour, women)	frager@mcmaster.ca
M. Gauvreau (social, intellectual, religion)	mgauvreau@mcmaster.ca
I. McKay (Wilson Professor of Canadian History)	
J.C. Weaver (urban, crime, legal, Commonwealth)	jweaver@mcmaster.ca
<i>Associate Member:</i>	
Richard Harris, Geography (urban, housing)	harrisr@mcmaster.ca

AFRICA AND ASIA

B. Ibhawoh (Africa, imperialism, human rights)	ibhawoh@mcmaster.ca
J. Song (China)	songjae@mcmaster.ca

ATLANTIC WORLD AND THE AMERICAS

K. Balcom (U.S. social, gender)	balcomk@mcmaster.ca
J. De Barros (health, slavery, Caribbean)	debarr@mcmaster.ca
S. Streeter (U.S. international relations, Latin America)	streete@mcmaster.ca

MEDIEVAL AND EARLY MODERN EUROPE

M. Armstrong (early modern, religious, reformation)	marmstr@mcmaster.ca
A. McQueen (19 th Century France, Art, Material/Culture)	ajcmcq@mcmaster.ca

MODERN EUROPE

M. Horn (international relations, 20 th -century)	mhorn@mcmaster.ca
T. McDonald (Russia, Soviet, film)	tmcdon@mcmaster.ca
A. McQueen (19 th Century France, Art, Material/Culture)	ajcmcq@mcmaster.ca
P. Swett (modern Germany, gender)	swettp@mcmaster.ca

GREAT BRITAIN

J. De Barros (health, slavery, Caribbean)	debarr@mcmaster.ca
S. Heathorn (modern Britain, memory)	heaths@mcmaster.ca
J.C. Weaver (urban, crime, legal, Commonwealth)	jweaver@mcmaster.ca

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MEDICINE

M. Egan (science, environment)	egan@mcmaster.ca
E. Amster (health, medicine)	amster@mcmaster.ca

Questions? ...

Administrative Contacts

Dr. Pamela Swett, Chair
Dr. Martin Horn, Graduate Chair

swettp@mcmaster.ca
mhorn@mcmaster.ca

Wendy Benedetti
Administrative Coordinator

histdept@mcmaster.ca

Debbie Lobban, Administrator

lobband@mcmaster.ca

