

GUIDELINES FOR HST 799 as an Independent Study Course (Please complete and attach this to the Independent Study Form)

HST 799 Thesis Tutorial Seminar (4 hours; 4 credits)

After having completed HST 798 and while working on their thesis students will enroll in the Thesis Tutorial Seminar under the supervision of their thesis director. The thesis director will monitor students' progress on their thesis and meet regularly with the students. Students will present portions and drafts of their work in progress to the thesis director and, under the advice of the director, consult with the readers before submitting a formal draft to the thesis committee (the director and second and third readers).

Requirements for HST 799:

1. The Faculty of the Department of History has established the following standards for an acceptable History MA thesis:

1. An acceptable History MA thesis must be based on extensive research in primary sources. The thesis cannot be synthetic work based on the student's own interpretation of secondary sources and the writings of other historians.
2. An acceptable History MA thesis must provide the historiographical context for the topic. The introduction to the thesis will provide a thorough literature review that illustrates student mastery of, and the study's situation within, the scholarship available on the thesis topic. Establishing the historiographical context for the thesis topic will be one of the main objectives of HST 798 in the preparation of the thesis proposal.
3. An acceptable History MA thesis must advance an original argument. This does not mean that the student will be the first or only person ever to address the topic, but it does mean that the student must bring a new perspective to the study that has not been provided by a scholar before.

2. In HST 799, students will complete the following requirements, under the ongoing guidance of the faculty member with whom they are studying and in consultation with their second and third readers:

- A. Completion of the thesis in response to recommendations from student's committee members;
- B. Presentation of the final draft for signatures by the three committee members and Program Coordinator;
- C. Filing with the History Department three copies of the thesis (one bound and two unbound) on thesis bond to be deposited in the Department archives and in the College's Library. For more detailed guidelines, see the History Graduate Program Handbook or website, "Thesis Formatting Guidelines."

3. At the end of the semester, student's completion of the HST 799 requirements will result in a grade based on the quality of their thesis. A grade for HST 799 will be submitted only after the student has filed the thesis with the History Department, and it has been approved by the Coordinator of the MA Program. Should the student not complete the thesis in the assigned semester, the student will be assigned a PENDING grade for the course.

Student's Name: _____

Thesis Topic: _____

Professor's Name: _____

Meetings will be scheduled on ___ a weekly basis ___ a bi-weekly basis ___ other (_____)