History Department

Recommended Timing of Progress
Through the Graduate Program

**Year 1**

1\textsuperscript{st} semester (Fall)
- 6100; total of 3 courses
- Languages
- Explore possible dissertation topics
- Start thinking about major and minor fields

2\textsuperscript{nd} semester (Spring)
- 6110 plus 1 hour independent study; write 1\textsuperscript{st} of 2 required research papers
- Two other courses
- Tentative selection of major and minor fields, and of examination committee
- Consult by May 1 with committee members about summer readings for qualifying exam and about summer research for 2\textsuperscript{nd} research paper
- Take at least one language exam if two are required
- Refine dissertation topic

1\textsuperscript{st} summer
- Languages
- Read in major and minor fields to prepare for qualifying exam
- Preliminary research on potential dissertation materials and concepts
- Conduct research in preparation for 2\textsuperscript{nd} research paper

**Year 2**

3\textsuperscript{rd} semester (Fall)
- 3 courses
- Write 2\textsuperscript{nd} required research paper in conjunction with one of the three courses or independent study taken this semester
- Finalize major and minor fields and exam committee by Sept. 1
- Finalize reading list for major and minor fields for qualifying exam by Sept. 1
- Languages
- Apply for archival travel grants for 2\textsuperscript{nd} summer
- Continue exam and dissertation reading
- Refine dissertation topic

4\textsuperscript{th} semester (Spring)
- 3 courses; students are encouraged to take independent study courses and/or reading courses geared toward preparing for their qualifying exam
- Students should exercise caution in this semester in taking courses outside the department that require major papers to be written, unless such courses help with preparing for qualifying exam
- Study for qualifying exam
- Apply for archival travel grants for 2\textsuperscript{nd} summer
- All language exams must be passed by April 7
- Take qualifying exam in April after classes end

2\textsuperscript{nd} summer
- Work on dissertation prospectus
- Travel as needed for dissertation archival work
Year 3
5th semester (Fall)
- History 6300: teaching workshop
- History 8200: Dissertation prospectus seminar
- TA assignment
- Apply for grants for dissertation research
- Conduct defense of dissertation prospectus by Dec. 1
- Finalize dissertation committee
6th semester (Spring)
- TA assignment
- Dissertation research
3rd summer
- Work on dissertation

Final two years
- Dissertation research and writing
- History 9999: Dissertation Research each semester in residence
- Two more semesters of TA work, for a total of 4 semesters of service
- Dissertation research and writing