The 36 required hours are distributed as follows (at least 22 hours must be earned in courses numbered 700 and above):

- 3 hrs One 500 level history course, preferably taken in 1st semester with advisor’s pre-approval
- 3 hrs HI701, US Historiography to 1877 (offered every other fall)
- 3 hrs HI702, US Historiography since 1877 (offered every other spring)
- 6 hrs HI710 or HI740, Readings Seminar (offered every fall and spring and occasionally summer, with different topics)
- 6 hrs HI815, Research Seminar (offered every fall, spring, and occasionally summer, with different topics)

Thesis option:
- 9 hrs electives
- 6 hrs HI890 thesis

Non-thesis option:
- 14 hrs electives
- 1 hr HI895 History MA Exams

Public History option:
- HI590, Intro to Public History (3 hours)
- HI891, Archival Internship or HI893, Museum Internship (3 hours)
- SS842, Master’s Project (6 hours)
- 3 hours of electives

Grad courses fall into 5 general categories:

1. Readings seminars (HI710/740), where students read 10-12 books throughout the semester and discuss them in each class.
2. Research seminars (HI815), where students undertake an original research project and produce a 25-30 page paper. These papers can easily become part of your thesis with some planning.
3. Directed readings (HI790/HI791), 1–2 credit courses where students find a professor to supervise an independent study. These have to be set up in advance with the professor and you can only do 2 of them in your grad career. These courses require permission from the instructor.
4. Internships, which also have to be set up in advance with Dr. Thierer. She generally requires students to take her Intro to Public History course before they can work in an archives or museum. These courses require permission from the instructor.
5. Thesis hours (HI890), only available to students in the thesis option who have completed a thesis proposal. These courses require permission from the instructor.

Enrolling & progressing through the program:
- Full-time status = 6 hours at the graduate level in any semester.
- After enrolling for any semester, update your degree plan and e-mail it to the Graduate Program Director. Keep a copy for yourself.
• Remember that 22 hours have to be at the 700 or 800 level. When you’re examining the course schedule and spot a desirable 500-level class, check for a higher version of it and enroll in the highest level.
• Upon completion of 12 hours, apply for degree candidacy and choose thesis or non-thesis option. Get signatures from chosen thesis or exam committee members. For exam committees, choose faculty from whom you’ve taken the most coursework. For thesis, choose faculty who can direct your specific research and guide the writing process.
• Thesis students may not enroll in thesis hours until their committee has approved a thesis proposal. Generally, students take all 6 hours in one semester and devote their time to writing and preparing for the defense.
• The Graduate Program Director can answer questions about classes, committees, and any other aspect of the program.