Optional Thematic Concentrations for Majors and Minors

History Majors and Minors may complete a thematic concentration as part of their program of study. Interested students identify a theme that cuts across geographic or temporal periods and tie together classes they have taken with courses they plan to pursue. Any class applied to a thematic concentration will continue to fulfill existing field requirements.

Graduating students who complete a thematic concentration before May 2018 will be recognized at the Department Awards Banquet and receive a formal letter of acknowledgment. Starting in May 2018, students will have an official line appear on their WFU transcript.

Thematic Concentration Requirements:

1) Students select an area of concentration. Pre-approved concentrations include:

- Cultural and Intellectual History
- Economics, Trade, and Commerce
- Gender/Sexuality/LGBTQ
- Global/Transnational History
- International Relations and Military History
- Politics, Governance, and Law
- Religion and Society
- Science, Medicine, and Technology
- Social History
- Students may also propose a concentration of their own design not listed above. These proposals will be evaluated in consultation with students’ History Department adviser.

2) Identify existing History Department courses relevant to their selected concentration. Interested students should identify relevant courses on the basis of their existing content and assignments. To create this list of courses, students can consult the WFU Bulletin and the course descriptions on our Departmental website. They should also consult with individual faculty members and their major adviser.

3) Submit the form of intention to their History Department adviser outlining the selected concentration, a list of possible courses they could use to complete it, as well as the semesters in which they have taken or will enroll in these courses.

4) Students must complete a minimum of 9 hours relevant to the thematic track with a minimum grade of a C in each course. Course approval will be made on a case-by-case basis by faculty with direct knowledge of their course’s subject matter, content, and assignments.
5) Submit the Completion Form and submit it to the History Department Office by April 15th of their senior year. This form can be found in the “FAQ and Forms” section here or in the History Department Office.