**Academic Justification**

* The combined degree program preserves and enhances the quality of both degrees. The program provides a more rigorous curriculum for admitted students completing the B.A., as they will take graduate coursework in fulfilment of their degree requirements. Because only outstanding applicants will be admitted, the quality of the graduate program will not be compromised.
* The program is intended for academically talented and high achieving students. The GPA requirement for admission to the combined degree program (3.25 GPA) is higher than for the M.A. program (3.0 GPA).
* The program is pedagogically sound, as the degree requirements are not compromised in the combined degree program.
* All of the expected prerequisites for the graduate coursework will be honored.

**Undergraduate Course Replacements**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Undergraduate Courses: | Graduate Courses |
| Up to 12 credit hours of freeelective credit (upper division) | HIS 5060: The Historical Experience (3 credit hours)  and  9 credit hours of additional graduate coursework with the course prefix AMH, EUH, HIS, LAH, or WOH at the 5000- or 6000-level |

**Catalog Language**

**Combined B.A./M.A. with Major in History**  
  
The B.A./M.A. in History combined degree program will enable outstanding students to graduate with both a Bachelor of Arts in the Liberal Arts and Sciences with a Concentration in History, and a Master of Arts in History, in as little as 5 years. The program is 150 credit hours (B.A./M.A. with thesis option) or 156 credit hours (B.A./M.A. without thesis option). Students complete 120 hours for the undergraduate degree and 30 hours (thesis option) or 36 hours (non-thesis option) for the graduate degree. Students complete the undergraduate degree first, taking no more than 12 credit hours of graduate coursework in their senior year, which can be used to satisfy requirements for both degrees. Prospective students must formally apply to this program and meet all admission requirements.

**Admission Requirements**   
1. Each applicant must be a declared History concentrator at Florida Atlantic University’s Wilkes Honors College, with 60-90 credits completed toward the B.A. degree, including either HIS 4971 or AMH 4970 (Honors Thesis).   
  
2. Applicants must have a minimum 3.25 GPA for the last 60 undergraduate credits attempted.  
  
3. Applicants should have a minimum score of 155 on the verbal and a 4.0 on the analytical sections of the GRE. If the applicant has a GPA well over the 3.25 minimum, the department may consider the quantitative section for purposes of meeting the GRE criterion.  
  
4. Applicants must demonstrate competency in at least one foreign language. To do so, applicants must complete one of the following two options:  
  
a. Passing one semester at the intermediate level (2220) of a foreign language at FAU or the equivalent at another university as determined by the History Department’s Graduate Committee.  
  
b. Passing an equivalency exam at the 2220 level.  
  
5. Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation, written by tenured or tenure-earning members of the Department of History, or History professors at the Honors College.  
  
6. Applicants must provide a writing sample as part of their application. This should be a term paper or lengthy essay.  
  
7. Applicants must provide a two-to-three-page typed, double-spaced autobiographical statement indicating the nature of their preparation for graduate work and the reasons for seeking the combined B.A./M.A. degree in History.  
  
8. Prospective applicants for the combined B.A./M.A. degree in History are encouraged to schedule an interview with the department's Director of Graduate Studies.  
  
9. The application deadline is October 15 for Spring admission, and June 1 for Fall admission.  
  
**Undergraduate Course Replacements**  
In their senior year, students admitted to the combined degree program take up to 12 credits of graduate coursework to satisfy requirements for both degrees. This will be accomplished by substituting 12 credit hours of free elective credit at the upper division (3000- 4000- level) with HIS 5060: The Historical Experience, and 9 credits of additional graduate coursework with the course prefix AMH, EUH, HIS, LAH, or WOH at the 5000- or 6000-level.   
  
**Degree Requirements**   
To be eligible for the combined B.A./M.A. degree in History, students must fulfill the following requirements:  
  
1. Completion of all requirements for the B.A. in Liberal Arts and Sciences with a Concentration in History in the Wilkes Honors College, in addition to other requirements as stipulated by the University and the College.

2. Completion of all requirements for the M.A. in History major, on either the thesis or non-thesis option.