

MA Historical Studies (by Research) – SH531

Flexible programme Full-time /Part-time programme

1. Objectives

This programme will serve a growing need in higher education, research and public history for trained personnel in the field of Historical Studies on Mauritius. The degree should prepare graduates for employment where a strong research component is required and where strong analytical and critical skills are required. Students should hold a good honours degree in Humanities and the Social Sciences.

2. Entry Requirements

Applicants should have, or be expected to achieve, at least a 2.1 undergraduate honours degree or its equivalent in the relevant discipline. Other relevant qualifications, together with considerable experience, may be considered.

3. Programme Duration

The MA Historical Studies (by Research) may be taken in full-time and part-time mode:

	Minimum (Yr)	Maximum (Yrs)
Master's Degree:		
Full- Time	1	1.5
Part-Time	2	3

As a rough guide, for full time students, the literature survey, search for sources and any technical knowledge required should be completed within three months. The next three months should be occupied by the preparation of the research proposal. After the research proposal has been accepted by the Department, the Faculty Research Committee and Faculty Board, student may proceed to the research, analysis and writing up of the thesis. This process is expected to take one year for a fulltime student.

Students may start at any time of the year provided a supervisor is available.

4. Minimum Credits Required for Awards

	Research seminar	Thesis	Total
Master's Degree:	3 credits	36 credits	39 credits

5. Assessment

Based on thesis and research seminar (compulsory module) in a proportion equivalent to the credits. The examiners must be satisfied that the thesis shows competence in investigating the chosen area of research and results have been presented in a lucid and scholarly manner. The candidate must show clear evidence of independent thinking in the thesis which must be his or her own original work.

The thesis should not normally exceed 100 pages or 30,000 words in length excluding footnotes bibliography and appendices.

Submission Deadlines for the thesis.

Full-time students are required to submit their final the thesis 18 months after registration.

An oral examination will be held in presence of an External Examiner.

Students will be given up to three (3) months after oral examination to resubmit, based on Thesis Committee recommendations.

6. Monitoring Mechanism:

Students will be required to submit regular six-monthly Progress Report to the Supervisor after submission and approval of the Research proposal and the Student Progress Form (SPF) which will constitute the formal mechanism by which the research programme is monitored. Monthly reports are also to be submitted regularly to the Supervisor.

7. Programme Plan – MA Historical Studies

Code	Module Name	Hrs/Month	Credits
CORE			
HIST6001Y	Research Seminar	3+0	3
HIST6000	Thesis		36

8. Outline Syllabus

THESIS

The thesis will consist of an extended research of 30 000 words, to be submitted as per research proposal referred to in Section 3 as a compulsory requirement for registration for the thesis. A thesis supervisor will be identified by the programme coordinator and the title of the project will be approved by the Department of History and Political Science.

HIST 6001 Research Seminar

This will consist of monthly seminars of **minimum** three hour duration on a topic under research or related to the research by students and staff. Scholars and researchers outside the Department with an academic interest will be invited to participate. Students' presentation will consist of his/her proposed research topic for the thesis with complete justification, literature review and be open to discussion by participants. The aim of the Seminar is to critically assess the research topic and to solicit views and thoughts which may contribute to enhancing the research methodology, approaches and analytical skills of the student. A minimum of 10 research seminars will be planned in a twelve month period of which students are expected to attend at least 10.

5 Nov 2014