List of Recent Senior Theses in the History Department

The following lists of recent History Department theses are intended to provide you with a sense of the topics pursued by recent thesis writers. Theses awarded Hoopes Prizes are listed at the end. The range of places, eras, themes, and peoples suggests the latitude you have in identifying your own topic. *NB: thesis titles of joint concentrators with another department as their primary concentration are sometimes not listed below*.

Theses, 2021–22

Miriam	Alphonsus	Building *Ūr* in New Lands: Malaiyaha Tamil Migrations to Northern Sri Lanka, 1948–2009 [Advisor: Prof. Ajantha Subramanian]
Oswaldo	Ambrosio	Denationalizing Dominicans: The Continual Construction of Racist Borders in the Dominican Republic [Advisor: Prof. Alejandro de la Fuente]
David	Brannon	George Fitzhugh and the End of Southern Order [Advisor: Prof. Drew Faust]
Michael	Cheng	States of Nature: Examining International Climate Agreements' Structural Shortcomings in Light of Thomas Hobbes' Political Thought [Advisor: Prof. Richard Tuck]
Alan	Dai	"A World without Frontiers": Reflections on the Origin and Spread of Cosmopolitan Nationalisms in East Asia, 1886–1920 [Advisor: Prof. Michael Szonyi]
Alec	Fischthal	A Nation of Strangers: Anti-Communism, Anti-Discrimination and the Politics of Immigration Reform, 1952–1965 [Advisors: Prof. Lisa McGirr and Dr. Aaron Bekemeyer]
Kendrick	Foster	Four-Cornered Statecraft: The United States, Mexico, and Native Americans in Texian Diplomacy, 1836–1845 [Advisor: Prof. Philip Deloria]
Alistair	Gluck	"No Longer a Nation": The American Council for Judaism and Reform Jewish-American Anti-Zionism [Advisor: Chloe Bordewich]
Liz	Hoveland	A Woman's Place Is at the Convention: Feminists within the Republican Party, 1972–1980 [Advisor: Prof. Jane Kamensky]
Jonathan	Katzman	A Dependent "Special Relationship": Jewish American Economists and the Liberalization of the Israeli Economy [Advisor: Prof. Derek Penslar]

Bryce	Kim	Out of the Valley of Death: The Debates and Demise of the System of Purchase in the Victorian Army, 1815–1900 [Advisor: Prof. Derek Penslar]
Mirnes	Kukic	Privatizing the Urban Renaissance: Race, Redevelopment, and the Building of a Postindustrial Grand Rapids, 1956–1981 [Advisor: Prof. Lizabeth Cohen]
Lauren	Lee	Economic Children and Nineteenth-Century American Trade Cards [Advisor: Prof. Ann Blair]
Zelin	Liu	*Inter exempla erit*: *Germania* in Tacitus and Its Use by Early German Humanists [Advisor: Prof. Ann Blair]
Lauren	Marshall	The Story of the Stone: A Social History of Chinese Natural Stone Entrepreneurship, post 1978 [Advisor: Prof. Michael Puett]
Elizabeth	McCord	Soil, Self-Government, and Slave Ownership: Slavery and the Struggle for Sovereignty in the Cherokee Nation, 1835–1860 [Advisor: Prof. Tiya Miles]
Morgan	Melito	Queering the History of Abortion: From Radical Feminism to Lesbian Activism, 1965–1972 [Advisor: Prof. Jane Kamensky]
Hannah	Miller	The Right to Leave: The Movement for Soviet Jewish Emigration and the Battle between Cold War Strategy and Human Rights, 1963–1975 [Advisor: Marino Auffant]
Claire	Murphy	"Citizen of the UK…But Not Quite": British Nationality Law and the Ugandan Asian Experience, 1948–1981 [Advisor: Gili Kliger]
Samuel	Murray	Roadblocks: Politics, Protests, and Planning in Boston's Highway Debates [Advisor: Jacob Anbinder]
Ton-Nu	Nguyen-Dinh	Landscapes of Solidarity: Networking Sites of Geopolitical Conflict in Transnational Leftist Discourse, 1966–1974 [Advisor: Dr. William Whitham (Social Studies)]
Todd	Qiu	"Cowards, Brothers, Slaves": American Perceptions of Allies and Adversaries during the Korean War, 1950–1953 [Advisor: Ruodi Duan]
Alex	Rosenthal	Institutional Chaos: Examining the Ottoman Empire's Military [Advisor: Prof. Cemal Kafadar]
Jasper	Schoff	*Le bon goût musical*: Printers, Paratext, and *Politesse* in Early Modern Paris, 1532–1598 [Advisor: Prof. David Armitage]

Ema	Schumer	The Boston Police Strike of 1919: The Rise and Fall of Left-Wing Police Unionism in Interwar America [Advisor: Samantha Payne]
Noah	Secondo	Just Sojourners?: Traveling Artists, Civil Rights Activism, and U.S National Security [Advisor: Prof. Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham]
Vivien	Tran	The Vietnamese Catholic Refugee: The Role of Catholicism in Migration and Community Formation in Boston, Massachusetts [Advisor: Sara Kang]
Kate	Wallace	Pipe Dreams: Enbridge Northern Gateway Pipeline and the Legal Paradigms of Canadian Settler Colonialism [Advisor: Dr. Katie Mazer (WCFIA)]
Anthony	Weinraub	"Stand Clear of the Closing Doors, Please": The Fight for Public Control of the New York City Subway and the Birth of a New Transit Consensus, 1921–1953 [Advisor: Jacob Anbinder]
Olivia	Weinstein	The New Old Left: Political Educations of the W.E.B. Du Bois Clubs of America [Advisor: Timothy Barker]
Eric	Yang	The Definition of Power and the Power of Definition: Taylor, Hamilton, Iredell, and Direct Taxation in the Late Eighteenth Century [Advisor: Dr. Glory Liu (Social Studies)]

Theses, 2020–2021

Shera	Avi-Yonah	A "Few Sound Ideas": Richmond Newspapers and Confederate Policy, 1862–1864
Karla	Chavez-Espinosa	Actors Beyond Borders: An International Perspective on Transitional Justice Following El Salvador's Civil War
Carissa	Chen	"Though Dwelling in a Land of Freedom": An Intergenerational Biography of the Harvard Enslaved and their Descendants in Boston, 1734–2020
Jacinta	Crestanello	A Success Story in US-Latin American Relations? The Alliance for Progress and Uruguay, 1961–1973
Koji	Everard	The Political Ecology of Sugar: Beet Agriculture and the Limits of State Power in Interwar Hokkaido
Frances	Hisgen	"We Don't Know What to Do with the Likes of You": Racializing Britishness during the Civilian Evacuation of Hong Kong, 1939–1941

Selket	Jewett	“The Lady Bootlegger Now Asserts Herself”: How Women Entered and Altered Public Spheres during United State Prohibition, 1920–1933”
Alexander	Koenig	Truman’s Decision: The Berlin Airlift and the Domestic Effects of Foreign Policy
Jakob	Lazar	International Fission: Atoms for Peace, Mexico, and the Creation of a Cold War International Community, 1953–1967
Elizabeth	Lively	“Women Know Women”: Dorothy Dignam and the United States Advertising Industry, 1920–1950
Andrew	Mammel	ʔakniɬkaʔnuk: Indigenous Resistance and Water Sovereignty in Northwest Montana, 1920–1985
Joseph	Minatel	Force Out: How the Jackie Robinson of His Day Was Removed from the Game and the History of Baseball
Alexandra	Todorova	“The Evil Years”: Danish Archaeology in the Grip of National Socialism, 1935–1947
Garrett	Walker	A House Divided: The Rise of Hyperpartisanship in the House of Representatives, 1968–1989
Justin	Wei	Not for Sale: The New World Group, Michael Manley’s Jamaica, and Caribbean Visions for Global Economic Order
Derek	Woo	The Farmers of Hamp’yŏng and Rural Agency: Agricultural Policy, Religious Activism and Locality during the Park Chung Hee Regime, 1961–1979
Jingyao (Lux)	Zhao	The History and Mathematics of the Axiom of Choice: A Story in Three Acts, 1904–2021

Theses, 2019–2020

Perry	Arrasmith	Federal Power and Territorial Fear: Water, the U.S. Senate Irrigation Investigations, and the Rise of a More Western Union, 1887–1890
Justin	Curtis	Three-Fifths of All Other Persons: Apportionment, Slave Representation, and Black Political Status, 1776–1876
Nick	Danby	Engulfing the Gulf: American Grand Strategy in the Persian Gulf from the Shah’s Fall to Saddam’s Rise, 1977–1990

Sophia	DiCara	Locked in Bridgewater: Ethnic Tensions, Labor, and the Emergence of the Carceral State in Massachusetts, 1853–1933
Nick	Durham	All in Favor?: Palestinian Representative Leadership, World Orders, and Insidious De-Development, 1975–1994
Murat	Eczacibasi	Reflections on the Imperial Past: The Evolution of Early High School History Textbooks in the Republic of Turkey
Jackson	Grigsby	Re-Examining Resistance and Revolt at Sobibór
Lawrence	Gu	In the Name of Peace and Pan-Asianism: Nongovernmental Activities in Early Cold War Sino-Japanese Interactions, 1946–1957
Ariella	Kahan	Friends or Foes? Palestinian Arabs in the Eyes of American Women Zionists, 1929–1948
Kathryn	Kuhar	Passports, Periodicals, and Performances: How American Suffragists Engaged with the Women's Suffrage Movement in England, 1907–1914
Isabella	Kwasnik	Law and Injustice? Private Property Restitution in Post-1989 Poland
Drake	Marshall	'Now is the Time of Trial': The British Army's Integration of New Technology and Tactics in the Battle of Cambrai
Julie	Ngauv	Roots of Resistance: How the People of Cambodia Survived Genocide through Hidden Acts of Rebellion, 1975–1979
Alison	Peikin	We Have Not Come Home Yet: Forgetting Disabled American Vietnam War Veterans in Film and Law, 1975–1985
Lily	Piao	Invisible Celestials: The Untold Suffering of Chinese Women in U.S. Port Cities, 1870–1915
Julia	Schroeder	Courting Chancery: The Politics of Petitioning in Fifteenth-Century England
Gabriel	Siegal	An American Paradox: A (Brief) Cultural History of the Bikini Bathing Suit, 1930–1955
Oliver	Sughrue	'Condemned Only Upon Circumstance': Imperial Pirates and Justice in the Early British Atlantic, 1660–1704
Chris	Vassallo	Meeting the Soviet Challenge: How History Informed the Makings of a Cold War Strategy, 1945-1949

Charlotte	Watts	Legislating Dependence: Gender Ethnicity, and the Origins of America's Minimum Wage System, Massachusetts, 1912
Carter	Wilcox	Big Data, Brooches, and Boudica: Using Computational Methods to Reveal New Historical Puzzles, 600 BC–410 AD

Theses, 2018–2019

Philip	Balson	"Southeast Asia Will Probably Fail": The Breakdown of an Anglo-American Partnership and the Making of the U.S. Commitment to Victory in Vietnam
Virginia	Call	Imagining the American Empire: Political Cartoons of the Spanish-American War, 1898
Bailey	Colfax	Hunting the Super-Predator: The Mass Incarceration of Black Boys in America, 1995–2001
Sunaina	Danziger	Nazis in America: The US Intelligence Programs that Shaped the New World Order, 1945–1949
Thomas	Elliott	Pledging Allegiance: Religion and Anti-Communism in Early Cold War United States, 1949–1956
Hannah	Feldman	Expectations and Realities of Anglo-Saxon Queenship, c. 600–900
Zachary	Gardner	Origins of Secession: Subsistence, Independence, and Racism in Haywood County, N.C., 1830–1861
Jackson	Gates	Explaining Abolitionism: The Antislavery History of the American Quakers, 1657–1784
Molli	Goetz	Hearts, Minds, and Bodies: Public Health as State-Building in the Sultanate of Oman, 1957–1985
Radhika	Goyal	Asia beyond Pan-Asianism: Kalidas Nag and His "Greater India" Aspirations, 1921–1947
Leila	Hirschfeld	Retaking the Fortress: Josephus, Yadin, and the Meaning of Masada
Robert	Hope	The Refinery of Eden: Abadan and the Global Petroleum Order of the Early Cold War, 1940–1954
Jonah	Lefkoe	Defending the Open Door: The Promise and Perils of Economic Diplomacy in US-China Relations, 1898–1922

Andrew	Lobel	“The Prince of Speculators”: William Duer and the Panic of 1792
Katherine	Mann	Abortion in Prime Time: How 1970s Sitcoms Helped Shape Political Advocacy of Reproductive Rights
Sophie	Mehta	Front Organizations and Back Doors: The Indian Congress for Cultural Freedom and the CIA in the Cold War, 1947–1951
Abraham	Moffat	“Befriending That Law Which Is Constitutional”: Rex E. Lee and Interpretation of the United States Constitution within the History & Theology of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Sierra	Nota	Make Way for the Railway: Transit-Oriented Development in the City of Irkutsk, 1890–1920
Jules	Qiu	“Friendship or Hostility, Trade or War”: The 1832 Voyage of the *Lord Amherst*
Jacob	Russell	Amputating a Limb to Save a Life: Lincoln and the Ambivalence of Executive Power
Benjamin	Schafer	Empire of Good Neighbors: Diplomatic, Commercial, and Racial Empire-Building at the Pan-American Exposition
Arthur	Schott Lopes	A Scientific Myth: Gilberto Freyre’s *Casa-Grande & Senzala* and Luso-Brazilian Nationalism, 1902–1933
Wonik	Son	Constructing Global Disability: The Politics of United Nations Humanitarian Images, 1970s–1990s
William	Strang	Absent at the Creation: The U.S. State Department in Nationalist China, 1947–1950
Richard	Tong	“So Cald Civilized Nations”: Anglophone Internationalism in the Early Twentieth Century, 1896–1930
Isaac	Walker	A Crisis of Their Own Making: Military Fortifications, Frontier Policy, and the Collapse of the Roman East, 502–740
Andrew	Wilkins	Change from Afar: The German Forty-Eighters’ Fight against Slavery and their Pursuit of a Republic, 1848–1871
Hunter	Worland	France in the Amazon?: Development and Identity in Postcolonial French Guiana
Richard	Yarrow	Scientific Nationalism in the Origins of Chemical Warfare: Ideologies of Elite German Scientists in the Early Twentieth Century

Theses, 2017–2018

Sarah	Angell	The Proxy War on Poverty: Cold War Fears and the Development of Anti-Poverty Programs in America, 1960–1964
Nicholas	Barber	Indigent Defense and the Rise of Mass Incarceration in Louisiana from "Gideon" to Katrina, 1963–2005
Rebecca	Brooks	The Federalist Papers and their Intellectual Influences: The Making of American Constitutional Discourse and Method
Lulu	Chua-Rubenfeld	The Encounter between New York's Jewish Communities in Early Twentieth-Century New York and the Creation of American Judaism
Gemma	Collins	Education and Progress: College Access and Suffrage Activity at Radcliffe College, 1894–1920
Matthew	Crowley	The Panic of 1893: Retreading the Path to Central Banking in the United States, 1870–1914
Helen	Cummings	The Criminalization of Peace: Gang Truces in South Central Los Angeles, 1963–1992
Matthew	DeShaw	"Consuetudinis magna vis est": Change, Continuity, and Creating Community in Republican Morgantina, 211–ca. 35 BCE
Alicia	Hamilton	Black Child Matters: A Historical Analysis of June Jordan's Books for Black Kids in a White World, 1969–1971
Gilbert	Highet	When Philosophers Become Princes: Henry Kissinger, the Atlantic Alliance, & the Oil Crisis
Gal	Koplewitz	Economic Expertise and Political Rhetoric in the Antitrust Debate, 1885–1914
Raya	Koreh	The Holocaust in American Jewish Life: Redefining Memory, Community, and Activism, 1960–1976
Madeline	Lear	"To Suffer for the Love of God": Obedience and Devotion in the Spirituality of an American Catholic Sister, 1869–1973
Colleen	McGovern	Drink, Space, and Nation: Public Houses and Nationalist Political Movements in Nineteenth-Century Ireland
Blake	Paterson	Out of the Closet, into the Voting Booth: Gay Power, Politics, and Visibility in Houston, Texas, 1975–1985

Ignacio	Sabate	Press Freedoms under Fire: How NGOs Protected Journalists in Columbia, 1985–2005
Henry	Scott	Thinking in the Anthropocene: The "Uncovering" of the Precarity of a New Geological Epoch in the U.S. Public Sphere, 1968–present; or, Phenomenology, Materiality, Media and the End of "Man"
Theo	Serlin	Poverty and Un-British MPs: Transnational Politics and Economic Thought in Britain and India, 1886–1936
August	Stover	Desegregation, Carcerality and Resistance: The Development of School Policing in Boston, 1963–1988
Ikenna	Ugboaja	Battling the Copper Menace: Project West Ford and the Politics of American Science, 1958–1965
Hannah	Wexner	Fire and Brimstone and Hydrogen Bombs: Narratives of the Apocalyptic in the Civil Rights Era

Hoopes Prizewinners, 2016–2020

2018	Nicholas Barber, Rebecca Brooks, Gilbert Highet, Raya Koreh, Blake Paterson, Theo Serlin
2019	Sunaina Danziger, Robert Hope, Sierra Nota, Jules Qiu, Benjamin Schafer, Hunter Worland
2020	Sophia DiCara, Jackson Grigsby, Ariella Kahan, Julia Schroeder, Carter Wilcox
2021	Carissa Chen, Koji Everard, Frances Hisgen, Alexandra Todorova, Garrett Walker, Jingyao (Lux) Zhao
2022	David Brannon, Alan Dai, Alec Fischthal, Jonathan Katzman, Zelin Liu, Samuel Murray, Todd Qiu, Jasper Schoff, Ema Schumer, Noah Secondo