

Academic Council Minutes

September 2024

Midwestern State University

The Academic Council met Wednesday, September 18, 2024 at 2:00 p.m. in the Dillard College of Business Administration, the Priddy Conference Room.

Voting Members:

Dr. Bob Brennan, Dean, McCoy College of Science, Mathematics, and Engineering
Ms. Leah Gose, Dean, Lamar D. Fain College of Fine Arts
Dr. Leann Curry, Dean, Gordon T. and Ellen West College of Education & Professional Studies
Dr. Jeff Killion, Dean, Robert D. and Carol Gunn College of Health Sciences and Human Services
Dr. Jeff Stambaugh, Dean, Dillard College of Business Administration
Dr. Sam Watson, Dean, Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences
Dr. Tiffany Ziegler, Dean, Dr. Billie Doris McAda Graduate School
Dr. Randy Case, Faculty Senate representative
Mr. Vincent Peter, Student Government Association representative (absent from meeting)

Additional Attendees:

Dr. Kristen Garrison, Associate Vice President Academic Affairs
Ms. Ashley Hurst, Director, Tutoring and Academic Support Programs
Mr. Kenley O'Brien, Associate Registrar
Ms. Leah Hickman, Senior Associate Director, Admissions
Mr. Stephen Schutte, Manager, Military and Adult Education

Dr. Margaret Brown Marsden, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, presided and the meeting began at 2:00 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The June 2024 minutes were brought forward for approval by Dr. Brown Marsden. Professor Gose approved, Dr. Ziegler seconded, and the minutes were approved.

Old Business

Dr. Brown Marsden mentioned THECB and SACSCOC approvals from programs put through and amending information for the Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, the closure of Athletic Training as a stand-alone program, the teach-out plan for Masters in Clinical Psychology, and notifications regarding THECB. The closure of the Flower Mound location was reported to SACSCOC. Everything else submitted to SACSCOC the past year was approved.

New Business

Credit Hour Conversion catalog change – Dr. Brown Marsden

1. Dr. Watson moved for approval for Dr. Brown Marsden to propose the following catalog change and Professor Gose seconded.
2. There was confusion regarding the quarter hour conversion and the rounding of credits. All voting members decided in favor of this item's approval.

Quarter Credit Hour Conversion. ~~Quarter~~ **Transfer credit will be awarded on a semester hour scale for all courses. MSU does not award any partial credits. Quarter** ~~Credit hours and other non-semester credit hours~~ are converted to semester credit hours by multiplying the number of quarter hours by two-thirds (or .67). Since a fraction of a credit hour cannot be awarded, the remaining fraction of semester hour credit is **will be** rounded to the nearest whole number.

For example, 5 quarter hours are equivalent to 3.4 semester hours, which in turn would be rounded to 3 semester hours of credit. ~~∴ 5 quarter hours × .67 = 3.4 semester hours = 3 semester hours.~~ Applicability of transfer credit toward degree requirements at Midwestern State University will be at the discretion of the student's academic dean (or designee).

Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences – Dr. Watson

3. Dr. Watson submitted the following undergraduate items for approval. Dr. Ziegler seconded the motion and the items were approved.

Effective Fall 2025

New minor program titled “Military History”

Description of requirements: 18 credits total

Required Courses (6 hours)

HIST 1353 World Civilizations to 1500

HIST 1433 Survey of Western Civilization

or

HIST 1453 World Civilizations since 1500

Elective Options (12 hours)

3 hours in European Military History

HIST 3233 – Greece, Rome, and the Mediterranean World

All proposed changes are marked as such: deleted items are marked with a strikethrough line and new items are in bold and underlined. Italicized wording is justification or clarification from the proposing department/college.

HIST 3513 – Modern Russian State and Empire

HIST 4373 – Modern Germany

HIST 4433 – Twentieth-Century Europe

HIST 4523 – Topics in Eastern European and Balkan History

HIST 4553 – The Age of the Vikings

HIST 4563 – The Crusades

HIST 4683 – Special Topics in Military History*

3 hours in American Military History

HIST 3003 – Natives and Newcomers: Colonial North America

HIST 4053 – Civil War and Reconstruction

HIST 4083 – Revolutionary America

HIST 4613 – The American West, 1803-1890

HIST 4683 – Special Topics in Military History*

3 hours in World Military History

HIST 3833 – Colonial Latin America

HIST 4193 – Vietnam Wars: A Vietnamese Story

HIST 4573 – Imperialism in Asia

HIST 4683 – Special Topics in Military History*

3 hours in any of the above courses

***Can be repeated for credit if content differs.**

Justification:

Military history is a long-standing sub-discipline of history that is concerned with the causes, course, and consequences of armed conflict across the world. Traditional military history emphasizes strategy and tactics. More recently, historians have expanded the definition of military history to include the social, economic, and cultural impact of these conflicts across populations.

Many of our existing history classes emphasize armed conflict and/or military history, and multiple faculty members have specialties or subspecialties in military history. Within our U.S. history course offerings, classes on colonial America, the American Revolution, and the Civil War & Reconstruction have a significant military history component due to the prevalence (or dominance) of war during those eras. Within our European history course offerings, our students learn about tactics, technologies, strategies, and the wide-ranging effects of armed conflict during classes on Greece, Rome, & the Mediterranean World, the Crusades, the Age of the Vikings, Modern Russia, Modern Germany, Twentieth-Century Europe, and Topics in Eastern European and Balkan History. Our world history classes examine imperialism in Asia, the Vietnam War, and independence movements within Latin American history. Finally, during the summer, students have the opportunity to study abroad in London where classes include the history of World War I and World War II. These existing classes already equip students with a strong foundation in military history.

Moreover, we already offer HIST 4683: Special Topics in Military History. As noted in the course description, the class examines the “political and military actions leading up to and during armed conflict.” Topics vary depending on the semester, but “may include the Roman

and Viking ways of war, medieval warfare, the Military Revolution(s), Napoleonic Warfare, the world wars, the Chinese Revolution, the Yugoslav Wars of the 1990s, armed insurrections, and/or comparisons of armed conflicts as determined by the professor.” In recent years, this course has considered the history of the Holocaust as well as Counterinsurgency from a historical perspective.

A minor in military history would appeal to a range of students, including those interested in intelligence and security careers, careers in international relations, and law school. In particular, students majoring in Criminal Justice, Political Science, Sociology, and Global Studies could enrich their studies by adding a minor in military history. It would also appeal to our student veterans and those from military families. Given MSU’s strong relationship with Sheppard Air Force Base and the upcoming launch of a Military Education Center on campus, the history department anticipates an increased interest in classes relating to military history.

With a strong foundation in military history, students are equipped for a range of jobs. Military historians are commonly employed by the federal government, working at military bases across the world. Indeed, when this proposal was drafted, USAJobs.gov listed three historian positions across the Department of the Army and the Department of the Air Force. Moreover, within the past few years, Sheppard AFB hired at least one historian. With a background in military history, our students and alumni will be better qualified to apply for these jobs.

Finally, military history is a common minor across universities in the United States and within Texas. In Texas, the University of Texas at Arlington and Texas Tech University offer a minor in military history. Baylor, Texas Tech, and Texas A&M offer a military studies minor with a strong history component, and TCU offers a minor in Military, War, and Conflict Studies. By offering a military history minor, we would be aligned with other universities in the state. There are no additional costs incurred in delivery of this minor as these courses already exist and are in regular rotation. No additional faculty will be required. The 18-credit hour minor conforms to other academic minors found at Midwestern State University.

Contact Person:

*Name: Mary Draper, Ph.D.
Title: Chair, Department of History
E-mail: Mary.Draper@msutexas.edu
Phone: 940-397-4455*

Graduate Course and Catalog Changes – Dr. Ziegler

4. Dr. Ziegler submitted the following graduate items for approval. Dr. Watson seconded the motion and the items were approved.

Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Catalog Changes Effective Fall 2025

History Graduate Certificates

← Return to: Prothro-Yeager College of Humanities and Social Sciences

A minimum of 12 semester hours of approved graduate History courses including HIST 6003.

Graduate Certificates in History

The History Graduate program offers two 9-hour graduate certificates.

Overview

- Three courses (9 semester hours)
- A course completed for one certificate cannot apply toward the second certificate
- A grade of B or better must be earned in any graduate course applied to completing the certificate. Students can remain in the program (i.e., continue taking classes) as long as they maintain a 2.0 GPA.

Certificate I: Graduate Certificate in History

Outcome: Students will gain specialized knowledge of history to prepare them for additional professional opportunities.

A minimum of 9 semester hours of approved graduate History courses including HIST 6003.

Certificate II: Graduate Certificate in Military History

Outcome: Students will gain specialized knowledge of military history—the study of armed conflict—to prepare them for additional professional opportunities.

Choose from three of the following courses (regardless of region):

European Military History

HIST 5233 – Greece, Rome, and the Mediterranean World

HIST 5513 – Modern Russian State and Empire

HIST 5373 – Modern Germany

HIST 5433 – Twentieth-Century Europe

HIST 5523 – Topics in Eastern European and Balkan History

HIST 5553 – The Age of the Vikings

HIST 5563 – The Crusades

HIST 5683 – Special Graduate Topics in Military History*

American Military History

HIST 5003 – Natives and Newcomers: Colonial North America

HIST 5053 – Civil War and Reconstruction

HIST 5083 – Revolutionary America

HIST 5613 – The American West, 1803-1890

HIST 5683 – Special Graduate Topics in Military History*

World Military History

HIST 5833 – Colonial Latin America

HIST 5193 – Vietnam Wars: A Vietnamese Story

HIST 5573 – Imperialism in Asia

All proposed changes are marked as such: deleted items are marked with a strikethrough line and new items are in bold and underlined. Italicized wording is justification or clarification from the proposing department/college.

HIST 5683 – Special Graduate Topics in Military History*

HIST 6003 will count if the course includes a significant military history component. Credit will be offered at the discretion of the chair and/or graduate coordinator.

***Can be repeated for credit if content differs.**

*Request for Adding a Graduate Certificate in the Department of History
Program Title: Military History*

Justification:

Military history is a long-standing sub-discipline of history that is concerned with the causes, course, and consequences of armed conflict across the world. Traditional military history emphasizes strategy and tactics. More recently, historians have expanded the definition of military history to include the social, economic, and cultural impact of these conflicts across populations.

Many of our existing history classes emphasize armed conflict and/or military history, and multiple faculty members have specialties or subspecialties in military history. Within our U.S. history course offerings, classes on colonial America, the American Revolution, and the Civil War & Reconstruction have a significant military history component due to the prevalence (or dominance) of war during those eras. Within our European history course offerings, our students learn about tactics, technologies, strategies, and the wide-ranging effects of armed conflict during classes on Greece, Rome, & the Mediterranean World, the Crusades, the Age of the Vikings, Modern Russia, Modern Germany, Twentieth-Century Europe, and Topics in Eastern European and Balkan History. Our world history classes examine imperialism in Asia, the Vietnam War, and independence movements within Latin American history. Finally, during the summer, students have the opportunity to study abroad in London where classes include the history of World War I and World War II. These existing classes already equip students with a strong foundation in military history.

Moreover, we already offer HIST 5683: Special Graduate Topics in Military History. As noted in the course description, the class examines the “political and military actions leading up to and during armed conflict.” Topics vary depending on the semester, but “may include the Roman and Viking ways of war, medieval warfare, the Military Revolution(s), Napoleonic Warfare, the world wars, the Chinese Revolution, the Yugoslav Wars of the 1990s, armed insurrections, and/or comparisons of armed conflicts as determined by the professor.” In recent years, this course has considered the history of the Holocaust as well as Counterinsurgency from a historical perspective.

A graduate certificate in military history would appeal to a range of students, including those interested in intelligence and security careers and careers in international relations. It would also appeal to our student veterans and those from military families. Given MSU’s strong relationship with Sheppard Air Force Base and the upcoming launch of a Military Education Center on campus, the history department anticipates an increased interest in classes relating to military history.

With a strong foundation in military history, students are equipped for a range of jobs. Military historians are commonly employed by the federal government, working at military bases across the world. Indeed, when this proposal was drafted, USAJobs.gov listed three historian

positions across the Department of the Army and the Department of the Air Force. Moreover, within the past few years, Sheppard AFB hired at least one historian. With a background in military history, our students and alumni will be better qualified to apply for these jobs.

Finally, this graduate certificate, in conjunction with the department's other graduate certificate, will enable graduates to teach dual-credit courses at local high schools. We are submitting this proposal alongside a catalog revision to reduce our existing 12-hour graduate certificate in history to 9-hours. This would enable students to complete both certificates, earn 18 hours in graduate credit, and then teach dual credit. A course completed for one certificate cannot apply towards the second certificate.

There are no additional costs incurred in delivery of this minor as these courses already exist and are in regular rotation. No additional faculty will be required.

Contact Person:

Name: Mary Draper, Ph.D.
 Title: Chair & Graduate Coordinator, Department of History
 E-mail: Mary.Draper@msutexas.edu
 Phone: 940-397-4455

Catalog Change – Graduate GPA

5. Dr. Ziegler submitted the following graduate items for approval. Dr. Stambaugh seconded the motion and the items were approved.

Effective Fall 2025

2. Graduate degree-seeking students must maintain a grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.0 to be in good academic standing. **No graduate degree-seeking student may graduate with more than two Cs in their applied major program.**

- a. **Probation:** If a student's cumulative GPA falls below 3.0, the student will be placed on probation.
 - i. The first semester a student is placed on probation they must attain a 3.0 GPA for the semester.
 - ii. If the student earns a 3.0 GPA during their first semester on probation but is not able to raise their cumulative GPA to 3.0, the student is allowed to stay on probation for another semester.
 - iii. If a student fails to raise their cumulative GPA to 3.0 by the end of the second semester on probation, the student may be dismissed from the program.
 - iv. If D or F grades are received while on probation, student may be dismissed from the program.
 - v. Students on probation may enroll for a maximum of 9 credit hours per semester. If a student wishes to take more than 9 credit hours, they may petition the Graduate Dean for permission to do so.
 - vi. Departments or programs may have additional requirements. Students on probation should consult with their graduate coordinator about department- or program specific requirements to return to good academic standing.

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Adjournment:

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Boerma

Assistant to the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs