

Timeline for First-Year Paper

(Dates listed below are provisional and should help you get a sense of how to stay on track in completing a successful FYP. Be sure to meet with your advisor regularly about the process as well as other students in the cohorts above you.)

October 1: Paper Brainstorm

- Identify topic(s) of interest.
- Locate the primary sources that you will use to study the interests.
- Brainstorm the questions that you have about your primary sources and how they speak to your interests.

October 15: Paper Proposal

- Develop a strong research question.
- Situate your question within the relevant historiography or scholarly discussion.
- Describe the primary source base that you will use to answer the question.

October 31: Analysis of primary sources

- Close readings of one or two primary sources

Nov 15: Historiographical review

- Expanded summary and analysis of the relevant scholarly conversation(s) in which you are engaging and the intervention your paper is making

Nov 30: Formulation of Argument

- One page in which you explain your argument, its significance, and its basis in your primary sources, i.e., how it derives from your sources

Jan 15: 10-15 pages of draft

Feb 15: Full draft

March 15: Revised full draft

April 1: Draft for circulation to peers; revise by deadline for seminar presentation

Late April or Early May: Presentation of Paper in History Regional Seminar