

**History, Theory, Practice  
Core Seminar**

**His 524/526**

**Profs. Chris Sellers and Kathleen Wilson**

**Tuesdays 5:20-8:20      SBS N-303**

This first semester of the year-long Core course has two main functions: to address the various ways that theoretical concepts inform contemporary historical writing, and to introduce the four thematic areas emphasized in the graduate program. In doing so, it will also help students evaluate the growing body of theoretically-informed work across the historical fields, learn how to use theory in the formulation and execution of historical research, and assess which kinds of theory are most appropriate or important for their own research interest. The overall goal is to train students to thinking historically and conceptually: to shape research questions, interrogate archives, and conceptualize empirical findings. Requirements for the first semester include mastering assigned reading and active participation in class discussion, group oral presentations of the assigned readings, two short writing/analytical exercises, and a research proposal. All of this will prepare the students for the second semester, when they will research and write a substantial research paper. Assigned texts include those purchased, photocopied (X) or downloaded. **Prerequisite: Enrollment in a History Graduate Program: MA & PhD students only; advanced Academic-Track MA students should consult advisor prior to enrolling.**