

HISTORY DEPARTMENT ADVISING FAQ

General Reminders:

- Reading these documents is **not** a substitute for meeting with your advisor!
- Students require 32 units to graduate. Even if all of your requirements are fulfilled, you cannot graduate without 32 units.
- Only **one** 100-level course counts toward the major
- Pre-Modern requirements are satisfied at any level.
- Geographic Region Requirements are satisfied only at the 300-level and 400-level.
- You may take two Topics courses of the same number, so long as they are different topics, such as HIS220 or HIS365.
- If you have not passed HIS099 or HSS099, be sure to enroll in that course. You cannot graduate without it.

Reminders for Education Majors:

- Clinical II **must** be taken the semester after Clinical I.
- Prior to student teaching, you must make sure you have fulfilled the Basic Skills requirements or passed your Praxis exam.
- Be sure you are also meeting with your education advisors every semester.

Language:

- The following majors **must** take up to 103 of a language
 - History Liberal Arts
 - History Urban Secondary Education
 - History Secondary Education
 - History Urban Elementary Education
 - History Urban Early Childhood Education
- We strongly encourage taking your language in consecutive semesters.
- The language placement test can be found [here](#)
- If you change from a major that does not require a language to a major that does, you are still required to satisfy the language requirement.

Hold

- Check your holds **well** ahead of your registration appointment.
- The department office can only clear HSS Advising Holds. We cannot clear School of Education advising holds, nor any other hold.
- Some holds do not clear immediately. Make sure you take care of your holds at least 72 hours prior to your appointment.

Overload

(From the HSS Dean's Office)

Did you know that students can take 5 classes a semester if they meet eligibility criteria? And, that students can do this more than once?

The normal course load for HSS majors is 4 units but students may take up to 4.5 units without permission. Students who have earned 8 units at the college and maintain a 3.3 cumulative TCNJ GPA may request an overload for a maximum of 5 course units. There is no limit to the number of overload semesters. First-year students, with less than 8 TCNJ earned units, may apply for an overload to take an intensive language after they have a TCNJ GPA. We do not approve overloads for the Winter Term or the Mini-Summer Term because there are not enough hours in 3 weeks to meet the contact-hour requirement for more than 1 course. Classes taken at a community college count toward these limits and so you need to be sure that you are staying within the course unit limit when you combine the courses that you are taking across institutions.

Process to take up to 5 course units:

If you are interested in taking up to 5 units, you should complete the online Overload Interest Form found at: <https://hss.tcnj.edu/resources/current-students/forms/>
Completing the form will automatically generate an email that will be sent to your Department Chair, who will reach out to you for advising. They may ask you why you are requesting the overload, review your academic record, and talk to you about the advantages and disadvantages of overloading given your proposed coursework. The Department Chair will communicate directly with the Associate Dean. She will then correspond with you about your overload request.