GRADUATE CORE SEMINAR
HIS 524/525 - Core - Theory and Practice
Professors Donna Rilling & Mohamad Ballan
M 4:25-7:15 – N-303

This year-long course is your introduction to graduate study in history in general, and Stony Brook’s Ph.D. Program in History in particular. It has three goals:

1) To familiarize you with the techniques, standards, and resources of historical research.
2) To provide an overview of the thematic areas emphasized by our graduate program:
   • Global connections, empire, capitalism
   • Health, science, environment
   • Race, citizenship, migration
   • Religion, gender, cultural identity
   • States, nations, political cultures
3) To explore some important historiographical and theoretical concepts that inform historical writing about these themes.

The first semester will explore important and interesting scholarship relative to the themes. We will practice critical reading and writing about secondary literatures and help you identify a research project (including primary and secondary sources) to be executed in the spring.

Requirements for the first semester include active participation in class discussion of assigned readings, short written responses to reading, an oral presentation on a topic of your choice, and development of a preliminary research proposal including an annotated bibliography of primary and secondary sources. The second semester will be devoted to researching and writing a substantial research paper in stages (outline, introduction, rough draft, revised draft) with extensive collaboration with your advisor. **Prerequisite: Enrollment in a History Graduate Program.**