

European Graduate Field Requirements UCLA Department of History

MA Degree

(History does not grant a terminal Master's. The MA degree can be earned en route to the Ph.D.)

Foreign Language Requirement

Students in the European history field may qualify for an M.A. if they have passed one of the two language exams required for the Ph.D. by the time of the start of their sixth quarter. The exam will be administered by a faculty member and proctored by the History Graduate Office. The student will have 90 minutes for the exam, and they are allowed to bring their own dictionary.

Course Requirements

The department requires a minimum of nine upper division and graduate courses in history (36 units), at least six (24 units) of which must be graduate courses. All students must successfully complete the 36 units (normally nine courses) taken for a letter grade (unless only offered S/U). The six graduate courses must include at least one continuing two- or three-quarter research seminar which must include the preparation of a substantial research paper. When appropriate to specific research interests and scheduling exigencies, upon successful petition to the Field Coordinator, students may substitute courses within their two-quarter seminars. A one-quarter seminar followed immediately by the next quarter with a directed studies course (HIST 596) may replace the required two-quarter seminar. The two-quarter seminar(s) (and/or seminar with course substitution) must culminate in a substantial research paper at the end of the second quarter.

History 495 and courses in the 300 series are not applicable toward course requirements. All students may use up to a maximum of two History 596 courses for both the total course requirement and the minimum six graduate (200-series) course requirement. Note: only one of the two 500-series courses may be applied toward the total degree requirements without petitioning the field coordinator or faculty advisor and when appropriate the Vice Chair of Graduate Affairs.

Students in European history must complete one two-quarter seminar and History 204

Capstone Plan/ MA

All students in the European field must take the doctoral written qualifying examination which usually begins during spring break between the fifth and sixth quarters in residence (i.e. in the second year). Examinations take the form of three take-home written exams, set by three examiners of the student's committee and administered usually over a period of two weeks (i.e. three weekends) beginning in Spring Break. These exams are intended to test a comprehensive, broad understanding of European history, both of the modern and early modern periods. An ability to synthesize factual information, sometimes across long chronological periods is, consequently, essential. Knowledge of the scholarly literature and of the principal historiographical controversies arising out of it is tested along with interpretive capabilities. Questions relating to the planning of college-level history courses may appear on the examination.

Students in the European field who fail the written examination may petition to retake it in the following spring quarter. The written examination may be retaken only once. The field can also require that the student retake one section of the exam by the end of the following June (i.e. two

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months later). In either case, the exam has to follow the same procedure as before: administered by the three examiners of the student's committee, with a full report to the Field as a whole (communicated through the Field Coordinator). These written exams will be followed in the subsequent week by an oral examination of approximately one hour conducted by all three faculty members. The committee as a whole will grade the three exams. The purpose of the oral examination is to allow the committee to ask further questions about the material of their field in order to assess competency has been attained. The committee as a whole must come to a unanimous decision to indicate a candidate has achieved an overall pass by passing each of the field exams. The examination process is normally completed by the end of April in the second year. quarter or year. Students failing the exam a second time will not continue in the program.

PHD Degree

Foreign Language Requirement

European History: Students must demonstrate proficiency in two foreign languages prior to advancement to candidacy. Proficiency in foreign languages is to be determined by successful completion of a departmental language examination. The exam will be administered by a faculty member and proctored by the History Graduate Office. The student will have 90 minutes for the exam, and they are allowed to bring their own dictionary. Exceptions to this rule must be approved by the faculty adviser and the field coordinator,. For those working on (1) Europe: French and German, either of which can be replaced by another language deemed necessary for research; (2) Russian or East European history: Russian plus German or French, any of which can be replaced by another language deemed necessary for research. All substitutions must be approved via petition by the faculty adviser and the field coordinator.

Course Requirements

All incoming students are required to complete History 204 (Fall seminar) and complete at least one continuing two- or three-quarter seminar, which must include the preparation of a substantial research paper (two continuing two-quarter seminars are required for students in History of Science and U.S. history). When appropriate to specific research interests and scheduling exigencies, upon successful petition to the Field Coordinator, students may substitute courses within their two-quarter seminars. A one-quarter seminar followed immediately by the next quarter with a directed studies course (HIST 596) may replace the required two-quarter seminar. The two-quarter seminar(s) (and/or seminar with course substitution) must culminate in a substantial research paper at the end of the second quarter. A maximum of eight units of HIST 596 may be used for all fields. Note: Only one of the two 500-series courses may be used without petitioning the field coordinator or faculty advisor and when appropriate, the Vice Chair of Graduate Affairs.

(2) European history -- History 204 and one two-quarter seminar

Written and Oral Qualifying Examinations

Academic Senate regulations require all doctoral students to complete and pass university written and oral qualifying examinations prior to doctoral advancement to candidacy. Also, under Senate regulations, the University Oral Qualifying Examination is open only to the student and appointed members of the doctoral committee. In addition to university requirements, some graduate programs have other pre-candidacy examination requirements. What follows in this section is how students are required to fulfill all of these requirements for this doctoral program.

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All committee nominations and reconstitutions adhere to the [Minimum Standards for Doctoral Committee Constitution](#).

All Fields

Students with outstanding incomplete grades may not be permitted to sit for the written and oral qualifying examinations. The written qualifying examination must be passed before the oral qualifying examination can be taken. Students must begin the written qualifying examinations no later than the end of the ninth quarter of graduate study. To be eligible to sit for their qualifying examinations, student must have completed all their course work and language requirements.

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Written Qualifying Examination

All students in the European field take the doctoral written qualifying examination, which usually begins during spring break between the fifth and sixth quarters in residence (i.e. in the second year).

Examinations take the form of three take-home written exams, set by the three examiners of the student's committee and administered usually over a period of two weeks (i.e. three weekends) beginning in Spring Break. They are intended to test a comprehensive, broad understanding of European history, both of the modern and early modern periods. An ability to synthesize factual information, sometimes across long chronological periods is, consequently, essential. Knowledge of the scholarly literature and of the principal historiographical controversies arising out of it is tested, along with interpretive capabilities. Questions relating to the planning of college-level history courses may appear on the examination.

Students in the European field who fail the written examination may petition to retake it in the following spring quarter. The written examination may be retaken only once. The field can also require that the student retake one section of the exam by the end of the following June (i.e. two months later). In either case, the exam has to follow the same procedure as before: administered by the three examiners of the student's committee, with a full report to the Field as a whole (communicated through the Field Coordinator)

These written exams will be followed in the subsequent week by an oral examination of approximately one hour conducted by all three faculty members. The committee as a whole will grade the three exams. The purpose of the oral is to allow the committee to ask further questions about the material of their field in order to assure themselves that due competency has been attained. The committee as a whole needs to be unanimous that a candidate has achieved an overall pass by passing each of the fields. The examination process is normally completed by the end of April in the second year.

Oral Qualifying Examination

The Oral Examination is primarily conducted as a discussion of the student's dissertation prospectus, in the presence of the fourth member of the committee, external to the Department of History, who represents a fourth field and with whom the student has also worked in the preparation of the dissertation prospectus. While the focus of the oral examination is the prospectus itself, students may

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expect to discuss substantive elements of their four fields as they relate to the proposed research in the prospectus. The oral qualifying examination is typically completed by the end of third year.