

Japan 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 Japanese history field must have a minimum of three years of Japanese language. Students need to take a 3-hour language examination, which will be administered by a faculty member and proctored by the History Graduate Office, before they can proceed to qualifying examinations. They are allowed to bring their own dictionary. Course work is permitted in lieu of the specific language exams with faculty adviser's approval.

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 Japanese History must complete one continuing two-or-three quarter research seminars or alternatively, a continuing sequence of at least two graduate courses-which must all include the completion of a substantial research paper, based at least in part on primary sources.

Capstone Plan

The department follows the capstone plan. Individual fields specify the fulfillment of the examination requirement by (1) a written examination designed to assess the candidate's ability to synthesize a broad field of knowledge; or (2) the submission of three essays as part of the candidate's program of study written for at least three different professors. At least two of these papers must have been submitted for graduate courses in the 200 series.

PHD Degree

Foreign Language Requirement

Japanese History: For the Ph.D., four years of Japanese course work (Advanced level) or its equivalent, demonstrated ability in specialized Japanese that will allow one to read source materials

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(e.g. course work or its equivalent in Kanbun, Sorobun, Bungotai, and/or Meiji documents). Admission to candidacy for the Ph.D. in the Japanese field requires the completion of a research seminar in the major field. Successful completion of this seminar usually requires the equivalent of at least four years of superior college-level language work in Japanese.

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.

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.

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

In the written qualifying examinations, students are expected to demonstrate synthetic and in-depth competence in each of the examining fields. This includes both awareness of broader historiographical and methodological debates, as well as an appreciation of the stakes and issues involved in such analyses. Students will be examined on a minimum of three fields, selected in consultation with their faculty adviser. One of the fields may be taken with an examiner from outside of the department, with approval from the adviser. The written qualifying examination normally, the

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exam consists of an eight-hour written essay response for the major field, and either four or eight hour responses for the remaining fields (the time to be agreed upon by the examiners and the student at their option). The written exams may be taken in staggered order, but normally no less than one per week until completion. The written qualifying examination must be passed before the oral qualifying examination can be taken. The members of the doctoral committee determine whether or not an examination may be repeated (normally only once), based on their prognosis of the student's potential for successfully completing both the written and oral examinations within a specified period of time to be designated by the doctoral committee, but not to exceed one calendar year.

Oral Qualifying Examination

The oral examination will consider the completed prospectus for the student's dissertation topic. Normally the oral examination of the completed prospectus will follow within six months or less of the written examination. The examining committee will consist of the members of the student's doctoral committee.