

Southeast Asia 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 South and Southeast Asian history field must demonstrate proficiency in at least one foreign language by passing a departmentally administered exam, which 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. In cases where the field deems it appropriate, course work may be used to fulfill the language requirement, subject to the approval of the field coordinator and faculty adviser.

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 South and Southeast Asian History must complete at least one continuing two- or three-quarter seminar, or alternatively, a continuing sequence of at least two graduate courses.

Capstone Plan

South and Southeast Asia students are expected to take their written qualifying exams no later than the end of the third year; once passed, they will have earned the M.A degree. Students are required to take written examinations in three of their four chosen fields. The exams are usually take-home exams that are either 48 or 72 hours, in an open book format.

PHD Degree

Foreign Language Requirement

South and Southeast Asian history: Before proceeding to their dissertation, students must pass reading comprehension examinations in at least two relevant languages. A reading comprehension will also be required for at least one language, other than English, external to the region, normally

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drawn from French, Dutch, Portuguese, Spanish, Arabic, Persian (for South Asia), Chinese or Japanese (for Southeast Asia). However, with the approval of the student's adviser, the student may petition to have the second language also be drawn from the country or cultural area being studied by the student. In cases where the field deems it appropriate, course work may be used to fulfill the language requirements, subject to the approval of the field coordinator and faculty adviser.

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.

South and Southeast Asia Field

Written Qualifying Examination

Students are expected to take their written qualifying exams no later than the end of the third year. Students are required to take written examinations in three of their four chosen fields. The exams are usually take-home exams that are either 48 or 72 hours, in an open book format.

Oral Qualifying Examination

The oral examination is held shortly after the written examination or, at the discretion of the doctoral committee, as late as six months after the written examination.