

Medieval 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 Medieval history field must have an excellent command of Latin, French, and German, as well as other modern and medieval languages, necessary for their areas of research. For the M.A. degree, only one language is required. Competencies could be fulfilled by: (1) completing six quarters (four semesters) of language with a 'B' or better grade; (2) successful completion of a departmental administered examination, 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; (3) completing two quarters of Medieval Latin at the 100 level with a 'B' or better grade; or (4) passing the Latin Exam set by the Classics department.

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 Medieval History must take History 200C-Advanced Historiography or its equivalent, and must complete a two- or three-quarter research seminar or a sequence of two graduate history courses that results in the writing of a research-based paper on primary sources.

Capstone Plan

At the end of the first year for Medieval History students, the field committee will evaluate the results of a student's course work, and research paper, and will determine whether a student will be awarded an M.A., and be admitted to the Ph.D. program.

PHD Degree

Foreign Language Requirement

Medieval Graduate Field Requirements

Medieval History: All medievalists must have an excellent command of Latin, French, and/or German, as well as any other modern and medieval languages necessary for their particular areas of research. In cases where the field deems it appropriate, course work or alternate languages may be used to fulfill the language requirements, subject to the approval of the field coordinator and faculty adviser. If the student decides to use the option of course work, they should have a minimum of 6 quarters in the language they petition.

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.

Medieval Field

Written Qualifying Examination

The written examination includes questions set by members of the student's medieval fields. Students are examined in four fields, including two medieval fields, one historical field outside of medieval history, and one field outside of history. One retake is allowed to be taken within 4 months of the original exam. The exams are 4 hours long and are usually taken by Spring Quarter of the third year.

Oral Qualifying Examination

Medieval Graduate Field Requirements

A portion of the oral qualifying examination explores the student's dissertation prospectus. Committee members may also follow up on the written qualifying examination and pose additional questions to their fields. The oral qualifying examination is usually taken one week following the written qualifying examination. With agreement of their committee, students may take the oral exam up to six months after the written exam, in order to complete additional reading or prepare a dissertation prospectus.