

Middle East 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 Middle East history field must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of their faculty adviser, proficiency in two Middle Eastern languages and one European language. Normally, students fulfill this requirement by taking 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. Where appropriate, students, in consultation with their advisers, may use course work to fulfill the language requirement as long as students show a GPA of at least 3.7 (A-) in their course work.

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 Middle East History must complete two of the following seminars: Historiography of the Pre-Modern Middle East, Historiography of the Early-Modern Middle East, and Historiography of the Modern Middle East.

Capstone Plan

The Middle East field requires students to pass the written comprehensive examination, to earn the M.A. degree, and continue to the oral qualifying examination for admission to candidacy for the Ph.D. degree. Retakes are decided by the student's faculty adviser.

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PHD Degree

Foreign Language Requirement

Middle East History: Students in the Middle East history field must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of their faculty adviser, proficiency in two Middle Eastern languages and one European language prior to advancement to candidacy. Normally, a departmentally administered exam, which will be administered by a faculty member and proctored by the History Graduate Office is given to the student. The student will have 90 minutes for the exam, and they are allowed to bring their own dictionary. Where appropriate, students, in consultation with their advisers, may use course work to fulfill the language requirement as long as students show a GPA of 3.7 (A-) in their course work. These languages should be germane to the student's present and future research interests and are chosen in consultation with the student's adviser. Those students who seek to specialize in Armenian history must demonstrate a reading knowledge of Classical Armenian (Grabar), one European language other than English, and at least one other Middle Eastern language germane to the student's present and future research interests and chosen in consultation with his/her 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.

(4) Middle East history -- two of the following seminars: Historiography of the Pre-Modern Middle East, Historiography of the Early-Modern Middle East, and Historiography of the Modern Middle East

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

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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.

Middle East Field

Written Qualifying Examination

Students are examined in each of two Middle East fields. One of these is the major field, the other field can be outside of the Middle East with the permission of the chair of the dissertation committee. The major field might be Pre-Modern Middle Eastern history, Early Modern Middle Eastern history, Modern Middle Eastern history, or Armenian history. The Middle East field requires students to achieve a satisfactory pass of the doctoral written qualifying examination. Retakes are decided by the graduate student's adviser.

Oral Qualifying Examination

The oral qualifying examination focuses on questions relating to the dissertation prospectus, which must be distributed to members of the committee at least two weeks before the oral examination.