

EAST ASIAN HISTORY

PHD QUALIFYING EXAMINATION GUIDELINES

1. Expectations for students taking the oral examination in the major field

Students being examined in East Asia as a major field will be expected to demonstrate a basic familiarity with the main lines of historical development in and major historiographical debates relating to China, Japan, and Korea. They should also demonstrate a detailed understanding of one significant period and place (e.g., twentieth-century Korea, Meiji Japan, Ming Dynasty China, etc.), such that the committee will be convinced that they are capable of contributing significantly to that subfield via their research and writing.

2. Expectations for students taking the oral examination in the inside minor field

Students being examined in East Asia as a minor field will be expected to demonstrate sufficient familiarity with the history of China, Japan and/or Korea to offer a basic survey course on that country, which would place it within a general East Asian context.

3. Guidelines for the prospectus

The prospectus submitted and defended by those for whom East Asian history is the major field should be clearly written, address in some fashion issues of theory and method, locate the proposed study within historiographical debates, and demonstrate a good feel for the kinds of documents to be relied upon in writing the thesis.