

History PhD Programme Field Requirements - MAJOR FIELD

Students will be required to demonstrate competency in the major field by:

1. Successful completion of course work in the major field.
2. An oral examination of the major field:
 - The student shall prepare and defend a detailed syllabus for a 24 week senior undergraduate seminar course in the major field.
 - Students will be required to demonstrate in the oral defence of the syllabus a sophisticated and broad-ranging knowledge of the historiographical topics, debates, and trends in broadly defined fields. The reading lists for these fields are to be generated in consultation with the field supervisors. Students read a maximum of 100 titles (books and articles) in their major field. The reading lists should be forwarded to the field supervisor and the graduate office (hist.grad@queensu.ca) no later than April 30.
 - Students are expected to submit the syllabus to their field supervisor and the graduate office by June 30th of their first year in the programme. If possible, the defence of the syllabus and field should be held by that date. If the defence of the syllabus and the field is delayed past June 30th, students are nonetheless expected to be preparing the thesis proposal after June 30th so that it will be submitted and defended by November 30th.
3. The objective of the oral defence of the fields is twofold:
 - First, candidates should demonstrate broad knowledge and expertise of the historical literature and principal debates in both their major and minor fields. It is expected that the mastery of fields acquired during preparation of the reading lists and syllabi will inform and substantially overlap with the candidates' mastery of historical literature needed for their dissertation research.
 - Second, the requirement of the course syllabi is also aimed at developing pedagogical skills that will aid the student both in the academic job market and in university teaching. However, the syllabus itself is a heuristic device and the examination will normally not include explicitly pedagogical questions.
4. Field requirements must be passed before the Qualifying Examination defence of the thesis proposal may be scheduled.
5. The field examinations are normally held separately and are an hour to an hour

and a half in length.

6. The candidate shall be assessed on an approved or not approved basis. Candidates who do not receive an approved assessment must successfully complete the field requirements within three months of the first attempt.

If the second attempt is unsuccessful, candidates wishing to appeal the decision of not approved may consult the Graduate School Calendar - Appeals Against Academic Decisions.

http://www.queensu.ca/calendars/sgsr/Appeals_Against_Academic_Decisions.html

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