

The Doctor of Philosophy Degree in East Asian Languages and Literatures - Chinese Literature

at the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa

PROGRAM SCOPE AND OBJECTIVES

The Ph.D. degree in East Asian Languages & Literatures aims to train future scholars for the academic profession. The Ph.D. specialization in Chinese literary and cultural studies offers students the opportunity to develop scholarly expertise in the classical, pre-modern, 20th century, and contemporary periods. The program also encourages comparative and interdisciplinary studies exploring the relationships between the histories, cultures, and literatures of East Asia.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the requirements for admission to the M.A. program, admission to the Ph.D. program requires evidence of the M.A. earned with distinction, or its equivalent. Applicants will be asked to demonstrate their potential as scholars by submitting a research paper or thesis with their application. It is assumed that an entering Ph.D. student will have completed coursework equivalent to the M.A. in Chinese Literature at the University of Hawai‘i. Any deficiency must be cleared before advancement to candidacy.

DEGREE REQUIREMENTS

The Graduate Division **residency requirement** is three semesters of full-time work as a classified student.

Language Requirement(s). Further language study is tailored according to the area of specialization and to make it best fit the needs of the individual student’s immediate research and intended professional career. In all cases this will involve, as a minimum, knowledge of a second East Asian language equivalent to two years of study; in some cases a third East Asian language or an additional European language may also be required.

Coursework Requirements. The University has a residency requirement for all Ph.D. students of three semesters of full-time coursework (a total of 24 credits) beyond the courses counted toward the M.A. degree. Students should consult with their advisors and plan a course of study that will best meet their academic needs.

Fields of mastery. The student shall take a comprehensive exam in four fields, one of which will be outside the area of Chinese literature.

Chinese literature: Classical, Pre-modern, 20th Century, and Contemporary.

Electives: Asian Studies, Chinese Philosophy/Religion, History, or Drama/Art, English; Literary Theory; another East Asian Literature.

Examinations

A qualifying assessment, required for all students regardless of where they earned their M.A., must be completed within the first three semesters of Ph.D. residency. The format is a series of formal interviews with all Chinese literature faculty and on the following areas: (1) pre-modern fiction, (2) pre-modern poetry, (3) 20th century and contemporary Chinese literature, (4) Chinese literary and cultural studies. The results will be recorded in the student's file.

A comprehensive examination consisting of written and oral parts will be given in the year of completion of coursework, or the following year, and after the student's committee agrees that the student is ready for it. The oral examination will cover all fields with emphasis on the field in which the candidate intends to specialize. The examination will cover three fields from classical poetry, classical narrative (fiction and/or drama), 20th century literature selected by the student, with emphasis on the field in which the student intends to specialize and one non-Chinese literature area. The format of the comprehensive examination is take-home and one week per field.

Dissertation proposal. The student shall submit for his or her committee's approval a written dissertation proposal that includes an outline of the methodology to be used and a bibliography. Students should work closely with their doctoral committee chair when preparing the proposal. Defense of the dissertation proposal will be held subsequent to the comprehensive examination.

Advancement to Candidacy. Following the successful completion of the above requirements, the student is officially advanced to PhD candidacy, becoming an "ABD" – All-but-Dissertation – candidate. An "ABD Certificate" will be issued by the Graduate Division to the student.

Upon completion of the dissertation, an original contribution to the field of Chinese literature, the candidate will undergo a final oral examination in defense of the dissertation.

The Ph.D. in East Asian Languages and Literatures is a recognized WICHE regional graduate program. Residents of Alaska, Arizona, California (from Fall 2010), Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oregon, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming are eligible, upon admission, to enroll at resident rates.