

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS
Department of Slavic Languages & Literatures

Guidelines and Regulations

VII. Academic Programs of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

A. Undergraduate Programs

B. Graduate Programs

1. Degree Requirements for the M.A. Degree in Slavic Languages and Literatures.

a. Concentration in Slavic Languages and Literatures.

1) Non-thesis Option: 30 hours

- a) The student completes:
 - (1) SLAV 710 (Introduction to Slavic Languages and Linguistics);
 - (2) SLAV 740 (Bibliography and Methods);
 - (3) Three course electives in Slavic literature;
 - (4) Three course electives in Slavic linguistics;
 - (5) Two additional course electives in either Slavic literature or linguistics;
 - (6) At least one elective that is a graduate seminar;
 - (7) Written and oral examinations [see VII.B.1.d., below].

2) Thesis Option: 30 hours

- a) The student must declare intent to select the thesis option no later than the first week of the second semester of enrollment;
- b) The student completes:
 - (1) SLAV 710 (Introduction to Slavic Languages and Linguistics);
 - (2) SLAV 740 (Bibliography and Methods);
 - (3) Three course electives in Slavic literature (9 hours);
 - (4) Three course electives in Slavic linguistics (9 hours);
 - (5) At least one elective that is a graduate seminar;
 - (6) Six hours of thesis credit with a Thesis Director;
 - (7) A thesis defense;
 - (8) Written and oral examinations [see VII.B.1.d., below].

b. Concentration in Russian Language and Civilization.

- 1) This terminal degree program focuses on Russian language, literature, and general culture for students who plan to teach Russian language and culture at the high school level or enter careers in other fields.
- 2) Degree requirements: 30 hours
 - a) 6 hours of Russian language course work at the advanced level (600 or above);
 - b) 3 hours of linguistics;
 - c) 9 hours of Russian literature;

- d) 3 hours in an interdisciplinary course (SLAV 502, 512, 600, or as approved);
- e) 9 hours of Russian culture other than language and literature, selected from courses in Russian history, Russian thought, folklore, theatre and drama, religion, music, art, film, geography, economics, government and politics;
- f) Written and oral examinations [see VII.B.1.d, below].

c. Second Slavic Language Study.

- 1) Students planning to continue beyond the M.A. should begin study of a second Slavic language during the period of M.A. work, normally during the first semester of the second year of study.
- 2) Students select the second Slavic language from a family other than the student's primary Slavic language (e.g., if the primary language is East Slavic, the second Slavic language must be West or South Slavic).
- 3) Exceptions to this requirement must be petitioned to the Graduate Faculty.

d. M.A. Examinations.

1) M.A. - Ph.D. Qualifying Examination.

- a) Only students in the Slavic Languages and Literatures concentration may choose to take the M.A. examination as a Ph.D. Qualifying Examination. The M.A. and the Ph.D. Qualifying exams are given as a single, combined examination.
- b) Outcome options are:
 - (1) "Pass with honors," "pass," or "fail" for the M.A. degree.
 - (2) "Pass" or "fail" on the Ph.D. Qualifying level.
- c) Students who pass both the M.A. and Ph.D. Qualifying levels may continue on to Ph.D. course work.
- d) Students who pass the M.A. level but fail the Ph.D. Qualifying level on the first attempt may:
 - (1) Accept the M.A. degree as a terminal degree, terminating the relationship with the Department;
 - (2) Receive the M.A. degree, but attempt the Ph.D. Qualifying examination a second time.
- e) Students who fail both levels on the first attempt may:
 - (1) Attempt the M.A. and Ph.D. Qualifying examination a second time;
 - (2) Declare intent to attempt the Terminal M.A. examination.
- f) Notes:
 - (1) Since the Ph.D. Qualifying level is the more rigorous examination, it is impossible to pass the Ph.D. Qualifying level and fail the M.A. level;
 - (2) Students who select the Thesis option (B.1.a.2), above) must still attempt and pass the Ph.D. Qualifying examination if they intend to continue on to Ph.D. coursework.

2) Terminal M.A. Examination.

- a) The Terminal M.A. Examination completes the candidate graduate work in the Department.
- b) This option may be chosen by students in the Slavic Languages and Literatures concentration and is mandatory for students in the Russian Language and Civilization concentration.

- c) Outcome options are “pass with honors,” “pass,” “fail.”
- d) Students who fail the terminal M.A. examination on the first attempt may attempt the examination a second time.

3) Selection of Examination Committee: Candidates for either M.A. Terminal or M.A. - Ph.D. Qualifying examinations must choose an Examination Committee at the end of the first academic year or at least one month prior to the scheduled examination, and so inform the Department's Director of Graduate Studies.

4) Prerequisites to Examination: Before taking any graduate examination for a degree, students must remove incompletes in any courses which count toward that degree.

5) Composition of the Examination Committees:

- a) The M.A./Ph.D. Qualifying Examination Committee consists of four Graduate Faculty members from within the Department, at least one of whom represents the linguistics track and at least one of whom represents the literature track.
- b) The M.A. Terminal Examination Committee consists of three Graduate Faculty members from within the Department, at least one of whom represents the linguistics track and at least one of whom represents the literature track.
- c) The Committees should be composed of faculty members with whom the candidate has taken courses and who are representative of the candidate's academic interests.
- d) By consensus, the Examination Committee appoints its own Chair. The Chair becomes the candidate's advisor until such time that the candidate chooses a Ph.D. Comprehensive Committee.

6) Responsibility of the Examination Committees:

- a) The Examination Committee Chair submits all appropriate university forms prior to and following the examination process, and files all paperwork.
- b) The Chair constructs the written examination in accordance with established formats [see VII.B.1.d.7), below].
- c) The Chair circulates the written examination to the Examination Committee for approval by all members before administering the examination to the candidate.
- d) The Chair consults with the members of the Committee (and other Graduate Faculty, as he/she may deem necessary) on the results of written examinations.
- e) The Chair communicates the Committee's consensus on the written portion of the examination to the candidate and to the Director of Graduate Studies.
- f) The Chair establishes whether or not and, if so, when the oral examination will take place.
- g) The Chair follows all Graduate School procedures concerning paperwork, scheduling, and announcement of the oral examination (in consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies).
- h) The Chair reports the results of the oral examination in writing to the Director of Graduate Studies, who then reports the results on the proper form to the Graduate School.
- i) The Chair files the original of the examination and all appropriate paperwork in the Candidate's permanent file.

7) Examination Schedules.

a) At the start of each academic year, the Graduate Director, in consultation with the Graduate Committee, may set up to four dates for examination periods of the M.A./Ph.D. Qualifying and the Terminal M.A. Examinations. As a general rule, these examinations are scheduled at the beginning and towards the end of the fall semester and in the middle and towards the end of the spring semester. The third session (Spring) should precede the selection of GTAs for the following academic year.

b) At the start of the semester in which the candidate intends to take the exam, the candidate (regardless of specialization or intention to continue for the Ph.D.) must inform the Director of Graduate Studies on which of the pre-arranged dates he or she wishes to take the written portion of the examination.

8) Format of Examinations.

a) M.A./Ph.D. Qualifying Examination:

(1) The written portion of the examination consists of two writing sessions (of 3½ and 4 hours) and a 2-hour oral examination;

(2) The exam is written over two consecutive days;

(3) The oral exam takes place 5-10 days after successful completion of writtens.

(4) Students must have completed one year of study of a second Slavic language or demonstrated equivalent proficiency before attempting the examination.

b) The M.A. Terminal Examination:

(1) Consists of one 4-hour written examination and a 2-hour oral examination;

(2) The oral exam takes place 5-10 days after successful completion of writtens.

9) Repeating the Examination.

a) A student who fails to pass the written examination or the oral examination, or who fails to complete either examination once begun, has the right to repeat the examination.

b) The examination will not be administered (either entirely or in part) to one and the same graduate student more than twice.

c) On the successive attempt at the examination, no more than two of the members of the original examination committee may be replaced.