

History of Science Department Doctoral Degree Requirements Worksheet

Name: _____

Date: _____

Advisor/area(s) of interest: _____

Entered program (year): _____

SEMINARS

Semester/Year

1. HISTSCI 3003a Historiography of the History of Science _____

2. HISTSCI 3003b Research Methods in the History of Science _____

Six graduate-level seminars (2000-level courses in DHS or courses marked “primarily for graduate students” in other departments). Of these, four must be DHS seminars, and one must fulfill the pre-1800/post-1800 requirement (indicate with a check).

Note: History of Science courses include those taught in other departments by members of DHS faculty, courses cross-listed by DHS, and graduate courses in Science, Technology and Society offered by MIT (no more than three courses may be taken at MIT).

(course #/department/title/instructor)

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

One seminar (at the 200/2000-level) outside the department:

7. _____

One additional seminar (at the 200/2000-level)

8. _____

ELECTIVES

Note: a maximum of five courses may be graduate-level reading courses in the History of Science or in other divisions, departments or committees. (List school, if other than FAS/course #/department/title/instructor)

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____

16. _____

RESEARCH PAPERS

Two 7,500 – 10,000 word papers; A- minimum grade for each. First paper due June 1 of G1; second paper due April 1 of G2.

Paper Title

Grade

Instructor

Date submitted/reviewed

1. _____

2. _____

LANGUAGE

_____ Proficiency demonstrated by: _____

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GENERALS

FIELDS:

EXAMINER:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

DATE TAKEN: _____ PASSED? _____
PERMITTED to RETAKE? _____ DATE RETAKEN: _____ PASSED? _____

PROSPECTUS TITLE: _____

COMMITTEE:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____
- 4. _____

DATE APPROVED by DHS Faculty: _____

TEACHING

DHS Course#: _____ Semester/Year: _____ Instructor: _____

Indicate Department for non-DHS courses taught:

Dept: _____	Course: _____	Semester/Year: _____	Instructor: _____
Dept: _____	Course: _____	Semester/Year: _____	Instructor: _____
Dept: _____	Course: _____	Semester/Year: _____	Instructor: _____
Dept: _____	Course: _____	Semester/Year: _____	Instructor: _____
Dept: _____	Course: _____	Semester/Year: _____	Instructor: _____
Dept: _____	Course: _____	Semester/Year: _____	Instructor: _____
Dept: _____	Course: _____	Semester/Year: _____	Instructor: _____

ALL Non-Dissertation Requirements Met¹

Director of Graduate Studies Signature

Date

¹ Copy to student; original to file. Documentation of teaching in advanced graduate student years may be added by graduate coordinator after initial DGS sign off.

History of Science Doctoral Degree Requirements

Sixteen four-unit courses or the equivalent, including:

- A. Historiography of the History of Science
- B. Research Methods in the History of Science
- C. Six additional graduate seminars, of which:
 1. Four must be offered by DHS
 2. One must fulfill the pre-1800/post-1800 requirement (*Students writing dissertations on post-1800 topics must take a pre-1800 course, and vice-versa*)
 3. One must be outside the department
- D. Eight electives, of which up to five may be graduate level reading courses in DHS or other divisions, departments, or committees.

Note: History of science courses include:

1. Courses taught in other departments by members of the history of science department.
2. Courses cross-listed under history of science in the [online course catalogue](#)
3. Graduate-level courses offered by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the [History, Anthropology, Science, Technology and Society Program](#).

Note: A maximum of three courses may be taken at MIT.

Two research papers:

Papers must be between 7500 and 10,000 words (exclusive of notes and bibliography), at least one for a departmental course; each must earn a grade at least of A-. One must display serious engagement with archival or other primary sources (which may include printed and/or digital materials and objects);

The other may be based on fieldwork observation (e.g., ethnographic, participant-observer) or involve media production (e.g., interactive web, audio, video/photographic, museum exhibition).

The first paper to be submitted by June 1 of the G1 year (ordinarily to be written in the context of the Research Methods course); the second by April 1 of the G2 year (to be written for a departmental or external graduate seminar).

Students' advisors are to read and discuss at least one of the papers with the student.

Language:

Students may demonstrate proficiency by 1) completing two semesters of foreign-language coursework, and receiving a grade of A- or higher in the courses; 2) completing a summer Reading Knowledge or other summer language course approved in advance by the DGS, and receiving a grade of A- or higher; 3) completing upper level coursework in a language other than English; 4) making substantial use of non-English texts in one or more seminar papers or in the preparation of general examination fields and prospectuses; or 5) passing a language exam offered by the department. Proficiency is assumed in the case of native speakers and bilingual students, as long as they are skilled in both reading and speaking.

Residence and progress:

Students must be in residence for minimum of two years of full-time study. While in residence, students are expected to attend the weekly department seminar, regularly scheduled for Thursdays, noon-1:30.

Eight courses must be completed with grades of B or higher by the end of the first year of study. All course and research paper requirements must be fulfilled before sitting for the General Exam (usually scheduled for May of the second year of study). The language requirement must be met when the prospectus is submitted, ordinarily in late November of the G3 year.

G1 and G2 students will meet with the DGS and, where applicable, their advisor, at the start of each semester to review progress and approve plans of study.

Each May, departmental faculty review students' progress, assessing their qualifications for continuing graduate study in light of departmental and GSAS requirements.

No later than the beginning of the 4th semester of study, students must submit a form to the DGS listing the three fields they are preparing for the General Exam.

Limited transfer credit:

The department does not ordinarily accept transfer credit. Students who complete the DHS Master's program or who have completed DHS graduate seminars as Special Students may apply up to eight courses toward PhD course requirements. Introductory and intermediate language courses taken in the Summer School, while encouraged, cannot be counted toward the sixteen required PhD courses.