Degree requirements for students who entered the IFA prior to 2010

Doctor of Philosophy

DISTRIBUTION OF COURSE POINTS

a. A total of eighteen courses (72 points) is required for the PhD degree, including the nine courses required for the MA degree.

b. Of the eighteen courses required for doctoral instruction program, at least six must be in classroom seminars, two of which must lie outside the student’s major field.

c. With the prior written consent of the Director of Graduate Studies and an instructor, Special Problems courses in specific fields may be taken individually with a faculty member in lieu of a lecture course or, in exceptional cases, of a seminar.

d. Except for students in the Curatorial Studies program, one course at the doctoral level may be taken with the student’s advisor as a Special Problems course for the preparation of the dissertation proposal.

e. Students specializing in the fields of East Asian, ancient Near Eastern, Egyptian, and Islamic art may be allowed up to four courses (16 points) for undergraduate language study in their field, including the two allowed for the MA.

THE FINAL EXAMINATION IN MAJOR AND MINOR FIELDS

a. Examinations: Students matriculated for the PhD degree are required to pass an examination in a major and two minor fields as defined below in section d. They may not take this examination, or any part thereof, more than twice. Each student should file a request to schedule the examination with the Academic Office one term before its proposed date; the selection of the examination committee is the responsibility of the Institute faculty and Director of Graduate Studies, not the student.

b. Timing: Students may take the oral and written portions of the major and related minor examination in
their final term of course work, but no later than the following term. Note that the final examination is not completed until the unrelated minor requirement has been satisfied.

c. Character of the Examinations: There are three components to the final examination: an oral session on the major and related minor fields, a two-week paper on a question assigned by the committee, and a written examination in the unrelated minor field. Students may request exemption from the unrelated minor examination if they have completed three courses (including a seminar) within the minor field, earning an average of A- or better.

d. Major and Minor Fields: Each area listed below constitutes a minor field and normally two contiguous areas constitute a major. The major in East Asian art may consist of any two among fields 4-10 listed below. One additional field, a related minor in art, must be contiguous with the major, but the unrelated minor should be distinctly removed from the other fields. A related minor outside the history of art is permitted in all fields but is required for East Asian Art and Archaeology, Classical Art and Archaeology, and Near Eastern Art and Archaeology.

(1) Prehistoric and Protohistoric art of the Old World
(2) African and Oceanic art
(3) Pre-Columbian art
(4) Early Chinese art through the Han Dynasty
(5) Chinese art from the Northern and Southern Dynasties to the Yuan Dynasty
(6) Later Chinese art, Ming Dynasty to the Present
(7) Chinese Pictorial art
(8) Japanese art, c. 600-1300
(9) Japanese art, c. 1300 to the present
(10) Buddhist art
(11) Indian art (non-Muslim)
(12) Art of Southeast Asia
(13) Egyptian art
(14) Ancient Near Eastern art
(15) Aegean art
(16) Greek art
(17) Roman art
(18) Early Christian through Carolingian art
(19) Byzantine art
(20) Islamic art to the Mongol Conquest, 690-1250
(21) Islamic art after the Mongol Conquest, 1250-1800
(22) Romanesque art
(23) Gothic art
(24) Italian art from 1300 to 1500
(25) Italian art of the 16th Century
(26) European art outside Italy from 1400 to 1600
(27) Art in Italy, France and Spain from about 1580 to the end of the 17th Century
(28) Art of the Netherlands, Germany and England from about 1580 to the end of the 17th Century
(29) European (including English) and American art from 1660 to 1780
(30) European (including English) and American art from 1780 to the End of the 19th Century
(31) Art of the 20th and 21st Centuries
(32) Latin American art
(33) Conservation and Technology, in relation to a field or fields designated above, upon petition to the faculty

DISSERTATION

The dissertation contains no more than 250 pages of text. Permission to exceed this limit can be granted only through petition to the faculty by way of the Director of Graduate Studies. It is expected that the completed dissertation will be submitted within four years of the completion of the final examination in major and minor fields. One defended copy of the dissertation must be submitted to the Graduate School of Arts and Science. Further information may be obtained from the Academic Office.

FINAL ORAL DEFENSE OF THE DISSERTATION

Each doctoral candidate submits to a final oral defense of the dissertation before a committee of five scholars, at least three of whom are members of the GSAS faculty. Other scholars may be invited to take part in the proceedings. A written request for the scheduling of a defense must be submitted to the Academic Office.
TIME TO THE PHD DEGREE

All requirements for the doctoral degree should be completed no later than ten years from the initial date of matriculation for the MA or seven years from the time of matriculation for those who entered the PhD program with 24 or more points of transfer credit. In exceptional circumstances, petitions for extensions in the time to degree can be made to the Dean of the Graduate School by way of the Director of Graduate Studies.

SPECIAL AREAS OF STUDY

Special areas of study follow the normal requirements for the PhD and should include the modifications outlined below. Students must consult their faculty advisors before registering for courses outside the Institute. Students interested in any of the areas below should consult the appropriate advisor.

CLASSICAL ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

Students wishing to earn the PhD degree with a specialization in classical art and archaeology may do so either based on art historical and archaeological course work, or by way of interdepartmental studies, i.e., with courses to be taken in classics, ancient history, and classical art and archaeology. A faculty committee decides on this course of study in accordance with the applicant’s educational background and special interests.

COMBINED STUDIES IN NEAR EASTERN ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY

This area of study for students working toward the PhD degree in the history of art and archaeology includes the following combinations:

- Egyptian/Ancient Near Eastern
- Egyptian/Greek or Roman
- Ancient Near Eastern/Aegean
- Ancient Near Eastern/Early Islamic
- Byzantine/Greek or Roman
- Roman/Indian (Gandhara)
• Byzantine/Early Islamic
• Early Christian/Early Islamic
Students should decide on their principal area of interest within the combined field, and then study the appropriate language or languages. At least four courses (16 points) but not more than five courses (20 points) may be in the history of postclassical Western art. The total of these courses in combined studies in Near Eastern art and archaeology is 72 points.

EAST AND SOUTH ASIAN ART

Students working toward the PhD degree in the history of art and archaeology with a specialization in this area should take at least twelve courses (48 points) in classroom art history. They may take up to five courses (20 points) in Special Problems courses (two for the MA degree and three additional for the PhD degree), and up to a total of 16 points in credit courses in language and culture, of which up to 12 points may be for undergraduate study in language.

ARCHITECTURAL STUDIES

This area of study offers the possibility for students to earn the PhD degree with a specialization in the history of architecture and urbanism. The purpose of the program is to prepare students for research, teaching, and curatorship in this area in academic departments, schools of architecture, and museums. Study may include archaeological work as well as courses given outside the IFA framework in both architectural programs and art history departments where such crossregistration is allowed, such as at Columbia University. Certain courses in history, philosophy, and the social sciences may also be considered relevant to this program. In formulating the areas for which the student is responsible in the PhD oral examination, architecture and urbanism may be given greater than normal weight. All such decisions regarding the student’s course of study are determined by a special faculty committee in accordance with the applicant’s background and special interests, and in consultation with the Director of Graduate Studies.