

**Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations**  
**Petition for General and Special Examinations for the**

**Ph.D. Degree General and Special Examination Schedule for Academic Year 2016-17**

Fall:

1. Monday, Oct. 16, 2017
  2. Wednesday, Oct. 18, 2017
  3. Monday, Oct. 23, 2017
  4. Wednesday, Oct. 25, 2017
- Oral Exams: Oct. 30- Nov. 3

Spring:

1. Monday, April 23, 2018
  2. Wednesday, April 25, 2018
  3. Monday, April 30, 2018
  4. Wednesday, May 2, 2018
- Oral exams: May 7-11

All exams are to take place from 10 a.m.-1:00 p.m., location TBD.

*Please note: Akkadian & Sumerian exams take place from 9 a.m. -5 p.m.*

**This petition should be submitted at least 2 months before the beginning of the examination period.**

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **STUDENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (Print name)

Requested examination period: Fall or Spring (circle one)

Fields	Examiners
1. _____	1. _____
2. _____	2. _____
3. _____	3. _____
4. _____	4. _____

Students will not be permitted to take General or Special Examinations until six months after fulfilling the modern language requirements.

Date passed final language exam (usually French or German): \_\_\_\_\_

A two-hour oral exam will follow within a week of the last written exam.

Preferred dates for oral exam: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Advisor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Bibliography Form

Bibliography for \_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Exam

\_\_\_\_\_  
Examiner's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Each bibliography must begin with a paragraph explaining the nature of the topics chosen and the rationale for selecting the materials listed.

## **NELC Guidelines on General and Special Examinations**

All students are expected to pass both the General and the Special Examinations no later than the fall semester of their fourth year.

The two General Examinations are written exams that focus on two areas:

- (1) An examination testing knowledge of the field. On the decision of the faculty in the field, this exam may be split into two parts, the first of which will be common to all students in the given field (Ancient Near Eastern studies, Hebrew Bible, Jewish Studies, Arabic and Islamic studies), and the second which will be determined by the student's advisors in consultation with the student.
- (2) An examination on that field's major language(s) and on texts in the major language(s).

The Special Examinations are also written exams. They relate to the student's particular field of study, and will focus on two areas of his or her expertise. They may center on subjects related to the student's proposed dissertation. The exact configuration of these exams will be determined by the student's advisors in consultation with the student. One of the Special Examinations may involve a related field or discipline outside of NELC, such as Linguistics, Anthropology and History, which are common areas of study for NELC students.

The Examinations will be administered over a three-week period: the General and Special exams over the first two weeks, and an oral review, based on the written exams, during the third week. The exams will be taken during one of the two set times during the academic year: late October or Reading Period in Spring. To register for the exams, you must file a petition form with the student coordinator.

The student's advisors are expected to assist the student in preparing for the examinations by defining the scope of the examinations and indicating the literature the students are expected to have read and the degree of familiarity with this literature that is expected.

If a student fails any part of the General or Special Examinations, permission to repeat all or part of them will not be granted automatically, but will be considered in each individual case by the examining committee. If permission to repeat the examinations is not granted, the student will be offered the possibility of taking a terminal A.M., if the appropriate conditions are met.