

## *Asian Languages and Literature*

### **Graduate Foreign Language Exams Policies and Procedures**

1. Electronic dictionaries, either laptop or handheld, are not allowed. (For two reasons: (i) it is impossible to control what is on these devices and (ii) it gives an unfair advantage to those familiar with this technology and wealthy enough to purchase it.) Students may bring traditional, hard-bound dictionaries, either personal copies or checked out from the library.
2. Each student must have a complete language plan filed with the secretary **AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION** for the exam (ideally long before that!). Late submissions will not be taken into consideration.
3. Students will be examined according to the language plan that they have placed on file. This does **NOT** mean that the exam will consist of selections from the texts listed on their reading list. The reading list is meant as a study guide for the student, not as a binding contract for what will be on the exam. The examiner will take the reading list as an indication of the type and level of material that the plan specifies and will select for the examination a text consistent with that.
4. The exams are drafted according to the language plan of the student in question, so they are never comparable across the board. Everything is a function of the individual language plans. There will inevitably be variation from examiner to examiner and examination to examination. Students can retake the exams as often as necessary without any penalty.
5. The examiner may choose the same text for different students taking the exam as long as this accords with the students' stated purposes in their respective language. Students will be graded according to their own stated purposes of proficiency. Comparisons of results, even when two or more students have been tested on the same reading selection, are therefore not particularly meaningful.
6. Students can contact their examiners only if the examiner agrees to be identified, and in such a case should go through the graduate administrative assistant. Under no circumstances are students to try to influence the specifics of the exam by e-mail or in person. The language plan should give the student plenty of opportunity to clarify all aspects of his or her goals in studying the language. It is the student's responsibility to state this clearly in the plan well before the exam. Students can also talk to their adviser, who can communicate with the GPC or the examiner if he/she deems it necessary.