



Master Oral Exam supervised by Prof. Dr. Martin Dusinberre

1. Preconditions

In order to take your final exam with Prof. Dusinberre, you should previously have attended a seminar or colloquium with Prof. Dusinberre or an assistant.

Prior to the module booking period, you should contact Prof. Dusinberre to ask whether you can take the oral exam with him.

Examination Subjects

Prof. Dusinberre's examination subjects are General History (modern period) and 'Zeitgeschichte/History of the Contemporary World'.

2. Choice of topics

- **Two topics** that have previously been agreed on will be examined.
- Each topic must have a **distinctive theme, separate from the other topic**. (They can, however, overlap in terms of the time period.)
- The two topics have to be **distinct from the topic of your Master Thesis**. They have to be in a different time period and a different geographical area.

It would be advisable to choose your topics on the basis of the courses you have attended, and on the basis of Prof. Dusinberre's expertise. You should also select topics reflecting your own research interests. The topics should not be too narrow. We suggest you choose a **framework topic** and within this framework a **thematic focus**.

Entirely theoretical topics are not recommended. You should rather study *concrete* topics (including the social, economic, political and cultural context they are situated in). In general, the aim is to perceive and understand a field of research in its foundation as well as in its many different aspects, and to get an overview of important debates and developments in this field.

Examples:

Modern Japan (framework); societal transformations in the Meiji period (focus)

American imperialism in the Pacific (framework); the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy (focus)

Nineteenth-century labour migrations (framework); the transpacific 'coolie' trade (focus)

Sugar and slavery (framework); the transatlantic Middle Passage (focus)

Gender and violence (framework); Korean 'comfort women' in the Second World War (focus)



3. Procedure

You must book the oral exam before the end of the normal booking period. You should discuss your topics with Prof. Dusinberre *before* making the booking, but please be aware that Office Hours are only offered sporadically during the winter and summer vacations. Please make a timely booking on our webpage:

<http://www.hist.uzh.ch/de/fachbereiche/neuzeit/lehrstuehle/dusinberre/sprechstunde.html>

The first meeting will be of greatest benefit for you if you bring along the following documents:

- A complete list of the courses you have attended during your BA/MA studies to date.
- A first draft of your reading list (see 4).

Prof. Dusinberre will either explicitly agree on your topics and reading list or specifically ask for amendments. Please start with intensive reading and preparation only after Prof. Dusinberre has accepted your topics. The final reading list has to be submitted to him and accepted 4 weeks prior to the exam.

4. Reading list and preparation

Your reading list must comprise four to six titles for each topic. At least two should be monographs.

Please make sure your reading list covers the relevant literature and current state of research.

Your reading list must provide the following details:

- Name, address, phone no., email, student ID no. (*Matrikelnummer*)
- Examination period (spring or autumn)
- Major and minor subject
- Title of your Master Thesis and name of the supervisor
- Exam topics incl. thematic foci as well as the chosen literature.

Depending on the reading list and your topics, you and Prof. Dusinberre will decide in advance whether the exam will be conducted in German or in English.



5. Further information

For general information about the MA Oral Exam see:

<https://www.hist.uzh.ch/de/studium/studienstufen/master/aufbau/abschluss.html>

For the exact date of the exam and place of examination, please contact the Chair's office: Nadja Schorno, dekusinberre@hist.uzh.ch, 044 634 38 68.

You find further information on the graduation procedures on the websites of the Department of History and of the Faculty of Arts:

<https://www.hist.uzh.ch/de/studium/studienstufen/master/aufbau/abschluss.html>

https://www.phil.uzh.ch/de/studium/studentenservices/abschluss/bachelor_master.html