

## DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY OF ART, UC BERKELEY

### DESIGNATED EMPHASIS GUIDELINES

The Designated Emphasis (DE) focuses on a specific topic of art historical inquiry or geo-cultural area, one not directly covered by an emphasis in Western or Asian. The DE may serve to bridge between areas of teaching within the Department and form a foundation for specific work in graduate school or particular areas of professional activity. Examples include: The Archaeology of Art; The Icon in Art; Gender and Representation; Portraiture and Identity; Theory; Globalism and Art, etc. The emphasis must fulfill the same overall Lower and Upper Division requirements as the Western or Asian Emphasis while bringing together courses at the Upper Division level that fit the art historical rationale and intellectual objectives of the Designated Emphasis. Students should bear in mind that a given semester's course offerings may lack a course directly relevant to their DE. In consultation with an instructor, a student may propose to direct their work in a particular course toward their emphasis (e.g. a student with a DE in Portraiture may propose to focus on this topic in a course on Elizabethan Renaissance art). Not all courses will lend themselves to such focus, and the faculty is not obligated to adjust assignments or expectations. Permission (instructor signature on the DE Course Form) must be obtained by the student *by the end of the 3<sup>rd</sup> week* of the semester and submitted to the Department Undergraduate Affairs Officer. The Curriculum Committee will evaluate such proposals.

Students who wish to pursue a Designated Emphasis must submit a petition (see below) to the Departmental Curriculum Committee (through the Undergraduate Affairs Officer) that defines the content/concept of the emphasis and articulates its art historical significance. *Petitions may be made during the first 3 weeks of each semester.* The Committee will evaluate a petition for its fulfillment of major requirements, coherence with the discipline of art history, and fit with the teaching of the faculty in History of Art. The Department will reject petitions that fail to present an intellectually valid topic or feasible plan of courses. Students *must* consult with an Undergraduate Advisor prior to submitting a petition.

#### PETITION

A petition to declare a Designated Emphasis should define the specific art historical theme or disciplinary focus, demonstrate its distinction from study pursued under the Western and Asian Emphases, and propose a plan of Upper Division courses taught in the Department (and one outside) that form a coherent program of study.

#### 1. Cover Sheet

Please complete all information on the Cover Sheet. In listing courses, you should research recurring course offerings in the Department and take note of special courses taught by visiting faculty. To some extent your list of courses will be hypothetical, but careful planning is imperative.

*Please keep in mind the DE requirements, including that pertaining to pre- and post-1800 time periods. Thus, a student proposing a DE on, let us say, Globalism and Visual Art should consider not only modern or contemporary courses but identify courses in non-modern periods in which inter-cultural contact and exchange figure prominently (e.g. Renaissance art and the age of exploration; Buddhist art in Japan and its relationship to*

the Asian continent, etc.) As noted above, students may propose to focus their work in a given course toward their DE (see the DE Course Form).

## **2. Statement of Purpose**

The petition should include a 1 page (double-space; 12 point) statement of purpose that introduces the Emphasis, explains its art historical significance in terms of carefully formulated questions and areas of inquiry, and articulates the motivation for this plan of study in History of Art. A statement may identify a course or core reading/readings that inspired the decision to pursue the emphasis; specify the emphasis's relationship to a second major or possible Honors Thesis in History of Art; or speak to a student's career goals after graduation. As with any formal application essay polished writing is imperative.

April 17, 2008

**History of Art Designated Emphasis Petition Cover Sheet**

Name/SID: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Units Completed at Time of Petition: \_\_\_\_\_

**Title of Proposed DE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Proposed Upper Division Courses for DE:** List courses taught in the Department (and one outside the Department) that fit the rationale of the DE and fulfill Upper Division Requirements. To some extent this list will be hypothetical, but it should demonstrate to the Curriculum Committee potential coursework and the feasibility of the DE. Consultations with individual faculty members may be necessary to identify relevant courses.

- 4 upper division lecture courses (not seminars) that fit the specialization. 3 must be in separate subfields of art prior to 1800, one of which must be post 1800.
- 2 additional courses in the History of Art, as follows: one seminar and History of Art 100: Methodology of Art History.
- 2 additional upper division courses, as follows: one lecture course or seminar in the History of Art and an upper division course outside the Department related to the student's main focus of study (this course must be approved in advance by a departmental undergraduate advisor).

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Please attach a 1 page (double-spaced; 12 point) Statement of Purpose (see Guidelines) and copy of your unofficial transcript.