



College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Office of the Dean

University of Iowa

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February 3, 2023

Amanda Thein
Associate Provost for Graduate and Professional Education
Dean of the Graduate College
201 Gilmore Hall
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

Dear Dean Thein,

On behalf of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (CLAS), I am writing to endorse the request made by the Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures (ASLL) to close the Master of Arts in Asian Civilizations (thesis and non-thesis) effective Fall 2023. The remaining two students are expected to graduate from the program in spring and summer 2023 respectively and the department is accepting no new students because it will not have the faculty to support them. As the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences is redirecting its resources to other graduate programs, it supports the department's request for closure effective Fall 2023.

Sincerely,

Sara Sanders, Ph.D, MSW
Dean
UI Alumni Association Dean's Chair
in the Liberal Arts and Sciences

Cc: Heidi Arbisi-Kelm, Assistant Dean, Academic Affairs, Graduate College
Christine Getz, Associate Dean for Graduate Education and Outreach and Engagement, CLAS



**COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES**

**Department of Asian and Slavic
Languages and Literatures**

Division of World Languages, Literatures and Cultures
111 Phillips Hall
Iowa City, Iowa 52242
319-335-2151 Fax 319-335-2990

January 30, 2023

Dr. Amanda Thein, Dean
Graduate College
205 Gilmore Hall
The University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa 52242

Dear Dean Thein:

After careful deliberation, the Department of Asian and Slavic Languages and Literatures (ASLL) is requesting the closure of the Master of Arts (thesis and non-thesis) in Asian Civilizations degree program. The department recommends its closure to be effective in fall 2023.

The primary reason for the closure is the retirement of six core graduate faculty in the Asian Studies area of the department. These departures directly affect our ability to offer the requisite curriculum and mentoring for MA candidates specializing in Asian Studies.

Currently, we have two students in the MA program. One is expected to graduate in spring 2023 and the other in summer of 2023. Thus, the closure of the Asian Civilization MA program in the fall of 2023 will not affect current student graduation as planned.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Helen H. Shen, Ph.D.
Professor and Director of Graduate Studies