HUMANITIES DIVISIONAL BOARD

Academic Committee

Changes in the regulations governing the Honour School of English Language and Literature and its Joint Schools: communication from the Boards of the Faculties of English Language and Literature and Classics

Ref: HDB/990/U

Approved on behalf of the Humanities Divisional Board on 28 May 2012.

Humanities Divisional Board

Brief note about nature of the change(s): All of the below changes are submitted as a result of the syllabus reform conducted in the Faculty of English Language and Literature. The relevant Faculty Boards for the Joint Schools have been consulted on the changes and have given their consent. The changes include replacing Mods in English Language and Literature with Prelims.

(1) Boards of the Faculties of English Language and Literature and Classics

Preliminary Examination in Classics and English

With effect from 1 October 2012 (for first examination in 2013)

In Examination Regulations, 2011, p.109, delete ll.12 - 44, and substitute:

‘Special Regulations for the Preliminary Examination in Classics and English

A

1. The Preliminary Examination in Classics and English shall be under the joint supervision of the Boards of the Faculties of Classics and English Language and Literature and shall consist of such subjects as they shall jointly by regulation prescribe.

2. The Chairman of the Moderators for Honour Moderations in Classics and English shall designate such of their number as may be required for the Preliminary Examination in Classics and English.

B

The committee appointed by the Boards of the Faculties of English Language and Literature and Classics to advise on the Honour School of Classics and English shall make proposals to the two boards for regulations for this examination.

Candidates must offer five papers as specified for Honour Moderations in Classics and English, provided that:

i) a candidate who has satisfied the Moderators in papers 3, 4 and 5 in Honour Moderations in Classics and English will be required to offer only papers 1 and 2;

ii) a candidate who has satisfied the Moderators in papers 1 and 2 in Honour Moderations in Classics and English will be required to offer only papers 3, 4 and 5;

iii) a candidate who has been prevented by illness or other urgent and reasonable cause from taking Honour Moderations in Classics and English and has been permitted by the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors to enter for the Preliminary Examination will be required to offer only papers 2, 3, 4 and 5 (in the form described below).
All papers in this examination will be of three hours’ duration, except for papers 4 and 5 for candidates falling under proviso iii) above. In these papers such candidates will be required to answer questions only on one of the text groups (a) or (b) (Homer or Virgil) rather than the two selected from (a) to (d) which are normally offered by candidates for Honour Moderations; the two papers will last one-and-a-half hours each.’

(2) Boards of the Faculties of English Language and Literature and Classics

Honour Moderations in Classics and English

With effect from 1 October 2012 (for first examination in 2013)

In Examination Regulations, 2011, delete p. 88, l.13 to p. 89, l.36, and substitute:

‘Special Regulations for the Honour Moderations in Classics and English

A

1. Honour Moderations in Classics and English shall be under the joint supervision of the Boards of the Faculties of Classics and English Language and Literature and shall consist of such subjects as they shall jointly by regulation prescribe.

2. The Chairman of the Moderators in English Language and Literature shall designate such of the number of moderators as may be required for the English subjects of the examination for Honour Moderations in Classics and English, and the nominating committee for examiners appointed by the Board of the Faculty of Classics shall nominate such of the number of moderators as may be required for the Classics subjects of the examination. When these appointments shall have been made the number of moderators shall be deemed to be complete.

B

The committee appointed by the Boards of the Faculties of English Language and Literature and Classics to advise on the examination for the Honour School of Classics and English shall make proposals to the two boards for regulations for this examination.

Candidates shall take one of the following courses

I. Course I

Each candidate shall offer five papers, each of three hours duration except where specified, as follows:

1. Introduction to English Language and Literature (a portfolio submitted in Trinity Term year 1)

The paper will be examined by a portfolio of work, comprising one commentary answer and one discursive essay, of not fewer than 1,500 and not more than 2,000 words each. Footnotes will be included in the total word count, but bibliographies do not count towards the limit. The list of questions for this paper will be divided into Section A (Language) and B (Literature) and will be published on Monday of the fourth week of the Trinity Term of the first year. Candidates must select one question from Section A and one question from section B.

Questions in Section A (Language) invite candidates to make their own selection of texts or passages of texts for commentary, in accordance with the terms of the particular question chosen. Copies of the texts or passages used must be included as an appendix to the...
portfolio. The combined length of all texts or passages chosen must not exceed 70 lines. The
texts or passages used will not count towards the word limit for the commentary answer.

Two typed copies of the portfolio must be delivered to the Chairman of the Moderators for
the Moderations in English Language and Literature, Examination Schools, High Street, by
noon on Thursday of the fifth week of the same Trinity Term. A certificate, signed by the
candidate to the effect that each answer is the candidate’s own work, and that the candidate
has read the Faculty guidelines on plagiarism, must be presented together with each
portfolio.

Following the publication of themes for this subject on Monday of the fourth week of Trinity
Term, the candidate must neither discuss his or her choice of themes nor the method of
handling them with any tutor. Every portfolio must be the work of the candidate alone, but
he or she may discuss with his or her tutor the subjects and approach to the essays up until
the stated publication date of the portfolio themes.

Portfolios previously submitted for the First Public Examination in English Language and
Literature may be resubmitted. No answer will be accepted that has already been submitted,
wholly or substantially, for a final honour school or any other degree of this University, or
degree of any other institution.

Work deemed to be either too short or of excessive length may be penalised.

Candidates must avoid duplicating material used in this paper when answering other papers.
In addition, candidates are not permitted to duplicate material between Section A and
Section B of the portfolio.

2. Literature in English 1550 – 1660 (excluding the works of Shakespeare)

3. Unseen translation from Greek and Latin. Candidates may offer either Latin or Greek or
both. Two passages must be offered and in each language one prose passage and one verse
passage will be set.

4, 5. Greek and Latin Literature. Candidates must offer two of the following.

They must offer either a) or b), but may not offer both.

   a) Homer, *Iliad*, I, VI, IX, XVI, XVIII, XXII-XXIV;*

   b) Virgil, *Aeneid*, I, II, IV, VI;*

   c) Euripides, *Bacchae* 1 – 1167; Aristophanes, *Frogs* 1 – 459, 830 – 1533; Herodotus 7.1
   – 53; 8.56 – 110;**

   70, 75 – 6, 79, 83 – 6, 95, 99 – 101, 116; Propertius I.1 – 3, 6, 11, 14; Petronius, *Cena
   Trimalchionis* 26.7 – 36, 47 – 78; Juvenal 3, 5. ***

Paper 4 will consist of essay questions; all candidates will be required to answer questions
on each of: Homer or Virgil; other texts; general topics. Paper 5 will comprise passages for
translation and comment; all candidates will be required to answer on three passages, at
least once passage of Homer or Virgil and at least one from the other texts.

The Moderators shall publish the names of candidates who have satisfied them in all five papers, or
all of papers 1 and 2 or all of papers 3, 4 and 5.

N.B For prescribed editions, see the Classics and English handbook.
* For the purposes of the essay paper (paper 4), candidates who offer these texts will be expected to have knowledge of the whole work and not merely the prescribed portions.

** For the purposes of the essay paper (paper 4), candidates who offer these texts will be expected to have knowledge of the whole of Bacchae, Frogs, and Herodotus 7 – 8 and not merely the prescribed portions.

*** For the purposes of the essay paper (paper 4), candidates who offer these texts will be expected to have knowledge of the whole of Pro Caelio, Propertius I, and the Cena Trimalchionis and not merely the prescribed portions.

II. Course II

Candidates for Course II shall be required:

(a) during their first year of study to have passed an examination under the auspices of the Board of the Faculty of Classics during the Trinity Term. This examination is also available for appropriate candidates intending to offer papers in the Preliminary Examination for Modern Languages in their second year of study. Candidates who fail to satisfy the examiners shall be permitted to offer themselves for re-examination during the following September. Each candidate shall offer two papers, each of three hours’ duration, as follows:

1. Greek or Latin texts. Candidates must offer either (a) or (b):
   (a) Homer, Iliad 24; Lysias 1 and 3; Euripides, Bacchae 1-63, 180-369, 434-518.
   (b) Virgil, Aeneid 6; Seneca, Epistles 54, 57, 79, 114 and 122; Catullus 1-16, 31-4.

   For a list of prescribed texts, see the Classics and English handbook. The paper will comprise passages from these texts for translation and comment.

2. Greek or Latin Language. The paper will consist of passages for unseen translation out of Greek or Latin and sentences for translation from English into Latin or Greek.

(b) during their second year of study, to offer papers as for Course I.’

(3) Honour School of Classics and English

With effect from 1 October 2012 (for first examination in 2013).

Please note that students matriculating before October 2012 will continue to follow the existing regulations until they come to the end of their course, so the changes are an addition, not a substitution, and are for the attention of students matriculating from October 2012 onwards.

In Examination Regulations, 2011, p.187, after l.31, insert:

‘Special Regulations for the Honour School of Classics and English

A

1. The Honour School of Classics and English shall be under the joint supervision of the Boards of the Faculties of Classics and English Language and Literature, and shall consist of such subjects as they shall jointly by regulation prescribe. The boards shall establish a joint committee consisting of three representatives of each faculty, of whom at least one on each side shall be a member of the respective faculty board, to advise them as necessary in respect of the examination and of the First Public Examination in Classics and English.

2. No candidate shall be admitted to the examination in this school unless he or she has either passed or been exempted from the First Public Examination.
3. No candidate shall be permitted to enter his or her name for the examination who has been adjudged worthy of Honours in Honour Moderations in Classics, or who has there satisfied the Moderators.

4. The Chairman of Examiners for the Honour School of English Language and Literature shall designate such of the number of the examiners as may be required for the English subjects of the examination for the Honour School of Classics and English, and the nominating committee for examiners appointed by the Board of the Faculty of Classics shall nominate such of the number of examiners as may be required for the Classics subjects of the examination. When these appointments have been made the number of examiners shall be deemed to be complete.

B

All candidates must take seven subjects. All candidates not taking subject 4(xx), Second Classical Language, must offer A, two subjects in English, B, two subjects in Classics, C, two subjects linking both sides of the school, and D, a dissertation. The dissertation may be concentrated on English or on Classics, or may link both sides of the school.

Candidates who under B take 3 (a) or (b) (Greek or Latin Core) and 4(xx) (Second Classical Language) will under C take only one subject, either subject 5 or one of the subjects under 6. The subjects will be examined by written examinations of three hours’ duration, unless otherwise specified.

The texts of Greek and Latin works used in the examination will be as specified each year in the Handbook for the Honour School of Classics and English.

A: ENGLISH

1. One of the following periods of English literature:
   a) Literature in English 1350 – 1550 (one paper) [As specified for the Honour School of English Language and Literature Course I Subject 2]
   b) Literature in English 1660 – 1760 (one paper) [As specified for the Honour School of English Language and Literature Course I Subject 4]
   c) Literature in English 1760 – 1830 (one paper) [As specified for the Honour School of English Language and Literature Course I Subject 5]

2. One of the following as specified for the Honour School of English Language and Literature:
   a) a second of the periods specified in 1 above;
   b) Shakespeare (portfolio) [As specified for the Honour School of English Language and Literature Course I, Subject 1];
   c) The Material Text (portfolio) [As specified for the Honour School of English Language and Literature Course II, Subject 5(a)];
   d) any of the Special Options subjects from the list for the year concerned, which will be published by the English Faculty Office in the year preceding the examination (extended essay) [As specified for the Honour School of English Language and Literature Course I, Subject 6];
   e) any of the Special Options subjects for English Course II, Medieval Literature and Language, from the list for the year concerned [As specified for the Honour School of English Language and Literature Course II, Subject 6];
provided that candidates who offer b), c), d) and e) avoid duplicating, in their answers to one paper, material that they have already used in answering another paper.

B: CLASSICS

3. Either (a) Greek Literature of the Fifth Century BC (one paper of three hours (commentary and essay) with an additional paper (one-and-a-half hours) of translation) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.1(a)].

or (b) Latin Literature of the First Century BC (one paper of three hours (commentary and essay) with an additional paper (one-and-a-half hours) of translation) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.2(a)].

4. One of the following. Note: (a) Subject (xxi), Second Classical Language, counts as two subjects; hence candidates offering it should offer only one subject under section C. Note: (b) Each of the subjects (ii) Historiography, (iii) Lyric Poetry, and (vi) Comedy will be examined by an extended essay of 5,000–6,000 words and a one-and-a-half-hour translation paper, as specified in the Regulations for the Honour School of Literae Humaniores. Note: (c) It cannot be guaranteed that university lectures or classes or college teaching will be available on all subjects in every academic year. Candidates are advised to consult their tutors about the availability of teaching when selecting their subjects.

   (i) Either (a) Greek Literature of the Fifth Century BC

or (b) Latin Literature of the First Century BC (whichever is not offered under 3 above).

(ii) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.3] Historiography

(iii) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.4] Lyric Poetry

(iv) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.6] Greek Tragedy

(v) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.7] Comedy

(vi) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.8] Hellenistic Poetry

(vii) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.9] Cicero

(viii) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.10] Ovid

(ix) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.11] Latin Didactic

(x) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.12] Neronian Literature

(xi) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.13] Euripides, Orestes: papyri, manuscripts, text

(xii) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.14]

Either (a) Seneca, Agamemnon: manuscripts, text, interpretation

or (b) Catullus: manuscripts, text, interpretation.

Note: University classes will be given for only one of these options each year.

(xiii) [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.15]

One of the following:

(a) The Conversion of Augustine

(b) Byzantine Literature

(c) Modern Greek Poetry
(xiv)  [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject III.16] Thesis in Literature
(xv)  Greek Historical Linguistics [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject V.1]
(xvi) Latin Historical Linguistics [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject V.2]
(xvii) Comparative Philology: Indo-European, Greek and Latin [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject V.4]
(xviii) General Linguistics and Comparative Philology [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject V.3].

(xx) Either

(a) The Early Greek World and Herodotus' *Histories*: 650 to 479 BC [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 1]

or (b) Thucydides and the Greek World: 479 to 403 BC [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 2]

or (c) The End of the Peloponnesian War to the Death of Philip II of Macedon: 403 to 336 BC [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 3]

or (d) Polybius, Rome and the Mediterranean: 241-146 BC [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 4]

or (e) Republic in Crisis: 146-46 BC [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 5]

or (f) Rome, Italy and Empire from Caesar to Claudius: 46 BC to AD 54 [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 6]

or (g) Athenian Democracy in the Classical Age [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 7]

or (h) Alexander the Great and his Early Successors [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 8]

or (i) The Hellenistic World: Societies and Cultures c.300-100 BC [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 9]

or (j) Cicero: Politics and Thought in the Late Republic [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 10 ; may not be combined with (vii) Cicero above’]

or (k) Politics, Society and Culture from Nero to Hadrian [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 11]

or (l) Religions in the Greek and Roman World, c.31 BC-AD 312 [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 12]

or (m) Sexuality and Gender in Greece and Rome [Honour School of Literae Humaniores, subject I. 13]

Note: Candidates offering any of subjects (xix) (a)-(f) must also offer the associated translation paper set in the Honour School of Literae Humaniores.
(xxi) Second Classical Language. As specified for the Honour School of Literae Humaniiores (VI). Candidates who offer a Second Classical Language must offer either both subjects in Greek or both subjects in Latin, and may not offer either subject in a language in which they satisfied the Moderators in Honour Moderations in Classics and English or the Preliminary Examination in Classics and English.

C. LINK PAPERS

For Paper 5 Epic and Paper 6 (a) Tragedy and (b) Comedy: while candidates will be expected to be familiar with the texts specified, opportunities will be given to show knowledge of authors and texts beyond those prescribed. Candidates must answer at least one question that relates Classical and English Literature.

5. Epic (one paper of three hours plus 15 minutes’ reading time)

With special reference to Homer, Virgil, Lucan, Milton, Dryden, Pope.

There will be a compulsory question requiring candidates to comment on and bring out points of comparison between either (a) a passage of Homer and one or more English translations or (b) a passage of Virgil and one or more English translations. The passages will be drawn from (a) Odyssey, Books 6 and 9-12, (b) Aeneid, Books 7, 8 and 12. There will also be a passage for compulsory comment from Milton, Paradise Lost.

6. One of the following:

(a) Tragedy [Candidates who offer paper B. 4(iv) Greek Tragedy may not also offer this paper].


There will be an optional commentary question with passages drawn from Aeschylus, Agamemnon, and Seneca, Medea.

(b) Comedy [Candidates who offer paper B. 4(v) Comedy may not also offer this paper].


There will be an optional commentary question with passages drawn from Aristophanes, Birds, and Terence, Adelphœ.

(c) The Reception of Classical Literature in Poetry in English since 1900 Authors in English for study will include Auden, H. D., Eliot, Frost, Longley, Lowell, MacNeice, Carson, Harrison, Heaney, Hughes and Walcott. This paper will be examined by an extended essay of 5,000-6,000 words. Essay topics set by the examiners will be released on Monday of week 6 of Hilary Term and essays should be submitted by Monday of week 10 of the same term (12 noon) to the Examination Schools, High Street. Candidates will be required to use at least three authors in their essays, at least one of whom must be a classical author.

This subject may NOT be combined with options in Classics examined by extended essay (4 (ii, iii, v). Candidates must avoid repetition in this paper of material used in Paper 2(d).
D: DISSERTATION

1. All candidates for the Honour School of Classics and English must offer a dissertation.

   i) The subject of the dissertation must be substantially connected with any subject area in those parts of the Honour School of Literae Humaniores and Course I or Course II of the Honour School of English Language and Literature which are available to candidates for the Honour School of Classics and English. The subject may, but need not, be one that connects the two sides of the School.

   ii) The subject of the dissertation may, but need not, overlap any subject or period on which the candidate offers papers. Candidates are warned, however, that they must avoid repetition in their papers of materials used in their dissertation, and that they will not be given credit for material extensively repeated.

   iii) Candidates must submit a dissertation abstract of no more than 100 words, to the Chair of Examiners in Classics and English, care of the English Faculty Office, by Friday of the fourth week of the Michaelmas term preceding the examination.

   iv) The Chair of Examiners in Classics and English will decide as soon as possible, and in every case by the end of the sixth week of the Michaelmas Term preceding the examination, whether or not to approve the abstract, and will advise candidates of the decision forthwith.

2. Every dissertation must be the candidate’s own work. Tutors may, however, advise on the choice and scope of the subject, provide a reading list, and read and comment on a first draft.

   Candidates must sign a certificate stating that the dissertation is their own work, and that they have read the Joint School guidelines on plagiarism (see also 3 below). This certificate must be placed in a sealed envelope bearing the candidate’s examination number and presented together with the dissertation.

3. Dissertations previously submitted for the Honour School of Classics and English may be re-submitted. No dissertation will be accepted if it has already been submitted, wholly or substantially, for any other degree of this or any other university; and the certificate must also contain confirmation that the dissertation has not already been so submitted.

4. No dissertation shall be ineligible because it has been submitted, in whole or in part, for any scholarship or prize of this University advertised in the Oxford University Gazette.

5. The dissertation shall be of 7,000-8,000 words; failure to keep to these limits is liable to be penalized. In the case of a commentary on a text, and at the discretion of the chairman of the examiners, any substantial quoting of that text need not be included in the word-count. There must be a select bibliography and, if appropriate, list of sources.

6. Two typed copies of the dissertation must be delivered to the Chairman of Examiners, Honour School of Classics and English, Examination Schools, High Street, by noon on Thursday of the eighth week of Hilary Term preceding the examination.”