HUMANITIES DIVISIONAL BOARD

Regulations governing the Master of Philosophy in Buddhist Studies: communication from the Board of the Faculty of Oriental Studies

Humanities Divisional Board

Master of Philosophy in Buddhist Studies

Brief note about nature of the changes: Introduction of new MPhil course pathway.

With effect from 1 October 2015 (first examination in 2017)

1 In Examination Regulations 2013, p. 570, after l. 28 insert:

‘(xiv) Buddhist Studies’

2 Ibid., p.585, after l. 45, insert:

‘(xiv) Buddhist Studies

A. Qualifying examination

Each candidate must pass a qualifying examination not later than the end of the third term from the commencement of the course. The examination will consist of two papers:

(i) A three-hour examination in the chosen primary Buddhist Language (either Sanskrit, Tibetan, or Classical Chinese).

(ii) A three-hour examination on basic aspects of Buddhist thought and history.

Candidates who fail the Qualifying Examination may be allowed to retake that part or parts once at the end of the Long Vacation of the first year of the course.

B. Final examination

In the Trinity Term of their second year, all candidates must offer:

(i) an advanced language paper consisting in a translation from seen and unseen texts in the chosen primary Buddhist Language, to be assessed by a three-hour examination

(ii) a thesis of not more than 20,000 words on a subject approved by the Board*

(iii) a paper on Approaches to the study of Buddhism, to be assessed by three-hour examination

(iv) Either

(a) a language paper in a second primary Buddhist language (either Sanskrit, Tibetan, or Classical Chinese), to be assessed by three-hour examination. The second primary Buddhist language can be studied either at a basic or at an advanced level. The former will be assessed by a three-hour examination in the chosen second primary Buddhist language (as for paper (ii) of the Qualifying examination); the latter by a translation from seen and unseen texts in the chosen second primary Buddhist language, to be assessed by a three-hour examination (as for paper (i) of the Final examination). Students who intend to study a second primary Buddhist language at an advanced level must satisfy the Faculty Board that they possess an adequate knowledge of the chosen language.

Or

(b) A paper chosen from a list published annually, assessed as specified by the course instructor. Applications for approval of the chosen topic must be sent to the Secretary of the Board on or before the Monday in second week of Michaelmas Full Term preceding the examination.

(v) The examiners may examine any candidate by *viva voce.*

*See general regulations for theses and special regulations for theses in Oriental Studies.*