### Title of programme
DPhil Public Policy

### Brief note about nature of change:
To introduce the examination regulations for the new DPhil in Public Policy programme.

### Effective date
1 October 2014

### Location of change
In Examination Regulations 2013

### Detail of change
1. P.946, after l.5 insert

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"10. BLAVATNIK SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

1. Admissions
Applicants shall be required to satisfy the Graduate Studies Committee of the Blavatnik School of Government that they have:

(a) a good 2.1 (or equivalent) undergraduate degree;
(b) a relevant Master's degree or other advanced degree, and normally passed with a mark of at least 70 per cent or an equivalent level of distinction both for the thesis and the overall degree;
(c) for students whose first language is not English, have met the higher level of the
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2. Transfer to DPhil status

Students will normally be admitted as Probationer Research Students. Applications for Transfer of Status should be submitted to the Graduate Studies Committee of the Blavatnik School of Government no later than the end of Trinity full term after the Michaelmas Term in which they were admitted. An extension of one term (i.e. to the end of the Michaelmas full term in the year after the student was admitted) may be granted in exceptional circumstances. Should students be admitted in other terms, submission should take place by the end of the third term after admission, with the possibility of an extension for a further one term in exceptional circumstances.

The student will be required to show that the research already accomplished shows promise of the ability to produce a satisfactory DPhil. For this purpose, applications will comprise the following:

(a) a transfer of status form, signed by the candidate’s supervisor and an appropriate officer of the candidate’s college;

(b) confirmation from the candidate’s supervisor that such courses as the candidate has been required to undertake have been satisfactorily completed;

(c) two copies in typescript of a brief, single paragraph summary of the project, including information on methodological and theoretical approach.

(d) two copies in typescript of a research proposal of no more than 4,000 - 6,000 words. This should consist of:

i. a short description of the project, including the research question and a provisional list of chapter headings;

ii. a brief account of the relevant literature, and an account of how the research question and data analysis fit into it;

iii. an account of the proposed research methods including (a) data sources (for theoretical theses this should be a list of books and articles), (b) proposals for data handling, (c) proposals for data analysis, and (d) an account of how the proposed research and analysis are envisaged to bear on the question posed;

iv. a tentative timetable for the research;

(e) two copies in typescript of a draft chapter (for example the literature review) of between 5,000 and 7,000 words

The application will be considered by two assessors appointed by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Blavatnik School of Government. The panel will read the work, interview the candidate and make a recommendation to the committee in a written report.

The committee will decide in the light of the assessors’ report whether to grant the application. In cases where the committee is not satisfied that the transfer to DPhil status should be allowed, it may either (a) approve admission to MLitt status or (b) approve an
extension of time in order to allow the candidate to carry out further research and make
revisions to his/her proposal and to resubmit it at a later date (but before the PRS status
period expires). The committee may request additional written work (such as a revised
research proposal or revised literature review) or other evidence, and/or appoint an
additional assessor, and/or state that the student should be re-examined.

3. Confirmation of status

Application for Confirmation of DPhil status should normally be made in the seventh term
from admission as a research student. Application should normally not be made earlier than
the sixth term and not later than the ninth term. No candidate may submit a thesis for the
doctoral degree without having first obtained confirmed doctoral status. Any student who
does not confirm by the end of their ninth term will be required to apply for deferral of
confirmation of status and, in exceptional circumstances, may be allowed up to three terms
for this purpose.

The student will be required to show that the research already accomplished shows
promise of the ability to produce a satisfactory DPhil. Applications should be submitted to
the Graduate Studies Committee of the Blavatnik School of Government and will comprise
the following:

(a) a confirmation of status application form signed by the candidate’s supervisor and an
appropriate officer of the candidate’s college;
(b) two copies in typescript of an abstract of the thesis (one side of A4 paper);
(c) two copies in typescript of an outline structure of the thesis, consisting of chapter
headings, and a brief statement of the intended content;
(d) two copies in typescript of an outline timetable detailing what work has already been
carried out and what activities are planned for the remaining stages;
(e) two copies in typescript of two completed draft chapters (other than the literature review)
intended to form part of the final thesis.

The application will be considered by a specially constituted panel of two assessors
appointed by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Blavatnik School of Government. The
panel will read the work, interview the candidate and make a recommendation to the
committee in a written report.

If, in the light of the assessors’ report, the committee does not consider that the candidate’s
progress warrants confirmation of status, it may either (a) recommend resubmission of the
application at a later date within the normal timetable (not later than six terms after
admission to DPhil status) or (b) approve an extension of DPhil status in order to allow time
for resubmission of the application, or (c) approve transfer to MLitt. status, or (d) reject the
application.

4. Thesis

The DPhil thesis must not exceed 80,000 words, the limit to include abstract, all notes and
appendices but not the bibliography.

MLitt theses should not exceed 50,000 words, the limit to include all notes and appendices
but not the bibliography.”.
Explanatory Notes

Clause 1: This change introduces the examination regulations for the new DPhil in Public Policy programme offered by the Blavatnik School of Government.