Changes in Examination Regulations to the University Gazette – Social Sciences Division

SSD/2/2/4

Social Sciences Board

Approved by Teaching Audit Committee on 28 April 2014

Title of programme
DPhil Education

Brief note about nature of change:
Amendment to the location of the relevant course information and minor changes and clarifications to the requirements for Transfer and Confirmation of Status

Effective date
With immediate effect

Location of change
Examination Regulations 2013

Detail of change
1. **P931, l.46 delete** ‘determined in the Handbook for DPhil students and supervisors’ **and insert** ‘set out on the pages of WebLearn and in agreement with the Director of Doctoral Research,’

2. **P932, delete l.9-33 and insert:**

   ‘The submission should be about 10,000 words in length and must include:

   (i) a current thesis title;

   (ii) Current thesis abstract: max 400 words;

   (iii) A document of up to 10,000 words that includes a background to the proposed research, including a review of the relevant literature and theoretical perspectives;
the conceptual framework and rationale informing the research design; key research questions; and a reflective discussion of methods, access, research ethics and analysis;

(iv) The Transfer document should provide evidence of a convincing and realistic research design; this may include a discussion of the pilot study. It should also highlight potential challenges or difficulties that may be encountered.

The following are also required, thought they are not included in the 10,000 word limit

(v) CUREC form(s) as required and clear evidence of how commitment to responsible (ethical) conduct of research will be realised

(vi) Risk assessment form including evidence that the student has considered carefully issues of safety in fieldwork

(vii) A clear timetable for the research which demonstrates that the project is feasible and practicable and can be completed within the timeframe of 3 years

(viii) A list of references

(ix) Evidence of presentation of work at a seminar (e.g. RTS, Work in Progress, Research Group Seminar, STORIES Conference etc.)

(x) A Skills Review and Training Analysis'

3. P933, delete l.3-13 and insert:

‘(i) Current Thesis Title

(ii) Thesis Abstract (Up to 300 words)

(iii) Proposed Thesis table of contents (indicating progress on each chapter).

(iv) A draft Introduction to the thesis, setting out the overall argument and/or contribution of the thesis. The introduction should also describe the proposed contents of each chapter, explaining how they link together and develop the thesis. These statements should normally be up to 500 words for each chapter. An extended literature review (but not the full chapter) can be submitted as Appendix A (This is important if neither of your Confirmation of Status examiners were your Transfer of Status examiners).

(v) One fully developed methods chapter that documents how the research questions were addressed in practice, and reflects on how the initial research designs were refined or developed in the field.

(vi) One draft Findings chapter. This chapter should show how the research questions are being addressed and describe the emergent findings.

(vii) A list of references and a list of references being used in the thesis more broadly.

(viii) A clear assessment of progress made, and a timetable leading up to thesis submission

The Confirmation submission should normally be up to 30,000 words (not
including abstract, references or Appendix A). Further supporting materials can be provided in appendices, for the examiners to consult if they so wish.

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<td>1. Replaces reference to the Student Handbook to the Department’s WebLearn site</td>
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<td>2. Minor changes and clarifications to the materials required for Transfer of Status</td>
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