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

Social Sciences Board

Approved by Teaching Audit Committee on 28 February 2014 and by Education Committee on 29 April 2014

Title of programme
Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Brief note about nature of change:
Changes to the programme structure of the MBA and EMBA (part-time MBA)

Effective date
For students starting from MT 2014 (MBA) and HT 2015 (EMBA)
For first examination from 2014-15

Location of change
Examination Regulations 2013

Detail of change
1. **P801, l.24 delete ‘thirty-two’ and insert ‘thirty-seven’**
2. **Delete from P803 l.1 to P804 l.38 and insert:**
   
   ‘Special Regulations
   A. Full-time students

   1. Candidates must follow for at least three terms a course of instruction in Management Studies. Candidates must complete components (a)-(e) below

   (a) all eight courses from Schedule A

   (b) EITHER nine electives taken in Hilary term, Trinity term and the summer, a
maximum of two of which can be completed by taking equivalent (up to four) ‘half’ electives;

OR seven electives, a maximum of two of which can be completed by taking equivalent (up to four) ‘half’ electives, and a Strategic Consulting Project (SCP) that is undertaken in a group during the Summer. The SCP must be approved by the MBA Director and is assessed through a report of not more than 15,000 words.

A list of Hilary and Trinity term electives will be published by the MBA Director no later than the first Monday of Michaelmas Term. Summer electives will be published no later than the first Monday of Hilary Term.

(c) The integration modules on Global Rules of the Game, Responsible Leadership, and Entrepreneurship;

(d) Entrepreneurship Project (EP), which requires completion of assignments given in the Integration Modules and a report in the form of a business plan, which should not exceed a total of 8,000 words. The EP must be undertaken in a group and approved by the MBA Director;

(e) Global Opportunities & Threats Oxford (GOTO), which requires the completion of assignments in the Integration Modules, two additional group assignments and a group project in the form of a written report of not more than 8,000 words.

2. Students must satisfy the examiners in all assessments/examinations associated with components (a)-(e) above, but may fail one of the eight courses from component (a) or one of the elective courses from component (b) and still pass the programme as a whole. Candidates may be required to attend an oral examination on any part.

3. The examiners may award a distinction for excellence in the whole examination to candidates for the Degree.

4. In exceptional circumstances, a candidate wishing to take an examination later than the one to which he or she has been admitted may do so by application to the Chair of Examiners.

B. Part-time students

1. Candidates taking the course on a part-time basis must follow for not less than 21 months a course of instruction in Management Studies. Candidates must complete components (a) to (g) below:

(a) all eight courses from Schedule A

(b) six electives, a maximum of two of which can be completed by taking equivalent (up to four) ‘half’ electives. The list of electives to be published not later than the first day of the first module of the second year of the programme;

(c) Entrepreneurship Project (EP), which requires completion of a report in the
form of a business plan, which should not exceed a total of 8,000 words. The EP must be approved by the Director of the part-time MBA;

(d) the Global Rules of the Game integrative module, and the assessment associated with this course;

(e) the Strategic Leader integrative module and the assessment associated with this course;

(f) the Business in Emerging Markets module and satisfy the examiners in the form of an essay submission associated with this module of not more than 5,000 words;

(g) Global Opportunities & Threats Oxford (GOTO), and the assessment associated with this course;

2. Students must satisfy the examiners in all assessments/examinations associated with components (a)-(g) above, but may fail one of the eight courses from component (a) or one of the elective courses from component (b) and still pass the programme as a whole. Candidates may be required to attend an oral examination on any part.

3. The MBA Committee shall have the discretion to permit any candidate to the part-time MBA to be exempted from up to four courses providing that the Committee is satisfied that such a candidate has completed equivalent study of an appropriate standard, and has passed the assessment associated with that equivalent study, on either the Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Strategy, the Postgraduate Diploma in Global Business, the Postgraduate Diploma in Organisational Leadership, or the Postgraduate Diploma in Strategy and Innovation (previously the Postgraduate Diploma in Advanced Strategy) no more than five years before initial registration for the part-time MBA. Application for exemptions will only be permitted until 31st December 2017, after which candidates on any Postgraduate Diploma may only transfer onto the part-time MBA under clause 4 below.

4. The MBA Committee shall have the discretion to permit any candidate to transfer onto the part-time MBA from either the Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Strategy, the Postgraduate Diploma in Global Business, the Postgraduate Diploma in Organisational Leadership, or the Postgraduate Diploma in Strategy and Innovation, providing that the Committee is satisfied that such a candidate has completed equivalent study of an appropriate standard on the four courses on the respective Postgraduate Diploma, and has passed the assessment associated with these four courses.

5. With the approval of the Director of the part-time MBA, a candidate may substitute core courses or electives on the part-time MBA with core courses from the Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Strategy, the Postgraduate Diploma in Global Business, the Postgraduate Diploma in Organisational Leadership, the Postgraduate Diploma in Strategy and Innovation, or M.Sc. in Major Programme Management, assuming that core course falls within the permitted registration period for the part-time MBA.

6. The examiners may award a distinction for excellence in the whole examination to
candidates for the Degree.

7. In exceptional circumstances, a candidate wishing to take an examination later than the one to which he or she has been admitted may do so by application to the Chair of Examiners.

Schedule A

(a) Analytics
(b) Firms & Markets
(c) Accounting
(d) Strategy
(e) Business Finance
(f) Leadership Fundamentals
(g) Technology & Operations Management
(h) Marketing'

Explanatory Notes

1. Change to the statutory residence requirement for the MBA to accommodate the revised curriculum structure

2. Change to introduce new Special Regulations for the full-time and part-time MBA to reflect the revised programme structure following a major internal review of the programme. The changes introduce three new integrative components covering themes in (i) Global Rules of the Game, (ii) Entrepreneurship and (iii) Business Leadership; restructure the programme's sequencing and timing, extending teaching into weeks 9 and 10 of each term in order to achieve a more even pace of learning and a more stimulating and flexible learning environment; and make alterations to course titles to better reflect their evolving content.