

Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Divisional Board**Approved by Chair's action****Research Degrees in Physical Sciences**

Brief note about nature of change: minor amendment required to MPLS special regulations for Earth Sciences longer abstract requirement. Removing the requirement but amending to allow students the option to submit one should they wish to.

Effective date

With effect from HT20 for all students

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* 2019/20

<https://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2019-20/rdinphysscie/>, citation 1.9 and 1.10

Detail of change

Under 4 (a) *Theses* - Longer abstracts: Earth Sciences, Chemistry, and Engineering

Please delete:

Citation 1.9. - Candidates for the Degrees of M.Sc. and D.Phil. in *Earth Sciences* must submit with their theses, in addition to the abstract required of up to 300 words, a longer abstract of not more than 1,500 words for the M.Sc. and 2,500 for the D.Phil., which shall be bound into the copy of the thesis which, if the application for leave to supplicate for the degree is successful, will be deposited in the Bodleian Library.

And replace Citation 1.10 with the following:

Candidates for the Degrees of M.Sc. and D.Phil. in *Chemistry, Earth Sciences or Engineering* may if they wish submit with their theses, in addition to the abstract required of all candidates, a longer abstract of not more than 1,500 words for the M.Sc. and 2,500 for the D.Phil.. Should such an abstract be submitted, a copy of it must be bound into the copy of the thesis which, if the application for leave to supplicate for the degree is successful, will be deposited in the Bodleian Library.

Explanatory Notes: minor amendment required to MPLS special regulations in relation to the longer abstract requirement for Earth Sciences. The departments Teaching Committee have reviewed the current regulation and have confirmed that it is no longer clear that the extended abstract is a useful requirement. However, they would still like students to have the option to do this should they wish. They have therefore agreed that the regulation should be amended to match that of Chemistry and Engineering.