

**Humanities Division
Board of the Faculty of Theology and Religion**

Approved at the meeting of 10 March 2016

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Postgraduate Diploma in Theology

Brief note about nature of change: Rewording of regulations following an amendment to the course name; change to the examination status of Paper 27, The New Testament in Greek .

Effective date

For students starting from MT 2016

For first examination for full-time students from 2016-17

For first examination for part-time students from 2017-18

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* online.

Detail of change

Postgraduate Diploma in Theology and Religion

GENERAL REGULATIONS

^{1.1}1. It shall be lawful for the Board of the Faculty of Theology and Religion to grant Postgraduate Diplomas in Theology and Religion to candidates who have satisfied the conditions prescribed in this Section.

^{1.2}2. The examination shall be under the supervision of the Board of the Faculty of Theology and Religion.

^{1.3}3. Subject to the provisions of this Section, any member of the University who has obtained the leave

of the Board of the Faculty of Theology and Religion normally may be admitted to the examination for the Postgraduate Diploma in Theology and Religion provided that ~~he or she has~~ they have passed all the examinations required for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts and ~~has~~ have obtained First or upper Second Class Honours in the Second Public Examination, or ~~has~~ have attained such honours in a degree examination of another university, such university having been approved by Council for the purposes of Senior Status.

^{1.4}4. Applications for leave under cl. 3 shall be sent to the Registrar, through the Head or tutor of the ~~society~~ college to which the applicant belongs or desires to belong. The board shall have power to determine the character and length of a course of study in Theology and Religion to be followed by the applicant before ~~he or she~~ they may be admitted to the examination.

^{1.5}5. The examiners may award a distinction in any subject in the examination.

^{1.6}6. A student reading for the diploma who is not a graduate of the University shall wear the same gown as that worn by Students for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

SPECIAL REGULATIONS

^{1.7}1. Every candidate is required to follow for at least three terms a course of instruction in Theology and Religion, and ~~he or she~~ they will, when ~~he or she enters~~ they enter ~~his or her~~ their name for the examination, be required to produce from ~~his or her Society~~ their College a certificate showing that ~~he or she is~~ they are following a course of instruction in Theology and Religion for at least three terms.

^{1.8}2. Candidates may complete the course either in nine months as a full-time student, or in twenty-one months as a part-time student.

^{1.9}3. All candidates will be required to offer three papers (and not more than four) from those specified in the schedule of papers prescribed for the Final Honour School of Theology and Religion, apart from those listed below;

^{1.10}(i) Further Studies in History and Doctrine

^{1.11}(ii) Selected Topics (Old Testament) I

^{1.12}(i) Prophecy

^{1.13}(ii) Apocalyptic

^{1.14}(iii) Selected Topics (Old Testament) II

^{1.15}(i) Wisdom

^{1.16}(ii) Worship and Liturgy

^{1.17}(iv) The Hebrew of the Old Testament

^{1.18}(v) Archaeology in Relation to the Old Testament

^{1.19}(vi) Religions and Mythology of the Ancient Near East

1.20 (vii) Christian Liturgy

1.21 (viii) Early Syriac Christianity

1.22 (ix) History and Theology of the Church in the Byzantine Empire from AD1000 to 1453

1.23 (x) Mysticism

1.24 (xi) Psychology of Religion

1.25 (xii) English Church and Mission 597-754

1.26 4. Paper 27, *The New Testament in Greek*, can only be offered as a fourth paper.

~~1.26~~ 4. ~~1.27~~ 5. Part-time students will study two papers in their first year of study, and the third (and fourth, if this option is chosen) in their second year of study. Examination will be at the second year of study.

~~1.27~~ 5. ~~1.28~~ 6. Not all papers will be available every year.

~~1.28~~ 6. ~~1.29~~ 7. Candidates may choose to offer either two short essays of 3,000 to 4,000 words or one long essay of 7,000 to 8,000 words in place of one of their chosen papers, except for paper (27) *The New Testament in Greek*. The essay word limit is inclusive of notes and appendices, but excludes the bibliography.

~~1.29~~ 7. ~~1.30~~ 8. The final mark for the award will be calculated as the average of the three best papers (excluding Paper 27).

~~1.29~~ 7. ~~1.31~~ 9. Any candidate may be examined viva voce.

~~1.30~~ ~~1.32~~ **Regulations concerning essays**

~~1.31~~ ~~1.33~~ In the Michaelmas Term of each year, the Board of the Faculty of Theology and Religion will publish a list of topics, from which candidates may choose to write either two short essays or one long essay in place of one of their chosen papers. The topics offered may vary from year to year and will be related to the research interests of the teachers concerned.

~~1.32~~ ~~1.34~~ The candidate is advised to have an initial discussion with ~~his or her~~ their supervisor regarding the proposed field of study, the sources available, and the method of presentation. ~~He or she~~ They should have further discussions with ~~his or her~~ their supervisor during the preparation of the essay. ~~His or her~~ Their supervisor may read and comment on drafts of the essay.

~~1.33~~ ~~1.35~~ Every candidate shall sign a letter declaring the essay to be ~~his or her~~ their own work. This letter, which can be found in the Handbook for ~~Graduate Studies~~ Postgraduate Taught Students or collected from the Theology and Religion Faculty Office, Gibson Building, ROQ, Woodstock Road, shall be presented together with the essay, in a separate sealed envelope.

~~1.34~~ ~~1.36~~ The candidate must submit two typed copies of the essay (bound or held firmly in a stiff cover),

addressed to the Chair of the Examiners, Postgraduate Diploma in Theology and Religion, Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford not later than noon on the Friday of the first week of Trinity Term. Candidates must not put their names on the examination paper or on any pre-submitted work.

Explanatory Notes

The choice of course name was originally selected to align it with that of the Faculty. The decision to rename the faculty as the Faculty of Theology and Religion, led to an anomaly and it was agreed to rename the course as the Postgraduate Diploma in Theology and Religion.

The regulations previously stated that candidates could take Honour School Paper 27, The New Testament in Greek, as one of the three papers that they are required to offer in order to be awarded the Diploma. However Paper 27 is a two hour translation paper for which students can achieve marks of 90+ and is weighted at 50% of a full paper. The regulations for the Honour School of Theology and Religion specify that Paper 27 “is not available as a full paper but only as an optional extra translation paper”. It was agreed to amend the regulations to stipulate that Paper 27 could only be offered as a fourth paper, and that the final mark for the award would be calculated as the average of the three best papers (excluding Paper 27).