

1415-07-HUG

Mathematical, Physical & Life Sciences Division/Faculty Board

Approved at the meeting of

Biological Sciences Steering Committee – Chairs Action (HT15)

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Honour School of Biological Sciences

Brief note about nature of change:

revision to texts

Effective date

Immediate

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* 2014

Detail of change

On p. 141, l. 43 and p. 142, l. 45

PART II

7. Project dissertation

(i) Form and subject of the project

The project shall consist of original experiments, fieldwork or computer-based Research Project in any area of biology done by the candidate alone or in collaboration with others (where such collaboration is, for instance, needed to produce results in the time available). When choosing a Research Project, candidates must bear in mind the prohibition on duplicating material in different parts of the examination.

(ii)Registration

Candidates must register the provisional title of their project and the name of their supervisor to the Examinations Co-ordinator no later than noon on Friday of Week 8 of Hilary Term of their second year. Candidates must submit their completed safety registration form to the appropriate Departmental Safety Officer by the same deadline.

(iii)Residence

Candidates undertaking project work outside of Oxford will be permitted by ~~the Chair of the Director of Undergraduate Teaching for Biological Sciences Steering Committee~~, subject to the written approval also of the Senior Tutor of the candidate's college, to spend a maximum of two weeks outside of Oxford during Trinity Term of their second year working at a supervised field site or another university / institution in the UK or overseas, in accordance with clause 2.8 of the First and Second Public Examination regulations pertaining to residence. Candidates will still be liable for their College battels, if applicable, during this time.

(iv)Examination

Candidates shall submit to the examiners a dissertation based on their project according to guidelines that will be published in the Guidelines on Projects and Course Assignments in the academic year preceding the examination. The project dissertation shall be of not more than 7,000 words, excluding any tables, figures, or references, and must be prefaced by an Abstract of not more than 250 words, to be included within the word limit.

(v)Submission and assessment of project-based written work

The project report (two copies) must be legibly typed or word-processed (double line spacing to be used throughout) on one side only of A4 paper, held firmly in a stiff cover, and submitted on or before 12 noon on the Monday of Week 2 of Hilary Full Term of the academic year in which Part II of the examination is taken. It must be addressed to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, for the Chair of Examiners for the Final Honour School of Biological Sciences. Each project report shall be accompanied by a certificate signed by the candidate indicating that the project report is the candidate's own work. This certificate shall be submitted separately in a sealed envelope addressed to the Chair of Examiners. No report will be accepted if it has already been submitted, wholly or substantially, for another Honour School or degree of this University, or for a degree of any other institution.

In all cases, the examiners shall obtain and consider a written report from each supervisor indicating the extent of the input made by the candidate to the outcome of the project and also any unforeseen difficulties associated with the project (e.g. unexpected technical issues or problems in the availability of materials, equipment, or literature or other published data). Material in a candidate's dissertation must not duplicate material that has been included in the submitted Course Assignments.

8.Course Assignments

(i) Form and subject of the Course Assignments

Each candidate must complete two Course Assignments. One assignment shall be examined by means of a written essay, and one shall be examined by means of an Oral Presentation as set out below. The precise format of the Course Assignment may vary between Options and will be specified by the Biological Sciences Steering Committee.

The written essay shall be of not more than 3,000 words, excluding any tables, figures, or references, and must be prefaced by an Abstract of not more than 250 words, to be included within the word limit. All sources used in the essay must be fully documented. The written essay (two copies) must be legibly typed or word-processed on one side only of A4 paper, held firmly in a stiff cover. The Oral Presentation shall be a maximum of fifteen minutes in duration, followed by ten minutes of questions. The Oral Presentation should use appropriate audio-visual aids as specified in the Guidelines on Projects and Course Assignments.

Candidates shall also submit an Abstract of the Oral Presentation of not more than 500 words. The Abstract (two copies) must be legibly typed or word-processed on one side only of A4 paper.

Candidates may discuss the proposed topic for both the written essay and the Oral Presentation, the sources available, and the method of presentation with an adviser. The adviser for the written essay ~~must~~ **may** also read and comment on a first draft. Candidates shall not deal with substantially the same material in their Course Assignments as is covered in their project report.

Explanatory Notes