HUMANITIES DIVISIONAL BOARD

Academic Committee

Changes in the regulations governing the Honour School of English Language and Literature and its Joint Schools: communication from the Board of the Faculty of English Language and Literature.

Ref: HDB/990/U

Approved by Education Committee and the Humanities Divisional Board

Humanities Divisional Board

Brief note about nature of the change(s)
These changes relating to the Preliminary Examination in Classics and English replace the changes which appeared in the Gazette on 7 June 2012. All of the below changes are submitted as a result of the syllabus reform conducted in the Faculty of English Language and Literature. The Classics Faculty Board has been consulted on the changes and has given its consent. From 2012-13, the First Public Examination in Classics and English will by a Preliminary Examination rather than Honour Mods.

Boards of the Faculties of English Language and Literature and Classics

Preliminary Examination in Classics and English

With effect from 1 October 2012 (for first examination in 2013)

In Examination Regulations, 2011, p.109, delete ll.12 – 44, and substitute:

‘Special Regulations for the Preliminary Examination in Classics and English

A

1. The Preliminary Examination in Classics and English shall be under the joint supervision of the Boards of the Faculties of Classics and English Language and Literature and shall consist of such subjects as they shall jointly by regulation prescribe.

2. The Chairman of the Moderators in English Language and Literature shall designate such of the number of moderators as may be required for the English subjects of the examination for the Preliminary Examination in Classics and English, and the nominating committee for examiners appointed by the Board of the Faculty of Classics shall nominate such of the number of moderators as may be required for the Classics subjects of the examination. When these appointments shall have been made the number of moderators shall be deemed to be complete.

B

The committee appointed by the Boards of the Faculties of English Language and Literature and Classics to advise on the examination for the Honour School of Classics and English shall make proposals to the two boards for regulations for this examination.
Any candidate whose native language is not English may bring a bilingual (native language to English) dictionary for use in any examination paper where candidates are required to translate Ancient Greek and/or Latin texts into English.

Candidates shall take one of the following courses

I. Course I

Each candidate shall offer five papers, each of three hours duration except where specified, as follows:

1. **Introduction to English Language and Literature** (a portfolio submitted in Trinity Term year 1)
   
The paper will be examined by a portfolio of work, comprising one commentary answer and one discursive essay, of not fewer than 1,500 and not more than 2,000 words each. Footnotes will be included in the total word count, but bibliographies do not count towards the limit. The list of questions for this paper will be divided into Section A (Language) and B (Literature) and will be published on Monday of the fourth week of the Trinity Term of the first year. Candidates must select one question from Section A and one question from Section B.

   Questions in Section A (Language) invite candidates to make their own selection of texts or passages of texts for commentary, in accordance with the terms of the particular question chosen. Copies of the texts or passages used must be included as an appendix to the portfolio. The combined length of all texts or passages chosen must not exceed 70 lines. The texts or passages used will not count towards the word limit for the commentary answer.

   Two typed copies of the portfolio must be delivered to the Chairman of the Moderators for the Moderations in English Language and Literature, Examination Schools, High Street, by noon on Thursday of the fifth week of the same Trinity Term. A certificate, signed by the candidate to the effect that each answer is the candidate's own work, and that the candidate has read the Faculty guidelines on plagiarism, must be presented together with each portfolio.

   Following the publication of themes for this subject on Monday of the fourth week of Trinity Term, the candidate must neither discuss his or her choice of themes nor the method of handling them with any tutor. Every portfolio must be the work of the candidate alone, but he or she may discuss with his or her tutor the subjects and approach to the essays up until the stated publication date of the portfolio themes.

   Portfolios previously submitted for the First Public Examination in English Language and Literature may be resubmitted. No answer will be accepted that has already been submitted, wholly or substantially, for a final honour school or any other degree of this University, or degree of any other institution.

   Work deemed to be either too short or of excessive length may be penalised.

   Candidates must avoid duplicating material used in this paper when answering other papers. In addition, candidates are not permitted to duplicate material between Section A and Section B of the portfolio.

2. **Literature in English 1550 – 1660** (excluding the works of Shakespeare)

3. **Unseen translation from Greek and Latin.** Candidates may offer either Latin or Greek or both.
   
   Two passages must be offered and in each language one prose passage and one verse passage will be set.

4, 5. **Greek and Latin Literature.** Candidates must offer two of the following.

   They must offer either a) or b), but may not offer both.

   a) Homer, Iliad, I, VI, IX, XVI, XVIII, XXII-XXIV;*

   b) Virgil, Aeneid, I, II, IV, VI;*


Paper 4 will consist of essay questions; all candidates will be required to answer questions on each of: Homer or Virgil; other texts; general topics. Paper 5 will comprise passages for translation and comment; all candidates will be required to answer on three passages, at least once passage of Homer or Virgil and at least one from the other texts.

The Moderators shall publish the names of candidates who have satisfied them in all five papers, or all of papers 1 and 2 or all of papers 3, 4 and 5.

N.B For prescribed editions, see the Classics and English handbook.

* For the purposes of the essay paper (paper 4), candidates who offer these texts will be expected to have knowledge of the whole work and not merely the prescribed portions.

** For the purposes of the essay paper (paper 4), candidates who offer these texts will be expected to have knowledge of the whole of *Bacchae*, *Frogs*, and Herodotus 7 – 8 and not merely the prescribed portions.

*** For the purposes of the essay paper (paper 4), candidates who offer these texts will be expected to have knowledge of the whole of *Pro Caelio*, Propertius I, and the *Cena Trimalchionis* and not merely the prescribed portions.

II. *Course II*

Candidates for *Course II* shall be required:

(a) during their first year of study to have passed an examination under the auspices of the Board of the Faculty of Classics during the Trinity Term. This examination is also available for appropriate candidates intending to offer papers in the Preliminary Examination for Modern Languages in their second year of study. Candidates who fail to satisfy the examiners shall be permitted to offer themselves for re-examination during the following September. Each candidate shall offer two papers, each of three hours’ duration, as follows:

1. Greek or Latin texts. Candidates must offer either (a) or (b):

   (a) Homer, *Iliad* 24; Lysias 1 and 3; Euripides, *Bacchae* 1-63, 180-369, 434-518.


   For a list of prescribed texts, see the Classics and English handbook. The paper will comprise passages from these texts for translation and comment.

2. Greek or Latin Language. The paper will consist of passages for unseen translation out of Greek or Latin and sentences for translation from English into Latin or Greek.

(b) during their second year of study, to offer papers as for *Course I*.‘