

Humanities Divisional Board

Approved by officers on behalf of the Board on 11 July 2018

Title of Programme

Master of Philosophy in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology

Brief note about nature of change: Change to paper and assessment

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2017* (<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2017-18/mopihos-mediandtech/>)

Effective date

For students starting from MT 2018

For first examination from 2019-20

Detail of change

New text underlined, deletions struck-through:

^{1.4}*Qualifying test*

^{1.5}Every candidate must pass a qualifying test. The test shall consist of ~~two courses on a~~ course in Methods and Themes in HSMT

^{1.6}~~1. Methods and themes in the history of science and technology.~~

^{1.7}~~2. Methods and themes in the history of medicine.~~

^{1.8}~~Candidates may be advised on the basis of their prospective individual research to substitute one of the following courses from the Master of Philosophy in Economic and Social History for (1) or (2) above:~~

^{1.9}~~(i) Methodological introduction to research in the social sciences and history.~~

~~1.10(ii) Quantitative Methods and Computer Applications for Historians.~~

~~1.11 A paper from another established course within the University may be substituted for one of the standard courses where this would provide a more appropriate training for the candidate's dissertation focus. Candidates wishing to do so must obtain the permission of the Programme Convenor, the person responsible for the delivery of the requested advanced paper, the candidate's supervisor, and the Director of Graduate Studies.~~

~~1.12 Such candidates will be assessed according to the regulations with respect to the form of assessment and deadlines governing that option (i.e. the regulations of the programme under which the option/advanced paper is offered), but the modes of assessment and deadlines for the other course elements of the programme for which the candidate is registered will remain in force.~~

~~1.13 The two methodological introduction courses Methods and Themes in HSMT course will each be assessed by a an methodological essay of up to ~~3,000~~ 4,000 words. The essay must be uploaded to the Assignments section of the History of Science, Medicine and Technology WebLearn site by noon on Monday of Week 10 of Michaelmas Term of the candidate's first year and accompanied by a declaration that ~~they are~~ it is the candidate's own work. In addition, convenors of qualifying courses will confirm in writing to the chair of examiners not later than Friday of eighth week of Hilary Term the candidates' satisfactory participation in their classes, including the completion of any assignments for the weekly sessions. ~~Any approved alternative qualifying course will be assessed within the format and timetable of the paper's parent course.~~ No candidate who has failed the qualifying test ~~of two courses~~ will be permitted to supplicate for the degree. Candidates who fail ~~a~~ the qualifying course once will be permitted to take it again, not later than one year after the initial attempt.~~

Candidates will submit two 'practice' essays of 3,000 words, one on Friday of Week 3 of Hilary Term and one on Friday of Week 6 of Hilary Term. Of these two essays and the Methods and Themes in HSMT essay, at least one must address a topic in the history of medicine and at least one must address a topic in the history of science and technology. The essays must address a range of topics in the history of science, medicine, and technology, and may not overlap considerably in subject matter.

~~1.14~~ *Final Examination*

~~1.15~~ The examination shall consist of four papers and a dissertation.

~~1.16~~ I. Three advanced papers at least two of which must be selected from Schedule I below ('Advanced Papers for the M.Phil. and M.Sc. in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology'), and not more than one from any other M.Phil., the choice of which must be approved by the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee of the History Board not later than Monday of the fourth week of the second Michaelmas Term of the course.

~~1.17 Candidates must take at least two of their advanced papers as three hour written examinations. For each of their remaining advanced papers candidates must choose to be assessed either by~~

~~written examination or by two 5,000 word essays. These papers are each assessed by two essays 4,000-5,000 words. Essays may only be submitted in lieu of written papers for subjects in Schedule I or for papers from other M.Phil.s where similar provision exists in the regulations for those examinations.~~ The essays must be the work of the candidates alone and they must not consult any other person including their supervisors in any way concerning the method of handling the themes chosen. The themes chosen by the candidate must be submitted for approval by the chair of examiners by the examination entry date. Candidates will be informed within two weeks, by means of a letter directed to their colleges, whether the topics they have submitted have been approved. The finished essays must be uploaded to the Assignments Section of the History of Science, Medicine and Technology Weblearn site by noon on Monday ~~the sixth week~~ of Week 9 of Trinity Term. The essays must be presented in proper scholarly form and accompanied by a declaration that they are the candidate's own work.

1.18II. *Either* (i) one paper in a discipline or skill or sources or methods selected from Schedule II below.

1.19*or* (ii) A fourth advanced paper selected from Schedule I or from any additional list of papers for the M.Phil. and M.Sc. in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology approved by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of History and published in the definitive list of Advanced Papers as set out in Schedule I.

1.20III. A dissertation of not more than 30,000 words, including appendices but excluding bibliography on a topic approved by the candidate's supervisor. The dissertation must be delivered uploaded to the Assignments section of the History of Science, Medicine and Technology WebLearn site not later than noon on the Monday of the first week of the Trinity Term in which the examination is to be taken. Dissertations submitted must not exceed the permitted length. If they do the examiners will reduce the marks awarded. The presentation and footnotes should comply with the requirements specified in the Regulations of the Education Committee for the degree of M.Litt. and D.Phil. and follow the *Conventions for the presentation of essays, dissertations and theses* of the Board of the Faculty of History. The dissertation should be accompanied by a declaration that ~~they~~ are-it is the candidate's own work.

1.21Each dissertation must include a short abstract which concisely summarises its scope and principal arguments, in about 300 words. This is not included in the dissertation word count.

1.22One printed copy of an M.Phil. dissertation which is approved by the examiners must be deposited in the Bodleian Library. This finalised copy should incorporate any corrections or amendments which the examiners may have requested. It must be in a permanently fixed binding, drilled and sewn, in a stiff board case in library buckram, in a dark colour, and lettered on the spine with the candidate's name and initials, the degree, and the year of submission.

1.233. Candidates may, if they so wish, be examined in up to two of their four papers (or submit essays in lieu of these papers as provided for above) at the end of their first year.

~~1.24~~ 4. The examiners will permit the use of any hand-held pocket calculator subject to the conditions set out under the heading 'Use of calculators in examinations' in the *Regulations for the Conduct of University Examinations*.

~~1.25~~ 5. The examiners may award a distinction for excellence in the whole examination.

~~1.26~~ 64. If it is the opinion of the examiners that the work done by a candidate, while not of sufficient merit to qualify for the degree of M.Phil., is nevertheless of sufficient merit to qualify for the degree of Master of Science in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, the candidate shall be given the option of resitting the M.Phil. (as provided under the appropriate regulation) or of being granted leave to supplicate for the degree of Master of Science.

~~1.27~~ 75. A candidate who fails the examination will be permitted to retake it on one further occasion only, not later than one year after the initial attempt.

~~1.28~~ Such a candidate whose dissertation has been of a satisfactory standard may resubmit the same piece of work, while a candidate who has reached a satisfactory standard on the written papers will not be required to retake that part of the examination.

Explanatory Notes

The two Methods and Themes courses have been changed to one combined Methods and Themes course, to better reflect that students study all aspects of Science, Medicine and Technology

The option to take a methodological or quantitative course has been removed, as the combined Methods and Themes course means that this is no longer appropriate.

Assessment in the Method and Themes course has been changed, to be more in line with assessment methods used in other Faculty of History courses. For the same reason, assessment by examination for the advanced papers has been replaced by assessment by coursework submission.

The wording regarding the use of calculators in examinations has been removed, due to the removal of assessment by examination.

The change also removes reference to the award of distinction, as the latter has been moved to the general regulations.