

Changes in Examination Regulations to the University Gazette – Social Sciences Division

SSD/2/2/4

Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of Teaching Audit Committee on 03/07/18

Title of Programme

MSc Refugee and Forced Migration Studies

Brief note about nature of change: change to description of methods essay

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2017* <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2017-18/mosbciraforcmigrstud/studentview/> as amended by *Gazette* of 18/06/18

Effective date

For students starting from MT 2018

For first examination from 2018-19

Detail of change

1. Amend citation reference 1.12 as follows:

‘The topic of the thesis will require approval by the chair of examiners. This thesis must be the work of the candidate alone and aid from others must be limited to prior discussion as to the subject and advice on presentation. The thesis (three copies) must be typewritten and delivered to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, not later than noon on Thursday of Week Eight of Trinity Term. An electronic copy must also be submitted to the MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies Coordinator, again by the date and time specified above. The thesis must be presented in proper scholarly form, in double-spacing and on one side only of ~~quarto~~ or A4 paper, each copy bound or held firmly in a stiff cover. The examiners shall retain a copy of all candidates’ theses that achieve a distinction for deposit in the Social Sciences Library.’

2. Amend citation reference 1.14 as follows:

‘Each student must display an understanding of research methods relevant to forced migration. This will be in the form of a group essay of approximately, but no more than 5,000 words, ~~based on directed field research conducted during a four-week period in Hilary Term.~~ The essay will ~~present findings and~~ engage with topics which may include: epistemology of social science; social science paradigms; ethics and values; quantitative, qualitative, and participatory methods of data collection; the presentation of statistical information; research design; sampling theory; hypothesis testing; questionnaire design; participant observation; participatory learning and action; and evaluative research.’

Explanatory Notes

Changes to the description of the methods essay. Students still undertake 4 weeks of field research, but the changes allow greater flexibility in the submission. The changes allow students to produce a submission not just based on the field research findings (primarily qualitative) but also drawing on methods training (which may also be quantitative).