

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

**Approved at the meeting of 15 June 2017**

**Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation**

Master of Studies in Theology

**Brief note about nature of change:** Dispensation of viva requirement

**Effective date**

For students starting from MT 2017

For first examination from 2017-18

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* 2016 (<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2016-17/mostudintheo>)

**Detail of change**

<sup>1.31</sup> Each candidate is also required to present himself or herself for an oral (viva voce) examination unless individually dispensed by the examiners, which takes This will take place within a few days of the written examination, and may include discussion of the candidate's work in any of the three elements listed above.

**Explanatory Notes**

The regulations for the MSt in Theology have previously required all candidates to attend for a *viva voce* examination. It was agreed to amend the regulations to permit the examiners to individually dispense the requirement to attend for a *viva voce* examination. This will bring the course into line with the Faculty's other master's degrees. A *viva* would be used in practice where the classification of candidates is considered to be borderline, although the external examiner would be consulted first. The proposed changes are the same as those agreed for the MPhil in Theology.