HUMANITIES DIVISIONAL BOARD

Graduate Studies Committee

Changes in the regulations governing the Master of Philosophy in Islamic Art and Archaeology: communication from the Board of the Faculty of Oriental Studies

Ref: II/33

Subject to approval on behalf of the Divisional Board, which is now sought, and by Education Committee, the following changes in regulations have been made:

Humanities Divisional Board

Master of Philosophy in Islamic Art and Archaeology

Brief note about nature of the change

To replace a unit of extended essays with a 3 hour written examination paper to create a better balance between written examinations and submitted work.

With effect from October 2013 (for first examination in 2014)

1 In Examination Regulations, 2012, p.567, l.10-12, delete ‘(a) Two extended essays of between 4,000 and 5,000 words each, one on a subject related to Landmarks of the Islamic World, and a second on a subject related to Arts of the Court of the Islamic World’ and replace with ‘(a) a three-hour written examination: Introduction to Islamic Art and Archaeology, c.550-c.1900’

2 Ibid. delete l.16-23 from ‘Candidates..' to '…own' and replace with the following:

‘Candidates must submit the portfolio in (b) above not later than 12 noon on Monday of 7th Week of Trinity Term. Two printed copies and one digital copy on either a CD-ROM disc or a memory stick must be submitted in a securely sealed parcel clearly addressed to the Chair of Examiners, M. Phil. in Islamic Art and Archaeology (Oriental Studies), Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford. The parcel must bear the words 'QUALIFYING EXAMINATION FOR THE M. PHIL. IN ISLAMIC ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY (PORTFOLIO). The portfolio must bear the candidate’s examination number (but not the candidate’s name, which must be concealed). Candidates must include a signed declaration sealed in an envelope addressed to the Chair of Examiners that the work is the candidate’s own.’

3 Ibid. l.33, delete ‘4,000 and 5,000’ and replace with ‘5,000 and 6,000’

4 Ibid. l.34, after ‘each’, add ‘Applications for the approval of the essay topic should be submitted to the Faculty office by Monday of sixth week of Michaelmas Term and will be reported to the Faculty Board’s second meeting of Michaelmas Term.’

5 Ibid. l.37, after (d) delete ‘A written examination on Islamic Art and Archaeology’ and replace with ‘A three-hour written examination: Approaches to Islamic Art and Archaeology’.

6 Ibid. l.38, add * after dissertation

7 Ibid. l.39, after ‘Faculty Board’, add the following: ‘Applications for such approval should be submitted to the Faculty office by Monday of sixth week of Michaelmas Term and will be reported to the Faculty Board's second meeting of Michaelmas Term.’
Ibid. l.40 – p.568, l.12, delete from ‘Candidates…to…Studies’ and replace with the following:

3. Candidates must submit the extended essay in (a) above not later than noon on the Monday of first week of Trinity Term of the year in which they sit the examination.

4. Candidates must submit the dissertation in (e) not later than 12 noon on Monday of 7th Week of Trinity Term.

5. Both the extended essay and the dissertation must be submitted in printed form and as a digital copy on either a CD-ROM disc or a memory stick. Two printed copies and one digital copy of each must be submitted in a securely sealed parcel clearly addressed to the Chair of Examiners, M. Phil. in Islamic Art and Archaeology (Oriental Studies), Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford. The parcels must bear the words 'FINAL EXAMINATION FOR THE M.PHIL. IN ISLAMIC ART AND ARCHAEOLOGY (EXTENDED ESSAY [or DISSERTATION]). Each piece of work must bear the candidate’s examination number (but not the candidate’s name, which must be concealed). Candidates must include a signed declaration sealed in an envelope addressed to the Chair of Examiners that the work is the candidate’s own.

If it is the opinion of the examiners that the work which has been required of a candidate is not of sufficient merit to qualify him or her for the Degree of M.Phil., the candidate shall be given the option of resitting the M.Phil. examination under the appropriate regulation, or of being granted permission to supplicate for the Degree of Master of Studies.’

**Explanatory note**

The effect of these changes is to replace a submitted piece of work with a 3-hour written examination in order to improve the assessment of candidates for the Qualifying examination in the MPhil Islamic Art and Archaeology, and to reflect this change in the Final examination.