

**Humanities Divisional Board**

**Approved by Humanities Education Development Panel on 15 May 2018**

**Title of Programme**

Research Degrees in Music

**Brief note about nature of change:** Change to requirements for transfer

**Location of change**

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

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2018**

**Detail of change**

New text underlined, deletions struck-through:

<sup>1.63</sup>2. *Transfer to the status of M.Litt. or D.Phil. Student*

<sup>1.64</sup>Applications for admission/transfer to M.Litt. or D.Phil. status shall be accompanied by:

<sup>1.75</sup>(A) For those intending to offer compositions as part of the final submission:

<sup>1.76</sup>(1) a portfolio of two significantly contrasted compositions (together lasting between 10 and 15 minutes maximum);

<sup>1.77</sup>(2) a related essay of 5,000-6,000 words, ~~which opens with a 250 word overview of the topic of the thesis;~~ (not exceeding 6,000 words)

(3) a stand-alone 250-word overview of the topic of the thesis

<sup>1.78</sup>~~(34)~~ a proposed work-schedule for the following year.

<sup>1.79</sup>(B) For all other candidates:

<sup>1.80</sup>(1) ~~an a literature review essay of c.5,000 words, which opens with a 500-word overview of the topic of the thesis, followed by that provides~~ a discursive review of the historical and/or theoretical literature relevant to the thesis topic and its field;

<sup>1.81</sup>(2) an essay of c.5,000 words on a focused topic relevant to the proposed thesis, and intended to constitute a part of it;

*Please note that (1) and (2) should not exceed 10,000 words combined. There is flexibility in the distribution of word count between the two essays, with a 4,000-word minimum and a 6,000-word maximum per essay; the combined minimum for the two documents is 9,500 words.*

(3) a stand-alone 500-word overview of the topic of the thesis;

(4) a provisional timetable for completion of the thesis.

<sup>1.82</sup>The submissions should normally be made electronically as pdf files.

### **Explanatory Notes**

The required transfer documents for both DPhil tracks currently include an “overview of the topic of the thesis.” For Composition this requirement consists of a 250-word overview at the start of the essay; for Musicology it is a 500-word overview at the start of the “literature review.” Because this small but important component of the transfer documents is meant to be integrated into larger pieces of writing, students have struggled to create a decent flow between the overview and the main body of the essay/literature review. It has therefore been decided to detach the “overview” from the associated submissions and instead require a stand-alone paper which provides a succinct overview of the “topic of the thesis” (the 250- and 500-word requirements are maintained). A “timetable for completion” with the transfer documents, as per a similar requirement for those offering compositions, has been added to the requirements for those students not offering compositions as part of the final submission.