

HUMANITIES DIVISIONAL BOARD	
Title of Programme	Master of Studies in Modern South Asian Studies
Brief note about nature of change:	This change provides for online submission of coursework.
Effective date	For students starting from MT 2016 For first examination from 2016-17
Location of change	In <i>Examination Regulations</i> online
<p>^{1.1}The regulations of the Boards of the Faculty of History and of Oriental Studies are as follows:</p> <p>^{1.2}1. Candidates for the MSt in Modern South Asian Studies must follow for at least three terms a course of instruction and directed research and must, upon entering the examination, produce from their society a certificate to that effect.</p> <p>^{1.3}2. Candidates must attend such lectures, seminars, classes and language classes as the convenors of the course shall determine, and must undertake any language tests set by the language teachers.</p> <p>^{1.4}The final examination consists of the following four units, which all candidates must take:</p> <p>^{1.5}(i) A Language Paper in one of the following languages: Hindi, Literary Hindi, Bengali, Sanskrit, Persian, or Tibetan. The examination will be based on knowledge of grammar, translation and reading comprehension. Tuition for the language paper will be through classes, and will continue through all three terms of the academic year. Not all language options may be available every year.</p> <p>^{1.6}(ii) A General Methodological Paper, 'The History and Culture of South Asia'. Tuition for this paper will be through weekly seminars held during Michaelmas and the first 4 weeks of Hilary Term. A choice of essay questions as prescribed by the examiners will be published on the WebLearn pages for this degree programme by noon on Friday of fourth week of Hilary Term. They will be required to select one question from this paper, and prepare an essay of up to 5,000 words (excluding bibliography). Candidates must submit two typewritten copies of this essay to the Chair of the Examiners of the M.St. in Modern South Asian Studies, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford OX1 4BG, <u>upload this essay to the Assignments section of the WebLearn page for the degree</u> by noon on Friday of 8th week of the Hilary Term. <u>The essay should be accompanied by a</u></p>	

declaration of authorship.

^{1.7}(iii) An Optional Paper within the field of Modern South Asian Studies, from a list of options offered by the Faculties of History and Oriental Studies. The definitive list of options for the year ahead, together with short descriptions of each, will be published on Weblearn at the latest by the start of the Michaelmas Term. Tuition for this paper will be through a course of 8 weekly seminars held through the Hilary Term. A list of essay questions as prescribed by the examiners will be published on the WebLearn pages for this degree programme by noon on Friday of eighth week of Hilary Term. Candidates will be required to select one question from this paper, and prepare an essay of up to 5,000 words (excluding bibliography). Candidates must ~~submit two typewritten copies of this essay to the Chair of the Examiners of the M.St. in Modern South Asian Studies, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford OX1 4BG,~~ upload this essay to the Assignments section of the WebLearn page for the degree by noon on Friday of fourth week of the Trinity Term. The essay should be accompanied by a declaration of authorship.

^{1.8}(iv) A Dissertation based on individual research. Candidates will choose their topics after due consultation with their supervisor. Candidates are required to ~~submit two typewritten copies of the dissertation, which shall not normally exceed 15,000 words (excluding bibliography), to the Chair of the Examiners, at the address above,~~ upload the dissertation to the Assignments section of the WebLearn page for the degree by noon on Friday of eighth week of Trinity Term, and should be accompanied by a declaration of authorship. Each 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 limit.

^{1.9}3. The examiners may make the marks awarded to the candidates for the written work known to the Director of Graduate Studies where necessary for the purpose of grant applications and progression assessments. However, the pass list will be issued only following completion of the whole examination, including submission and final assessment of the dissertation.

^{1.10}4. The examiners may award a Distinction to candidates who have performed with special merit in the whole examination.

^{1.11}5. A candidate who fails the examination will be permitted to re-take it on one further occasion only, not later than one year after the initial attempt. Such a candidate whose thesis has been of a satisfactory standard may resubmit the same piece of work. A candidate who has reached a satisfactory standard on the written work will not be required to take that part of the examination. Candidates who have failed the language examination, but have otherwise satisfied the Examiners, will be required to re-sit the language examination only.

Explanatory Notes

These changes provide for online submission of coursework. Online submission was provisionally

approved by the History Faculty Board at its meeting in Week 3 of Trinity Term 2016, pending discussion at History Graduate Studies Committee in Week 4 of Trinity Term, which approved the measure. Online submission has been consistently recommended by external examiners, and is supported by students; our expectation is that it will be administratively more straightforward than paper-based submission, that it will allow speedier despatch of materials to externals and that it will permit additional benefits, such as automatic checking for word-length and plagiarism.