

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

SSD/2/2/4

Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by Chair's Action on behalf of Quality Assurance Committee (04/07/2019);  
correction approved by Officer Action on behalf of Quality Assurance Committee  
(08/11/2019)

Master of Philosophy in Visual, Material, and Museum Anthropology

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Correction of previous notice (25/07/2019) regarding minor amendments to move MPhil final examination coursework and thesis submission deadlines from Tuesday to the Thursday of the same week.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations 2019*, <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2019-20/mopiv-mandmuseanth/administratorview/> and the *Gazette* of 25/07/2019

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2018**

**For first final examination from 2019-20**

**Detail of change**

Amend text as follows:

<sup>1.4</sup>(2) *Final Examination* This shall be taken in the Trinity Term of the academic year following that in which the candidate's name is first entered on the register of M.Phil. students or, with the approval of the divisional board, in a subsequent year. Each candidate shall be required:

<sup>1.5</sup>(i) to present **[For students starting before MT 201918: himself or herself ]****[For students starting from MT 201918: themselves ]**for written examination or to submit for examination one coursework essay, as required for the course, in one of the optional areas or topics available for that year, other than that taken by the candidate

in the M.Phil. Qualifying Examination the previous year;

<sup>1.6</sup>(ii) to submit via WebLearn not later than noon on **[For students starting before MT 201918: Tuesday ]****[For students starting from MT 201918: Thursday ]** of the fifth week of Trinity Term an essay of 5,000 words (three copies) in the field of Visual, Material, and Museum Anthropology, on a topic to be selected from a list set by the examiners at the beginning of the third week of Trinity Term (candidates should not duplicate any material already used in their submission for paper 2 in the Qualifying Examination in the previous year); the essay must be anonymous, accompanied by confirmation that it is the candidate's own work, and submitted in **[For students starting before MT 201918: Word ]****[For students starting from MT 201918: electronic file ]**format;

<sup>1.7</sup>(iii) to submit a thesis in accordance with the regulations below;

<sup>1.8</sup>(iv) to present **[For students starting before MT 201918: himself or herself ]****[For students starting from MT 201918: themselves ]**for oral examination if required by the examiners.

<sup>1.9</sup>*Thesis*

<sup>1.10</sup>3. Each candidate shall be required to submit a thesis of not more than 30,000 words (excluding references and appendices) on a subject approved by the supervisor. The thesis may be based on the analysis of objects or photographs in the collections of the Pitt Rivers Museum, or a topic from one of the subject areas covered during the qualifying year, including option topics. The candidate shall send to the Teaching Committee of the School of Anthropology, with the written approval of his or her supervisor, and on the form provided for that purpose, the proposed preliminary title of the thesis, together with a paragraph describing its scope, by noon on the **[For students starting before MT 2019: Tuesday ]****[For students starting from MT 2019: Thursday ]** of the fifth week of the Trinity term of the first year of the course. A further form, identical in its provisions, and confirming or amending the earlier submission as necessary, shall be submitted to the above Committee by noon on Monday of the second week of Michaelmas Term in the academic year following that in which his or her name was entered on the register of M.Phil. students. The thesis must be submitted via WebLearn not later than **[For students starting before MT 201918: Tuesday ]****[For students starting from MT 201918: Thursday ]** of the second week of the Trinity Full Term of the second year of the M.Phil. The thesis must be anonymous, accompanied by confirmation that it is the candidate's own work, and submitted in **[For students starting before MT 201918: Word ]****[For students starting from MT 201918: electronic file ]**format. The thesis shall be provided with

an abstract of up to 250 words, to be placed immediately after the title page. The word count shall be stated on the title page of the thesis.

### **Explanatory Notes**

This notice corrects the *Gazette* of 25/07/2019 which introduced changes to MPhil final examination coursework and thesis submission deadlines with effect from students who started the MPhil from MT 2019, rather than students who started the MPhil in MT 2018 who take the final examination in 2019-20.

In the past few years, these submission dates have often fallen immediately after public holidays and it is advantageous to uniformly move submission dates from Tuesday to Thursday of the same week to ensure administrative support is available just before submission, and to ensure no students, for example those with child-caring responsibilities, are disadvantaged prior to multiple submissions.

There are no notable vested interests to the change; all submission deadlines that fall on a Tuesday are to be extended by two days, and this change does not lead to a clustering of deadlines. The initiative originated with the student body, and the School consulted with MPhil students and they supported the change. To ensure all MPhil final year students are clear on the submission requirements, the School will reiterate that the changes apply to their cohort.