

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

SSD/2/2/4

Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved at the meeting of Teaching Audit Committee on 02/06/17

Title of Programme

MPhil Comparative Social Policy

Brief note about nature of change: Change to allow in-year re-sits and to remove reference to a methods 'workbook'

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2016* <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2016-17/mopicompsocipoli/studentview/>

Effective date

For students starting from MT 2017

For first examination (qualifying examination) from 2017-18

Detail of change

1. Amend citation reference 1.12 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

'(a) A course of practical work in (i) basic principles of statistical inference, and statistical models for the analysis of quantitative social science data, and (ii) the rationale and techniques of qualitative research appropriate to social policy and related social enquiry. Such practical course work in social research methods shall be assessed by a series of assignments set during the first two terms of the course. These shall be listed in the Course Handbook and submission dates set for each assignment. Each of the two quantitative assignments will be of a maximum length of 2,500 words. The qualitative assignment will be of a maximum length of 3,000 words. These shall be marked during the course. ~~In the event of any candidate not reaching the pass mark set for either the qualitative or quantitative components, one further attempt shall be permitted, though in the event of a successful resubmission only the bare pass mark shall be awarded. The combined set of completed assignments forms the practical research methods workbook.~~ Candidates shall

~~submit this workbook via the WebLearn site~~ their assignments by noon on Friday of the sixth week of the third term of the course, accompanied by a statement that it is the candidate's own work except where otherwise indicated. ~~The practical workbooks shall be available for inspection by the examiners.~~ In the event of any candidate not reaching the pass mark set for either the qualitative or quantitative assignments, one further attempt shall be permitted within the same examination year, though in the event of a successful resubmission only the bare pass mark shall be awarded.'

2. Amend citation reference 1.13 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

~~'(b) Candidates are required to produce two essays of up to 2,500 words evaluating the research design, methods of data collection and analysis, and any ethical or philosophical issues that arise in a specified research paper. The Director of Graduate Studies shall publish two lists of research papers not later than noon on Monday of the first week of the second term; candidates will be required to select one from both of these lists of papers as the subject for each essay. The submission dates for the essays shall be listed in the Course Handbook. Candidates shall submit an electronic copy of each of the their essays via the WebLearn site by 12 noon on Monday of the first week of the third term of the course, accompanied by a statement that they are the candidate's own work except where otherwise indicated. The electronic copies must be anonymous. In the event of any candidate not reaching the pass mark set for either the qualitative or quantitative essay, one further attempt shall be permitted within the same examination year, though in the event of a successful resubmission only the bare pass mark shall be awarded.'~~

Explanatory Notes

Change to allow in-year re-sits and to remove reference to a methods 'workbook'