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

Social Sciences Board

Approved by TAC 8 October 2012

Title of programme

MPhil in Visual, Material, and Museum Anthropology

Brief note about nature of change: To provide greater clarity of the requirements for the award of each of the degrees in order to avoid cases arising in which a student can be awarded a degree having not passed all components.

Effective date

With immediate effect

Location of change

Further amendments to the regulation changes as published in the Gazette of 20 September 2012.

Detail of change

1. Delete entire submission and substitute (amended content in bold):

1. The Social Sciences Board shall elect for the supervision of the course a Standing Committee, namely the Graduate Studies Committee of the School of Anthropology, which shall have power to arrange lectures and other instruction. The course director shall be responsible to that committee.

In order to pass the degree, a student must pass all its assessed components. Where one or more components are failed, the student will be given the opportunity to re-sit or re-submit them once, as the case may be. Any subsequent award of the degree on successful completion of all the assessed components may be delayed by up to three terms, i.e. until the
2. The examinations shall consist of the following.

(1) *Qualifying Examination* Every candidate will be required to satisfy the examiners in an examination for which, if he or she passes at the appropriate level, he or she will be allowed to proceed to the second year of the M.Phil. Candidates must follow a course of instruction in Visual, Material, and Museum Anthropology for at least three terms, and will, when entering for the examinations, be required to produce a certificate from their supervisor to this effect. The Qualifying Examination shall be taken in the Trinity Term of the academic year 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 will be required to satisfy the examiners in papers 1-4 on the syllabus described in the Schedule for the M.Sc. in Visual, Material, and Museum Anthropology, and governed by regulation 4 for that degree.

(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

- (i) to present himself or herself for written examination in one of the optional areas or topics available for that year in Lists A, B or C, other than that taken by the candidate in the M.Phil. Qualifying Examination the previous year;
- (ii) to submit to the Chairman of Examiners not later than noon on Tuesday 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);
- (iii) to submit a thesis in accordance with the regulations below;
- (iv) to present himself or herself for oral examination if required by the examiners.

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 Graduate Studies Committee of the School of Anthropology, with the written approval of his or her supervisor, the proposed title of the thesis, 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 (three copies) must be typewritten and delivered to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, not later than Tuesday of the second week of Trinity Term in the academic year in which the Final Examination is taken. The word count shall be stated on the outside front cover of the thesis.

4. The examiners shall require a successful candidate to deposit a copy of his or her thesis
in the Balfour Library. If the thesis is superseded by a D.Phil. thesis by the same student partly using the same material, the Graduate Studies Committee of the School of Anthropology may authorise the withdrawal of the M.Phil. thesis from the Balfour Library. Such candidates will be required to sign a form stating whether they give permission for their thesis to be consulted.

5. The examiners may award a distinction for excellence in the whole examination.

6. A candidate who fails any of the component parts of the examination may re-take or re-submit that part of the examination on one occasion only.

**Explanatory Notes**

This clarification is proposed to provide greater clarity of the requirements for the award of each of the degrees, and to avoid cases arising in which a student can be awarded a degree having not passed all components, as has happened in the past due to this lack of clarity.

These changes would take immediate effect for all students commencing their degree programmes in October 2012, and the School would be responsible for communicating these changes to all affected students at the earliest opportunity, subject to the approval at Divisional level and by the Education Committee.

The changes would not apply to any current students who commenced their programmes prior to October 2012 due to vested interests.