

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

SSD/2/2/4

Social Sciences Board

Approved by the Teaching Audit Committee on 07/07/15 (Chair's action)

Title of Programme

MPhil Latin American Studies

Brief note about nature of change:

- (i) Introducing Research Methods as an item of summative assessment for the qualifying examination
- (ii) Remove reference to the core paper in economics, as no further economics options are now offered

Effective date

For students starting from MT 2015

For first examination from 2015-16 (Qualifying Examination)

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* 2014

Detail of change

1. P494, I28 – P495, I11

1. In the first year, candidates for the M.Phil in Latin American Studies will:

(a) Follow for three terms a course of instruction in the M.Sc in Latin American Studies with the exception of the extended essay. Candidates will present three qualifying examinations, each of which also counts for 16.6 per cent of the final degree mark. ~~Examinations at the end of the first year will serve to qualify for entry onto the second year of the course.~~

(b) Undertake a series of assignments and/or unseen written examinations in Research

Methods for Area Studies as specified by the teaching committee for the M.Phil in Latin American Studies. The forms of assessment, and the dates and times of submission, where applicable, will be notified to students by not later than Friday of week 0 of Michaelmas Full Term. Students must pass all these assessments but the marks will not count toward the final degree mark.

(~~cb~~) Develop a thesis topic, which will be the subject of fieldwork in the long vacation between the first and second year. A draft title for the thesis must be submitted for approval by the Latin American Centre Management Committee by 12:00 noon on the Friday of Week 0 of Hilary Term.

(~~de~~) Candidates may also be required to present themselves for an oral examination if requested to do so by the examiners. The oral examination will focus on the candidate's examination papers.

2. The list of examination papers will be published on the Latin American Centre website and in the University Gazette in Week 0 of Michaelmas Term. ~~Candidates must take the core paper in Economics if they wish to take a further paper in that discipline.~~ Specialisation on a single country or a combination of countries is permitted so long as the choice appears in the list of available papers published.

3. Candidates shall be deemed to have passed the qualifying examination if they have passed all three qualifying examination papers and all the components of the Research Methods for Area Studies.

4. Candidates who fail one of the three papers taken at the end of the first year as set out in (a) above without compensating strengths on both of the other papers shall be deemed to have failed the qualifying examination. Such candidates will be required to retake the failed paper and pass it by the start of the Michaelmas Term of their second year, on a date stipulated by the Chair of Examiners, in order to continue the course without interruption.

5. Candidates who fail more than one paper as set out in (a) above shall be deemed to have failed the qualifying examination. Such candidates will be permitted to retake the papers failed on one (but not more than one) subsequent occasion, in Trinity Term, one year after the initial attempt. Such candidates must pass the papers that they have retaken in order to continue onto the second year of the course.

6. Candidates who fail any component of Research Methods for Area Studies will be required to retake it on a date stipulated by the Chair of Examiners, and pass it by the start of week 0 of Michaelmas Term of their second year of the course.

Explanatory Notes

Students already attend the research methods programme, but this will now be summatively assessed as part of the qualifying examination.

The course no longer includes additional economics options, so the reference to needing to take the core economics paper is now defunct.

