

**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) and by Education Committee on 14/07/15**

**Title of Programme**

MSc Education

**Brief note about nature of change:** revision to texts, change to re-sit arrangements

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2015**

**For first examination from 2015-16**

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* 2014 as amended by *Gazette* of date 29/01/15

**Detail of change**

**1. P646, I1 – 50:**

1. Candidates must follow for three terms a course of instruction in Education, specialising in one of the following pathways: Comparative and International Education, Higher Education, Learning and Technology, Child Development and Education, or Research Training. ~~The examination shall consist of six one-term papers and a dissertation.~~

2. ~~Part 1 of the course consists of six papers.~~ Candidates take a combination of six one term required pathway-specific core papers and option papers, ~~as determined in advance by each pathway convener.~~ Candidates will be informed of the available options, along with the assessment requirement, by Friday of 0th week of Michaelmas Term in the year in which the examination is taken. On some pathways, students are also required to

successfully complete a research internship. ~~Candidates following the 'Research Training' pathway will choose from a broader range of papers across the MSc Education degree, in consultation with their supervisor and pathway convenor, of which at least half will be research methods focused.~~

3. Exceptionally, candidates may offer one paper from a relevant masters degree in another department in the University, in place of one option paper, subject to permission from the relevant pathway convenor and the ~~Education Graduate Studies Committee~~Course Director. Applications to take such a paper must normally be made by Friday of the fifth week of Michaelmas Term.

4. Papers are normally assessed by one or more coursework assignments totalling no more than 3,000 words (inclusive of footnotes but excluding bibliography and appendices). All such assignments must be uploaded to the Assignments section of the Higher Degrees Weblearn site by the times and dates specified at the start of the course. Each submission must be accompanied by a declaration indicating that it is the candidate's own work. Exceptionally, candidates are assessed by unseen examination.

5. ~~For Part 2 of the course, C~~andidates will beare also required to submit a dissertation of 15,000–20,000 words (including footnotes/endnotes but excluding appendices and references or bibliography), the title to be selected in consultation with the supervisor, on a topic relevant to the pathway being followed. The subject and title selected by the candidate must be approved by the Course Director at a time to be announced at the beginning of the academic year in which the examination is taken.

6. Two soft bound, word-processed or printed copies of the dissertation must be delivered to the Chair of Examiners, M.Sc. Education, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, not later than noon on the second Friday in August in the year in which the written examination is taken. These copies should be anonymous except for the candidate number, and accompanied by a declaration indicating that it is the candidate's own work. Candidates are also required to upload an electronic copy of the dissertation by noon on the same day and to submit a hardbound copy of the work to the Department of Education no later than one week after submission of the soft bound copies. The hard bound copy of the dissertation of each candidate who passes the examination shall be retained by the department for deposit in the departmental library.

7. ~~Every candidate will be required to satisfy the examiners in the following: (i) Satisfactory attendance at the appropriate classroom-based courses; (ii) Satisfactory performance in both Part 1 and Part 2. If a candidate receives a failing mark for any of the summative assessments, they may resubmit the assessment on one further occasion, either by a date for resubmission which will be published by the Course Director when the results are released, and will be no sooner than 6 weeks from the release of the results, or when the assessment is next examined the following year. If a candidate fails the dissertation, they may resubmit the dissertation one further time on the next occasion when this is examined. Candidates who fail any of the core or option papers at the first attempt cannot normally be~~

awarded more than 50 at resubmission.

8. Candidates may also be required to attend an oral examination. The oral examination may will normally be on the candidate's ~~written papers, dissertation, or both~~. ~~Candidates shall be deemed to have passed the examination if they have satisfied the examiners in both Part 1 and Part 2. No candidate may progress to Part 2 unless they have passed a minimum of 4 papers in Part 1. If Part 2 is failed the candidate may resubmit the dissertation one further time on the next occasion when this is examined.~~

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

### **Explanatory Notes**

1. Minor text revisions for clarification
2. Removal to references to 'parts' of examinations
3. Changes to re-sit arrangements, to allow for in-year re-sits