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

Approved by TAC Chair’s Action 4/01/2013

Title of programme
FHS Jurisprudence

Brief note about nature of change:
Removing the requirement to publish essay questions at the Exam Schools, removal of reference to a signed ‘certificate’ in favour of ‘Declaration of Authorship’.

Effective date
With immediate effect (for essay submission in 2013, and first unseen written examination in 2014)

Location of change
In online version of Examination Regulations 2012:
http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/11-30w_S_R_H_S_OF_JURISPRUDENCE.shtml
Subsequent revision from Gazette entry of 20 September 2012.

Detail of change
1. Under ‘1. Jurisprudence’, section ‘(b)’, second line, delete ‘Essay questions will be prescribed by the examiners and published on the notice board of the Examinations Schools, High Street, Oxford OX1 4BG, at noon on the Wednesday of the eighth week of the Trinity Term preceding the examination.’ and substitute ‘Essay questions will be published by the Board of Examiners at noon on the Friday of the seventh week of the Trinity Term preceding the examination. Candidates will be contacted with details of how to collect or access the questions.’.

2. Under ‘1. Jurisprudence’, section ‘(b)’, sixth line, delete ‘Every candidate shall sign a certificate to the effect that the essays are his or her own work, and the candidate’s tutor or tutors in Jurisprudence, or if not available, a Law tutor in the candidate’s own college shall countersign the certificate confirming that, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, this statement is true.’ and substitute ‘Every candidate shall sign a Declaration of Authorship to the effect that the essay is his or her own work.’.
Explanatory Notes

1. Removing the requirement to publish essay questions at the Exam Schools from the Examination Regulations would provide more flexibility in determining the most appropriate method of essay question dissemination. It would also remove pressure from Exam Schools staff. Publishing questions in week 7 instead of 8 gives students slightly longer in Oxford to organise reading material.

2. The Faculty considered that on reflection reference to a signed certificate was misleading and that a signed Declaration of Authorship by the candidate would suffice, without the need for a countersignature. Removing the requirement for countersignature would also facilitate submission of the essays by candidates not in residence in Oxford over the Long Vacation.