HUMANITIES DIVISIONAL BOARD

Academic Committee

Change in the regulations governing the Honour School of History and Modern Languages: communication from the Board of the Faculty of History

Ref:

Subject to approval on behalf of the divisional board, which is now sought, and by Education Committee, the following change in regulations has been made:

Humanities Divisional Board
Honour School of History and Modern Languages

Brief note about nature of the change(s)

Marking conventions for Optional Additional Thesis.

With immediate effect

1 In Examination Regulations, 2010, p. 282, ll. 33-34 delete ‘In the assignment of Honours attention will be paid to the merits of any such thesis.’.

2 Ibid., after l.34 insert: ‘(d) Cl.10 For ‘10. The Final Honour School Examiners will arrive at a formal degree result […] all papers awarded a mark below 50 will be included.’ read ‘The Final Honour School Examiners will arrive at a formal degree result for candidates who submit an Optional Additional Thesis by taking the marks awarded for the 2 language papers and the oral examination, together with the highest seven marks out of the eight content papers submitted, except that the Optional Additional Thesis may not substitute for a mark lower than 50. Thus, the papers to be included are determined by the following procedures:

i) In the event that the Optional Additional Thesis is awarded a mark below 50, it will be disregarded and the formal degree result will be determined solely by the marks awarded for the compulsory papers.

ii) In the event that the Optional Additional Thesis is awarded a mark of 50 or above, the content paper awarded the lowest mark of 50 or above (which may be the Optional Additional Thesis) will be disregarded. All other content papers awarded a mark of 50 or above, and all content papers awarded a mark below 50, together with the marks awarded for the 2 language papers and the oral examination, will be included.’.

Explanatory note
Candidates for the History Final Honours School, and for the Joint Final Honours Schools in Ancient and Modern History, History and Economics, History and English, and History and Modern Languages, may select to complete
an Optional Additional Thesis, the regulations for which are provided at Section VII, paragraphs 1-9, of the Special Regulations for the Honour School of History. The regulations do not, however, detail the mechanism by which the Optional Additional Thesis may count towards a candidate's final average mark. A change of regulations has therefore been submitted in order to provide clarification on this matter for the History Final Honours School Regulations. In the cases of the Joint Schools in Ancient and Modern History, and History and English, cross-reference from the relevant Joint School regulations to the History regulations, with modifications as currently detailed, is sufficient. In the case of the History and Modern Languages Joint School, a further modification is required, as detailed here.