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

Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by Chair’s action on behalf of the Social Sciences Division Quality Assurance Committee on 4 July 2019 and by Chair’s action on behalf of the Humanities Division Graduate Studies Committee on 16 July

Master of Science by Coursework in Modern South Asian Studies

Brief note about nature of change: Amendment to the assessment for qualitative methods, removal of the “What is South Asia” and research proposal assessments, and change to the deadline for approval of the thesis title

Location of change


Effective date

For students starting from MT 2019
For first examination from 2019-20

Detail of change

1. Delete citation 1.5 and renumber:

   “4. All candidates will submit a 2,500 word maximum ‘What is South Asia?’ essay by 12 noon on Monday of Week 5 of Michaelmas Term, and a 2,500 word maximum individual research proposal by 12 noon Monday of Week 9 of Hilary Term.”

2. Amend citation 1.6 as follows:

   “In addition, candidates will complete one of the following three courses in Research Methods:”

3. Amend citation 1.7 as follows:

   “(i) Research Methods for Area Studies: Candidates will submit a 2,500 word maximum practical exercise in the collection and analysis of qualitative data take-home test in
qualitative methods to be set on Monday of Week 8 and submitted by 12 noon on
Monday of Week 9 of Michaelmas Term; and a take-home test in quantitative analysis
to be set on Monday of Week 8 and submitted by 12 noon on Monday of Week 9 of
Hilary Term.”

4. Amend citation 1.8 as follows:

“(ii) Qualitative and Historical Methods: Candidates will submit a 2,500 word maximum
practical exercise in the collection and analysis of qualitative data take-home test in
qualitative methods to be set on Monday of Week 8 and submitted by 12 noon on
Monday of Week 9 of Michaelmas Term; and a 2,500 word essay on Historical Methods
to be set by Monday of Week 4 of Hilary Term and submitted by 12 noon on Monday of
Week 9 of Hilary Term.”

5. Amend citation 1.9 as follows:

“(iii) Qualitative Methods, Literature and Language: Candidates will submit a 2,500 word
maximum practical exercise in the collection and analysis of qualitative data take-home
test in qualitative methods to be set on Monday of Week 8 and submitted by 12 noon on
Monday of Week 9 of Michaelmas Term; and a 2,500 word essay on Literature and
Language to be set by Monday of Week 4 of Hilary Term and submitted by 12 noon on
Monday of Week 9 of Hilary Term.”

6. Amend citation 1.11 as follows:

“6. Candidates will complete a 12,000 word thesis (full details of what is included in the
word count are provided in the Course Handbook). The title of the thesis must be
approved by the Course Director(s) by 12 noon on Friday of Week 3 of Hilary Term in
the academic year in which the examination is taken. The thesis must be submitted by
12 noon of the weekday on or nearest to 1 September in the year in which the
examination is taken. The thesis must be accompanied by a statement that the thesis is
the candidate’s own work except where otherwise indicated.”

Explanatory Notes

1. Change to the assessment for qualitative methods in the Research Methods course

2. Removal of the requirement to submit the “What is South Asia?” essay

3. Removal of the requirement to submit a research proposal

4. Move the deadline for approval of the thesis title from Week 3 to Week 1 of Hilary
term.