

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

SSD/2/2/4

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved by Officer Action (04/07/2019)**

**Master of Science by Coursework in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies**

**Brief note about nature of change:**

1. Minor amendments to the thesis submission requirements
2. Presentational changes to the *Individual Research Design Essay* section of the regulations

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations 2018*, <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2018-19/mosbciraforcmigrstud/studentview/> as amended by the *Gazette* notice of 02 May 2019

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2019**

**For first examination from 2019-20**

**Detail of change**

1. Amend the sections on the *Individual Research Design Essay* and *Multidisciplinary Thesis* as follows:

*'Individual Research Design Essay*

Each student must display an understanding of research methods relevant to forced migration. This will be in the form of an individual research design essay of approximately, but no more than 3,000 words. The essay will engage with topics which may include: epistemology of social science; social science paradigms; ethics and values; quantitative, qualitative, and participatory methods of data collection; ~~the presentation of statistical information; research design; sampling theory; hypothesis testing; questionnaire design; participant observation; participatory learning and action; and evaluative research.~~

The essay must be presented in a proper scholarly form and delivered to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, no later than Friday noon in Week Seven of Hilary Term.

### *Multidisciplinary Thesis*

Each student will be required to write a thesis of not less than 10,000 and not more than 15,000 words on a topic relevant to forced migration. The purpose of this thesis is to ensure that the students have engaged in a multidisciplinary analysis of a single issue in forced migration to gain an awareness of the complex interrelations in the field.

The topic of the thesis will require approval by the chair of examiners. This thesis must be the work of the candidate alone and aid from others must be limited to prior discussion as to the subject and advice on presentation. The thesis (~~three~~ two copies) must be typewritten and delivered to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, not later than noon on Thursday of Week Eight of Trinity Term. An electronic copy must also be submitted to the MSc in Refugee and Forced Migration Studies Coordinator, again by the date and time specified above. The thesis must be presented in proper scholarly form, in double-spacing and on one side only of A4 paper, each copy bound or held firmly in a stiff cover. The examiners shall retain a copy of all candidates' theses that achieve a distinction for deposit in the Social Sciences Library.'

### **Explanatory Notes**

The 02 May 2019 edition of the *Gazette* introduced a number of changes to the *Research Methods* course, and opportunity was taken to make a number of logical structural changes to the regulations to move the *Research Methods* course sections above the sections on the *Multidisciplinary Thesis*.

This notice introduces further minor changes to both the *Research Methods* course and the *Multidisciplinary Thesis*.