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

Master of Science by Coursework in Russian and East European Studies

Brief note about nature of change: Amendment to the assessment details and associated re-sit arrangements for Research Methods. Add reference to merit in overall re-sit arrangements

Location of change


Effective date

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

Detail of change

1. Amend citation 1.4 as follows:

“Candidates will also be required to submit one extended essay on Twentieth Century Russian, Soviet and East European History of 4,500 words, excluding bibliography. Two copies of the extended essay should be submitted to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, by 12 Noon Monday in the fifth week of Hilary Term. An electronic copy should also be submitted via WebLearn by the same deadline. The essay must be accompanied by a statement that it is the candidate’s own work except where otherwise indicated.

Research Methods for Area Studies: Candidates will submit a 2,500 word maximum 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 one week 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. Two printed copies of each of the items of written
work described above must be submitted to the Examination Schools, addressed to the Chair of Examiners for the MSc in Russian and East European Studies, c/o the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford. Each submission must be accompanied by a declaration indicating it is the candidate’s own work.

Candidates will be required to submit a thesis of at least 12,000 words but not more than 15,000 words on a subject approved by the Management Committee for Russian and East European Studies, to be delivered to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, by 12 Noon on Monday in the sixth week of Trinity Term. The thesis must be accompanied by a statement that it is the candidate’s own work except where otherwise indicated. An electronic copy should also be submitted via WebLearn by the same deadline.

Candidates who fail the research methods course overall will be permitted to re-submit a new submission for the failed piece(s) of work within four weeks of publication of the failed mark, on a date specified by the Chair of Examiners.

Candidates who fail one or more of the examination papers or extended essay will be permitted to retake it on one subsequent occasion the following year. Candidates who have initially failed any element of assessment shall not normally be eligible for the award of merit or distinction.

In the case of a failed thesis, a candidate may submit again, on one subsequent occasion, usually in Trinity Term, provided that this is still within the six terms of his or her registration.

Methods Requirement. All candidates will be required to pass the Research Methods requirement related to Russian and East European Studies and to have achieved pass marks for the assessed components, as specified in the Notes of Guidance of the year of Matriculation of the Candidates. Two printed copies of each of the written items required for the methods requirement must be submitted to the Examination Schools, addressed to the Chair of Examiners for the MSc in Russian and East European Studies, c/o the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford at the times and days specified in the Notes of Guidance. Each submission must be accompanied by a declaration indicating it is the candidate’s own work."

Explanatory Notes

1. Amendment to the assessment for Research Methods
2. Amendment to the re-sit arrangements for Research Methods
3. Clarification of possible degree outcomes following re-sits overall