

HUMANITIES DIVISIONAL BOARD	
Title of Programme	Final Honour School of Medieval and Modern Languages
Brief note about nature of change:	Change in paper coverage.
Effective date	For students starting from MT15 For first examination from 2017-18
Location of change:	<i>Examination Regulations 2014, p.322, l. 38</i>
Detail of change	“Russian: 1820- 1953 present ”
Explanatory Notes	<p>There is unanimous student support for the extension of the paper so that the post-Stalin period can be studied by more students (at present, it is only possible to do so by taking paper XII, which most students don't have enough options to do).</p> <p>There is a strong intellectual rationale for studying continuities and change across the 20th century, rather than artificially cutting it off at a political turning point (Stalin's death in 1953). The sub-faculty has strong research expertise in this period, which is under-used currently.</p> <p>The change will harmonise Russian practice with all the other sub-faculties in Modern Languages, which all already have modern period papers that run up to the present, and in some cases cover periods much longer even than the extended period proposed here. It will also make Oxford's coverage of the modern period comparable with that of other UK Russian departments.</p>