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

### Social Sciences Board

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<th>Approved by Chairs Action 28/08/13</th>
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### Title of programme

DPhil Information, Communication and the Social Sciences

### Brief note about nature of change:

Changes to the special regulations to clarify existing arrangements for Transfer and Confirmation of Status, to explicitly refer to the option of transferring a student to MLitt status, and to define the thesis word length for an MLitt thesis.

### Effective date

With immediate effect

### Location of change

*In online regulations*

### Detail of change

1. In online regulations ([http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/26-58_D_SOCIAL_SCIENCES_DIVISION.shtml#subtitle_8](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/26-58_D_SOCIAL_SCIENCES_DIVISION.shtml#subtitle_8)), under section ‘9. Oxford Internet Institute’, after sub-section 2.(c), delete “3. Transfer to D.Phil. status” and insert “3. Transfer to M.Litt. or D.Phil. status”.

2. In online regulations ([http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/26-58_D_SOCIAL_SCIENCES_DIVISION.shtml#subtitle_8](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/26-58_D_SOCIAL_SCIENCES_DIVISION.shtml#subtitle_8)), under section ‘9. Oxford Internet Institute’, sub-section 3, after “Students will normally be expected to transfer to D.Phil.” insert “(or M.Litt.)”.

3. In online regulations ([http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/26-58_D_SOCIAL_SCIENCES_DIVISION.shtml#subtitle_8](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/26-58_D_SOCIAL_SCIENCES_DIVISION.shtml#subtitle_8)), under section ‘9. Oxford Internet Institute’, sub-section 3, after “Candidates will be expected during the interview to show evidence of their understanding of general theory and research methods in the social sciences applicable to their proposed study and specific research methods appropriate to the study of social aspects of the
“Internet and related ICTs.” delete “The committee will make a decision on the application in the light of the assessors’ report and may request additional written work or other evidence, or appoint an additional assessor, whenever it considers necessary.” and insert “A student whose first application is unsuccessful may be given one further opportunity to apply for transfer, following the procedures laid down, and may apply for an extension of time for one term if this is necessary for the purpose of making the application.”.

4. In online regulations (http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/26-58_D_SOCIAL_SCIENCES_DIVISION.shtml#subtitle_8), under section ‘9. Oxford Internet Institute’, sub-section 4, after “Applications for confirmation of status as a Student for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy” insert “should be made not earlier than the sixth term from admission as a PRS. Any student who does not confirm status by the end of the ninth term, will be required to apply for deferral of confirmation of status and may be allowed up to three terms for this purpose. Applications”.

5. In online regulations (http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/26-58_D_SOCIAL_SCIENCES_DIVISION.shtml#subtitle_8), under section ‘9. Oxford Internet Institute’, sub-section 4.(e), after “final thesis.” delete “The application will be considered by a specially constituted panel of two assessors appointed by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Oxford Internet Institute. The panel will read the work, interview the candidate and make a recommendation to the committee in a written report.”.

6. In online regulations (http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/26-58_D_SOCIAL_SCIENCES_DIVISION.shtml#subtitle_8), under section ‘9. Oxford Internet Institute’, after sub-section 4.(f) insert “The application will be considered by a specially constituted panel of two assessors appointed by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Oxford Internet Institute. The panel will read the work, interview the candidate and make a recommendation to the committee in a written report.

A student whose first application is unsuccessful may be given one further opportunity to apply for confirmation, following the procedures laid down, and may apply for an extension of time for one term if this is necessary for the purpose of making the application.”.

7. In online regulations (http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/26-58_D_SOCIAL_SCIENCES_DIVISION.shtml#subtitle_8), under section ‘9. Oxford Internet Institute’, sub-section 5, after “The thesis must not exceed 100,000 words” delete “,” and insert “for DPhil, or 50,000 for MLitt,”.

Explanatory Notes

All of the above clauses are intended to explicit references to the option of transferring a student to MLitt status at both the transfer and confirmation milestones (clauses 1-6), in addition to defining a word limit for an MLitt thesis (clause 7).