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

Social Sciences Board

Approved by Chairs Action 22/08/13

Title of programme

MSc Education

Brief note about nature of change:

Minor changes to the wording of the regulations for the purposes of clarification, changes to the deadline by which student applications must be received to take papers offered on other Masters programmes within the university, changes to the re-sit requirements for part 1 of the examination

Effective date

1 October 2013

Location of change

In online regulations

Detail of change

1. Online regulations (http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/17-40_SPECIAL_REGULATIONS.shtml#subtitle_33), under section ‘Education’, sub-section 2, after “On some pathways, students also carry out a research internship.” insert “Candidates are required to successfully complete all six papers before proceeding to Part 2 of the course.”.

2. Online regulations (http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/17-40_SPECIAL_REGULATIONS.shtml#subtitle_33), under section ‘Education’, sub-section 3, after “Friday of the”, delete “first” and insert “fifth”.

3. Online regulations (http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/17-40_SPECIAL_REGULATIONS.shtml#subtitle_33), under section ‘Education’, sub-section 5, after “The subject and title selected by the candidate must be
approved by the”, delete “Departmental Board” and insert “Course Director”.

4. **Online regulations** ([http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/17-40_SPECIAL_REGULATIONS.shtml#subtitle_33](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/17-40_SPECIAL_REGULATIONS.shtml#subtitle_33)), under section ‘Education’, sub-section 8, delete “If Part 1 is failed, the candidate may retake the whole examination of Part 1 one further time on the next occasion when this is examined.” and insert “If a candidate fails a paper in Part 1, they are entitled to retake that paper one further time on the next occasion when this is formally examined.”.

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**Explanatory Notes**

Clause 1: This clause clarifies the fact that students must complete all six papers successfully before progression to Part 2 can be permitted.

Clause 2: This amendment reflects a change to the deadline by which applications to take papers offered on other relevant Master’s degrees within the university are due, from week 1 of Michaelmas Term to week 5 of Michaelmas Term. The rationale behind this change is to bring the deadline in line with that of other programmes operated by the department. It will also allow students more time to decide if they wish to pursue this option, rather than having the deadline at the very start of the programme when they may not necessarily be fully aware of the other options available in other departments.

Clause 3: This amendment reflects a change to the persons responsible for approving the subjects and titles of dissertations chosen by students.

Clause 4: This change allows students to re-sit only those papers that they have failed in Part 1, rather than having to re-sit the entire Part 1 examination again. The department felt that such re-sit requirements were unduly punitive.