Humanities Divisional Board

Approved by officers on behalf of the Board on 17 September 2019

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation
Master of Studies in Music

Brief note about nature of change: Changes to assessments and submission method

Location of change
In Examination Regulations (https://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2019-20/mostudinmusi/)

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

Detail of change
New text underlined, deletions struck-through:

1.1 Each candidate will be required:
1.2(a) to follow for at least three terms a course of study in music;
1.3(b) to specialise in musicology, performance or composition;
1.4(c) to take a two-part examination (Part 1 and Part 2).
1.52. The elements of the examination will be determined by the candidate’s chosen specialism.
1.63. Candidates specialising in musicology will be required to submit:
1.7Part 1a: an essay or exercise on issues and methods in music studies, normally in response to a
core seminar, of not more than 6,000 words (or equivalent in notation, visual documentation, or
analytical diagrams), two typewritten copies of which must be submitted, not later than noon on
Tuesday of Week 10 of Michaelmas Term, to the Chair of Examiners for the M.St. in Music, c/o...
Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, and a pdf of the work must be emailed to the Academic Administrator.

1.8 Part 1b: an essay of not more than 6,000 words, normally in response to an elective seminar. Two typewritten copies of the essay must be submitted, not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 10 of Hilary Term to the Chair of Examiners for the M.St. in Music, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, and a pdf must be emailed to the Academic Administrator.

1.9 A portfolio of appropriately assessed language work that is directly relevant to the candidate’s intended field of research may be substituted for Part 2b with the approval of the Masters Convenor which must be sought by noon on Friday of the fourth week Week 4 of Michaelmas Term.

1.10 Part 1c: an annotated bibliography of not more than 4,000 words, explicitly related to the dissertation. Two typewritten copies of the bibliography must be submitted, not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 2 of Trinity Term to the Chair of Examiners for the M.St. in Music, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, and a pdf of the work must be emailed to the Academic Administrator.

1.11 Part 1c: an annotated bibliography of not more than 4,000 words, explicitly related to the dissertation. Two typewritten copies of the bibliography must be submitted, not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 2 of Trinity Term to the Chair of Examiners for the M.St. in Music, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, and a pdf of the work must be emailed to the Academic Administrator.

1.12 Part 2 a dissertation of not more than 13,000 words (this word limit includes footnotes but excludes bibliography and appendices) in musicology or ethnomusicology, or an editorial exercise (edition), with prefatory matter, of comparable length. The topic for the dissertation or edition must be submitted for approval to the Masters Course Convenor, Faculty of Music, by noon on Friday of the third week Week 3 of Hilary Term. Two typewritten copies of the dissertation or edition must be submitted, not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 10 of Trinity Term, to the Chair of Examiners for the M.St. in Music, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, and a pdf must be emailed to the Academic Administrator.

1.13 Candidates specialising in performance will be required to submit:

1.13 Part 1a: a lecture-recital consisting of a 10-minute lecture on a research topic related to a 20-minute recital, both to be given by the candidate in an examination in Week 0 or Week 1 of Hilary Term.

1.14 Part 1b: an essay of 6,000 words, normally in response to an elective seminar. Two copies of the essay must be submitted, not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 10 of Hilary Term to the Chair of Examiners for the M.St. in Music, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford.

1.15 Part 1c: an essay of 6,000 words, normally on a topic of the candidate’s choice. Two copies of the essay must be submitted, not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 7 of Trinity Term to the Chair of Examiners for the M.St. in Music, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford.

1.16 Part 2: a recital of not more than forty-five minutes’ duration, vocal or instrumental, of at least two contrasted pieces, to be performed not later than the tenth week Week 10 of Trinity Term; and a programme note of no more than 1,200 words. The proposed programme must be submitted for approval to the Masters Course Convenor, Faculty of Music, by noon on Friday of Week 3 Week 7 of Hilary Term.
Candidates specialising in composition will be required to submit:

Part 1a: a musical composition of not more than eight minutes produced in response to techniques presented in composition seminars, two copies of which must be submitted, not later than noon on Tuesday of the tenth week Week 10 of Michaelmas Term, to the Chair of Examiners for the M.St. in Music, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford.

Part 1b: an essay of 6,000 words, normally on a topic of the candidate’s choice, normally in response to an elective seminar. Two copies of the essay must be submitted, not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 10 of Hilary Term to the Chair of Examiners for the M.St. in Music, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford.

Part 1c: in consultation with the student’s composition supervisor: EITHER: an essay of 6,000 words in response to an elective seminar normally on a topic of the candidate’s choice OR an 8 minute composition in response to composition seminars. Two copies of the work must be submitted, not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 7 of Trinity Term to the Chair of Examiners for the M.St. in Music, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford.

Part 2: a musical composition or portfolio of compositions, of not more than twenty-five minutes’ duration in total, two copies of which must be submitted, not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 10 of Trinity Term, to the Chair of Examiners for the M.St. in Music, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford.

Written assessments (essays, dissertations, annotated bibliography) must be formatted and submitted as specified in the handbook for the course. The assessments must be submitted by uploading it to the Assignments Section of the Masters Music Submission Weblearn only; no concomitant copy submission may be submitted, for any purpose. Electronic submissions must be received by the deadline; technical problems external to the WebLearn system will not be accepted as grounds for excusing lateness. Written work shall be submitted as word-processed files converted to PDF using the course coversheet as first page of the work, bearing on the front the candidate’s examination number but neither their name nor the name of their college. Candidates must themselves retain a copy of each piece of work and must ensure that they receive the email confirming the submission and that the email is retained for future reference. Each submission of written work must be accompanied by a Declaration of Authorship from the candidate that it is their own work except where otherwise indicated, to be completed online at the same time as that of submission.

A candidate who fails the examination will be permitted to retake it on one further occasion only, not later than one year after the initial attempt. Such a candidate whose work has been of satisfactory standard in one or more elements examined will be required to resubmit for examination the element(s) which fell below the passmark when originally examined.

Explanatory Notes

Change to Composition assessments:
This change brings the Composition stream of the Masters programme in line with the submissions of Performance and Musicology streams. The assignments have essentially been "swapped". Part 1b, which was previously normally written on a topic of the candidate’s choice, is to be normally written in response to an elective seminar, whereas Part 1c, which was previously normally written in response to an elective seminar, is to be normally written on a topic of the candidate’s choice. The deadlines have not changed. Changing the focus of the 1b assignment to be based on the elective seminar also supports student supervision of this assignment.

Change to submission method:

The Faculty of Music is supported by the Division to make the submission of written assessments (essays, dissertations, bibliographies) digital via a secure Weblearn site provided by the Examination Schools. Composition portfolios will remain in hard copy.