

Research Degrees Panel of Education Committee

Approved at the meeting of Research Degrees Panel on 11 June 2019

Regulations for the Degrees of Master of Philosophy in Law and Master of Philosophy in Socio-Legal Research

Brief note about nature of change: amendments to reinstatement provisions

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2018*, <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2018-19/rftdomopilamopis-legarese/> as amended by the Gazette notice of 25 July 2019.

Effective date

From MT 2019

Detail of change

1. Amend clause 7 (cit. ref. 1.7) as indicated, new text underlined, deleted text struck through.
2. Insert new clause 8 after clause 7 as indicated below.
3. Renumber existing clauses 8-28 as clauses 9-29.
4. Update cross-references in clause 26 (cit. ref. 1.30) as indicated, new text underlined, deleted text struck through.
5. Insert new clauses 30-32 after existing clause 29 as indicated below.

Reinstatement

~~7. A student who has withdrawn or who has been withdrawn may apply for reinstatement within two years of their status ceasing. Such applications shall be addressed by the former student to the Graduate Studies Committee, and shall be accompanied by written statements commenting on the application from the candidate's society and from the former supervisor. The Graduate Studies Committee shall reach a decision on such applications and shall determine the date from which any reinstatement granted under these provisions shall be effective. No reinstatement may be granted under these provisions if the student~~

~~has already held MPhil status for six terms.~~

7. It shall be open to a candidate who has withdrawn or who has been withdrawn to apply to the Graduate Studies Committee for reinstatement within twenty-four months of their status ceasing. The application should have the support of their society and supervisor, and such reinstatement fee as may from time to time be prescribed by Council should be paid. Permission for reinstatement to the Register of Students may be granted by the Graduate Studies Committee provided that:

(i) no more than twenty-four months have passed since the candidate withdrew or was withdrawn; and

(ii) the number of terms for which the candidate held MPhil status did not exceed six terms.

The Graduate Studies Committee shall determine the date from which any reinstatement granted under these provisions shall be effective.

8. Exceptionally, a candidate who is not able to apply for reinstatement within the provisions above may make an application to Council's Education Committee for reinstatement to the Register of Students. Such candidates must meet the requirements for reinstatement by the Graduate Studies Committee and in addition must provide a statement explaining why it is reasonable for Education Committee to permit their reinstatement and outlining the circumstances that have prevented earlier submission. For such applications, Education Committee will consider the length of time since the candidate's name was on the Register of Students, the seriousness of the causes for the delay, and the views of the Faculty, supervisor and college.

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~~26.~~ 27. The examiners shall conduct a second examination under the terms outlined in clauses ~~20-23~~ 21-24 above, except that they may exempt a candidate from oral examination if they are satisfied that they can recommend to the board that the candidate has reached the standard required for the Degree without an oral examination.

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30. If a candidate wishes to re-submit for the Degree after referral under clause 25 above, but is unable to do so by the final day of their fourth term under clause 26 above, no subsequent extension shall be granted, but it shall be open to a candidate whose name has been removed from the Register of Students to apply to the Board for reinstatement as a Student for the Master of Philosophy in Law/Socio-Legal Research. The application should have the support of their society and supervisor, a revised copy of the thesis should have been submitted to the Graduate Studies Committee via RTDS, and such reinstatement fee as may from time to time be prescribed by Council should have been paid. Leave to supplicate shall not be granted until this fee has been paid.

31. Permission for reinstatement to the Register of Students may be granted by the Graduate Studies Committee within twenty-four months of the date the student was notified of the outcome of their examination.

32. Exceptionally, a candidate who is not able to apply for reinstatement within that

timeframe may make an application to Council's Education Committee for reinstatement to the Register of Students. Such candidates must meet the requirements for reinstatement by the Graduate Studies Committee and in addition must provide a statement explaining why it is reasonable for Education Committee to permit their reinstatement and outlining the circumstances that have prevented earlier submission. For such applications, Education Committee will consider the length of time since the candidate was last examined, the seriousness of the causes for the delay, and the views of the Faculty, supervisor and college. Education Committee will not normally consider applications if sixty months or more have elapsed since the notification of the outcome of the examination.

Explanatory Notes

At its meeting in Trinity term 2019, Research Degrees Panel agreed that there should be a time limit for boards to consider requests for reinstatement to a previously held research degree status. Requests received after the time limit will be considered by Education Committee. The regulations for the MPhil in Law and MPhil in Socio-legal Research already included provisions relating to a time limit for reinstatement. These changes ensure that these regulations are in line with provisions for other research degrees.