Change in the regulations governing the FHS Theology paper 13, The Nature of Religion: communication from the Board of the Faculty of Theology and Religion

Subject to approval on behalf of the Divisional Board, which is now sought, and by Education Committee, the following change in regulations has been made:

FHS Theology paper 13, The Nature of Religion

With effect from 1 October 2014 (for first examination in 2015)

Page 479, line 23 - line 30, delete:

The paper will consist of questions on the main classical and contemporary approaches to the Study of Religions. It includes an overview of methods of both the humanities and the social sciences, essentialist approaches as well as historical and social scientific approaches. Candidates should be aware of the main debates in the Study of Religions, from the debate concerning the definition of ‘Religion’ to post-modern topics of gender and post-colonialism. The course addresses issues involved in claims for religious truth and rationality, of 20th century discussions of religious conflict and diversity, and of inter-religious dialogue. It focuses on phenomenological descriptive studies as well as studies in explaining religion.

and substitute:

This paper will examine students in the main classical and contemporary approaches to the study of religions. It will cover some of the most important thinkers in the humanities and the social sciences who established the study of religion as a field of academic inquiry in the early 20th century. Students will be expected to be able to speak to basic questions about the relationship of religion to social change; the paper will focus on the fundamental theoretical questions about the concept of religion and strategies for defining it.

Explanatory note

The new description more accurately reflects the course as it is taught.