HUMANITIES DIVISIONAL BOARD

Academic Committee

Regulations governing the Master of Studies in Modern South Asian Studies: communication from the Boards of the Faculty of Oriental Studies and of History

Approved by the Humanities Divisional Board on 24 June 2011 and by the Pro Vice Chancellor (Education) on 3 October 2011.

Humanities Divisional Board

Master of Studies in Modern South Asian Studies

Brief note about nature of the changes: Introduction of new MSt course.

With effect from 1 October 2012 (first examination in 2013)

1. In Examination Regulations 2011, p. 592, after l. 27 insert:

   ‘Modern South Asian Studies History and Oriental Studies’.

2. Ibid, p. 642, after l. 41 insert:

   ‘Modern South Asian Studies

The regulations of the Boards of the Faculty of History and of Oriental Studies are as follows:

1. Candidates for the MSt in Modern South Asian Studies must follow for at least three terms a course of instruction and directed research and must, upon entering the examination, produce from their society a certificate to that effect.

2. Candidates must attend such lectures, seminars, classes and language classes as the convenors of the course shall determine, and must undertake any language tests set by the language teachers.

The final examination consists of the following four units, which all candidates must take:

(i) A Language Paper in one of the following languages: Hindi, Literary Hindi, Bengali, Sanskrit, Persian or Tibetan. The examination will be based on knowledge of grammar, translation and reading comprehension. Tuition for the language paper will be through classes, and will continue through all three terms of the academic year. Not all language options may be available every year.

(ii) A General Methodological Paper, ‘The History and Culture of South Asia’. Tuition for this paper will be through weekly seminars held during Michaelmas and the first 4 weeks of Hilary Term. A choice of essay questions as prescribed by the examiners will be published on the WebLearn pages for this degree programme by noon on Friday of Fourth Week of Hilary Term. They will be required to select one question from this paper, and prepare an essay of up to 5,000 words (excluding bibliography). Candidates must submit two typewritten copies of this essay to the Chairman of the Examiners of the M.St. in Modern South Asian Studies, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford OX1 4BG, by noon on Friday of 8th week of the Hilary Term.

(iii) An Optional Paper within the field of Modern South Asian Studies, from a list of options offered by the Faculties of History and Oriental Studies. The definitive list of options for the year ahead, together with short descriptions of each, will be published on Weblearn at the latest by the start of the Michaelmas Term.
Tuition for this paper will be through a course of 8 weekly seminars held through the Hilary Term. A list of essay questions as prescribed by the examiners will be published on the WebLearn pages for this degree programme by noon on Friday of Eighth Week of Hilary Term. Candidates will be required to select one question from this paper, and prepare an essay of up to 5,000 words (excluding bibliography). Candidates must submit two typewritten copies of this essay to the Chairman of the Examiners of the M.St. in Modern South Asian Studies, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford OX1 4BG, by noon on Friday of 4th week of the Trinity Term.

(iv) A Dissertation based on individual research. Candidates will choose their topics after due consultation with their supervisor. Candidates are required to submit two typewritten copies of the dissertation, which shall not normally exceed 15,000 words (excluding bibliography), to the Chairman of the Examiners, at the address above, by noon on Friday of Eighth Week of Trinity Term. Each Dissertation must include a short abstract which concisely summarises its scope and principal arguments, in about 300 words.

3. The examiners may make the marks awarded to the candidates for the written work known to the Director of Graduate Studies where necessary for the purpose of grant applications and progression assessments. However, the pass list will be issued only following completion of the whole examination, including submission and final assessment of the dissertation.

4. The examiners may award a Distinction to candidates who have performed with special merit in the whole examination.

5. A candidate who fails the examination will be permitted to re-take it on one further occasion only, not later than one year after the initial attempt. Such a candidate whose thesis has been of a satisfactory standard may resubmit the same piece of work. A candidate who has reached a satisfactory standard on the written work will not be required to take that part of the examination. Candidates who have failed the language examination, but have otherwise satisfied the Examiners, will be required to re-sit the language examination only.'