

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

SSD/2/2/4

Social Sciences Board

Approved at the meeting of Teaching Audit Committee on 26.02.16

Title of Programme

Honour School of Economics and Management

Brief note about nature of change: introduction of a new option paper

Effective date

For students starting FHS in MT 2016-17

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* 2015 as amended by *Gazette* of 04/02/16

Detail of change

Honour School of Economics and Management

A

1. The examination in the Honour School of Economics and Management shall include, as stated subjects to be offered by all candidates:

- (i) Macroeconomics
- (ii) Microeconomics
- (iii) Quantitative Economics

2. Candidates shall be required to offer, in addition to the above subjects, at least two subjects from Schedule A and a further three subjects from Schedules A and B.

3. No candidate shall be admitted to examination in this school unless he or she has either passed or been exempted from the First Public Examination.

4. The examination in this school shall be under the supervision of the Social Sciences Board, which shall appoint a standing committee to make regulations concerning it, subject always to the preceding clauses of this sub-section.

B

All candidates will be required to take *eight* subjects in all.

On entering his or her name for the examination by the date prescribed, each candidate must give notice to the Registrar of the papers being offered.

Candidates are permitted the use of one hand-held pocket calculator from a list of permitted calculators published by the Department of Economics on its Undergraduate website, which will be updated annually in the week prior to the first full week of Michaelmas Term.

All candidates will be required to offer the following subjects:

(i) *Macroeconomics*

As specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.

(ii) *Microeconomics*

As specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.

(iii) *Quantitative Economics*

As specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.

(iv) *Two* subjects selected from Schedule A.

(v) *Three* optional subjects selected from Schedule A, except that a candidate cannot offer a subject selected from Schedule A offered under (iv), and Schedule B.

Depending on the availability of teaching resources, not all Management Options will be available [in any particular year. There may also be restrictions on numbers permitted to offer some Management subjects in any particular year.](#) ~~to all candidates in every year.~~ Candidates and Management tutors will

be circulated in Trinity Term with details of all Options which will be available for the following year.

The list, from which papers in Schedule A may be selected, and the syllabus for each, shall be approved by the Faculty of Management Studies and published on the Said Business School

Undergraduate website by the Chair of the Standing Committee not later than the end of the Trinity Full Term of the academic year preceding the year of the examination.

Not all Economics subjects may be available in any particular year. There may also be restrictions on

numbers permitted to offer some Economics subjects in any particular year.

Economics subjects available to candidates in any particular year will depend on the availability of teaching resources. Details of the choices available for the following year will be announced at the Economics Department's 'Option Fair' at the beginning of the fourth week of the first Hilary Full Term of candidates' work for the Honour School, and will be posted on the Department's Undergraduate website at the same time.

Schedule A

(1) Accounting

Nature and regulation of financial reporting, analysis of company accounts. Nature of management accounting, including: cost behaviour, budgetary planning and control, capital budgeting, divisional performance.

(2) Organisational Behaviour and Analysis

The individual in the organisation; motivation and job satisfaction; groups at work; decision making; gender; organisational strategy and structure; the organisational environment; managerial work and behaviour; leadership; culture; power, conflict and change; contemporary and comparative approaches.

(3) Employment Relations

The structure and management of the employment relationship, including its environment, and economic and social consequences; human resource strategy and style; systems of collective representation; trade union objectives and organisation; pay systems and performance appraisal; explicit and psychological contracts; the management of co-operation and conflict; employee involvement, participation and team working; technology, work design and work organisation; job regulation; the utilisation of human resources; training and performance; contemporary and comparative approaches to the management of employees.

(4) Finance

Investment appraisal under conditions of certainty/uncertainty. Portfolio theory and capital asset pricing model. Sources of finance, debt capacity, dividends, and cost of capital. Financial market efficiency. Emerging issues in finance. Takeovers and mergers.

(5) Strategic Management

Theoretical foundations of strategic management. Structural analysis of industries and industry dynamics. The resource and capability based view of the firm. Strategy and Organization. Nature and sources of competitive advantage and patterns of competition. Competitive and co-operative strategies. Corporate strategy and competitive advantage. International strategy. Strategic

management in the public sector and not-for-profit organisations. Current issues in strategic management.

(6) Marketing

Exchange in a modern economy. The marketing concept; the marketing mix, its formulation and common components; the product life-cycle and new product development; segmentation and positioning. Buyer behaviour. Marketing information and the analysis of markets and competitors. Marketing planning and marketing strategies. Models for evaluating strategic marketing opportunities.

(7) Technology and Operations Management

Goods and service operations. Vertical integration, facilities location and capacity, volume/mix and process relationships, scale economies, automation. Goods/service design, facilities, process planning, aggregate capacity decisions, resource scheduling. Product/service quality assurance, facilities maintenance.

(8) International Business

Theoretical foundations of international business strategy. Definition and historical underpinnings of globalisation. Global value chains. Market entry strategies. Institutional analysis and economic theory. Institutional voids. Theories of competitive and comparative advantage. Global culture and marketing. Ethical supply chains. Contemporary theories and controversies in international business.

(9) Entrepreneurship and Innovation

Identifying and evaluating business opportunities. Ascertaining customer value propositions. Developing business models. Formulating technology development and commercialization strategies. Examining alternative model of protecting intellectual property. Structuring investments in entrepreneurial ventures. Contemporary theories of entrepreneurship and innovation.

Schedule B

Subjects (1) to (11) are as specified in the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.

(1) Microeconomic Analysis

(2) Money and Banking

(3) Public Economics

(4) Economics of Industry

(5) Labour Economics and Industrial Relations (222)

(6) International Economics

(7) Economics of Developing Countries

(8) British Economic History since 1870

(9) *Econometrics*

(10) *Game Theory*

(11) *Special subject in Economics*

(vi) *Thesis*

Any candidate may offer a thesis instead of a subject from Schedule A or Schedule B under (v) above, subject to the following provisions:

(a) *Subject*

The subject of every thesis should fall within the scope of the honour school. The subject may, but need not, overlap any subject on which the candidate offers papers. Candidates are warned that they should avoid repetition in papers of materials used in their theses and that substantial repetition may be penalised.

Every candidate shall submit through his or her college for approval to the Chair of the Standing Committee for Economics and Management the title he or she proposes together with

(i) an indication as to the branch of the school in which the subject falls, i.e. Economics or Management;

(ii) an explanation of the subject in about 100 words;

(iii) a letter of approval from his or her tutor,

not earlier than the first day of the Trinity Full Term of the year before that in which he or she is to be examined and not later than the date prescribed for entry to the examination. The standing committee shall decide as soon as possible whether or not to approve the title and shall advise the candidate immediately. No decision shall be deferred beyond the end of the fifth week of Michaelmas Full Term.

(b) *Authorship and origin*

Every thesis shall be the candidate's own work. His or her tutor may, however, discuss with him or her the field of study, the sources available, and the method of presentation; the tutor may also read and comment on a first draft. Theses previously submitted for the Honour School of Economics and Management may be resubmitted. No thesis will be accepted if it has already been submitted, wholly or substantially, for another Honour School or degree of this University, or for a degree of any other institution. Every candidate shall sign a certificate to the effect that the thesis is his or her own work and that it has not already been submitted for a degree of this or any other university and his or her tutor shall countersign the certificate confirming that, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, these statements are true. This certificate shall be submitted separately in a sealed envelope addressed to the chair of examiners. No thesis shall, however, be ineligible because it has been or is

being submitted for any prize of this University.

(c) Length and format

No thesis shall exceed 15,000 words, the limit to include all notes, appendices, but not bibliographies; no person or body shall have authority to permit any excess. There shall be a select bibliography or a list of sources. All theses must be typed in double spacing on one side of quarto or A4 paper. Any notes and references may be placed *either* at the bottom of the relevant pages *or* all together at the end of the thesis, but in the latter case two loose copies of the notes and references must be supplied. The thesis must be bound or held firmly in a stiff cover. *Two* copies shall be submitted to the examiners; they shall be returned to the Saïd Business School library after the examination.

(d) Submission of thesis

Every candidate who wishes to submit a thesis shall give notice of his or her intention to do so on his or her examination entry form (in addition to seeking approval of the subject from the Chair of the Standing Committee for Economics and Management under (a) above); and shall submit his or her thesis not later than noon on Monday of the first week of the Trinity Full Term of the examination to the Chair of the Examiners, Honour School of Economics and Management, Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford.

Explanatory Notes

This change introduces a new 'Entrepreneurship and Innovation' option which will be shared with the Honour School of Engineering Science.