

Humanities Divisional Board

Approved by officers on behalf of the Board on 19 February 2018

Title of Programme

Research Degrees in History

Brief note about nature of change: Change to word limit

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2017* (<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2017-18/rdegrinhist/>)

Effective date

For students starting from MT 2018

Detail of change

Research Degrees in History

1.1 1. First year course work

1.2 Research students in History (which includes ~~medieval history~~, economic and social history, history of science and medicine, and history of art) are admitted as Probationer D.Phil students, and are required to undertake the following work in their probationary period:

1.3 (a) attend such lectures, seminars and master's classes as ~~his or her~~ their supervisor shall determine; and

1.4 (b) present one seminar paper during the first year. Such paper shall normally be assessed by two assessors. Such assessors should not include the candidate's

supervisor. The work done for the seminar paper may form the basis of the essay required under (2) below.

^{1.5} Applications for admission/transfer to full M.Litt. or D.Phil. status shall be accompanied by:

^{1.6}(1) two copies of a statement (of 500 to 1,000 words) of the subject of the thesis and the manner in which the candidate proposes to treat it; such a statement will also normally include a descriptive title for the research project, an indication of identified or envisaged primary sources, an outline of the time table for background reading, archival or field work, and writing-up; also an account of how the research project relates to work done for any relevant master's dissertation;

^{1.7}(2) two copies of a piece of written work, between ~~5,000 and 8,000~~ 3,000 and 5,000 words long, being on the topic of the proposed thesis (usually an early draft of a chapter of the thesis); if the submitted work is not a draft chapter, then the candidate should provide an explanation of the written work's relationship to the thesis;

^{1.8}(3) two copies of a confidential report from the supervisor(s), which should be sent direct to the Faculty's Graduate Office.

^{1.9} Successful completion of the work prescribed above is not in itself sufficient qualification for students to advance to M.Litt. or D.Phil. status.

(...)

^{1.16} 3. *Confirmation of D.Phil. status*

^{1.17}(i) Application for confirmation of D. Phil. status, with endorsements by the candidate's society and supervisor, shall normally be presented to the Faculty's Graduate Office not later than ~~Monday~~ Friday of third week in the eighth term after admission to the D. Phil. programme (or, in the case of part-time students, in the candidate's twelfth term after admission to the D. Phil. Programme, or, if switching from full-time to part-time while on-course, an equivalent number of terms). In exceptional cases the Graduate Studies Committee may permit the candidate to postpone submission by up to one

term: candidates seeking such postponement should apply to the Committee through the Director of Graduate Studies well in advance.

(...)

^{1.21}4. *Theses*

^{1.22}Theses submitted for the Degree of M.Litt. should not exceed 50,000 words and those submitted for the Degree of D.Phil. should not exceed 100,000 words, including all notes, appendices, any source material being edited, and all other parts of the thesis whatsoever, excluding only the bibliography and abstract; any thesis exceeding these limits is liable to be rejected on that ground. Any application for permission to exceed the limit should be submitted with a detailed explanation and statement of the amount of excess length requested, and with a covering letter from the supervisor. Applications should be made as soon as possible and may not be made later than the last day of the fifth week of the term before that in which application is made for appointment of examiners. The presentation and footnotes should comply with the requirements specified in the Regulations of the Education Committee for the degrees of M.Litt. and D.Phil. and follow the Conventions for the presentation of essays, dissertations and theses of the Faculty of History.

Explanatory Notes

This correction to the word limit of the written work to accompany the transfer application brings the regulations in line with the Handbook for research students. It also moves the deadline of the application for confirmation of status from Monday to Friday of Week 3 of the relevant term, as most other faculty deadlines for written work fall on a Friday.

A small number of minor textual changes are also included.