HUMANITIES DIVISIONAL BOARD

Academic Committee

Change in the regulations governing the Honour School of Theology: communication from the Board of the Faculty of Theology

Ref:

Humanities Divisional Board

Honour School of Theology

With effect from 1 October 2011 (for first examination in 2013)

Brief note about nature of the change(s): To introduce a new paper.

In Examination Regulations, 2010, p. 463, l. 11, insert new number ‘(37) Mysticism’ ‘Candidates will be expected to show knowledge of theoretical issues relating to the definition and interpretation of mysticism as well as important examples of mystical literature and traditions. The paper will be examined by two essays: one essay, chosen from a list of prescribed titles, will address theoretical issues; the other will relate to a special topic. The subject of the second essay will be chosen by candidates in consultation with tutors. Prior approval of the subject of the second essay must be obtained in advance from the Faculty Board. Titles, abstracts and bibliographies should reach the Faculty Board Secretary not later than the beginning of fifth week in Trinity Term of the candidate’s second year.

Possible subjects for essays include, but will not be limited to: Neoplatonism, hermetic and alchemical speculations, the Origenist tradition in Christianity, the Dionysian tradition, Rhineland mystics, medieval English mystics, Counter-Reformation mystics, Merkabah mysticism, Hekhalot mysticism, Ismaili and Sufi traditions, Upanishadic thought, Vedanta philosophy, Tantric traditions, Buddhist traditions.’

Explanatory note

The introduction of a new paper is intended to make provision in an area which is of interest to many but which is not addressed adequately by the current Christian Spirituality paper. It is intended to phase out the latter in due course.