

Humanities Divisional Board

Title of Programme

Honour School of Ancient and Modern History

Brief note about nature of change: Curriculum reform in undergraduate History degrees.

Effective date

For students starting from MT 2018

For first examination from 2019-20

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* on-line, Honour School of Ancient and Modern History
[\(http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2015-16/hsoaandmodehist/administratorview/\)](http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2015-16/hsoaandmodehist/administratorview/)

Explanatory Notes

These changes bring about undergraduate curriculum reform in History. The theme of the reforms is diversification:

- i) The enlargement of the scope of an Oxford History degree, through the requirement that all undergraduates take one paper in a historical subject outside Europe at some point in the three years of the degree, although this requirement will not apply to the five Joint Schools which include History.
- ii) The introduction of a number of Theme papers to the Outline menus, of a type which is new to the syllabus and which will enable specific themes to be followed over longer periods. There is no requirement that students choose a Theme paper from a given Outline menu.
- iii) The assessment of the History of the British Isles (HBI) in Finals by a take-away examination in week 9 of Trinity Term of the second year.

Changes (i) and (ii) are being introduced for entry in Michaelmas term 2017 (i.e. students starting their FHS in Michaelmas term 2018). Change (iii) will be introduced as soon as possible, so for entry in Michaelmas term 2016 (i.e. for students starting their FHS in

Michaelmas term 2017) – see regulation change HDB(16)78_U, published in the Gazette of 21 July 2016.

The opportunity to undertake significant re-drafting of the relevant regulations has also been taken, partly to make them shorter and less burdened with unnecessary detail, and partly to remove detailed menus of specific papers: such material is more appropriately covered within course handbooks. Lists of Further and Special Subjects were removed some time ago, and the detailed menus for the History of the British Isles and European & World History are also being removed, which will provide flexibility to make changes to those menus and to rotate the Theme papers.

Detail of change

Delete all regulations for the Honour School of Ancient and Modern History and substitute those appended to the end of this notice.

Regulations for Honour School of Ancient and Modern History

A

1. The examination in the Honour School of Ancient and Modern History shall consist of such subjects in Ancient and Modern History as the Boards of the Faculties of Classics and History from time to time shall in consultation prescribe by regulation.
2. No candidate shall be admitted to the examination in this school unless he or she has either passed or been exempted from the First Public Examination.
3. The examination shall be under the joint supervision of the Boards of the Faculties of Classics and History. They shall appoint a standing joint committee to consider any matters concerning the examination which cannot expeditiously be settled by direct consultation between them. Whenever any matter cannot otherwise be resolved they shall themselves hold a joint meeting and resolve it by majority vote.
4. The lists of papers specific to the Honour School of Ancient and Modern History will be published by the Faculty Boards of Classics and History in the fourth week of Hilary Term prior to candidates beginning their studies for the School. Papers available in this School from the Honour Schools of History and of Literae Humaniores will be published, with their specifications and any prescribed texts, by the relevant Faculty Boards at the dates defined in the regulations for those Schools.

B

Each candidate shall offer the following subjects. Candidates must offer at least one of B3(b) or B4(b).

- B1. A Period of Ancient History (one paper)
One from a list defined by the Faculty Board of Classics.
- B2. A Period of Modern History (one paper)
An Outline or Theme paper in *either* European & World History *or* the History of the

British Isles specified for the Honour School of History. No candidate may offer a period similar to one offered when passing the Preliminary Examination. Illegal combinations will be specified by the Board.

B3. Further Subjects

Either

(a) any one of the Further Subjects as specified for the Honour School of History (one paper);

or

(b) any one from an approved list of Further Subjects in Ancient History (one paper).

B4. Special Subjects

Either

(a) any one of the Special Subjects as specified for the Honour School of History (one paper and one extended essay);

or

(b) any one from an approved list of Special Subjects in Ancient History (two papers).

B5. Disciplines of History

Each candidate shall be examined in the Disciplines of History in accordance with Regulation B5 of the Honour School of History.

B6. A Thesis from Original Research

Regulation B6 of the Honour School of History applies with the following modifications:

Sub-clause 3.(a) (For the avoidance of doubt) the Arnold Ancient History Prize and the Barclay Head Prize in Numismatics are to be read with the schedule.

Sub-clause 5. For 'Honour School of History' read 'Honour School of Ancient and Modern History'. For theses concerning the years before AD 285 read 'Chair of Examiners, Honour School of Ancient and Modern History' for 'Chair of the Examiners, Honour School of History'.

Sub-clause 8. For 'Chair of Examiners, Honour School of History' read 'Chair of Examiners, Honour School of Ancient and Modern History'.

B7. An Optional Additional Thesis

Regulation B7 An Optional Additional Thesis of the Honour School of History shall apply with the following modifications:

Sub-clause 4. For dissertations concerning the years before AD 285 read 'Chair of Examiners, Honour School of Ancient and Modern History' for 'Chair of the Examiners, Honour School of History'.

Sub-clause 7. For 'Chair of Examiners, Honour School of History' read 'Chair of Examiners, Honours School of Ancient and Modern History'.

B8. An Optional Language Paper

Intermediate Ancient Greek *or* Intermediate Latin *or* Advanced Ancient Greek *or* Advanced Latin.

Any candidate whose native language is not English may bring a bilingual (native language to English) dictionary for use in any of the language papers offered under Regulation B8.