### HUMANITIES DIVISIONAL BOARD

### **Title of Programme**

Master of Philosophy in in British and European History, from 1500 to the present

**Brief note about nature of change**: These changes provide for online submission of coursework and clarify the conditions under which options may be taken, and examined, from other graduate programmes.

## Effective date

With immediate effect

## Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* online, Master of Philosophy in in British and European History, from 1500 to the present (<u>http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2015-16/mopibaeh-f1500tothepres/</u>)

<sup>1.5</sup>I. During Michaelmas Term of the first year each candidate will attend core classes on historical theory and methodological approaches as well as a series of classes on sources and resources. The core classes will be assessed by an extended essay of between 4,000 and 5,000 words and the sources and resources component by an annotated bibliography. <del>Two copies of <u>The</u> essay and the annotated bibliography, addressed to the Chair of Examiners for the Master of Philosophy in British and European History, from 1500 to the present, must be submitted to the Examination Schools <u>must be uploaded to the Assignments section of the British and European History WebLearn site</u> by 12 noon on Monday of Week One of Hilary Term of the candidate's first year. <u>Each submission will require the candidate to make a declaration indicating that it is their own work</u>. The assessment of the annotated bibliography will be on a pass/fail basis only, and candidates who fail this element will be given the opportunity to submit a revised version in the first year of the programme.</del>

<sup>1.6</sup>II. In Hilary Term of the first year candidates must choose one Advanced Option, either from the joint Advanced Options for the Master of Studies and the Master of Philosophy in British and European History, from 1500 to the present, or from the Advanced Options for one of the Faculty of History's other Master's programmes. The choice of Advanced Option will depend on the candidate's training objectives or dissertation project. Details of available

Advanced Options are published in course handbooks on WebLearn. Approval of the Advanced Option choice must be obtained from the programme convenor, the person responsible for the delivery of the requested advanced paper, the candidate's supervisor, and the Director of Graduate Studies by Friday of Week Four of Michaelmas Term. The request for approval must be sent to the History Graduate Office. On recommendation from the candidate's supervisor, the Director of Graduate Studies, in consultation with the programme convenor, may approve relevant taught papers from Master's programmes offered by faculties other than History, provided that the respective faculty's Graduate Studies Committee is satisfied that the candidate has an adequate background in the subject. Such candidates will be assessed according to the regulations with respect to the form of assessment and deadlines governing that option (i.e. the regulations of the programme under which the option/advanced paper is offered), but the modes of assessment and deadlines for the other course elements of the programme for which the candidate is registered will <u>remain in force</u>. This part of the programme will be assessed by one extended essay of between 6,500 and 7,500 words. Two copies of the The essay, addressed to the Chair of Examiners for the Master of Philosophy in British and European History, from 1500 to the present, must be submitted to the Examination Schools must be uploaded to the Assignments section of the British and European History WebLearn site by 12 noon on Monday of Week Nine of Hilary Term of the candidate's first year. Each submission will require the candidate to make a declaration indicating that it is their own work. Essays should reflect skills and understanding the candidate has developed by following the approved choice of paper. The essay may complement but must not share significant content with the essay submitted under I. above. Teaching may not be available for all the Advanced Options each year, and restrictions may be imposed on the combination of Advanced Options that may be taken in a particular year.

<sup>1.7</sup>III. In Trinity Term candidates take a class on Writing History and finalise a proposal for their dissertation research during the Long Vacation and Michaelmas Term of their second year. The Writing History classes will be assessed by an extended essay of between 4,000 and 5,000 words. The essay may complement but must not share significant content with the essays submitted under I. and II. above. Two copies of the extended essay on Writing History, addressed to the Chair of Examiners for the Master of Philosophy in British and European History, from 1500 to the present, must be submitted to the Examination Schools The extended essay must be uploaded to the Assignments section of the British and European History WebLearn site by 12 noon on Monday of Week Nine of Trinity Term of the candidate's first year. Each submission will require the candidate to make a declaration indicating that it is their own work.

<sup>1.8</sup>IV. Candidates must prepare an extended dissertation proposal of between 2,000 and 2,500 words. Two copies of the The extended dissertation proposal, addressed to the Chair of Examiners for the Master of Philosophy in British and European History, from 1500 to the present, must be submitted to the Examination Schools must be uploaded to the Assignments section of the British and European History WebLearn site by 12 noon on Monday of Week Six of Trinity Term of the candidate's first year. Each submission will require the candidate to make a declaration indicating that it is their own work.

<sup>1.9</sup>V. Candidates must prepare one methodological essay (of up to 7,000 words) and a seminar presentation for a class on 'Historical concepts and controversies', to be examined in Trinity Term of the candidate's second year. Students may choose a topic for their essay and presentation in an area proximate to their dissertation subject, but may not replicate any other material submitted for examination. Two typewritten copies of the The extended essay, addressed to the Chair of Examiners for the Master of Philosophy in British and European History, from 1500 to the present, must be submitted to the Examination Schools must be uploaded to the Assignments section of the British and European History WebLearn site by 12 noon on Monday of first week of Trinity Term of the candidate's second year. The candidate will be required to make a declaration indicating that it is their own work.

<sup>1.10</sup>VI. A dissertation of not more than 30,000 words, including footnotes and appendices but excluding bibliography, on a topic approved by the candidate's supervisor and the Programme Convenor of the M.Phil. in British and European History, from 1500 to the present. Candidates must apply in writing to the Programme Convenor for approval of the proposed topic of their dissertation. The application must be submitted to the History Graduate Office by 12 noon on Monday of Week Six of Trinity Term of the candidate's first year. Two copies of the The dissertation must be submitted to the Examination Schools uploaded to the Assignments section of the British and European History WebLearn site by 12 noon on Monday of Week Eight of Trinity Term of the candidate's second year, accompanied by a declaration indicating that it is the candidate's own work. Dissertations submitted must not exceed the permitted length. If they do the Examiners will reduce the marks awarded. 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. Each dissertation must include a short abstract which concisely summarises its scope and principal arguments, in about 300 words. This is not included in the word count. Each

copy of the dissertation must be securely and firmly bound in either hard or soft covers. One printed copy of an M.Phil. dissertation which is approved by the examiners must be deposited in the Bodleian Library. This final copy should incorporate any corrections or amendments which the examiners may have requested. It must be hard bound, in a dark colour, and lettered on the spine with the candidate's name and initials, the degree, and the year of submission.

# **Explanatory Notes**

These changes provide for online submission of coursework and clarify the conditions under which options may be taken, and examined, from other graduate programmes. Students who started this course in Michaelmas Term 2015 have given their consent to online submission of coursework, and this change is therefore made with immediate effect. The change involving clarification of conditions under which options may be taken from other programmes is additional information, which supplements that already contained in the existing course regulations applicable to students who started in Michaelmas Term 2015.

Online submission was provisionally approved by the History Faculty Board at its meeting in Week 3 of Trinity Term 2016, pending discussion at History Graduate Studies Committee in Week 4 of Trinity Term, which approved the measure. Online submission has been consistently recommended by external examiners, and is supported by students; our expectation is that it will be administratively more straightforward than paper-based submission, that it will allow speedier despatch of materials to externals and that it will permit additional benefits, such as automatic checking for word-length and plagiarism.

The freedom to take options from other courses has long been a feature of some of the Faculty's PGT programmes (notably in Economic and Social History and History of Science, Medicine and Technology). The Faculty would like to extend this opportunity to students taking other PGT courses. A recommendation to that effect was approved at History GSC in Week 4 of Hilary Term 2016 and approved at the subsequent meeting of the History Board in Week 8 of Hilary Term 2016. We believe that there will be sufficient administrative resources in the soon-to-be-established History Academic Office to support these two initiatives.