

## Humanities Divisional Board

### Title of Programme

Preliminary Examination in Ancient and Modern History

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

### Effective date

**For students starting from MT 2017**

**For first examination from 2017-18**

### Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* on-line, Preliminary Examination in Ancient and Modern History (<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2015-16/peiaandmodehist/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.

#### **Detail of change**

Delete all regulations for the Preliminary Examination in Ancient and Modern History and substitute those appended to the end of this notice.

### **Preliminary Examination in Ancient and Modern History**

#### **A**

The Preliminary Examination in Ancient and Modern History shall be under the joint supervision of the Boards of the Faculties of Classics and History and shall consist of such subjects as they shall jointly by regulation prescribe. Lists of available papers will be published in the fourth week of the Hilary Term prior to candidates beginning their studies for the examination.

#### **B**

Every candidate shall offer four papers, as follows:

1. European & World History: any one from a list of Outline papers defined by the Faculty Board of History.
2. A paper in *either* Greek *or* Roman History, as defined by the Faculty Board of Classics.
3. An Optional Subject as specified for this Preliminary Examination or for the Preliminary Examination in History.
4. One of the following subjects:
  - (a) Approaches to History, as specified for the Preliminary Examination in History;
  - (b) Historiography: Tacitus to Weber, as specified for the Preliminary Examination in History;
  - (c) *Either* Herodotus, V. 26-VI. 131, to be read in Greek, ed. C. Hude (Oxford Classical Texts, 3rd edn., 1927)  
*or* Sallust, *Jugurtha*, to be read in Latin, ed. L. Reynolds (Oxford Classical Texts, 1991);
  - (d) Beginning Ancient Greek *or* Beginning Latin *or* 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 examination paper where candidates are required to translate Ancient Greek and/or Latin texts into English.

Candidates who fail one or more of papers 1, 2, 3, or 4 above may resit that paper or papers at a subsequent examination.