

**Changes in Examination Regulations to the University Gazette – Social Sciences Division**

SSD/2/2/4

**Social Sciences Board**

**Approved by Teaching Audit Committee on 13/10/14 and Education Committee on 20/10/14**

**Title of programme**

MSc Criminology and Criminal Justice

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Changes to teaching of core and option courses over 8 weeks, assess two core courses by two examinations, one in Michaelmas, one in Hilary, to move teaching of option course to Hilary Term, and to extend the word length of the dissertation.

**Effective date**

For students starting from MT 2015

For first examination from 2015-16

**Location of change**

Examination Regulations 2014 plus changes *Gazetted* on 24/07/14

**Detail of change**

1. Every candidate must follow, for at least three terms, a course of instruction in Criminology and Criminal Justice.
2. There shall be a Board of Studies for the course, to be chaired by the Director of Graduate Studies for Criminology and also comprising all the members of the Board of Examiners for the Master of Science in Criminology and Criminal Justice for the current year, the Director or Assistant Director of the Centre for Criminology and a student representative (the latter for open business only).
3. The course will consist of four elements: core course in Explanation and Understanding in Criminology (Michaelmas Term) and Understanding Criminal Justice (Hilary Term); the

course Research Design and Data Collection (Michaelmas Term); options; and dissertation. The core course will run for ~~six-eight~~ weeks throughout the first two terms (Michaelmas and Hilary). The Research Design and Data Collection course runs for ~~six-eight~~ weeks in the first term (Michaelmas). Options will run for ~~six-eight~~ weeks in ~~each-both Michaelmas and Hilary terms. (Michaelmas, Hilary and Trinity).~~ Candidates will be required to choose two options in Michaelmas Term and three in Hilary Term. each of the first two terms and one for the final term. ~~In Trinity Term students submit a -The~~ dissertation ~~will be 812,000-1015,000~~ words long on a topic to be agreed by the Board of Studies. The required format for this dissertation is the common format prescribed for all law theses, which is printed in the Faculty of Law's Graduate Students' Handbook.

4. The options are listed in the Schedule below.

5. Not all options will necessarily be taught or examined in any one year. Details of those which are available will be published in the Graduate Student Handbook produced by the Centre for Criminology for the year of the examination, subject to any amendment posted on the designated notice board in the Centre for Criminology by Monday of Week Minus One of the Michaelmas Term before the examination is held.

6. In addition to the options set out in the Schedule, candidates may offer any other option that may be approved from time to time by regulation published in the *Gazette* by the end of Monday of Week Minus One of the Michaelmas Term before the examination is held.

7. The course shall be assessed as follows:

(i) *Core Course*: There shall be ~~a-2 two three~~-hour examinations for the core course, the first to be taken in Week Nought of Hilary Term, and the second to be taken in Week Nought of Trinity Term.

(ii) *Options and Research Design and Data Collection*: Courses other than Research Design and Data Collection, Social Explanation and Data Analysis, Quantitative Analysis for Social Scientists, and Qualitative Methods shall be examined by means of an assessed essay of no less than 3,500 and no more than ~~5,000~~4,500 words (inclusive of footnotes, but excluding bibliography and appendices), for which time will be set aside during ~~the last three~~ weeks 8, 9 and 10 of ~~each Michaelmas and Hilary terms.~~ A selection of three titles (as determined by the Board of Examiners), shall be posted on the designated noticeboard at the Centre for Criminology by noon on ~~Friday-Thursday~~ of Week ~~Six-Seven~~ of the relevant term. Candidates shall be required to submit two typewritten copies of each essay to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, not later than ~~three weeks after this date~~Wednesday of Week Ten, by noon. Research Design and Data Collection, Social Explanation and Data Analysis, Quantitative Analysis for Social Scientists, and Qualitative Methods shall be examined by an assessed essay of 2,500 to 3,000 words (inclusive of footnotes, but excluding bibliography and appendices), to be written between ~~Friday Thursday~~ of Week ~~Six-Seven~~ and ~~Friday-Wednesday~~ of Week ~~Nine-Ten~~ of the term in which the course runs. A choice from three titles (as determined by the Board of Examiners) will be posted on the designated noticeboard at the Centre for Criminology by noon on ~~Friday-Thursday~~ of Week ~~Six-Seven~~ of the relevant term. Candidates shall be required to submit two copies of the essay to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, not later than ~~three weeks after this date~~Wednesday of Week 10, by noon. In addition, candidates taking Social Explanation and Data Analysis and/or Quantitative Analysis for Social Scientists and/or Qualitative Methods shall be required to complete to the satisfaction of the Course Tutor for the option a form of continuous assessment, which will be approved by the Board of Studies and the details of which will be published in the

Graduate Student Handbook for the relevant year.

(iii) *Dissertation*: Two typewritten copies of the dissertation shall be submitted to the Examination Schools by noon on ~~Friday~~ Wednesday of Week ~~Nine~~ Ten of Trinity Term. One bound copy of the dissertation of each candidate who passes the examination shall be deposited in the Social Science Library, Manor Road.

8. The degree of M.Sc. shall be awarded to any candidate who achieves a mark of at least 50 per cent for (a) the five options and the Research Design and Data Collection course, (b) the core course paper, and (c) the dissertation, as well as satisfactory completion of the continuous assessment element of the Social Explanation and Data Analysis, and/or Quantitative Methods for Social Scientists and/or Qualitative Methods.

9. The examiners may award a distinction for excellence in the whole examination.

10. Arrangements for reassessment shall be as follows:

(i) *Core Course*: Candidates who fail, or withdraw from, ~~the either~~ core course examination may resit the examination according to the standard timetable for examinations in the in the Trinity Term of the following academic year. Such candidates who have completed successfully either or both of (a) the options and Research Design and Data Collection (i.e. have obtained an aggregate mark of 50 per cent or more) and (b) the dissertation, may carry forward the marks gained for the successfully completed components. Candidates may also carry forward their certificate of satisfactory completion of the continuous assessment element of Research Design and Data Collection, and, where relevant, those of Social Explanation and Data Analysis, and/or Quantitative Methods for Social Scientists and/or Qualitative Methods.

(ii) *Options and Research Design and Data Collection*: Candidates who have failed to obtain an aggregate mark of 50 per cent for assessment for the options or who have withdrawn from any assessment, may resubmit assessments for which they obtained a mark of 49 per cent or less. Candidates may resubmit assessed essays in which they have obtained a mark of 49 per cent or less to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, according to the standard timetable for submitting essays in the following academic year. Such candidates who have completed successfully (a) the core course examination, (b) the dissertation, and (c) any assessment for which they have received a mark of 50 per cent or more, may carry forward the marks gained for the successfully completed components. Candidates may also carry forward their certificate of satisfactory completion of the continuous assessment element of where relevant, that of Social Explanation and Data Analysis, and/or Quantitative Methods for Social Scientists and/or Qualitative Methods.

(iii) *Continuous assessment element of Social Explanation and Data Analysis, Quantitative Methods for Social Scientists and Qualitative Methods*: Candidates who fail to complete an assignment which forms part of the continuous assessment element of Social Explanation and Data Analysis and/or Quantitative Methods for Social Scientists and/or Qualitative Methods to the satisfaction of the respective Course Tutor may be required to resubmit that assignment once by noon on ~~Friday~~ Thursday of Week ~~Nine~~ Ten of the relevant term.

(iv) *Dissertation*: Candidates who fail, or withdraw from, the dissertation may resubmit the dissertation by the required date in Trinity Term of the following academic year. Such candidates who have completed successfully (a) the core course and/or (b) the options may carry forward the marks gained for the successfully completed components. Candidates may also carry forward their certificate of satisfactory completion of the continuous assessment element of Social Explanation and Data Analysis and/or

Quantitative Methods for Social Scientists and/or Qualitative Methods.

***Schedule***

Comparative and Transnational Criminal Justice

Comparative Criminal Justice, Security and Human Rights

Criminal Justice in Transitional Settings

Criminal Justice, Migration and Citizenship

Crime and the Family

Desistance from Crime: The Role of Criminal Justice Agencies

Law, Economics and Crime

Mafias

News Media, Crime and Policy

Policing Global Insecurities

Prisons

Public and Private Policing

Public Opinion, Crime and Criminal Justice

Qualitative Methods

Quantitative Analysis for Social Scientists

Race and Gender

Research Design and Data Collection

Restorative Justice

Risk, Security and Criminal Justice

Sentencing

Social Explanation and Data Analysis

Sociology of Punishment

The Death Penalty

The Politics of Crime Control

Transitional Justice

Victims

Victims and Restorative Justice

Violence and Civilisation

Youth Justice

**Explanatory Notes**

Changes to teaching of core and option courses over 8 weeks, assess two core courses by two examinations, one in Hilary, one in Trinity, to move teaching of option course to Hilary Term, and to extend the word length of the dissertation.