Humanities Divisional Board

Approved by officers on behalf of the Board on 3 October 2018

Title of Programme
Honour School of Oriental Studies

Brief note about nature of change: Restructuring and renaming of subsidiary language

Location of change
In Examination Regulations 2017 (http://www1.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2017-18/hsoforiestud/administratorview/)

Effective date
For students starting from MT 2018
For first examination from 2019-20

Detail of change
New text underlined, deletions struck-through:

1.44 or, for Arabic with a Subsidiary Language, Papers 1-6 above and 10 above, [A dissertation is to be approved by the Board of the Faculty of Oriental Studies. See the ‘Guidelines for writers of theses’ under Arabic and Islamic Studies above for notes concerning the preparation and submission of a dissertation-] and 11, 12, 13: three papers from one of the following languages:

1.45 Akkadian.
1.46 Aramaic and Syriac.
1.47 Armenian.
1.48 Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies).

Early Iranian
Hebrew.
Hindi/Urdu.
Persian.
Turkish.

Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies

Either, for Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies with a subsidiary language

The languages which may be offered shall be:

As first language: Akkadian or Egyptian

One of the following as second language (which must be different from the first language):

Akkadian

Early Iranian

Egyptian

Coptic

Hittite

Sumerian

(teaching for some languages may not be available every year)

Students will be required to offer the following papers:

1. Translation paper (first language).

2. Translation paper (second language).

3., 4. Literary and historical topics including prepared translation from first language.

5., 6. Literary and historical topics including prepared translation from second language.

For papers 4 and 6, in each case four passages from a list of prescribed texts will be set for examination by essay. For each paper, candidates must present a translation of and essay on one passage. Papers should be typed and provided with proper scholarly apparatus. The passages for paper 4 will be published at 10 a.m. on Monday of Week 1 in Full Term in the term in which the final examination is to be offered, and must be handed in to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford no later than 12 noon on Monday of Week 2. A signed statement that the essay is the candidate's
own work should be submitted separately in a sealed envelope bearing his or her candidate number, to the Chair of examiners (forms are available from the Faculty Office, Oriental Institute). The passages for paper 6 will be published at 10 a.m. on Monday of Week 3 in Full Term in the term in which the final examination is to be offered, and must be handed in to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford no later than 12 noon on Monday of Week 4. Essays should not exceed 3,500 words. A signed statement that the essay is the candidate's own work should be submitted separately in a sealed envelope bearing his or her candidate number, to the Chair of examiners (forms are available from the Faculty Office, Oriental Institute). Candidates will be contacted with details of how to collect or access the papers.

Candidates offering one of the following as the second language in the above papers follow the regulations for ‘Subsidary Languages’ in the Honour School of Oriental Studies:

1.91 Arabic
1.92 Aramaic and Syriac
1.93 Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies)
1.94 Hebrew (Biblical and Rabbinic)
1.95 and Old Iranian Early Iranian.

(...)

1.164 or, for Persian with a subsidiary language,
1.165 Papers 1., 2., 3., 7., and 10. above and 11. and 12.
1.166 Two papers from papers 4., 5., and 6 above
1.167 13., 14., and 15. Subsidiary language. Three papers on one of the following languages: Arabic, Armenian, Hebrew, Old Iranian Early Iranian, Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies), Hindi/Urdu, and Turkish.
1.168 Applications for the approval of options in papers, 8., 9., 13., 14., and 15. must be submitted to the Faculty Office by the deadline in the Course Handbook.

1.169 Sanskrit

1.170 The following papers will be set:
1.171 1. Sanskrit unprepared translation.
1.172 2. Essay questions on the history of classical Indian literature and civilization.
1.173 This paper may include questions on the visual arts in ancient India.
1.174 3. Indian linguistics.
Candidates will be examined on their general knowledge and understanding of *vyākaraṇa śāstra*, with particular reference to Pāṇini, *Āṣṭādhyāyī* (ed. Böhtlingk, 1,1,1-3,16; 1,4-2,2 (inclusive); and 3,1,91-132).

4. For candidates offering Hindi, Old Iranian, Early Iranian, Pali, Prakrit, or Tibetan as additional language: The historical philology of Old Indo-Aryan, with particular reference to:

(a) Selected sūktas from the *Ṛg Veda* (ed. Müller). A list of sūktas is available in the course handbook.

(b) Selected passages of prose from the Yajurveda Samhitā and Brahmānas, and from the early Upanisads. A list of passages is available in the course handbook.

For papers 5 and 6, two papers in a chosen area of Sanskrit studies approved by the Board of the Faculty. Applications for approval must be submitted by the Monday of the sixth week of the Trinity Term of the academic year preceding the examination. (Note: These papers are intended to allow candidates to specialise in a particular area of Sanskrit studies such as kāvya, dharmaśāstra, philosophy, grammar, or religion.)

5. Unprepared translation from Sanskrit texts.

6. Essay questions on the chosen area.

7. A special subject from among the following, or such other special subjects as may be approved by the board of the faculty:

(a) Comparative grammar of Sanskrit and Old Iranian.

(b) Indian art and archaeology.

(c) Composition in Sanskrit prose and/or verse.

(d) Practical criticism and appreciation, including translation from the Sanskrit.

Either

8. and 9. Two papers on one of the following additional languages: Hindi, Old Iranian, Early Iranian, Pali, Prakrit, Tibetan.

Or 8., 9., 10. Three papers on Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies) as an additional language.

(...)

or, for *Turkish with a subsidiary language*, Papers 1-6 and 10 above. (A dissertation is to be approved by the Board of the Faculty of Oriental Studies. See the ‘Guidelines for writers of Theses’ under Arabic and Islamic Studies above for notes concerning the preparation and submission of a dissertation) and
1.20. 11., 12., 13. Three papers on one of the following languages: Arabic, Armenian, Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies), Early Iranian, Hebrew, Hindi/Urdu, Persian.

**SUBSIDIARY LANGUAGES**

(...)

1.24. Coptic (for candidates offering Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies) or Egyptology as main subject).

1.24\textsuperscript{1} The following papers will be set:

- 1.24\textsuperscript{2} Coptic unprepared translation and grammar.
- 1.24\textsuperscript{3} Prepared texts I.6
- 1.24\textsuperscript{4} Prepared texts II, with general questions.

**Early Iranian**

Candidates offering Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies), Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Arabic, Persian or Turkish as main subject will offer three papers, with no more than two from group (a). Candidates offering Sanskrit as main subject will offer two papers: either one paper from group (a) and one paper from groups (b) or (c), or one paper from group (a) and paper (d).

(a) Old and Middle Iranian Language

1. Avestan Texts
2. Old Persian texts
3. Middle Persian texts

(b) Religion and Philology of Ancient and Late Antique Iran

4. Zoroastrianism
5. Indo-Iranian Philology

(c) History of Ancient and Late Antique Iran

6. Achaemenid History
7. Sasanian History

(d) Early Iranian Texts and Topics:

Candidates will choose two of the subjects 1 to 7 above. Candidates may not choose under (d) a subject which they are also offering from group (a).
**Egyptology** (for candidates offering Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies) or Hebrew as main subject).

The following papers will be set:

1, 2, 3 = Papers 2, 5, and 6 as specified for Egyptian in the Honour School of Oriental Studies (Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies). (Instead of either paper 5 or paper 6, candidates may offer one of papers 7, 9 or 10 as specified for the Honour School of Oriental Studies (Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies).

(...)

**Old Iranian** (for candidates offering Sanskrit as main subject).

The following papers will be set:

1. Avestan Texts.
2. Old Persian texts and questions on the linguistic and cultural background to the Old Iranian texts.

(...)

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<th><strong>Table 22</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Main Subjects</strong></td>
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<td>Chinese</td>
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<td>Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies</td>
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<td>Hebrew</td>
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<td>Japanese</td>
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Explanatory Notes

The proposed restructure of the existing option ‘Old Iranian’ will maintain all the existing offerings of Avestan, Old Persian and Indo-Iranian philology but will add Middle Persian language and texts as a third language choice and complement the teaching of the three languages with papers offered in the history of the Zoroastrian religion, Achaemenid history and Sasanian history (paralleling the languages of Avestan, Old Persian and Middle Persian). The option is renamed ‘Early Iranian’, in order to encompass both the ancient and late antique periods and the various disciplines including philology, history and religion. This is being introduced for students starting the FHS in Mt 2018 or later.