

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

SSD/2/2/4

Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by Quality Assurance Committee (25/11/2019) and Education Committee (19/02/2020)

Master of Studies in Archaeological Science

Brief note about nature of change: Discontinue the 'Master of Studies in Archaeological Science' regulations

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2019*, <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2019-20/mosinarchscie/administratorview/>

Effective date

Regulations to apply until MT 2020

Detail of change

1. Discontinue entire regulations:

~~1.1. Within the Division of Social Sciences, the course shall be administered by the School of Archaeology. The regulations made are as follows:~~

~~1.2. Candidates for admission must apply to the School of Archaeology.~~

~~1.3. Candidates must follow a course of instruction in Archaeological Science for at least three terms and for a substantial part of the first two subsequent vacations, as determined by the course timetable.~~

~~1.4. The registration of candidates will lapse at the end of Trinity Term in the academic year of their admission, unless it shall have been extended by the committee.~~

~~1.5. The examination shall consist of:~~

~~1.6 (a) three papers on the syllabus described in the Schedule, to be taken as written examinations in the second week of Trinity Term, and~~

~~1-7~~(b) one pre-set essay of approximately 10,000 words, the subject and length of which must be submitted for approval to the Chair of Examiners by noon on the Friday of the sixth week of Hilary Term. Candidates must upload their essay to the Assignments section of the course WebLearn site by noon on the Monday of first week of Trinity Term. Essays must bear the candidate's examination number but not his or her name, and must include a statement of the number of words.

~~1-8~~(c) in lieu of one of the three papers described in the Schedule, candidates may, with the permission of the School of Archaeology Committee for Graduate Studies, take one of the options from the M.St in Archaeology or M.St in Classical Archaeology (Schedule B only), to be examined by two pre-set essays, each of approximately 5,000 words. Candidates taking such an option would be examined on one pre-set essay of approximately 5,000 words on a topic in Archaeological Science in lieu of the requirements laid out in b) above.

~~1-9~~6. Each candidate will be required to submit a report of approximately 5,000 words, on a practical project selected in consultation with the supervisor and approved by the Chair of Examiners for Archaeological Science. Proposed titles must be submitted for approval to the Chair of Examiners by noon on the Friday of the sixth week of Hilary Term.

~~1-10~~7. Candidates must upload the report of their practical project to the Assignments section of the course WebLearn site no later than noon on the Friday of ninth week of the Trinity Term in the year in which the examination is taken.

~~1-11~~With respect to essays and practical project reports, only the file submitted via WebLearn constitutes a valid submission; no concomitant hard-copy submission must be submitted for any purpose. Each submission must be accompanied by a declaration indicating that it is the candidate's own work.

~~1-12~~8. The examiners may require to see the records of practical work carried out during the first two terms of the course.

~~1-13~~9. Candidates must present themselves for an oral examination if required by the examiners. This may be on the candidate's written papers, or practical work, or both.

~~1-14~~10. The examiners may award a distinction for excellence in the whole examination.

~~1-15~~11. In the case of failure in just one part of the examination, the candidate will be permitted to retake that part of the examination on one further occasion, not later than one year after the initial attempt. Written papers would be retaken the following year.

SCHEDULE

~~1-16~~(i) *Principles and practice of scientific dating*

~~1-17~~The principles of scientific dating methods including radiocarbon, luminescence, uranium series, and dendro-chronology. The practical aspects of these methods and the problems encountered in their application. The statistical analysis of chronological information in the study of archaeological

sites and cultures.

~~1-18~~ (ii) *Bio-archaeology*

~~1-19~~ Scientific methods for the study of biological remains from archaeological sites; introduction to the analysis of plant and faunal remains including indicators of disease and artefactual analysis; theoretical and practical aspects of quantitative methods for diet reconstruction by isotopic analysis; introduction to ancient DNA studies; residue analysis.

~~1-20~~ (iii) *Materials analysis and the study of technological change*

~~1-21~~ Introduction to the history of technology; theoretical and practical aspects of materials analysis methods-SEM, microprobe, TIMS, ICP, ICP-MS, XRF, XRD, PIXE, FTIR, and NAA; application to analysis to different material types-stone, ceramics, vitreous materials, and metals; provenance of raw materials; case studies of application to archaeological problems.

Explanatory Notes

The degree has been closed.