

## Humanities Divisional Board

Approved by officers on behalf of the Board on 11 June 2018

### Title of Programme

Master of Science by Coursework in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology

**Brief note about nature of change:** Change to paper and assessment

### Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2017* (<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2017-18/mosbcieandsocihist/>)

### Effective date

**For students starting from MT 2018**

**For first examination from 2018-19**

### Detail of change

New text underlined, deletions struck-through:

<sup>1.4</sup>*Qualifying test*

<sup>1.5</sup>Every candidate must pass a qualifying test. The test shall consist of ~~two courses on a~~ course in Methods and Themes in HSMT.

~~<sup>1.6</sup>1. Methods and themes in the history of science and technology.~~

~~<sup>1.7</sup>2. Methods and themes in the history of medicine.~~

~~<sup>1.8</sup>Candidates may be advised on the basis of their prospective individual research to substitute one of the following courses from the Master of Science in Economic and Social History for (1) or (2) above:~~

~~<sup>1.9</sup>(i) Methodological introduction to research in the social sciences and history.~~

~~1.10(ii) Quantitative Methods and Computer Applications for Historians.~~

~~1.11 A paper from another established course within the University may be substituted for one of the standard courses where this would provide a more appropriate training for the candidate's dissertation focus. Candidates wishing to do so must obtain the permission of the Programme Convenor, the person responsible for the delivery of the requested advanced paper, the candidate's supervisor, and the Director of Graduate Studies. 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 remain in force.~~

1.12 The two methodological introduction courses Methods and Themes in HSMT course will each be assessed by a methodological essay of up to ~~3,000~~4,000 words. The **essays** must be uploaded to the Assignments section of the History of Medicine, Science and Technology WebLearn site by noon on Monday of Week 10 of Michaelmas Term. ~~Essays should be accompanied by a declaration that they are~~it is the candidate's own work. In addition, convenors of qualifying courses will confirm in writing to the chair of examiners not later than Friday of eighth week of Hilary Term the candidates' satisfactory participation in their classes, including the completion of any assignments for the weekly sessions. ~~Any approved alternative qualifying course will be assessed within the format and timetable of the paper's parent course.~~ No candidate who has failed the qualifying test of ~~two~~ courses will be permitted to supplicate for the degree. Candidates who fail ~~a~~the qualifying course once will be permitted to take it again, not later than one year after the initial attempt.

Candidates will submit two 'practice' essays of 3,000 words, one on Friday of Week 3 of Hilary Term and one on Friday of Week 6 of Hilary Term. Of these two essays and the Methods and Themes in HSMT essay, at least one must address a topic in the history of medicine and at least one must address a topic in the history of science and technology. The essays must address a range of topics in the history of science, medicine, and technology, and may not overlap considerably in subject matter.

1.13 *Final examinations*

1.14 The examination shall consist of two papers and a dissertation.

1.15 ~~Candidates must take at least one of their papers as a three-hour written examination. For the remaining paper candidates must choose to be assessed either by written examination or by two 5,000-word essays. Essays may only be submitted in lieu of written papers for subjects in Schedule I~~

~~below ('Advanced Papers for M.Phil. and M.Sc. in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology') or for other papers permitted in Schedule II below where similar provision exists in the regulations for these examinations. These papers are each assessed by two essays of 4,000-5,000 words. The essays must be the work of the candidates alone and they must not consult any other person including their supervisors in any way concerning the method of handling the themes chosen. The themes chosen by the candidate must be submitted for approval by the Chair of Examiners by the examination entry date. Candidates will be informed within two weeks, by means of a letter directed to their colleges, whether the topics they have submitted have been approved. The finished essays must be uploaded to the Assignments section of the History of Medicine, Science and Technology WebLearn site by noon on Monday of ~~sixth week~~ Week 9 of Trinity Full Term. The essays must be presented in proper scholarly form and accompanied by a declaration that they are the candidate's own work.~~

1.16I. One advanced paper selected from Schedule I below.

1.17II. *Either* (i) one paper in a relevant discipline or skill or sources or methods selected from Schedule II below;

1.18 *or* (ii) a second advanced paper selected from Schedule I or from any additional list of papers for the M.Phil. and M.Sc. in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology approved by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of History and published in the definitive list of Advanced Papers as set out in Schedule I.

1.19III. A dissertation of not more than 15,000 words, including appendices but excluding bibliography, on a topic approved by the candidate's supervisor. The dissertation must be uploaded to the Assignments section of the History of Medicine, Science and Technology WebLearn site not later than noon on the last Friday in August of the year in which the examination is taken. The dissertation should be accompanied by a declaration that ~~they are~~ it is the candidate's own work.

1.20 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 dissertation word count.

~~1.223. The examiners will permit the use of any hand-held pocket calculator subject to the conditions set out under the heading 'Use of calculators in examinations' in the *Regulations for the Conduct of University Examinations*.~~

~~1.234. The examiners may award a distinction for excellence in the whole examination.~~

1.24 ~~53~~. A candidate who fails the examination will be permitted to retake it on one further occasion only, not later than one year after the initial attempt.

### **Explanatory Notes**

The two Methods and Themes courses have been changed to one combined Methods and Themes course, to better reflect that students study all aspects of Science, Medicine and Technology

The option to take a methodological or quantitative course has been removed, as the combined Methods and Themes course means that this is no longer appropriate.

Assessment in the Method and Themes course has been changed, to be more in line with assessment methods used in other Faculty of History courses. For the same reason, assessment by examination for the advanced papers has been replaced by assessment by coursework submission.

The wording regarding the use of calculators in examinations has been removed, due to the removal of assessment by examination.

The change also removes reference to the award of distinction, as the latter has been moved to the general regulations.