

<b>HUMANITIES DIVISIONAL BOARD</b>
<p><b>Title of Programme</b></p> <p>Master of Science by Coursework in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology</p>
<p><b>Brief note about nature of change:</b> These changes provide for online submission of coursework and clarify the conditions under which options may be taken, and examined, from other graduate programmes.</p>
<p><b>Effective date</b></p> <p>For students starting from MT 2016 For first examination from 2016-17</p>
<p><b>Location of change</b></p> <p>In <i>Examination Regulations</i> online</p>
<p><sup>1.1</sup>The regulations of the Board of the Faculty of History are as follows:</p> <p><sup>1.2</sup>1. Every candidate must follow for at least three terms a course of instruction in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, and must upon entering for the examination produce from his or her society a certificate to that effect.</p> <p><sup>1.3</sup>2. The examination will consist of the following parts:</p> <p><sup>1.4</sup><i>Qualifying test</i></p> <p><sup>1.5</sup>Every candidate must pass a qualifying test. The test shall consist of two courses on</p> <p><sup>1.6</sup>1. Methods and themes in the history of science and technology.</p> <p><sup>1.7</sup>2. Methods and themes in the history of medicine.</p> <p><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:</p> <p><sup>1.9</sup>(i) Methodological introduction to research in the social sciences and history.</p> <p><sup>1.10</sup>(ii) Quantitative Methods and Computer Applications for Historians.</p> <p><sup>1.11</sup>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. <del>Such a choice will need formal approval from both the Course Director and the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of History.</del> <u>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</u></p>

### Graduate Studies.

Such candidates will be assessed according to the regulations with respect to the form of assessment and deadlines governing that option (ie 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.

<sup>1.12</sup>The two methodological introduction courses will each be assessed by a methodological essay of up to 3,000 words. ~~Two typewritten copies of each of the~~ The essays must be submitted 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 to the Chair of Examiners for the M.Sc. in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology, c/o Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, OX1 4BG.

Essays should be accompanied by a declaration that they are 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 qualifying course once will be permitted to take it again, not later than one year after the initial attempt.

#### <sup>1.13</sup> *Final examinations*

<sup>1.14</sup>The examination shall consist of two papers and a dissertation.

<sup>1.15</sup>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 those examinations. 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 ~~delivered by the candidate to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford,~~ uploaded to the Assignments section of the History of Medicine, Science and Technology WebLearn site by noon on Monday of sixth week of Trinity Full Term. The essays must be presented in proper scholarly form, and two typed copies of each must be submitted and accompanied by a declaration that they are the candidate's own work.

<sup>1.16</sup> i. One advanced paper selected from Schedule I below.

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

<sup>1.18</sup> *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.

<sup>1.19</sup> III. 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 ~~delivered~~ 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 ~~to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford~~. Dissertations submitted must not exceed the permitted length. If they do the examiners will reduce the marks awarded. The presentation and footnotes should comply with the requirements specified in the Regulations of the Education Committee for the degrees of M.Litt. and D.Phil. and follow the *Conventions for the presentation of dissertations and theses* of the Board of the Faculty of History. The dissertation should be accompanied by a declaration that they are the candidate's own work.

<sup>1.20</sup> 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 length.

~~<sup>1.21</sup> Candidates must submit by the specified date three copies of their dissertation. These must be securely and firmly bound in either hard or soft covers.~~

<sup>1.22</sup> 3. 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* .

<sup>1.23</sup> 4. The examiners may award a distinction for excellence in the whole examination.

<sup>1.24</sup> 5. 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.

<sup>1.25</sup> Such a candidate whose dissertation has been of satisfactory standard may resubmit the same piece of work, while a candidate who has reached a satisfactory standard on the written papers will not be required to retake that part of the examination.

## **SCHEDULE I**

<sup>1.26</sup> **Advanced Papers for the M.Phil. and M.Sc. in History of Science, Medicine, and Technology**

<sup>1.27</sup> A broad range of the course resources are shared with the corresponding courses in Economic and Social History, and Advanced Papers are therefore available in the subject areas listed here.

<sup>1.28</sup> 1. Economic and business history

<sup>1.29</sup> 2. History of science and technology

<sup>1.30</sup>3. Social history

<sup>1.31</sup>4. Historical demography

<sup>1.32</sup>5. History of medicine

<sup>1.33</sup>A descriptive list of Advanced Papers will be published by the Board of the Faculty of History in September for the academic year ahead (not all options may be available in every year). The definitive list of the titles of Advanced Papers for any one year will be circulated to candidates and their supervisors and posted on the Faculty notice board not later than Friday of third week of Michaelmas Term.

## **SCHEDULE II**

<sup>1.34</sup>The paper in a relevant discipline or skill may be:

<sup>1.35</sup>1. One of the papers from the M.Phil. in Sociology or in Comparative Social Policy.

<sup>1.36</sup>2. One suitable paper from another Master's degree under the auspices of the Faculty of History approved from time to time by the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of History.

<sup>1.37</sup>3. One suitable paper in a related skill or discipline other than those specified in paragraphs 1 to 2 above on the recommendation of the candidate's supervisor and endorsed by the Course Director.

<sup>1.38</sup>Choices under Schedule II have to be approved by the Chair of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Board of the Faculty of History not later than Monday of the fourth week of Michaelmas Term. Candidates wishing to take a paper under 1 or 3 will also need the approval of the appropriate course convenor and the Graduate Studies Committee of the relevant faculty board or inter-faculty committee who need to be satisfied that each candidate has an adequate background in the subject. Not all options may be available in any one year.

## **Explanatory Notes**

These changes provide for online submission of coursework and clarify the conditions under which options may be taken, and examined, from other graduate programmes.

Online submission was provisionally approved by the History Faculty Board at its meeting in Week 3 of Trinity Term 2016, pending discussion at History Graduate Studies Committee in Week 4 of Trinity Term, which approved the measure. Online submission has been consistently recommended by external examiners, and is supported by students; our expectation is that it will be administratively more straightforward than paper-based submission, that it will allow speedier despatch of materials to externals and that it will permit additional benefits, such as automatic checking for word-length and plagiarism.

The freedom to take options from other courses has long been a feature of some of the Faculty's PGT programmes (notably in Economic and Social History and History of Science, Medicine and

Technology). The Faculty would like to extend this opportunity to students taking other PGT courses. A recommendation to that effect was approved at History GSC in Week 4 of Hilary Term 2016 and approved at the subsequent meeting of the History Board in Week 8 of Hilary Term 2016. We believe that there will be sufficient administrative resources in the soon-to-be-established History Academic Office to support these two initiatives.