

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Approved at the meeting of Undergraduate Studies Committee on 26.02.21

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Honour School of Psychology, Philosophy, and Linguistics

Brief note about nature of change: Amendments to Part I assessment methodology and paper arrangements

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2019-20*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=hsop-philandling&srchYear=2020&srchTerm=1&year=2019&term=1>

Effective date

For students starting from TT2021 on the Part I of the FHS course onwards.

And

For first examination from academic year 2021/22

Detail of change

PART I

The four written papers as specified for Part I of the Honour School of Experimental Psychology will be set:

Paper I Biological Psychology

Component parts: (i) Behavioural Neuroscience, (ii) Perception.

Paper II Human Experimental Psychology.

Component parts: (i) Cognition, (ii) Development Science.

Paper III Social Psychology, and Individual Differences and Clinical Psychology.

Component parts: (i) Social Psychology, (ii) Individual Differences and Clinical

Psychology-

Paper IV Experimental Design and Methods.

Paper I Multiple Choice Questions on each of the six components of Paper II and III below.

Paper II Biological and Cognitive Psychology.

Components: (i) Behavioural Neuroscience, (ii) Perception; (iii) Cognition.

Paper III Social, Developmental and Individual Differences.

Components: (i) Social Psychology, (ii) Developmental Science, (iii) Individual Differences and Clinical Psychology.

Paper IV Experimental Design and Methods.

Candidates will be required to answer essays and short answer questions in *three* of the six components of Papers ~~I-III~~ II and III. Candidates will be required to answer multiple choice questions in the same three corresponding components of Paper I, as a computer-based assessment. All candidates are required to offer Paper IV (Part A).

Candidates who wish to be deemed eligible for Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership (GBC) of the British Psychological Society (BPS) must ensure that the components they select provide coverage of all five of the areas defined in the GBC curriculum. In order to achieve this, candidates must offer a total of three full examined assessments papers (i.e. both MCO and essay questions for each component) and two core laboratory assignments ~~short answer section only papers~~ in the areas prescribed below:

1. Behavioural Neuroscience ~~from Paper I;~~
2. Developmental Science ~~from Paper II;~~
3. Social Psychology ~~from Paper III;~~
4. Individual Differences and Clinical Psychology ~~from Paper III;~~
5. An ~~paper~~ examined assessment (i.e., MCOs and essay questions) or core laboratory assignment in either Perception or Cognition of the remaining two components from Papers I or II.

The other requirements for BPS Graduate Basis for Chartered Membership are set out in Part II below.

Explanatory Notes

Computer-based assessments in the form of multiple choice questions will bring the subject in line with assessments within the Medical Sciences Division, reduce the likelihood of errors and speed the examination process. Multiple choice questions combined into a single paper, will again bring the subject in line with other assessments within the Medical Sciences Division, and facilitating practical arrangements of electronic assessment venues. In addition, BPS accreditation via coursework (core laboratory assignments) will draw on existing coursework that the students already complete, increasing motivation and a chance to draw from the coursework as a learning experience. Finally, as time management of mixed mode examinations (e.g., composed of MCOs and essays) can be difficult to achieve, separating Paper I from Papers II and III may help students arrange complete all elements in time.