Humanities Divisional Board

Approved at the Faculty Board meeting of 3 June 2021
Approved by Division 16 July 2021

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation
Master of Studies in Philosophy

Brief note about nature of change:
Resit Deadline Change

Location of change
In Examination Regulations 2021 (2020-21, Master of Studies in Philosophy (ox.ac.uk)), ref 1.6

Effective date
For students starting from MT 2021. For first examination from 2021-22.

Detail of change
Change of wording of ref 1.6

1.6. Candidates who fail any essays towards the degree of MSt in Philosophy up to two essays will be permitted to resubmit those essays at one of two subsequent BPhil essay submission dates; a resubmitted essay may be on a new topic, and may be on a new subject, provided that the distribution requirement is met. Candidates who choose to resubmit one or two failed essays must do so by 10 a.m. on Wednesday of noughtth week of the following Michaelmas Term where the failed essay or essays had been submitted during the first year of the degree, or by Wednesday of noughtth week of the following Hilary Term where the essay or essays had been submitted in noughtth week of Michaelmas Term. Candidates who fail three or more essays will be permitted to resubmit work for the failed elements of the examination during the following academic year. Candidates need only resubmit work for those elements of the examination that they failed. No resubmitted essay can receive a mark of more than 50. Candidates who fail to satisfy the examiners a second time in any part of the examination may not re-submit work for any part of the examination on any subsequent occasion.

Explanatory Notes
On 3 June 2021 the Faculty of Philosophy’s Graduate Studies Committee approved a change in essay resit deadlines (for which an examination regulation change is being requested at the same time as this examination regulation change). This resit deadline change was approved as it would ensure students would get their essay resits out of the
way before they start work on, concentrate on and/or have to submit their thesis, thereby allowing them to concentrate on this vital part of their degree, rather than being distracted by their resit essay(s). It also has the advantage that students do not embark on or continue work on the thesis, and pay the accompanying course fees, if they fail a resit and, in line with the examination regulations, are required to leave the BPhil with the MSt in Philosophy exit award.

It should be noted that the MSt in Philosophy is merely used as an exit award for students who leave the BPhil early or fail the BPhil (due to failing a resit) but have sufficient credit for the award of the MSt in Philosophy. The Faculty does not admit and enrol students straight onto the MSt in Philosophy course. Hence, as a result of the BPhil resit deadlines changes approved by the 3 June 2021 GSC, a change in resit deadlines is also required for the MSt in Philosophy (exit award) resit deadlines, as indicated above.