

**Humanities Divisional Board****Approved by**

The Faculty Board of Music: Professor Martyn Harry (Director of Undergraduate Studies) and Professor Suzanne Aspden (Faculty Board Chair)

Approved by the Division 16 July 2021

**Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation**

Preliminary Examination in Music

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Change reflects the curriculum reform for the Faculty of Music and the recommended streamlining of the Exam regulations

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations*

(<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=pexaminmusi&srchYear=2020&srchTerm=1&year=2020&term=1> )

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2021**

**For first examination from 2021-22**

**Detail of Change****A**

1.11. The subject of the Preliminary Examination in Music shall be the study of the history, criticism, theory, composition, performance, and practice of music.

**B**

Each candidate will be required to offer papers 1-4 and two of the options in paper 5.

1. Foundations in the Study of Music (written paper)

2. Stylistic Composition, Arranging, and Transcription (SCART, takeaway paper)

The paper shall consist of three parts. Assessment will be in the form of a seven-day takeaway paper; candidates will be expected to answer two out of three questions:

- i) Counterpoint
- ii) Harmony
- iii) Musical Transcription and Arrangement

~~1.2~~ Each candidate will be required to offer papers 1-3 and two of the options in paper 4.

~~1.3~~ 1. Techniques of Composition and Keyboard Skills

~~1.4~~ The paper shall consist of two parts:

~~1.5~~ A. Techniques of Composition:

~~1.6~~ A seven-day take-away paper in which candidates should attempt three questions: the two compulsory questions and one other. The examination paper will be available for collection in the Music Faculty Library from noon on Tuesday of Week 5 in the Trinity Term in which candidates are presenting themselves for examination. Completed papers must be submitted not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 6 of the same term.

~~1.7~~ B. Keyboard Skills

~~1.8~~ A practical examination in which candidates will be asked to perform two exercises at the keyboard or on another suitable instrument. Preparation time for candidates in the examination will be 30 minutes.

~~1.9~~ 2 3. Musical Analysis and Critical Listening

~~1.10~~ The paper shall consist of two parts:

~~1.11~~ A. Musical Analysis (written paper)

~~1.12~~ Open book examination over 48 hours in which candidates will answer one question from a choice of two.

~~1.13~~ B. Critical Listening (takeaway paper)

~~1.14~~ Assessment is by means of a take-away paper, consisting of three recordings with brief instructions, issued on Tuesday of eighth week of Hilary term. Submissions will be due on Tuesday of first week of Trinity term. Students will be required to submit a preliminary representation/transcription/analysis, supported by a commentary of 750 words.

~~1.15~~ 3 4. Special Topics-Topics I (written paper)

~~1.16~~ A three-hour paper in which candidates should attempt to answer three questions.

<sup>1.17</sup>4. 5. and 6. Options

<sup>1.18</sup>Candidates must choose two from the following:

a) *A musicological topic (written paper)*

b) *Extended Essay*

An essay of 4,000-5,000 words on a subject to be chosen in consultation with the candidate's tutor.

c) *Composition*

i) *Portfolio Submission*

ii) *An Introduction to Contemporary Music (Listening Exam)*

d) *Performance*

A solo performance, vocal or instrumental, of 10-12 minutes in length (short recital).

e) *Critical Studies in Ethnomusicology (written paper)*

f) *Musical Skills*

Candidates must answer any two questions from the following:

i) *Conducting Skills (practical exam)*

ii) *Keyboard Skills (practical exam)*

iii) and iv) up to additional SCART submissions (takeaway paper)

<sup>1.19</sup>~~(a) *Foundations in the Study of Music*~~

<sup>1.20</sup>~~A two-hour paper in which candidates should attempt to answer two questions.~~

<sup>1.21</sup>~~(b) *Composition*~~

<sup>1.22</sup>~~Candidates will be required to submit a portfolio of compositions and to take a listening examination. The Composition Portfolio must be submitted not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 5 of Trinity Term. The specifications for the portfolio are as published in the Faculty Undergraduate Handbook relating to the examination.~~

<sup>1.23</sup>~~(c) *Performance*~~

<sup>1.24</sup>~~A solo performance, vocal or instrumental, of some 10-12 minutes in length. Instrumental candidates may choose to perform a single work, a movement from a longer work, or two pieces in contrasting style. The choice of instrument is limited to related families of instruments. Singers may choose to perform up to four pieces. Programmes must be submitted to the Academic Administrator not later than noon on Friday of Week 6 in the Hilary Term of the academic year in which the candidates are presenting themselves for examination.~~

~~1.25~~ *(d) Extended Essay*

~~1.26~~ An essay of 4,000-5,000 words on a subject to be chosen in consultation with the candidate's tutor.

~~1.27~~ The Extended Essay must be submitted not later than noon on Tuesday of Week 5 of Trinity Term. The assessment must be submitted by uploading it to the Assignments Section of the Prelims Music Submission Weblearn site only; for any purpose. Electronic submissions must be received by the deadline; technical problems external to the WebLearn system will not be accepted as grounds for excusing lateness. Written work shall be submitted as word processed files converted to PDF with a coversheet as first page of the work, bearing on the front the candidate's examination number but neither their name nor the name of their college. Candidates must themselves retain a copy of each piece of work and must ensure that they receive the email confirming the submission and that the email is retained for future reference.

~~1.28~~ *(e) Critical Studies in Ethnomusicology*

~~1.29~~ Open book examination over 48 hours in which candidates should attempt to answer two questions.

1.30 Candidates who fail one, two or three of papers 1, 2, 3, or 4, 5, or 6 above may resit only that paper or papers at a subsequent examination; candidates who fail ~~three~~, or four, five or six papers will be required to resit all ~~four five six~~ six papers at a subsequent examination.

### **Explanatory Notes**

These changes have been approved during the process of an extensive Faculty curriculum reform/review.

The full approval process can be reviewed from the central Humanities Division.