Changes in Examination Regulations to the University Gazette – Social Sciences Division

Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by Chair’s Action on behalf of Quality Assurance Committee (10/07/2020)

Master of Philosophy in Politics (Comparative Government, Political Theory, European Politics and Society)

Brief note about nature of change: Amendment to require electronic submission of the Research Design Proposal.

Location of change


Effective date

For students starting from MT 2020
For first (qualifying) examination from 2020-21

Detail of change

1. Amend the regulations as follows:

1.15 Research Methods in Political Science and Research Methods in Political Theory are assessed in the following way. The candidate must submit:

1.16(i) A Research Design Proposal of between 4000 and 6000 words, excluding bibliography and any methodological appendices, on the subject of the student’s proposed MPhil thesis. One copy of the Research Design Proposal must be submitted electronically by noon on the Friday of sixth week of Trinity Term. The work must be anonymous and accompanied by a signed declaration that it is the candidate’s own work except where otherwise indicated and that it has not previously been submitted for assessment, either at Oxford or at another institution. Only the file submitted via Weblearn constitutes a valid submission; no concomitant hard-copy may be submitted for any purpose. Two copies of the Research Design Proposal, together with a copy on CD or USB flash drive, must be submitted to the Examination Schools by noon on the Friday of sixth week of Trinity Term. It must be accompanied by a separate signed declaration that it is the candidate’s own work except where otherwise indicated and that it has not previously been submitted for assessment, either at Oxford or at another institution.
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<th><strong>Explanatory Notes</strong></th>
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<td>The Research Design Proposal submitted as part of ‘Research Methods’ is the last element of written work submitted in hardcopy to the Exam Schools and this change will unify the submission methods across each of the graduate courses in Politics. The submission deadline and all other arrangements for assessment will remain the same.</td>
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