Humanities Divisional Board

Approved at the Faculty Board meeting of 18 June 2020
Approved by Division 13 July 2020

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

Brief note about nature of change:
Move from hard copy to online submission for all course assessments
Specification that assessments must be word-processed (instead of typed)

Location of change
In Examination Regulations 2019-20 (http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2019-20/mosinanciphil/studentview/, ref 1.12 and ref 1.13)

Effective date
For students starting from MT 2020. For first examination from 2020-21.
For current students starting from MT 2019 with any outstanding assessments.

Detail of change
Change of wording of ref 1.4, ref 1.5, ref 1.8 and ref 1.9 to reflect online (rather than hard copy) submission of assessments:

1.4. The first subject shall be chosen from the list of undergraduate papers in ancient philosophy 0130-0135, as specified in the special regulations for Philosophy in all Honour Schools including Philosophy. The subject will be assessed by one 5,000 word essay on a topic (relevant to the subject) to be chosen by the candidate and approved by the Chair of Examiners no later than Friday of seventh week of Michaelmas Term. Two copies of the essay must be word-processed and submitted electronically via an online assessment submission platform to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford OX1 4BG by 10 a.m. on the Friday of ninth week of Michaelmas Term in the year in which the examination is taken. Essays must be typed or printed.

1.5. The second subject shall be a dedicated class taught across the Michaelmas and Hilary terms of the year of examination. The subject will be assessed by two 5,000 word essays on two topics (relevant to the subject) to be chosen by the candidate and approved by the Chair of Examiners no later than Friday of fifth week of Hilary Term. Two copies of each essay must be...
word-processed and submitted to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford OX14 4BG electronically via an online assessment submission platform, by 10 a.m. on Friday of ninth week of Hilary Term in the year in which the examination is taken. Essays must be typed or printed.

[1.6-1.7]

1.8. Candidates must offer a thesis of no more than 10,000-15,000 words, exclusive of bibliographical references, on a subject proposed by the candidate in consultation with his or her supervisor and approved by the Graduate Studies Committee in Philosophy. A subject and thesis title must be submitted to the Committee no later than the fifth week of the Hilary Term of the year in which the examination is to be taken. Requests for permission to make later changes to the thesis title should be submitted, with the support of the candidate’s supervisor to the Director of Graduate Studies in Philosophy as soon as the candidate has decided to seek permission. Two copies of the thesis must be word-processed and submitted electronically via an online assessment submission platform to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford OX1 4BG, by 10 a.m. on Wednesday of eighth week of Trinity Term in the year in which the examination is taken. The thesis shall be accompanied by a brief abstract and statement of the number of words it contains (exclusive of bibliographical references). Successful candidates will be required to deposit one copy of the thesis in the Bodleian Library (candidates will also be required to sign a form stating that they give permission for the thesis to be consulted).

1.9. Candidates who have not submitted any assessment as prescribed by the due date shall, unless they show exceptional cause, be deemed to have failed the assessment in question.

Explanatory Notes

Following a student representative request in Michaelmas Term 2019, the Faculty was considering the option of moving from hard copy to online submission of its PGT assessments. Later in the academic year, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the Faculty was required by the University to move to online submission for all its assessments, and considering online submissions have worked very well for its PGT courses, the Faculty would now like to formalise a permanent move to online submission for assessments of all its PGT students.

This change is intended for new students enrolling from October 2020 onwards, but even beyond the academic year 2020-2021 during which, as announced by the University, online submissions will continue to be required in light of the continuing Covid-19 crisis.

However, it is requested that this change may also take effect on any existing students, who enrolled in October 2019, who might still have any assessments outstanding into future years (e.g. due to resits, suspensions of status or long assessment deadline extensions). As these students have only ever experienced online submissions for their course (as all the course’s assessment deadlines fall after the Covid-19 crisis start date), this regulation change would in effect mean that their assessment submission method would remain the same throughout their enrolment on the course, which would be in their advantage.