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 Philosophy

Brief note about nature of change:
Move from hard copy to online submission for all course assessments

Location of change
In Examination Regulations 2019-20 (http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2019-20/mostudinphil/administratorview/, ref 1.5)

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 wording of ref 1.5 to reflect online (rather than hard copy) submission:

1.5. All essays must be word-processed and submitted electronically via an online assessment submission platform. Two printed copies of each essay must be delivered to the Examination Schools, High Street, Oxford, OX1 4BG, by 10 a.m. on the Wednesdays of the following weeks: two essays are due in noughtth week of Trinity Term and two essays must be submitted in noughtth week of the Michaelmas Term following the year in which candidates are first entered on the Register of M.St. students. Candidates must give notice of the subject of each essay and the Group to which it will be assigned in accordance with the procedures and deadlines specified in the Graduate Student Handbook.

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.