

**Humanities Divisional Board**

**Approved by officers on behalf of Education Committee on 17 September 2020**

**Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation**

Preliminary Examination in Fine Art

**Brief note about nature of change:** Removal of exhibition of work as an assessed element, replaced by submission of a digital portfolio.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations 2019-20*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=peinfineart&srchYear=2019&srchTerm=1&year=2019&term=1>

**Effective date**

**For students starting from 2018-19**

**For first examination from 2020-21**

**A**

<sup>1.1</sup>1. No person who is not a member of the University may be admitted to the Preliminary Examination in Fine Art.

<sup>1.2</sup>2. A candidate may enter ~~his or her~~their name for the examination not earlier than the third term from ~~his~~their matriculation.

<sup>1.3</sup>3. The subjects of the examination shall be

<sup>1.4</sup>(1) Art Work: exhibition and folio/documentation of supporting or related work;

<sup>1.5</sup>(2) History and Theory of Visual Culture;

<sup>1.6</sup>(3) Human Anatomy;

<sup>1.7</sup>4. Candidates must offer all three subjects of the examination at the same time, provided that a candidate who has passed in at least two of the subjects but failed in the other subjects (or subject) of the examination may offer at a subsequent examination the subjects (or subject) in which they have ~~he or she has~~ failed.

<sup>1.8</sup>5. The examination shall be under the supervision of the Committee for the Ruskin School of Art, which shall make regulations for the examination.

<sup>1.9</sup>6. The examiners may award a distinction in the examination to any candidate.

## B

<sup>1.10</sup>1. The examination shall include both practical and written work.

<sup>1.11</sup>2. Every candidate will be required in respect of:

<sup>1.12</sup>(1) *Art Work*

~~<sup>1.13</sup>(a) to produce an exhibition/presentation of current art work in any medium or media agreed by the candidate and their tutor; and~~  
~~<sup>1.14</sup>(b) to submit an edited selection of art work (portfolio) made during the course preceding the examination in any medium or media agreed by the candidate and their tutor. This selection should provide context to the exhibition described above, demonstrating artistic processes or strategies engaged in and the development of ideas throughout the course. To submit a digital presentation of artwork (portfolio), in any medium or media agreed by the candidate and their tutor, made during the course preceding the examination. The portfolio should form an edited selection of work representative of the candidate's progress, and should include examples of both finished and developmental work, demonstrating artistic processes or strategies engaged in, and the development of understanding throughout the course.~~

~~<sup>1.15</sup>The Candidates may submit a combination of physical and digital portfolio but in any instance the total portfolio submission should include no more than 25 separate items. In the case of sketchbooks, relevant selections may be compiled in a PDF, which will count as a single item. 2D works and sketch/notebooks may be submitted as part of a physical portfolio where they are under A1 size. Larger 2D, 3D, or performance works should be documented using photography and video as appropriate. In the case of time-based work, the total duration of artworks, excerpts of artworks or documentation should not exceed 10 minutes. Any digital moving image and photographic works~~ The files making up the digital portfolio should be submitted in universal file formats.

<sup>1.16</sup>(2) *History and Theory of Visual Culture*

~~<sup>1.17</sup>(a) to~~ To submit three essays of no more than 2,000 words each (including footnotes) on aspects of the history and theory of visual culture since 1900 in accordance with the provisions of clause 3 of these regulations;

~~<sup>1.18</sup>(b) to offer a paper on history and theory of visual culture;~~

<sup>1.19</sup>(3) *Human Anatomy*

~~<sup>1.20</sup>(a) to offer a practical examination on form and function in human anatomy.~~

~~<sup>1.21</sup>(b) to submit notebooks and a portfolio of not less than six and no more than twenty examples of supporting visual material on the candidate's work in human anatomy.~~

To submit a digital portfolio of work comprising no less than 6 and no more than twenty examples of the candidate's work in human anatomy. The portfolio should include notebooks, experiments, and finished work in any medium or media, and should include the candidate's response to the set Easter Anatomy Project.

<sup>1.22</sup>3. The work required by (1) above must be submitted to the Chair of Examiners, Preliminary Examination in Fine Art, Ruskin School of Art, 74 High Street, in the case of the examination held in Trinity Term not later than noon on Wednesday of the sixth week of

that term, and in the case of the examination held in the vacation preceding Michaelmas Term not later than noon on Wednesday in the week before Michaelmas Full Term.

<sup>1.23</sup>Of the essays required by the provisions of clause (2)~~(a)~~ of these regulations, one must be submitted digitally not later than noon on the Friday of the ninth week of the Michaelmas Full Term preceding the examination, one must be submitted digitally not later than noon on the Monday of the first week of Hilary Full Term preceding the examination and one must be submitted digitally not later than noon on the Friday of the ninth week of the Hilary Full Term preceding the examination.

Each essay must be accompanied by a certificate signed by the candidate confirming that the essay has not been submitted for any previous examination, and that the essay is the candidate's own unaided work save for advice on the choice and scope of the subject, the provision of a reading list, and guidance on matters of presentation. The chair of the examiners will announce the list of subjects on which the essays may be submitted by the end of the first week of the Michaelmas Full Term preceding the examination.

<sup>1.24</sup>The work required by (3) ~~(b)~~ above must be submitted digitally to the Chair of Examiners, Preliminary Examination in Fine Art, Ruskin School of Art, 74 High Street, in the case of the examination held in Trinity Term not later than 09:30am on Friday of the fifth week of that term.

~~<sup>1.25</sup>Each essay must be accompanied by a certificate signed by the candidate that the essay has not been submitted for any previous examination, and that the essay is the candidate's own unaided work save for advice on the choice and scope of the subject, the provision of a reading list, and guidance on matters of presentation. This certificate must be submitted separately in a sealed envelope addressed to the chair of examiners. The chair of the examiners will announce the list of subjects on which the essays may be submitted by the end of the first week of the Michaelmas Full Term preceding the examination.~~

### **Explanatory Notes**

Under current conditions the mounting and examining of a physical exhibition is not practical. The Ruskin therefore proposes to examine BFA students on a digital portfolio of documentation of artworks produced during the final two years of their studies. This is not intended as permanent change to exam regulations, but as an emergency measure to account for the difficulties of examining an exhibition under pandemic conditions. It is expected that the exhibition will be reinstated as part of the BFA Fine Art examination process when this becomes practical.