Humanities Divisional Board

Approved at the meeting of 5 March 2020
Approved by Division 22 January 2021

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation [if general]
Honour School of Oriental Studies

Brief note about nature of change: Minor cosmetic changes to the current main section of the Egyptology part of regs and additional information for Sumerian in the subsidiary languages section

Location of change
https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=hsoforiestud&srchYear=2020&srchTerm=1&year=2019&term=1

Effective date
For students starting from MT2021
[And]
For first examination from 2021-22

Detail of change:

1.73 Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies

1.74 Candidates must offer both a first language and either a second language or Archaeology and Anthropology.

1.75 As first language: Akkadian or Egyptian

1.76 As second language, which must be different from the first language (note that teaching for some of these languages may not be available every year):

1.77 Akkadian

1.78 Arabic
Aramaic and Syriac

Early Iranian

Egyptian

Coptic

Hebrew (Biblical and Rabbinic)

Hittite

Sumerian

(Classics may also be offered as a second language, but in that case candidates must transfer to the joint School of Classics and Oriental Studies and the Examination Regulations for that school will apply.)

Candidates will be required to offer the following papers in the first language:

1. Translation Paper (either first Akkadian as first language or Egyptian as first language).
2. Prepared Texts (either Akkadian as first language or Egyptian as first language).
4. A Special Option, to be chosen from a list of topics published at the beginning of Michaelmas Term each year by the Subject Group for examination in the following academic year. Candidates may instead propose their own Special Option, which must be approved by the Subject Group in Michaelmas Term of the candidate’s final year.
5. Selected Egyptian and/or Ancient Near Eastern artefacts together with essay questions on material culture.
7. A dissertation on a topic to be approved by the Subject Group, of a different character from the topic chosen for paper 4 (the topic will typically relate to the first language but could relate to the second language or Archaeology and Anthropology or to an area of overlap between the two).

Instead of either paper 4 or paper 5, candidates offering Egyptian as first language may optionally choose to substitute:

8. Egyptian art and architecture. Selection of this paper is subject to approval by the Subject Group.

In addition, candidates will be required to offer three more papers, according to the second language or equivalent which the candidate is to offer:
Candidates offering Coptic, Hittite, or Sumerian as the second language will be required to offer papers 1–7 (or 8) above and the following three papers in the second language:


Candidates offering Arabic, Aramaic and Syriac, Coptic, Early Iranian, or Hebrew, Hittite, or Sumerian as the second language will be required to offer papers 1–7 (or 8) above and three papers according to the regulations for those languages as second subsidiary languages in the Honour School of Oriental Studies.

Candidates offering Classics as a subsidiary language in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies will be required to offer papers 1–7 (or 8) above and three subjects in Classics according to the conditions specified in the Course Handbook Examination Regulations for that School.

Candidates offering Archaeology and Anthropology instead of a second language will be required to offer papers 1–7 (or 8) above and three further papers as follows:

2. Either Urbanism and Society or From Hunting and Gathering to States and Empires in South-West Asia (but note that teaching for the latter paper may not be available every year).
3. Either Social Analysis and Interpretation or Cultural Representations, Beliefs, and Practices.

Note: Candidates offering Archaeology and Anthropology will additionally be required to undertake a course of practical work, including laboratory work; they will be assessed, at the end of the sixth term from matriculation, on their practical ability, under the provisions for Honour Moderations in Archaeology and Anthropology. They will also be required to take part in approved fieldwork as an integral part of their course; the fieldwork requirement will normally have been discharged before the Long Vacation of six terms from matriculation.

Subsidiary Languages

Akkadian (for candidates offering Arabic, Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies), Egyptian, or Hebrew as main subject).

The following papers will be set:

1. 2, 3 = Papers 2, 5, and 6 as specified for Akkadian in the Honour School of Oriental Studies (Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies). (Instead of either paper 5 or paper 6, candidates may offer one of papers 7, 9, or 10 as specified for the Honour School of Oriental Studies (Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies).

1. Translation paper (Akkadian as second language).
2. Prepared texts (Akkadian as second language).

Instead of either paper 2 or paper 3, candidates may offer one of papers 4, 5, 6, or 7 as specified for the Honour School of Oriental Studies (Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies as a main subject). Any such substitution will be subject to the approval of the EANES Subject Group.

[...]

1.217 Coptic (for candidates offering Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies) or Egyptology Egyptian as main subject).

1.218 The following papers will be set:

1. Coptic unprepared translation and grammar Translation paper (Coptic).

[...]

1.237 Egyptology Egyptian (for candidates offering Akkadian, Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies), or Hebrew as main subject).

1.238 The following papers will be set:

1, 2, 3 = Papers 2, 5, and 6 as specified for Egyptian in the Honour School of Oriental Studies (Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies). (Instead of either paper 5 or paper 6, candidates may offer one of papers 7, 9 or 10 as specified for the Honour School of Oriental Studies (Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies).

1. Translation paper (Egyptian as second language).
2. Prepared texts (Egyptian as second language).

Instead of either paper 2 or paper 3, candidates may offer one of papers 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 as specified for the Honour School of Oriental Studies (Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies as a main subject). Any such substitution will be subject to the approval of the EANES Subject Group.

[...]

1.288 Sanskrit (for candidates offering Classics (in the Honour School of Classics and Oriental Studies) and Chinese (in the Honour School of Oriental Studies) as main subject.)

1.289 The following papers will be set:

1. Sanskrit unprepared translation.
2. Questions on Sanskrit language and literature.

Sumerian (for candidates offering Akkadian as main subject).
The following papers will be set:

1. Translation paper (Sumerian).
2. Prepared texts (Sumerian).

Explanatory Notes

The changes to Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies are cosmetic and as a result of incomplete changes in the summer of 2020, with one minor adjustment to paper numbers.

The changes to the subsidiary languages were previously submitted but were not published. This has caused a clash between exam regs for Oriental Studies and Oriental Studies and Classics.

Information on Sumerian is missing from the current exam regs and needs adding.