

HDB(25)19

Humanities Divisional Board

Approved by [Associate Head of Education/ Quality Assurance Committee] on [date]

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Honour Schools in the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

Brief note about nature of change:

Introducing Literary and Classical Hindi and subsidiary languages.

Effective date

For students starting from FHS MT25

and

For first examination from **2026-27**

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2023-24*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=hsitfoaamiddeaststud&srchYear=2023&srchTerm=1&year=2023&term=1>

Detail of change

Subsidiary Languages

(...)

Hindi

Candidates may offer either (a) Elementary Hindi or (b) Literary Hindi or (c) Classical Hindi.

(a) Elementary Hindi:

~~1.211~~ Candidates must take the following papers:-

- 1.212 1. Hindi unprepared translation
- 1.213 2. Hindi prepared texts
- 1.214 3. Questions on Hindi language and literature

(b) Literary Hindi

1. Literary Hindi unprepared translation
2. Literary Hindi prepared texts
3. Literary Hindi: questions on language and literature

(c) Classical Hindi

1. Classical Hindi unprepared translation and text commentary:
2. Braj Bhāṣā prepared texts with questions on language and literature;
3. Avadhī, Sant Bhāṣā, Rekhtā and other prepared texts with questions on language and literature.

Explanatory Notes

Undergraduate students studying Sanskrit can already take Hindi as a subsidiary language. Since it is not specified whether modern or classical, Hindi is currently offered according to the interest and level of students taking it. However, since there is one exam code for Hindi, we are not prepared for a scenario in which two students with different interest would like to take two different options in the same year. Teaching for each proposed course is already in place.

While “Hindi” has normally been offered as subsidiary at beginner level, students who joined their BA with an existing command of Hindi might be interested in offering “Literary Hindi” or “Classical Hindi”. Studying Hindi at beginner level will be renamed as “Elementary Hindi”.

Learning Classical Hindi has the benefit of accessing a rich archive of understudied sources that are embedded in Sanskrit learning.

Learning Literary Hindi opens up the rich archive of modern Hindi literature that from the late nineteenth century has often fashioned itself after Sanskrit and has built up its vocabulary with tatsamas or tatsama neologisms.