

Changes in Examination Regulations to the University Gazette – Social Sciences Division

SSD/2/2/4

Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by officer's action on behalf of Quality Assurance Committee on 7 July 2025

Title of Programme

Honour School of Economics and Management

Brief note about nature of change:

Changes to the thesis proposal process; introduction of a new option subject

Effective date

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2026/27

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* [Honour School of Economics and Management](#)

Details of Change:

Amend citations and re-number as follows:

1.11. The examination in this school shall be under the supervision of the Social Sciences Board, which shall appoint a standing committee to make regulations concerning it, subject always to the subsequent clauses of this sub-section.

1.22. No candidate shall be admitted to examination in this school unless they have either passed or been exempted from the First Public Examination.

1.33. All candidates will be required to take eight subjects in all.

1.44. Candidates shall be required to offer at least two subjects from Schedule A and at least two subjects from Schedule B.

1.55. Any candidate may offer a thesis instead of one of the subjects from Schedule A or B.

1.66. On entering their name for the examination by the date prescribed, each candidate must give notice to the Registrar of the papers being offered.

1.77. Candidates are permitted the use of one hand-held pocket calculator from a list of permitted calculators published by the Department of Economics on its Undergraduate website, which will be updated annually in the week prior to the first full week of Michaelmas Term.

1.88. Depending on the availability of teaching resources, not all Management Options will be available in any particular year. There may also be restrictions on numbers permitted to offer some Management subjects in any particular year. Candidates and Management tutors will be circulated in Trinity Term with details of all Options which will be available for the following year. The list, from which papers in Schedule A may be selected, and the syllabus for each, shall be approved by the Faculty of Management Studies and published on the Saïd Business School Undergraduate website by the Chair of the Standing Committee not later than the end of the Trinity Full Term of the academic year preceding the year of the examination.

1.99. Economics subjects 300, 301, 302, and 311 must be studied in the first year of the candidate's enrolment for the Honour School. The rest of the subjects may only be studied in the second year of the candidate's enrolment for the Honour School.

1.10 Details of the choices available for the second year of the Honour School will be announced at the Economics Department's 'Options Fair' at the beginning of the fourth week of the first Hilary Full Term of candidates' work for the Honour School, and will be posted on the Department's undergraduate website at the same time.

1.11 Not all Economics subjects may be available in any particular year. There may also be restrictions on numbers permitted to offer some Economics subjects in any particular year.

Schedule A

1.12 (1) *Accounting*

1.13 Nature and regulation of financial reporting, analysis of company accounts. Nature of management accounting, including: cost behaviour, budgetary planning and control, capital budgeting, divisional performance.

1.14 (2) *Organisational Behaviour and Analysis*

1.15 The individual in the organisation; motivation and job satisfaction; groups at work; decision making; gender; organisational strategy and structure; the organisational environment; managerial work and behaviour; leadership; culture; power, conflict and change; contemporary and comparative approaches.

1.16 (3) *Employment Relations*

1.17 The structure and management of the employment relationship, including its environment, and economic and social consequences; human resource strategy and style; systems of collective representation; trade union objectives and organisation; pay systems and performance appraisal; explicit and psychological contracts; the management of co-operation and conflict; employee involvement, participation and team working; technology, work design and work organisation; job regulation; the

utilisation of human resources; training and performance; contemporary and comparative approaches to the management of employees.

1.18(4) *Finance*

1.19 Investment appraisal under conditions of certainty/uncertainty. Portfolio theory and capital asset pricing model. Sources of finance, debt capacity, dividends, and cost of capital. Financial market efficiency. Emerging issues in finance. Takeovers and mergers.

1.20(5) *Strategic Management*

1.21 Theoretical foundations of strategic management. Structural analysis of industries and industry dynamics. The resource and capability based view of the firm. Strategy and Organization. Nature and sources of competitive advantage and patterns of competition. Competitive and co-operative strategies. Corporate strategy and competitive advantage. International strategy. Strategic management in the public sector and not-for-profit organisations. Current issues in strategic management.

1.22(6) *Marketing*

1.23 Exchange in a modern economy. The marketing concept; the marketing mix, its formulation and common components; the product life-cycle and new product development; segmentation and positioning. Buyer behaviour. Marketing information and the analysis of markets and competitors. Marketing planning and marketing strategies. Models for evaluating strategic marketing opportunities.

1.24(7) *Technology and Operations Management*

1.25 Recent developments in operations and technology theory and practice; operations strategy; manufacturing systems; quality; supply chains; services; mass customisation; project management.

1.26(8) *International Business*

1.27 Theoretical foundations of international business strategy. Definition and historical underpinnings of globalisation. Global value chains. Market entry strategies. Institutional analysis and economic theory. Institutional voids. Theories of competitive and comparative advantage. Global culture and marketing. Ethical supply chains. Contemporary theories and controversies in international business.

1.28(9) *Entrepreneurship and Innovation*

1.29 Identifying and evaluating business opportunities. Ascertaining customer value propositions. Developing business models. Formulating technology development and commercialization strategies. Examining alternative model of protecting intellectual property. Structuring investments in entrepreneurial ventures. Contemporary theories of entrepreneurship and innovation.

1.30(10) *Global Business History*

1.31 Theoretical foundations of global business history; patterns of economic development within and among nations; varieties of capitalism, changing nature of the corporation; emergence of professions; evolution of trading relationships; relationship between the state and corporation; role of family firms, non-profits, and cooperatives; development of management theory; organisational cultures; consumerism and the demand for goods; composition of the workforce; theories of technological change and innovation; financialisation of the global economy; evolving forms of capitalism.

1.32 Students taking the Global Business History option are expected to attend the lecture course during their first year of the Final Honours School.

1.33 (a) Assessment

1.34 Global Business History will be examined by an assessed extended essay. Candidates will write a business history case study accompanied by a teaching note that sets out the pedagogical purpose of the case and its theoretical importance.

1.35 (b) Authorship and origin

1.36 No essay shall exceed 10,000 words including the main body of text, tables, figures, and diagrams, appendices, footnotes, and references. There will be two parts to the essay – a historical case study (7,500 words maximum) and a teaching note (2,500 words maximum).

1.37 (c) Submission of assessed work

1.38 Candidates must upload their essay to the University approved online assessment platform by no later than noon on Thursday of Week 0 of Trinity Full Term in the year the final examination is taken. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Course Handbook.

(11) Artificial Intelligence in Management

A broad spectrum of analytical and operational dimensions of the implementation of AI for businesses and governments; practical implementation; problem diagnosis; tool selection; issues around bias; intellectual property; compliance and regulation.

Schedule B

1.39 Subjects (1) to (9) are as specified in the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics. Most Special Subjects may only be offered in combination with one or more of 300, 301, and 302. More than one Special Subject (under 9) may be offered.

1.40 (1) *Quantitative Economics*

1.41 (2) *Macroeconomics*

1.42 (3) *Microeconomics*

1.43 (4) *Money and Banking*

1.44 (5) *Economics of Developing Countries*

1.45(6) *History of the World Economy*

1.46(7) *Econometrics*

1.47(8) *Game Theory*

1.48(9) *Special Subjects in Economics*

1.49 *Thesis*

1.50 Any candidate may offer a thesis instead of a subject from Schedule A or Schedule B under (v) above, subject to the following provisions:

1.51 (a) *Subject*

1.52 The subject of every thesis should fall within the scope of the honour school. The subject may, but need not, overlap any subject on which the candidate offers papers. Candidates are warned that they should avoid repetition in papers of materials used in their theses and that substantial repetition may be penalised.

1.53 Every candidate shall submit through ~~their college~~ the relevant Department administrator for approval to the Director of Undergraduate Studies for either Economics or Management depending on the branch of the school in which the subject falls ~~the title they propose together with~~

(i) the title they propose:

1.54 ~~(i)~~ (ii) an explanation of the subject in about 100 words;

1.55 ~~(ii) a letter of approval from their tutor~~ (iii) the name of the person who has agreed to supervise the thesis,

1.56 not earlier than the first day of the Trinity Full Term of the year before that in which they are to be examined and not later than the date prescribed for entry to the examination. The DUS in the relevant branch of the school shall decide as soon as possible whether or not to approve the title and shall advise the candidate immediately. No decision shall be deferred beyond the end of the fifth week of Michaelmas Full Term.

Proposals to change the title of the thesis may be made through the relevant Department administrator and will be considered by the relevant Director of Undergraduate Studies until the first day of the Hilary Full Term of the final year of the candidate's enrolment for the Honour School and by the relevant chair of examiners thereafter.

1.57 (b) *Authorship and origin*

1.58 Every thesis shall be the candidate's own work. Their tutor may, however, discuss with them the field of study, the sources available, and the method of presentation; the tutor may also read and comment on a first draft. Theses previously submitted for the Honour School of Economics and Management may be resubmitted. No thesis will be accepted if it has already been submitted, wholly

or substantially, for another Honour School or degree of this University, or for a degree of any other institution. Every candidate shall sign a certificate to the effect that the thesis is their own work and that it has not already been submitted for a degree of this or any other university. This certificate shall be submitted using the University approved online assessment platform together with the thesis. No thesis shall, however, be ineligible because it has been or is being submitted for any prize of this University.

^{1.59}(c) *Length and format*

^{1.60}No thesis shall exceed 15,000 words, the limit to include all notes, appendices, but not bibliographies; no person or body shall have authority to permit any excess. There shall be a select bibliography or a list of sources. All theses must be typed in double spacing on one side of quarto or A4 paper. Any notes and references may be placed *either* at the bottom of the relevant pages *or* all together at the end of the thesis. The thesis must be submitted using the University approved online assessment platform.

^{1.61}(d) *Submission of thesis*

^{1.62}Every candidate who wishes to submit a thesis shall give notice of their intention to do so on their examination entry form (in addition to seeking approval of the subject from the DUS in either Economics or Management under (a) above); and shall submit their thesis not later than noon on Thursday of the week before Trinity Full Term of the final year of the candidate's enrolment for the Honour School to the University approved online assessment platform.

Explanatory Notes

1. Thesis proposal process changes - In practice, candidates no longer submit requests for approval of thesis subject via their college, but do so via the undergraduate administrator in each department. Nor do candidates provide a letter of approval from their tutor. Instead, the name of the person who has agreed to supervise the thesis is sought. The proposed change is intended to reflect the current practice.

The addition of instructions regarding the procedure for requesting a change of thesis title is to bring the Economics & Management regulations into line with the PPE regulations. All Economics theses are marked together each year and should be subject to the same procedures for change of title. It is proposed that the 'relevant chair of examiners' should be the Chair of the Subject Board.

2. Introduction of Artificial Intelligence in Management option