

HDB(25)21

Humanities Divisional Board

Approved by Associate Head (Education) on [date]

Title of Programme

Honour School of English Language and Literature

Brief note about nature of change:

Clarification of scope of exam

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=hsoelangandlite&srchYear=2024&srchTerm=1&year=2023&term=1>

Detail of change

(...)

1.43 2. *Medieval English and Related Literatures 1066-1550*

1.44 A paper on a specified genre or theme. The paper shall be examined by a written examination of three hours' duration, in which candidates shall write two essays of equal weighting. Across the paper as a whole, candidates must demonstrate (a) knowledge of literature **in English** written before 1350; and (b) knowledge of writing in insular or

European languages other than English, which are expected to have been studied in translation.

1.45 The genre or theme for the paper shall be published in the Handbook for the Honour School of English Language and Literature by noughth week of Michaelmas Full Term in the first year of study for the Honour School. The specified genre or theme may be subject to periodic review.

(...)

Explanatory Notes

This change is a clarification of the scope of part of this exam. Currently the regs say that candidates must demonstrate “some knowledge of *earlier literature*”, but the intention is that this knowledge must include “literature *in English*”.