

## Humanities Divisional Board

Approved at the Faculty's Undergraduate Studies Committee meeting of 30 May 2023

Honour School of Medieval and Modern Languages, and associated Joint Schools

### Brief note about nature of changes

- Reduce length of online examination
- Change in options for Italian set texts
- Written exam from online to in-person

### Effective date

For students starting **FHS** in MT2021

For first examination in 2023/24

### Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2021-22*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=hsofmodelang&srchYear=2022&srchTerm=1&year=2021&term=1>

### Detail of change

<sup>1.95</sup>The mode of assessment of each paper and detailed examination arrangements will be as set out in the Course Handbook. Papers I, II, III, IV and V will normally be examined by a three-hour in-person unseen written paper; papers VI, VII, VIII, IX, X and XI will normally be examined by an unseen online written paper taken over an ~~eight-hour~~ five-hour period; and papers XII, XIII and XIV will be examined as outlined below.

(...)

<sup>1.360</sup> ~~(3)~~ D'Annunzio

<sup>1.361</sup> (4 **3**) Verga

<sup>1.362</sup> ~~(5)~~ **4** Pirandello

<sup>1.363</sup> ~~(6)~~ **5** Montale

1.364 (7 6) Calvino

1.365 (8 7) Morante

(8) Ferrante

(...)

1.415 A: ~~An unseen written paper completed within an eight-hour a five-hour timeframe.~~ Three-hour unseen written paper.

### **Explanatory Notes**

These are on-course changes

1.95 Amendment to FHS online open-book examinations from 8 to 5 hours is in response to:

- reports from the Board of Examiners and strong feedback from External Examiners;
- Student welfare is a concern: despite lengthy explanation both in written material and in drop-in sessions each year, students are still trying to write for the full 8 hours; and those with alternative arrangements think they are being disadvantaged (as extra time is inclusive in the 8-hour paper). Reducing to 5-hour in length, the students would still be expected to write as for a 3-hour paper, but with two hours preparation/planning instead of 5 hours.

1.360-65: Changes in optionality for set texts, aimed at improving the gender balance of authors on offer in paper. Also reflecting the specialisms of the teaching academics.

1.415 reversion to pre-covid Method of Assessment; there was only one year of online examination for this assessment in 2020, from 2021 the faculty reverted to in-person exams but the regulations were not amended, due to an oversight. The course handbooks and other information students receive, and have been receiving, specify the examination is a 'Three-hour unseen written paper'.