

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

SSD/2/2/4

Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by Chair's Action on behalf of the Quality Assurance Committee on 7 August 2023, and by Officer's Action on behalf of Education Committee of Council on 16 August 2023.

Title of Programme

Final Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

Brief note about nature of change:

Removal of the cap on the number of special subject papers that can be offered.

Effective date

For students who started the final honour school in Michaelmas term 2022, for first examination from 2023-24.

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* [2022-23, Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Details of Change:

Amend citation 1.164 as follows:

1.164 Special Subjects will be examined by examination paper. ~~No candidate may offer more than one Special Subject.~~ **More than one Special Subject in Politics (paper 297) may be offered.** Depending on the availability of teaching resources, not all Special Subjects will be available to all candidates in every year. Candidates may obtain details of the choice of Special Subjects for the following year by consulting lists posted at the beginning of the fourth week of Hilary Term in the Department of Politics and International Relations and circulated to Politics tutors at colleges admitting undergraduates.

Explanatory Notes

Students take 8 papers in the FHS, of which up to 3 can be option papers. Special subjects are ephemeral option papers. Currently the PPE regulations do not allow students to take multiple special subject papers for politics. As special subjects are no different to other option papers, apart from the fact that they are only offered for a limited

period of time, there is no pedagogic reason as to why students should be limited to taking only one special subject paper. This change will benefit students as it will increase the optionality available for students who might choose to take advantage of it.