

RDP(HT23)07/
TDP(TT23)24

Research Degrees Panel of Education Committee/Taught Degrees Panel of Education Committee

Approved at the meeting of Research Degrees Panel on 3 March 2023 and at the meeting of Taught Degrees Panel on 9 May 2023

General Regulations for the Degree of Bachelor of Philosophy or Master of Philosophy

Brief note about nature of change: Revisions to remove the possibility of students transferring from a postgraduate research programme to a postgraduate taught course without following an admissions process and being considered against a gathered field

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2022*,

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=grftdobopomastofphil>

Effective date

For all students from Michaelmas term 2023 onwards

Detail of change

1. Amend section §1 (cit. ref. 1.2) as indicated, deleted text is ~~struck through~~:

1. Any person who has kept six terms of statutory residence after admission as a student for the Degree of Bachelor or Master of Philosophy (or, in the case of a Student for ~~any~~ of the Degrees of ~~Doctor of Philosophy, Master of Science by Research, Master of Letters,~~ Master of Science by Coursework or Master of Studies who has transferred to the Degree of Bachelor or Master of Philosophy, after his or her admission as a Student for one of these degrees), and who has satisfied the examiners in one of the examinations hereinafter provided may supplicate for the Degree of Bachelor or Master of Philosophy as appropriate; provided that the board or other authority specified in cl. 3 of §2 below may dispense a student on application through his or her college and with the support of his or her supervisor from not more than two terms of such statutory

residence if he or she has been granted leave to pursue his or her course of study at some other place than Oxford for those terms under the provisions of cl. 2(c) of §3 hereof.

2. Amend section §3 (cit. ref. 1.55-1.61) as indicated, deleted text is ~~struck through~~:

2. No candidate for the Degree of Bachelor or Master of Philosophy shall be admitted to the examination for the degree unless

(a) he or she has applied through the Head or a tutor of his or her college to the Registrar to have his or her name entered by the appropriate board or other authority on the Register of Bachelor and Master of Philosophy Students;

(b) his or her name shall have been kept on the Register for at least six terms inclusive of the term in which it was placed on the Register;

(c) he or she shall have pursued his or her course of study at Oxford for not less than six terms, except that the board or other authority concerned may grant him or her leave of absence for up to two of these terms if it is desirable in the interests of his or her work that he or she should be allowed to pursue his or her studies at some other place; time spent outside Oxford during term as part of an academic programme approved by Council shall count towards residence for the purpose of this clause:

Provided that

(i) a graduate may be admitted to the examination after his or her name has been on the Register and he or she has pursued his or her course of study at Oxford for only four or five terms if he or she has been given leave by the appropriate board or other authority to enter for the examination;

(ii) ~~a Student for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy or Student for the Degree of Master of Letters or Student for the Degree of Master of Studies or a Diploma Student~~ may apply through his or her college to the appropriate board or other authority for the transference of his or her name to the Register of Students for the Degrees of Bachelor and Master of Philosophy and, if it is transferred, the number of terms he or she held the status of ~~Student for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy or Student for the Degree of Master of Letters or Student for the Degree of Master of Studies or Diploma Student~~ shall be reckoned for the purpose of this clause.

Explanatory Notes

At their meetings in Hilary term 2023/Trinity term 2023, Research Degrees Panel/Taught Degrees Panel of Education Committee agreed that general regulations for postgraduate taught degrees should be revised to remove the possibility of students transferring from a postgraduate research programme to a postgraduate taught course without following an admissions process and being considered against a gathered field. Postgraduate

research students who wish to apply to a postgraduate taught course will still be able to follow the usual admissions process.