

HDB(22)020

Humanities Divisional Board

Approved at the meeting of 15 November 2021

Approved on behalf of Education Committee on 26 July 2022

Text of regulations approved on behalf of Education Committee on 11 October 2022

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Honour Schools in the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies

Brief note about nature of change:

New regulations following a change in faculty name

Location of change

New regulations

(Was FHS Oriental Studies, In *Examination Regulations 2021-22*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=hsoforiestud&srchYear=2021&srchTerm=1&year=2020&term=1>)

Effective date

For students starting the degree programme from MT2019 and starting the FHS from MT 2020

And

For first examination from 2022-23

Detail of change

A

The Board of the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies will be responsible for the Examinations for the following Honour Schools:

- Arabic,
- Chinese,
- Egyptology,
- Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies,
- Hebrew,
- Japanese,
- Jewish Studies,
- Persian,
- Sanskrit,
- Turkish.

2. The Board of the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies will be responsible for the Examinations for the above Honour Schools (main subject) in combination with a subsidiary language or, in the cases of Egyptology or Egyptology and Ancient and Near Eastern Studies only, with Archaeology and Anthropology. The specific permitted main subject and subsidiary language combinations are given in the table at the end of these regulations.

3. Candidates taking Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Japanese, Persian or Turkish as their main subject *may* take a subsidiary language as specified below.

4. Candidates taking Sanskrit *must* take a subsidiary language as specified below.

5. Candidates taking Egyptology or Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies *must* take either a subsidiary language or Archaeology and Anthropology as specified below.

6. No candidate shall be admitted to examination in any of these schools unless they have either passed or been exempted from the First Public Examination.

7. Candidates taking Arabic or Turkish or Persian as their main subject will be required to spend a period of at least one academic year on an approved course of language study in the Middle East.

8. Candidates taking Chinese or Japanese as their main subject are required to spend a period of at least one academic year on an approved course of language study in East Asia.

9. Candidates taking Hebrew shall take either Course I or Course II. Candidates taking Hebrew Course II as their main subject will be required to spend a period of at least one academic year on an approved course of study in Israel.

10. Candidates may be examined viva voce.

B

1. Teaching for some option subjects and languages may not be available in every academic year

2. Candidates, except in the case of Arabic, proposing to offer a Special Subject not included in the lists below must obtain the approval of the board both for their subject and for the treatises or documents (if any) which they propose to offer with it. Except in the case of Arabic, Chinese and Japanese, if the candidate so desires and the Board of the Faculty thinks it appropriate, such a Special Subject may be examined in the form of a dissertation.

3. Dissertations must be uploaded to the University approved online assessment platform by 12 noon on the Friday of Week 10, Hilary Term of the final year of the Honour School. Dissertations previously submitted for the same Honour School within the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies may be resubmitted. No dissertation 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. The dissertation shall not exceed 15,000 words.

4. Oral examinations for Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew (Course II), Japanese, Persian, and Turkish will be held in early Trinity term in the final year of the Honour School.

Main Subjects

Arabic

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Arabic unprepared translation into English and comprehension
2. Composition in Arabic
3. Oral
4. Arabic literature
5. Islamic history
6. Islamic religion
7. A Further Subject taught in Year 3 chosen from a list published in the course handbook

8. and 9. A Special Subject taught in Year 4 (to be examined in two papers), chosen from a list published in the course handbook.

Special Subjects will be examined by means of a timed paper, and by means of an extended essay. The extended essay shall not exceed 6,000 words and shall be on a topic or theme selected by the candidate from a question paper published by the examiners on Friday of week 4 of Michaelmas term of year 4. Essays must be submitted by 12 noon on Friday of week 0 of Hilary term of year 4.

10. A dissertation

Arabic with a subsidiary language

Candidates must take the following papers:

(a) Papers 1-6 **and** 10 as given for Arabic and Islamic Studies above.

(b) Three papers from one of the approved subsidiary languages as listed in the Table at the end of these regulations. The papers required for each subsidiary language are listed below under the relevant subsidiary language.

Chinese

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Modern Chinese I

2. Modern Chinese II

3. Oral

4. Classical I

5. Classical II

6. Modern China

7. Dissertation on a subject approved by the Board of the Faculty. The dissertation will be in the same area as that chosen in Special Options I or II or Linguistics (if available)

8. Special Option I: Texts and Essays

9. Special Option II: Texts and Essays

10. Special Option III: Extended Essay

Chinese with a subsidiary language Candidates must take the following papers:

(a) Papers 1-7 as for Chinese above.

(b) Three papers from one of the approved subsidiary languages as listed in the Table at the end of these regulations. The papers required for each subsidiary language are listed below under the relevant subsidiary language.

Egyptology, and Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies (language track)

Candidates must take both a first language and a second language.

Candidates must take either Egyptian (Honour School in Egyptology) or Akkadian (Honour School in Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies) as a first language.

Candidates must take one of the approved languages as a second language, as listed in the Table at the end of these regulations.

Candidates must take ten papers as set out in (a), (b) and (c) below:

(a) Candidates must take all of the following papers in the first language:

1. Translation Paper
2. Prepared Texts
3. Text Edition Essay: a submitted essay (take-home paper).

(b) Candidates must take the following papers:

4. A Special Option, to be chosen from a list of topics published at the beginning of Michaelmas Term each year by the Subject Group for examination in the following academic year. Candidates may instead propose their own Special Option, which must be approved by the Subject Group in Michaelmas Term of the candidate's final year.

5. Selected Egyptian and/or Ancient Near Eastern artefacts together with essay questions on material culture.

6. A General Paper on either Ancient Near Eastern Studies or Egyptology.

7. A dissertation on a topic to be approved by the Subject Group, of a different character from the topic chosen for paper 4 (the topic will typically relate to the first language but could relate to the second language or Archaeology and Anthropology or to an area of overlap).

Instead of either paper 4 or paper 7 candidates offering Egyptian as first language may optionally choose to substitute:

8. Egyptian Art and Architecture. Selection of this paper is subject to approval by the Subject Group.

(c) Candidates must take three papers for their second language. The papers required for the second language are listed below under the relevant subsidiary language.

Egyptology, and Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies (Archaeology and Anthropology track)

Candidates must take papers 1–7 (or 8) as given for Egyptology, and Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies (language track) above and the following three papers:

1. The Nature of Archaeological and Anthropological Enquiry.
2. *Either* (a) Urbanism and Society *or* (b) From Hunting and Gathering to States and Empires in South-West Asia
3. *Either* (a) Social Analysis and Interpretation *or* (b) Cultural Representations, Beliefs, and Practices.

Candidates will be required to undertake a course of practical work, including laboratory work. They will be assessed, by the end of the second year of their course, on their practical ability, under the provisions for Honour Moderations in Archaeology and Anthropology. They will also be required to take part in approved fieldwork as an integral part of their course. The fieldwork requirement will normally have been discharged before the end of the second year of the course..

Hebrew Course I

Candidates for **Course I** must take the following papers:

1. Hebrew composition and unprepared translation
2. Prepared texts I: Biblical texts
3. Prepared texts II: Rabbinic and Medieval Hebrew texts
4. Prepared texts III: Modern Hebrew literature
5. History, Culture and Society
6. and 7. Two option papers of which at least one must be chosen from any of sections I, II, and III as published in the Jewish Studies course handbook. Not more than one paper may be taken from Section V as published in the Jewish Studies course handbook.
- ^{1.107}8. Dissertation

Hebrew Course II

Candidates for **Course II** must take the following papers:

- (a) 1. Essay in modern Hebrew and unprepared translation
- (b) Papers 2-8 as given for Hebrew Course I above
- (c) 9. Oral

Hebrew with a subsidiary language

Candidates must take the following papers:

- (a) Papers 1-4 and 8 as given for either Hebrew Course I or Hebrew Course II above.
- (b) Three papers from one of the approved subsidiary languages as listed in the Table at the end of these regulations. The papers required for each subsidiary language are listed below under the relevant subsidiary language.

Japanese

Candidates must take the following papers:

- 1. Modern Japanese I
- 2. Modern Japanese II
- 3. Oral
- 4. Classical Japanese
- 5. Dissertation on a subject approved by the Board of the Faculty
- 6. Special text option I
- 7. Special subject option I
- 8. Special text option II
- 9. Special subject option II
- 10. Either Special Text option III or Special subject option III

Japanese with a subsidiary language

Candidates must take the following papers:

- (a) Papers 1-7 as given for Japanese above.

(b) Three papers from one of the approved subsidiary languages as listed in the Table at the end of these regulations. The papers required for each subsidiary language are listed below under the relevant subsidiary language.

Jewish Studies

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. One paper on one of the following languages: Biblical and Rabbinic, Medieval Hebrew, Modern Hebrew or Yiddish. Papers for Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew, Medieval Hebrew and Modern Hebrew are the same papers for subsidiary languages under Hebrew a(1), (b)1 and (c)1 as given below under Subsidiary Languages.

2. History, Culture and Society

3.- 7. Five options, of which at least one must be chosen from each of sections I, II, and III as published in the course handbook. At least three must be chosen from papers which require study of set texts in the original language. Not more than one paper may be chosen from section V as published in the course handbook.

Papers in section V will be examined in the form of two essays not exceeding 5,000 words in total. The subjects will be published at 10 a.m. on Monday of week 2 of the Trinity term in the final year of the Honour School, and must be submitted no later than 12 noon on Monday of week 3 of the same term.

A Special Subject may be offered instead of one of the five options subject to the approval of the Asian and Middle Eastern Studies Board.

8. A dissertation

Persian

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Unprepared translation from Persian
2. Translation into Persian and essay in Persian
3. Oral
4. Persian literature: 1000 – 1400
5. Persian literature: 1400 – 1900

6. Persian literature: 1900 – the present
7. Themes in Iranian history
8. and 9. Option subjects in Iranian and Middle Eastern History and Culture. The list of available option subjects will be available in the Course Handbook.
10. Dissertation

Persian with a subsidiary language

Candidates must take the following papers:

- (a) Papers 1., 2., 3., 7., and 10. as given for Persian above
- (b) Two papers from a choice of papers 4., 5., and 6 as given for Persian above
- (c) Three papers from one of the approved subsidiary languages as listed in the Table at the end of these regulations. The papers required for each subsidiary language are listed below under the relevant subsidiary language.

Sanskrit

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Advanced Sanskrit unprepared translation
2. Essay questions on classical Indian literature, history and culture
3. Ancient Indian linguistics
4. The historical philology of Old Indo-Aryan
5. A chosen area of Sanskrit studies. The chosen area to be approved by the Subject Group.
6. A special subject as approved by the Subject Group
7. Dissertation
- 8., 9., 10. Three papers on an approved subsidiary language as listed in the Table at the end of these regulations. The papers required for each subsidiary language are listed below under the relevant subsidiary language.

Turkish

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Unprepared translation from Ottoman and modern Turkish
2. Translation into Turkish and essay in Turkish
3. Oral
4. Ottoman historical texts
5. Turkish political and cultural texts, 1860 to the present
6. Modern Turkish literary texts
- 7., 8., 9. Three papers from a list of options published in the course handbook
10. A dissertation

Turkish with a subsidiary language

Candidates must take the following papers:

- (a) Papers 1-6 and 10 as given for Turkish above.
- (b) Three papers from one of the approved subsidiary languages as listed in the Table at the end of these regulations. The papers required for each subsidiary language are listed below under the relevant subsidiary language.

Subsidiary Languages

Akkadian

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Translation paper
2. Prepared texts
3. Text edition essay: a submitted essay (take-home paper)

Instead of either paper 2 or paper 3, candidates may take one of papers 4, 5, 6, or 7 as specified for Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies above. Any such substitution will be subject to the approval of the Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies Subject Group.

Arabic

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Arabic prose composition and unprepared translation

2. Additional Arabic: literary texts. This will include selected classical and modern Arabic prose.

3. Additional Arabic: Islamic texts. This will include selected Arabic religious texts.

Aramaic and Syriac

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Syriac prose composition and Aramaic and Syriac unprepared translation
2. Aramaic prepared texts
3. Syriac prepared texts

Classical Armenian

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Classical Armenian prose composition and unprepared translation
2. Prepared religious texts
3. Prepared historical and other texts

Modern Armenian

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Modern Armenian prose composition and unprepared translation
2. Prepared texts from the sixteenth to nineteenth centuries
3. Prepared texts from the twentieth and twenty-first centuries

Papers 2 and 3 will include questions on the subject-matter and grammar of the texts offered, and Paper 3 will also include questions on Armenian language, literature, and history.

Chinese

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Chinese Prescribed Texts
2. *Either (a) Modern Chinese language, or (b) Classical Chinese*
3. History and Culture of China

Coptic

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Translation paper
2. Prepared texts
3. Text edition essay: a submitted essay (take-home paper)

Early Iranian

Candidates must take three papers from those listed below with at least one but no more than two from group (a).

(a) Old and Middle Iranian Language

1. Avestan texts
2. Old Persian texts
3. Middle Persian texts

(b) Religion and Philology of Ancient and Late Antique Iran

4. Zoroastrianism
5. Indo-Iranian Philology

(c) History of Ancient and Late Antique Iran

6. The Achaemenid Empire, 550-330 BC
7. The Sasanian Empire, 224-651 AD

(d) Early Iranian Texts and Topics

8. Texts and Topics

For paper 8, candidates will choose two of the subjects 1 to 7 above. Candidates may not choose under (d) a subject which they are also offering from groups (a)-(c), and in addition may not choose under (d) a subject from group (a) if they are already offering two subjects from group (a).

Egyptian

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Translation paper
2. Prepared texts
3. Text edition essay: a submitted essay (take-home paper)

Instead of either paper 2 or paper 3, candidates may take one of papers 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 as specified for Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies as given above. Any such substitution will be subject to the approval of the Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies Subject Group.

Hebrew

Candidates taking Arabic, Persian or Turkish may offer *either* (a) Biblical and Rabbinic *or* (b) Medieval *or* (c) Modern Hebrew. Candidates taking Egyptology may offer only Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew.

The following papers will be set:

(a) Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew:

1. Prose composition and unprepared translation
2. Prepared texts I: Biblical texts
3. Prepared texts II: Rabbinic texts

(b) Medieval Hebrew:

1. Unprepared translation
2. Prepared texts I
3. Prepared texts II

(c) Modern Hebrew:

1. Prose composition and unprepared translation
2. Prepared texts I
3. Prepared texts II

Hindi

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Hindi unprepared translation
2. Hindi prepared texts
3. Questions on Hindi language and literature

Hindi/Urdu

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Hindi and Urdu prose composition and unprepared translation
2. Hindi prepared texts with questions on language and literature
3. Urdu prepared texts with questions on language and literature

Japanese

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Japanese Texts
2. Japanese History and Culture
3. Japanese Language

Korean

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Korean texts
2. Korean History and Culture
3. Korean Language

Pali

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Pali unprepared translation
2. Pali prepared texts
3. Essay questions on Pali language, literature, and culture

Persian

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Persian Language
2. Pre-Modern Persian Literature
3. Modern Persian Literature

Prakrit

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Prakrit unprepared translation
2. Prakrit prepared texts
3. Essay questions on Prakrit language, literature, and culture

Sanskrit

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Sanskrit unprepared translation
2. Sanskrit prepared texts
3. Essay questions on classical Indian literature, history, and culture

Sumerian

1. Translation paper
2. Prepared texts
3. Text edition essay: a submitted essay (take-home paper)

Tibetan

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Tibetan prose composition and unprepared translation
2. Prepared texts, with questions
3. Questions on Tibetan culture and history

Turkish

Candidates must take the following papers:

1. Turkish prose composition and unprepared translation
2. *Either (a)* Additional Turkish: Late Ottoman and modern Turkish literary texts
Or (b) Additional Turkish: Modern Turkish literary texts
3. *Either (a)* Additional Turkish: Political and cultural texts, 1860 to the present
Or (b) Additional Turkish: Political and cultural texts, 1920 to the present

Table of permitted combinations

Main subject	Language options
Arabic	Akkadian
	Aramaic and Syriac
	Classical or Modern Armenian
	Biblical and Rabbinic, Medieval, or Modern Hebrew
	Early Iranian
	Hindi/Urdu
	Persian
	Turkish
Chinese	Japanese
	Korean
	Sanskrit
	Tibetan
Egyptology	Akkadian
	Arabic
	Aramaic and Syriac
	Early Iranian
	Coptic
	Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew
	Hittite
Sumerian	
Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies	Arabic
	Aramaic and Syriac
	Early Iranian
	Egyptian
	Coptic
	Biblical and Rabbinic Hebrew
	Hittite
	Sumerian
Hebrew	Akkadian
	Arabic
	Aramaic and Syriac
	Egyptian
	Persian
	Turkish
Japanese	Chinese
	Korean
	Tibetan
Persian	Arabic
	Aramaic and Syriac
	Classical or Modern Armenian
	Early Iranian
	Hebrew
	Hindi/Urdu
	Turkish
Sanskrit	Early Iranian

	Hindi
	Persian
	Pali
	Prakrit
	Tibetan
Turkish	Arabic
	Classical or Modern Armenian
	Early Iranian
	Hebrew
	Hindi/Urdu
	Persian

Explanatory Notes

As a result of the renaming of the Faculty of Oriental Studies to Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies and following student consultation, the BA Oriental Studies has been replaced by a number of degrees which more accurately reflect the languages studied by students. These changes require changes to the regulations for the Honour School in Oriental Studies. The existing regulations will remain in force for students starting the BA Oriental Studies in Michaelmas term 2022 but will not be available for students starting from Michaelmas term 2023. They are being replaced by the regulations for Honour Schools in the Faculty of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies. Because students on course and those starting in MT22 have a choice of registering for the BA Oriental Studies or one of the new awards, the two sets of regulations for Honour Schools will be in force until those starting their programmes in MT22 have completed. However, there is no difference in the content of the examinations for students in the same cohort.

Some of the content of the regulations has been updated to be in line with recommendations from Taught Degrees Panel relating to assessment terminology. Content that is more appropriately included within course handbooks and examination conventions has been removed (e.g. approval of options).

The language has been updated to create greater consistency across the regulations

There has been a re-alignment of options to reflect changes in the joint school of Religion and Asian and Middle Eastern Studies.

Restoration of Pali and Prakrit as separate subsidiary options, following their merger in 2020.

These changes also include updates to Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Tibetan as a subsidiary language papers that were not included within the regulations following a notice in the Gazette on 10 July 2014.

