

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 Quality Assurance Committee on 16 May 2025.

Title of Programme

Diploma in Legal Studies

Brief note about nature of change:

Changes to option paper selection processes.

Effective date

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Diploma in Legal Studies](#)

Details of Change:

Amend citations and re-number as follows:

General Regulations

^{1.1}1. The Board of the Faculty of Law shall have power to grant Diplomas in Legal Studies to members of the University who have kept residence and pursued a course of study at Oxford for not less than three terms; 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.

^{1.2}2. The examination for the Diploma in Legal Studies shall be under the supervision of the Board of the Faculty of Law.

^{1.3}3. The examiners for the diploma shall be such of the Public Examiners in the Honour School of Jurisprudence as shall be required.

^{1.4}4. A Diploma Student must keep statutory residence and pursue a course of study at Oxford for three terms, and may not take the examination for the Diploma earlier or later

than in the second term after that with effect from which they were admitted as a Diploma student.

^{1.5}5. The examiners may award a distinction to a candidate for the Diploma in Legal Studies.

Special Regulations

^{1.6}1. The Diploma will normally only be granted to candidates who on admission had no significant previous education in the common law.

^{1.7}2. The examination for the diploma shall be in each Trinity Term.

^{1.8}3. The examination shall consist of any three ~~standard~~ subjects selected by the candidate from such ~~standard~~ subjects specified for the Honour School of Jurisprudence as notified as available in the Diploma in Legal Studies. ~~Notice of these subjects will be given in the edition of the Law Faculty Handbook for Undergraduate Students for the relevant year, which will be published and made available on the Faculty website by Monday of noughth week of Michaelmas Term that year.~~ **A list of these subjects will be provided to students by the Course Administrator in the course of the Trinity Term vacation preceding students' enrolment.**

^{1.9}4. Candidates in examinations will not be required to answer more than three questions.

~~^{1.10}5. Candidates may be required to attend a viva voce examination.~~

^{1.11}~~6~~⁵. The Law Board will approve and offer a Legal Research Skills Programme, as outlined in the Special Regulations for the Honour School of Jurisprudence. Candidates for the Diploma are required to undertake units one **and two** of the course ~~and an additional print resources class (details of which will be notified to the students)~~ and to complete the associated assessments to the satisfaction of the Programme Coordinator appointed by the Law Board.

Explanatory Notes

Currently, the Examination Regulations for the Diploma in Legal Studies state that Diploma in Legal Studies students will choose their options from a list published in the Undergraduate Handbook. In practice, the list they choose from is provided on a webpage which the course administrator sends a link to, rather than the Handbook. Consequently, the amended regulations reflect the current arrangements for the programme.