Mathematical and Physical Life Sciences Divisional Board

Approved at the meeting of the Advanced Computer Science Committee, held in Hilary Term 2024. MPLS Education Committee Hilary Term 2024.

Master of Science by Coursework in Advanced Computer Science

Brief note about nature of change:

1. Tidying up of the Examination Regulations.

2. Amendment of clause relating to viva voce examination which in practice are at the discretion of the examiners.

3. Inclusion of the submission date for the dissertation.

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2023-24* 2023-24, Master of Science by Coursework in Advanced Computer Science (ox.ac.uk)

Effective date

For all students on course from MT24

For first examination from 2024-25

Detail of change

Amend/add underlined text and delete strikethroughs as below:

- [1.1]1. The Divisional Board of Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences, in consultation with the ~~Faculty~~ Department of Computer Science, shall elect for the supervision of the course an Organising Committee which shall have power to arrange lectures and other instruction.
  [1.2]2. Candidates must follow a course of instruction in Computer Science for at least three terms and a substantial part of the three subsequent vacations, as determined by the course timetable.
- [1.3]3. ~~The examination shall be in three parts, as follows~~ Candidates must satisfy the examiners in the following:
  - [1.4](i) ~~Candidates shall be assessed on s~~ Six ~~courses~~ options~~, as specified in the Course Handbook~~. The list of ~~courses~~ options will be published in the Course

Handbook and on the website of the Department of Computer Science, by the beginning of Michaelmas Full Term. The mode of assessment shall be as detailed in the Course Handbook.

- o ~~1.5(ii) Candidates shall submit a~~ A dissertation of not more than 30,000 words, plus not more than 30 pages of diagrams, tables, listing etc., and (where applicable) the source code, on a subject selected by the candidate in consultation with the supervisor and approved by the MSc Course ~~d~~ Director ~~of the course~~. The associated source code is neither included in the word count nor the 30-page limit of additional material.
- o ~~1.6(iii) There shall be an examination viva voce, unless the candidate shall have been individually dispensed by the examiners, on the dissertation and on any of the topics for which the candidate has submitted a written assignment or written examination, to take place in week minus 1 of Michaelmas Term of the following academic year. The exact date will be given in the Course Handbook.~~

- 4. Candidates may be required to attend a viva voce examination at the end of the course of studies at the discretion of the examiners.
- 1.7~~4~~5. Candidates will be expected to demonstrate in their dissertation an understanding of ~~the topics studied in the course~~ relevant areas of Computer Science.
- 1.8~~5~~6. An electronic copy of the dissertation and, where applicable, associated source code, must be submitted as specified in the Course Handbook by not later than ~~the date given~~ 12 noon on Tuesday of week minus 5, of Michaelmas Term, as stated in the Course Handbook.
- 1.9~~6~~7. No candidate is permitted to choose any ~~topics~~ options which substantially overlap the candidate's undergraduate degree or other recent academic study. Candidates are allowed to take examinations in a maximum of four courses per term.
- 1.10~~7~~8. For each ~~topic~~ option, the lecturer on the course of instruction shall prescribe a schedule of practical work, ~~tutorial~~ class exercises and a written assignment or written examination, and shall make available to the ~~Chair~~ Board of Examiners evidence showing the extent to which each candidate has pursued an adequate course of practical and class work.
- 1.11~~8~~9. By not later than noon on the date given in the Course Handbook, practicals for all ~~topics~~ options must be submitted as described in the Course Handbook.
- 1.12~~9~~10. No candidate shall attend classes or receive any form of individual tuition in the subject of an assignment between the time when the assignment is made available to the candidate and the time fixed for the delivery of the assignment to the examiners.
- 1.13~~10. If a candidate receives a failing mark for any of the summative assessments, they may retake the assessment (or equivalent) in the year following the initial attempt as set out in the Examination Conventions.~~

Explanatory Notes

The department has taken the opportunity to tidy up the Examination Regulations to reflect current practices in the MSc Advanced Computer Science programme.