

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 19 June 2023

Title of Programme

Master of Science by Coursework in Archaeological Science

Brief note about nature of change:

Simplification of regulations.

Effective date

For students starting from Michaelmas 2023

For first examination from 2023/24

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2022-23, Master of Science by Coursework in Archaeological Science (ox.ac.uk)*

Details of Change:

Amend citations and re-number as follows:

^{1.1}1. Within the Division of Social Sciences, the course shall be administered by the School of Archaeology under the supervision of its Graduate Studies Committee. ~~The regulations made are as follows:~~

~~^{1.2}2. Candidates for admission must apply to the School of Archaeology.~~

^{1.3}~~3~~². ~~Candidates must~~ Each candidate will be required to follow a course of instruction in Archaeological Science on a full-time basis for at least three terms and for a substantial part of the ~~three subsequent~~ vacations for a period of 12 months, ~~as determined by the course timetable.~~

^{1.4}~~4~~³. The normal assessment requirements for the degree are as follows ~~written examination shall consist of:~~

^{1.5}(a) three written examinations, one for each core Archaeological Science module listed in the schedule, usually sat in early papers on the syllabus described in the Schedule, to be taken as written examinations in the second week of Trinity term; Term, and

^{1.6}(b) ~~except where candidates take an option in lieu (see section (c))~~ one pre-set essay of no more than 8,000 words on an approved Archaeological Science topic, the subject and length of which must be submitted for approval to the Chair of Examiners by noon on the Friday of the sixth week of Hilary Term. Candidates must upload their essay The essay must be submitted to the University approved online assessment platform by **noon on the Monday of first week of Trinity term; and** Term. Essays must bear the candidate's examination number but not his or her name, and must include a statement of the number of words.

^{1.7}(c) ~~in lieu of one of the three papers described in the Schedule, candidates may, with the permission of the School of Archaeology's Graduate Studies Committee, take one of the options from the MSc in Archaeology or MSc in Classical Archaeology (Schedule B only), to be examined by two pre-set essays, each of no more than 5,000 words. Candidates must upload their essays to the University approved online assessment platform by noon on the Monday of first week of Trinity Term. Candidates taking such an option would be examined on one pre-set essay of no more than 5,000 words on a topic in Archaeological Science in lieu of the requirements laid out in (b) above.~~ a dissertation of no more than 16,000 words which must be submitted to the University approved online assessment platform no later than noon on the first Monday of September of the year following the candidate's matriculation.

[new citation] 4. Candidates may, with the permission of the School of Archaeology's Graduate Studies Committee, substitute one of the archaeological science modules listed in the Schedule for one module from the MSc in Archaeology or MSc in Classical Archaeology (Schedule B only). Such candidates will be assessed for the degree as follows:

[new citation] (a) two written exams, one for each of two of the core archaeological science modules listed in the Schedule, usually sat in early Trinity term; and

[new citation] (b) one pre-set essay of no more than 4,000 words on an approved Archaeological Science topic. The essay must be submitted to the University approved online assessment platform no later than noon on Monday of week 1 of Trinity term; and

[new citation] (c) two pre-set essays each of no more than 5,000 words on the module chosen in lieu of one of the archaeological science modules in the schedule. These essays must be submitted to the University approved online assessment platform no later than noon on Monday of week 1 of Trinity term; and

[new citation] (d) a dissertation of no more than 16,000 words which must be submitted to the University approved online assessment platform no later than noon on Friday four weeks and two days before the start of the following Michaelmas

term. Each dissertation should include a completed laboratory departure form and scanned copies of a candidate's laboratory notebook as appendices.

~~1.85. Each candidate will be required to submit a dissertation of no more than 16,000 words, (excluding bibliography and/or catalogues), on a research area selected in consultation with the supervisor and approved by a person designated for this purpose by the Chair of Examiners for Archaeological Science. Proposed titles must be submitted for approval to the Chair of Examiners by noon on the Friday of the sixth week of Hilary Term.~~

~~1.96. Candidates must upload their dissertation to the University approved online assessment platform no later than noon on the Friday four weeks and two days before the start of the following Michaelmas Term.~~

~~1.10. With respect to essays and dissertations, only the file submitted via the approved assessment platform constitutes a valid submission; no concomitant hard copy submission must be submitted for any purpose. Each submission must be accompanied by a declaration indicating that it is the candidate's own work.~~

~~1.17. The examiners may require to see the records of practical work carried out during the course.~~

1.12⁸⁵. Candidates must present themselves for an oral examination if required by the examiners. ~~This may be on one of the candidate's written papers, or dissertation, or both.~~

1.13⁹⁶. In the case of failure in just one part of the examination (written papers, extended essay(s), dissertation), the candidate will be permitted to retake that part of the examination on one further occasion, not later than one year after the initial attempt. Written papers would be retaken the following year. Pass or failure in the written papers will be taken as an average of all written papers and in the case of failure all written papers must be retaken. ~~If the candidate passes all parts of the examination except the dissertation, the dissertation may be considered as a practical report as defined in the schedule for the MSc and, if of a sufficiently high standard, the candidate may be granted permission to supplicate for the degree of MSc.~~

Schedule

1.14(i) *Principles and practice of scientific dating*

~~1.15. The principles of scientific dating methods including radiocarbon, luminescence, uranium series and dendro-chronology. The practical aspects of these methods and the problems encountered in their application. The statistical analysis of chronological information in the study of archaeological sites and cultures.~~

1.16(ii) *Bio-archaeology*

~~1.17. Scientific methods for the study of biological remains from archaeological sites; introduction to the analysis of plant and faunal remains including indicators of disease and artefactual analysis; theoretical and practical aspects of quantitative methods for diet reconstruction by isotopic analysis; introduction to ancient DNA studies; residue analysis.~~

1.18(iii) *Materials analysis and the study of technological change*

~~1.19 Introduction to the history of technology; theoretical and practical aspects of materials analysis methods—SEM, microprobe, TIMS, ICP, ICP-MS, XRF, XRD, PIXE, FTIR, and NAA; application of analysis to different material types—stone, ceramics, vitreous materials and metals; provenance of raw materials; case studies of application to archaeological problems.~~

Explanatory Notes