Changes in Examination Regulations to the University Gazette – Social Sciences Division

| SSD/2/2/4 |

| **Social Sciences Board** |

| **Approved by Chair's Action on behalf of QAC by 30/06/2022** |

Title of Programme

Master of Science by Coursework in Education

Brief note about nature of change: Changes to specify the details of the different pathway requirements through the MSc programme

Effective date

For all MSc students from Michaelmas term 2022, for first examination in 2022-23.

Location of change

In Examination Regulations (2021/22):
https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=mosbcourineduc&srchYear=2021&srchTerm=1&year=2021&term=1

Details of Change:

Strike existing text and renumber as follows:

~~1.1~~1. Candidates must follow for three terms a course of instruction in Education, specialising in one of the following pathways: Comparative and International Education, Higher Education, Digital and Social Change, Child Development and Education, Digital and Social Change or Research Design and Methodology. The Research Design and Methodology course may be undertaken on a part-time basis and must be followed for six terms over two years.

~~1.2~~2. Candidates take a combination of six one term required pathway-specific core papers and option papers. Candidates will be informed of the available options, along with the assessment requirement, by Friday of noughth week of Michaelmas Term in the year in

which the examination is taken. Part-time students take four papers in their first year, and two papers in their second year, alongside their dissertation.

1.3 3. Exceptionally, candidates may offer one paper from a relevant Master's degree in another department in the University, in place of one option paper, subject to permission from the relevant pathway convenor and the Course Director. Applications to take such a paper must normally be made by Friday of the fifth week of Michaelmas Term.

1.4 4. Papers are normally assessed by one or more coursework assignments totalling no more than 3,000 words (inclusive of footnotes but excluding bibliography and appendices). All such assignments must submitted electronically by the times and dates specified at the start of the course. For part-time students, times and dates will be specified at the beginning of each year of the course. Each submission must be accompanied by a declaration indicating that it is the candidate's own work. Exceptionally, candidates are assessed by unseen examination.

1.5 5. Candidates are also required to submit a dissertation of 15,000–20,000 words (including footnotes/endnotes but excluding appendices and references or bibliography), the title to be selected in consultation with the supervisor, on a topic relevant to the pathway being followed. The subject and title selected by the candidate must be approved by the Course Director at a time to be announced at the beginning of the academic year in which the dissertation is to be submitted.

1.6 6. An electronic copy of the dissertation must be uploaded to the University approved online assessment platform, not later than noon on the second Friday in August in the year in which the written examination is taken. For part-time students, this will be during the second year of the course. This copy should be anonymous except for the candidate number, and accompanied by a declaration indicating that it is the candidate's own work. Candidates are also required to submit a final, non-anonymised copy of their dissertation to the Oxford University Research Archive (ORA) at the same time that they submit the anonymised version for examination

1.7 7. If a candidate receives a failing mark for any of the summative assessments, they may resubmit the assessment on one further occasion, either by a date for resubmission which will be published by the Course Director when the results are released, and will be no sooner than 6 weeks from the release of the results, or when the assessment is next examined the following year. If a candidate fails the dissertation, they may resubmit the dissertation one further time on the next occasion when this is examined. Candidates who fail any of the core or option papers at the first attempt cannot normally be awarded more than 50 at resubmission.

1.8 8. Candidates may also be required to attend an oral examination. The oral examination will normally be on the candidate's dissertation.

1. The course shall be under the supervision of the Academic Committee of the Department of Education.

2. Candidates will specialise in one of the following pathways:
    i. Comparative and International Education
    ii. Higher Education

iii. Digital and Social Change
iv. Child Development and Education
v. Research Design and Methodology

3. Candidates must follow a course of instruction for three terms full-time or for the Research and Design Methodology pathway either three terms full-time or six terms part-time.

4. For each pathway candidates will take a combination of six one term papers as set out in the Schedule below. Details of the option papers available will be published by Friday of week 0 of Michaelmas Term. For part-time students, four papers will be taken in year 1, and two papers in year 2.

5. Each paper will be assessed by course work as set out in the Course Handbook.

6. Exceptionally, candidates may offer one paper from a relevant Master's degree in another department in the University, in place of one option paper, subject to permission from the relevant pathway convenor, the Course Director and the owning department. Applications to take such a paper must normally be made by Thursday of week 5 of Michaelmas Term. In such cases, the method of assessment shall be as described for the owning department. Further details are set out in the Course Handbook.

7. Candidates are also required to submit a dissertation of 15,000−20,000 words on a topic relevant to the pathway being followed. The dissertation must be submitted by no later than noon on the second Thursday in August. For part-time students, this will be during the second year of the course.

8. All assessments must be submitted using the University approved online submission system. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Course Handbook.

9. Candidates may also be required to attend an oral examination. The oral examination will normally be on the candidate's dissertation.

10. If a candidate receives a failing mark for any of the summative assessments, they may resubmit the assessment on one further occasion, normally either by a date for resubmission which will be published by the Course Director when the results are released, and will be no sooner than 6 weeks from the release of the results, or when the assessment is next examined the following year. If a candidate fails the dissertation, they may resubmit the dissertation one further time normally on the next occasion when this is examined. Candidates who fail any modules or the dissertation at the first attempt cannot normally be awarded more than 50 at resubmission.

Schedule

Child Development and Education

(i)   Foundations of Educational Research I: Concepts and Design

(ii)   Foundations Learning and Wellbeing

(iii)   Introduction to Quantitative Research

(iv)   Cognitive Development and Educational Attainment

(v)   Two option papers as set out in the Course Handbook

Comparative and International Education

(i)   Foundations of Educational Research I: Concepts and Design

(ii)   Comparative and International Education: An overview of the field

(iii)   Systems Thinking in Comparative and International Education

(iv)   Foundations of Educational Research II: Strategies and Methods

(v)   The Implementation of the Rights of Children

(vi)   One option paper as set out in the Course Handbook

Digital and Social Change

(i)   Foundations of Educational Research I: Concepts and Design

(ii)   Key Concepts in Digital Education

(iii)   Social Justice and Technology

(iv)   EITHER Foundations of Education Research II: Strategies and Methods, OR Perspectives and Debates on Qualitative Research, OR Intermediate Quantitative Research

(v)   EITHER Critical Digital Innovation OR Education, the Internet and Society

(vi)   EITHER Critical Digital Innovation OR Education, the Internet and Society (if not already taken), OR one option paper as set out in the Course Handbook

Higher Education

(i)   Foundations of Educational Research I: Concepts and Design

(ii)   Module Higher Education Policy

(iii)   Higher Education in the Economy and Society

(iv)   Foundations of Education Research II: Strategies and Methods

(v)   Global Higher Education

(vi)   One option paper as set out in the Course Handbook

Research Design and Methodology

(i)   Introduction to Quantitative Research

(ii)   Foundations of Educational Research I: Concepts and Design

(iii)   Philosophy of Educational Research

(iv)   Foundations of Education Research II: Strategies and Methods

(v)   EITHER Intermediate Quantitative Research, OR Perspective and Debates on Qualitative Research

(vi)   One option paper as set out in the Course Handbook

Explanatory Notes