

**Mathematical and Physical Life Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved at the meeting of the Mathematics and Foundations of Computer Science Supervisory Committee, held 16<sup>th</sup> May 2024. MPLS Chair's action Trinity Term 24. Approved by Education Committee August 2024.**

**Master of Science by Coursework in Mathematics and Foundations of Computer Science**

**Brief note about nature of changes:**

1. Removal of the division of courses into 'Section A' and 'Section B' to simplify regulations and course requirements.
- 2.. Addition of opportunity to take one 'approved subject' topic from outside the published curriculum in place of a written assignment from the approved list of courses.
3. Amendment to penalties for late submission of assessment.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations 2023* [2023-24, Master of Science by Coursework in Mathematics and Foundations of Computer Science \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

**Effective date**

**For all students starting course from MT24**

**For first examination 2024-2025.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation references 1.4 and 1.5; Remove citation reference 1.10 as below:

1.4 (a) Candidates shall successfully complete a written assignment on each of five courses chosen from a list of courses approved by the Standing Committee and published in the course handbook. The list of courses shall be divided into two sections: ~~Section A (Mathematical Foundations) and Section B (Applicable Theories). Each section shall be divided into~~ schedules: schedule I (basic) and schedule II (advanced).

Candidates shall be required to satisfy the examiners in at least two courses taken from Section B and in at least two courses taken from schedule II. ~~(these need not be distinct).~~ Candidates may, with the permission of the Course Director, substitute no more than one of these written assignments with an appropriate course of study from outside the published list, which need not be examined by written assignment.

1.5 (b) Candidates shall submit a short dissertation on a topic selected by the candidate in consultation with the supervisor and approved by the Standing Committee. The dissertation must bear regard to course material from Sections A or B. Between thirty-five and sixty-five typed pages is the preferred length.

~~7. A candidate who does not submit a written assignment on a course for which he or she has entered, by noon on the deadline specified in the Course Handbook, shall be deemed to have failed the course in question.~~

Amend subsequent point numbering as below:

~~1.118. 7.~~ 7. If a candidate is deemed to have failed a particular course, he or she shall not be permitted to re-enter for examination in that course in the same year.

~~1.139. 8.~~ 8. A candidate who fails the examination will be permitted to retake it on one further occasion only. This resit attempt shall normally be taken at the next opportunity, but may be deferred once, i.e. it must be taken at one of the next two opportunities. In such a case the examiners will specify at the time of failure which of the assessed components of the course may or must be redone. No candidate who has satisfied the examiners in this examination may enter again for the same examination.

~~1.1410. 9.~~ 9. The examiners may award a distinction for excellence in the whole examination.

### **Explanatory Notes**

The current Examination Regulation divide courses into Section A and Section B courses; this is no longer felt to be necessary by the Supervisory Committee as this was a historical Section mandate which was no longer applicable. An additional clause allowing students to select appropriate courses not listed in the course handbook has also been added, allowing students voluntary access to a wider range of courses and assessment options. To bring inline with university policy there will be table published in the Course Handbook reflecting penalties for late submissions.