

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

SSD/2/2/4

Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved by Officer's Action on behalf of the Divisional Quality Assurance Committee on 23 November 2022; and on behalf of Education Committee of Council on 23 November 2022.

Title of Programme

Master of Science by Coursework in Social Science of the Internet (Part-time)

Brief note about nature of change:

Amendments to option papers to align with full-time equivalent.

Effective date

For students starting from MT 2022-23, for first examination from 2022-23.

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* (academic year):
<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=mombcissoti-p-time&srchYear=2022&srchTerm=1&year=2022&term=1>

Details of Change:

Amend citations 1.6 & 1.7 as follows:

1.1. Candidates must follow for six terms a course of instruction in Social Science of the Internet.

1.2. The examination will be in nine parts, normally split over two years as follows:

1.3(i) First year:

1.4Part 1: Compulsory core methods paper in 'Digital Social Research Methods: Methods Core' assessed by written coursework. Details of and arrangements for submission of the written coursework shall be notified to candidates by the end of 4th week of Michaelmas Term.

1.5Part 3: Compulsory core paper in 'Social Dynamics of the Internet', assessed by examination.

^{1.6}**Part 5:** One methods option paper, to be chosen from a list to be published on the Oxford Internet Institute website annually by the first Monday of Michaelmas Term or another paper agreed by the Director of Graduate Studies. Not all methods options may be available every year. The methods option papers will be assessed by arrangements which are specified in the reading lists for each module, details and arrangements for submission of which shall be notified to candidates by the first Monday of Michaelmas Term.

^{1.7}**Part 6:** One substantive option paper, to be chosen from a list to be published on the Oxford Internet Institute website annually by the first Monday of Michaelmas Term or another paper agreed by the Director of Graduate Studies. Not all substantive options may be available every year. The substantive option papers will be assessed by arrangements which are specified in the reading lists for each paper, details of and arrangements for submission of which shall be notified to candidates by the first Monday of Michaelmas Term.

^{1.8}In addition, students will be required to write a 2,000 word thesis proposal during Trinity Term and the long vacation, to be submitted by noon on Friday of Week 4 of Michaelmas Term of their second year. Students will give a formal presentation of their thesis proposal and will receive written formative feedback from a member of faculty other than their supervisor.

^{1.9}(ii) **Second year:**

^{1.10}**Part 2:** Compulsory core paper in 'Digital Social Research Methods: Statistics Core' assessed by examinations.

^{1.11}**Part 4:** Compulsory core paper in 'Internet Technologies and Regulation', assessed by examination.

^{1.12}**Parts 7:** One further methods option module, to be chosen from a list to be published on the Oxford Internet Institute website annually by the first Monday of Michaelmas Term or another paper agreed by the Director of Graduate Studies. Not all methods options may be available every year. The methods option papers will be assessed by arrangements which are specified in the reading lists for each module, details and arrangements for submission of which shall be notified to candidates by the first Monday of Michaelmas Term.

^{1.13}**Part 8:** One further substantive option paper, to be chosen from a list to be published on the Oxford Internet Institute website annually by the first Monday of Michaelmas Term or another paper agreed by the Director of Graduate Studies. Not all substantive options may be available every year. The option papers will be assessed by arrangements which are specified in the reading lists for each paper, details of and arrangements for submission of which shall be notified to candidates by the first Monday of Michaelmas Term.

^{1.14}**Part 9:** A thesis not to exceed 15,000 words on a topic within the subject of the course, to be specified jointly by supervisor and student, and approved by the director of the course and the Board of Examiners. The thesis must be uploaded to the University approved online assessment platform by noon of the weekday on or nearest to the 1st of August of the year in which the degree is to be taken.

^{1.153.} Under exceptional circumstances, with permission from the Director of Graduate Studies, students may elect to delay until the second year an examination that would normally take place during the first year, or may elect to sit during the first year an examination that would normally take place during the second year (provided the student is able to meet all prerequisites for the paper). No changes to the normal examination sequence will be approved by the Director of Graduate Studies that would result in more than 70% of the non-thesis marks being examined in a single year.

^{1.164.} All written assignments must be uploaded to the University approved online assessment platform by the times and dates specified at the start of the course. Each submission must be accompanied by a declaration indicating that it is the candidate's own work.

^{1.175.} The examiners may examine any candidate viva voce.

Explanatory Notes

Amendment to correct the inequality between the full-time and part-time course variant's which will result in increased optionality for part-time students.