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 divisional Quality Assurance Committee on 13 June 2023

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

Brief note about nature of change: Major changes to assessment

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 Social Science of the Internet (Part-time) (ox.ac.uk)   And the updates as published in the Gazette on 1 December 2022

Details of Change: Amend citations and re-number as follows: [insert citation] 1. The Course shall be under the supervision of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Oxford Internet Institute, which is under the supervision of the Social Sciences Divisional Board.   1.1 ~~1~~2. Candidates must follow for six terms a course of instruction in Social Science of the Internet.   1.2 ~~2~~3. The examination will be in ~~nine~~ **eight** parts, normally split over two years as follows: 1.3 (i) **First year:**   1.4 **Part 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.~~

1.5**Part 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~~.

1.8In addition, students will be required to write a ~~2,000 word~~ thesis proposal during Trinity Term ~~and the long vacation,~~ <mark>of the first year,</mark> to be submitted <mark>to their supervisor</mark> 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~~ <mark>receive written formative feedback on this proposal from</mark> their supervisor.

1.9(ii) **Second year:**

1.10**Part 2:** Compulsory core paper in 'Digital Social Research Methods: Statistics Core' assessed by examinations. <mark>With the agreement of the Director of Graduate Studies, the 'Applied Analytical Statistics course (assessed by written coursework) may be taken in lieu of this paper.</mark>

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

1.12**Parts 7:** One further ~~methods~~ option ~~module~~ <mark>paper</mark>, to be chosen from ~~a~~ <mark>the</mark> list <mark>of methods and substantive option papers</mark> 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~~ <mark>paper.</mark>~~, 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~~8:** 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~~ <mark>the Chair of</mark> 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.

1.15~~3~~4. 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

Updates to the regulations in relation to the major changes approved by Education Committee on 5 July 2022.