

Humanities Divisional Board

Approved at the meeting of the Faculty's Graduate Studies committee on Thursday 25 May

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Master of Studies in Traditional China

Brief note about nature of change:

Changes to the Syllabus of the Examination

Location of change:

In *Examination Regulations 2022/23*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=mosintradchin&srchYear=2022&srchTerm=1&year=2022&term=1>

Effective date

For students starting from MT 2024

And

For first examination from 2024-25

Detail of change

~~1.3~~ 3. *Syllabus* There will be four Units.

~~1.4~~ 4. Unit (i) Prescribed texts, with special reference to a subject approved by the Board. This is a written examination paper.

~~1.5~~ 5. Unit (ii) Either Classical Chinese unprepared translation or Japanese or another Asian language approved by the Board. This is a written examination paper. Candidates may choose a language other than Classical Chinese only if the Board is satisfied that they possess a good knowledge of Classical Chinese. Candidates who have taken Chinese in the Honour School of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at Oxford are required to take Japanese or another Asian language.

~~1.6~~ 6. Unit (iii) Bibliography and techniques of sinology, with special reference to the subject chosen in Unit (i). Exercises will be set after examinations for Units (i) and (ii) have taken place. Each candidate will be assigned one or more exercises set on a topic directly relating to the course of instruction he/she has followed, and will be required to submit a written answer to the Chair of Examiners by a date which the Chair will announce, but which shall, in any case, be not sooner than two days and not later than seven days following the examinations. Each essay must be

~~submitted to the University approved online assessment platform. Candidates must include a declaration that the work is the candidate's own.~~

~~4.7. Unit (iv) A thesis of not more than 15,000 words (excluding bibliography) on a topic selected in consultation with the candidate's supervisor and approved by the Faculty Board. Applications for such approval should be submitted to the Faculty office by Monday of Week 0 of Hilary Term. The thesis must be submitted to the University approved online assessment platform not later than 12 noon on Friday of Week 4 of Trinity Term. The work must bear the candidates' examination number (but not the candidates' name). Candidates must include a declaration that the work is the candidates own.~~

4. Unit (i) Each candidate will be assigned one or more exercises and will be required to submit a written answer to the Chair of Examiners by a date which the Chair will announce, but which shall, in any case, be not later than seven days following the examinations. Each essay must be submitted to the University approved online assessment platform.

5. Unit (ii) A thesis of not more than 15,000 words (excluding bibliography) on a topic selected in consultation with the candidate's supervisor and approved by the Faculty Board. The thesis must be submitted to the University approved online assessment platform not later than 12 noon on Friday of Week 4 of Trinity Term.

6. Unit (iii) and (iv) Either two option papers to be selected by the candidate in consultation with the candidate's supervisor, or one option paper and a language examination in Classical Chinese, Japanese or another Asian language. A list of the available option papers will be published annually in the students' handbook. For the option papers, candidates are required to submit two essays of up to 5,000 words. The first essay will be submitted by 12 noon on Monday of week 9 of Michaelmas Term and the second essay will be submitted by 12 noon on Monday of week 9 of Hilary Term.

7. Candidates taking the language examination are required to complete a written examination appropriate to their level of language knowledge, as assessed at the start of the course.

~~4.8. 8. Lists of set texts must be submitted to the Faculty office by Friday of seventh week of Michaelmas Term.~~

Explanatory Notes

The "Prescribed Texts" unit will be replaced with a single option paper, allowing students to choose specialized examinations and participate in tutorials and seminars involving close readings of primary materials and secondary literature. This change will also provide candidates who possess a good knowledge of classical Chinese at the start of the course with the option to choose between a language examination and a second option paper. This flexibility caters to students with diverse interests and varying levels of proficiency in classical Chinese. For text-reading classes in each option, students will be taught alongside third-year and/or final-year undergraduates, providing a wide range of choices within a program with a small enrolment. However, they will have separate graduate discussion classes and essay-based assessments. Additionally, with the approval of the supervisor and course co-ordinator, students may also choose an option offered by the Contemporary Chinese Studies Management Committee.

