

HDB(24)14

Humanities Divisional Board

Approved by Education Committee 11/4/24

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation

Master of Studies in Traditional China

Brief note about nature of change:

Changing the weighting of core/ optional courses depending on student prior knowledge, to give greater choice of study for students

Effective date

For students starting from **MT24**

and

For first examination from **2024-25**

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2023-24*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=mosintradchin&srchYear=2023&srchTerm=1&year=2023&term=1>

Detail of change

^{1.1}1. Candidates must follow a course of instruction in Chinese Studies at Oxford for a period of three terms, unless the Faculty Board in exceptional circumstances shall permit an extension of time.

^{1.2}2. Assessments will consist of four units. Essays and thesis must be submitted to the University approved online assessment platform.

^{1.3}3. Unit (i) Prescribed texts, to be selected from a list published by the Faculty in the course handbook. Candidates will be required to submit two 5,000 word maximum essays. The first essay will be submitted by 12 noon on ~~Monday~~ Tuesday of week 9 of Michaelmas

Term and the second essay will be submitted by 12 noon on ~~Monday~~ Tuesday of week 9 of Hilary Term.

~~1.4~~ 4. Unit (ii) ~~Either Classical Chinese unprepared translation or Japanese or another Asian language approved by the Board. Candidates taking the language examination will be required to complete a written examination appropriate to their level of language knowledge, as assessed at the start of the course. 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.~~

5. Unit (ii) one from:

a. Classical Chinese unprepared translation

or

b. another Asian language approved by the Board

or

c. a second *Prescribed Texts Paper* as described in Unit (i) above.

Candidates wishing to take b., or c., will need to satisfy the board of their level of Classical Chinese language knowledge and will be assessed at the start of the course. Candidates who have taken Chinese in the Honour School of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at Oxford are required to take another Asian language or a second *Prescribed Texts Paper*.

~~1.5~~ 5. Unit (iii) Bibliography and techniques of sinology. In Trinity term, candidates will be assigned an essay, to be of no more than 3,000 words, and will be required to submit it by a date not sooner than five days and not later than seven days following the release of the paper.

~~1.6~~ 6. 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. The thesis must be submitted not later than 12 noon on ~~Friday~~ Thursday of Week 4 of Trinity Term.

~~1.7~~ 7. Candidates may be required to attend a viva.

Explanatory Notes

Major changes to the curriculum of the degree: For the *Language* element, students currently study for either Classical Chinese or a basic course in another Asian language. The proposal is to allow students the choice of studying a second *Prescribed Text* option instead of the *Language*, should they have sufficient knowledge of their chosen language. The level of language knowledge will be determined by the course coordinator and supervisor by means of an informal test, and in discussion with the student.