

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 26 September 2023

Title of Programme

Research Degrees in Social Policy and Intervention

Brief note about nature of change:

Minor amendments to the wording in preparation for the new SSD-specific GSO forms

Effective date

For all students from Michaelmas term 2023 onwards

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* [2021-22, Research Degrees in Social Policy and Intervention \(ox.ac.uk\)](#)

Details of Change:

Amend citations as follows:

^{1.6}3. Transfer to MLitt (or MSc by Research) or DPhil status

^{1.7}Students will normally be admitted as Probationer Research Students. Students will normally be expected to achieve Transfer of Status in their third or fourth term after admission.

^{1.8}Applications should be submitted to the Graduate Studies Committee and will comprise the following:

^{1.9}(a) a completed transfer of status form ~~and appointment of assessors form~~;

^{1.10}(b) a provisional thesis title and research proposal;

^{1.11}(c) a literature review of between 5,000 to 8,000 words;

^{1.12}(d) a piece of written work relevant to the thesis of between 5,000 to 8,000 words;

- 1.13(e) a timetable for completion;
- 1.14(f) evidence of attendance of subject specific courses;
- 1.15(g) Research Ethics forms (if applicable);
- 1.16(h) Health and Safety forms (if applicable);
- 1.17(i) Skills Review and Training Needs Analysis form.

1.18 Full details of requirements can be found in the Graduate Research Students handbook.

1.19 The Graduate Studies Committee will appoint two assessors who will read the work, interview the student and submit a recommendation to the committee in a written report. The Graduate Studies Committee will then decide whether Transfer of Status will be approved.

1.20 A student whose first application for Transfer of Status is not approved (including where the outcome is a recommendation to transfer to the MSc by Research or MLitt) is permitted to make one further application and will be granted an extension of one term to Probationer Research Student status if necessary. If after a second attempt, the Graduate Studies Committee can neither approve transfer to the DPhil or to the MSc by Research or MLitt, the student will be removed from the Register of Graduate Students.

1.21 **4. Confirmation of Status**

1.22 Students will normally be expected to achieve Confirmation of Status in their seventh term and by no later than their ninth term after admission-.

1.23 Applications should be submitted to the Graduate Studies Committee and will comprise the following:

- 1.24(a) a completed confirmation of status form ~~and appointment of assessors form~~;
- 1.25(b) a thesis title and abstract;
- 1.26(c) a thesis outline;
- 1.27(d) a research proposal of 4 to 5 pages;
- 1.28(e) a timetable for completion;
- 1.29(f) for the monograph thesis route at least two draft chapters, or for the thesis by papers route two draft papers;
- 1.30(g) evidence of presentation of (part of) the thesis at a seminar/conference/workshop;
- 1.31(h) Skills Review and Training Needs Analysis form.

1.32 Full details of requirements can be found in the Graduate Research Students handbook.

^{1.33}The Graduate Studies Committee will appoint two assessors who will read the work, interview the student and submit a recommendation to the committee in a written report. The Graduate Studies Committee will then decide whether Confirmation of Status will be approved.

^{1.34}A student whose first application for Confirmation of Status is not approved is permitted to make one further application, normally within one term of the original application, and will be granted an extension of one term- if necessary. If after the second attempt the DPhil Committee can neither approve the application nor approve transfer to the MSc by Research or MLitt, the student will be removed from the Register of Graduate Students.

Explanatory Notes

Minor amendments to the wording in preparation for the new SSD-specific GSO forms GSO.2 and GSO.14 going live Michaelmas term 2023.