

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

SSD/2/2/4

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of Education Committee on 17 June 2025.**

**Title of Programme**

Master of Science by Coursework in Applied Financial Economics (part-time)

**Brief note about nature of change:**

New programme

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2026.

For first examination from 2026/27

**Location of change**

New entry under *General Regulations for the Degree of Master of Science by Coursework*

**Details of Change:**

Insert citations and number as follows:

1. The course shall be under the supervision of the joint Financial Economics Course Committee of the Saïd Business School and the Department of Economics.

2. Candidates will be required to follow a course of instruction in Applied Financial Economics for twenty-four months.

3. If, for good cause, a student is temporarily unable to carry out their studies, the Course Committee may grant a request for temporary suspension of status for twelve months; slightly shorter periods of suspension may be approved depending on the exact delivery dates for teaching of each of the core and elective modules. No student may be granted more than twenty-four months of suspension.

4. Candidates must complete the following assessments associated with the following five core modules:

(i) Corporate Finance - assessed by two written examinations and a 20 minute group video presentation.

(ii) Economics - assessed by two written examinations and an individual 10-15 minute video presentation.

(iii) Asset Pricing - assessed by two written examinations and a 20 minute group video presentation.

(iv) Financial Econometrics - assessed by a written examination and two 20 minute group presentations, each with an accompanying 2,000 word group assignment.

(v) Ethics and Finance - assessed by a 20 minute group video presentation.

5. Candidates must take two electives in their first year and one elective in their second year, from a list approved by the Course Committee. Details of the available electives and the assessment methods will be published on the online course learning platform by the end of week 6 of Michaelmas term of each year.

6. Candidates must complete an individual project of no more than 10,000 words. The project should be submitted by noon on Thursday of the first week in September at the end of Year 2 of the course.

7. All assessments must be submitted using a University approved online submission system. All assessment deadlines and technical information on the requirements for online submissions will be provided in the Course Handbook on the online course learning platform.

8. Candidates who fail any of the assessments associated with the core modules or electives will have the opportunity to re-sit the assessment. Candidates will be informed of the exact dates after the exam board has confirmed that reassessment is required. In the case of failure of the individual project, the resubmission will be due by the deadline in clause 6 in the following year.

9. Candidates must present themselves for an oral examination if required by the examiners.

#### **Explanatory Notes**

[your ref # - optional]

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of the Chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025**

**Title of Programme:**

Research Degrees in Archaeology

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in Archaeology](#)

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference. 1.4 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.4</sup>The DPhil programmes shall be offered on a full-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

[your ref # -  
optional]

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025**

**Title of Programme:**

Doctoral Training Programme in Science and Engineering in Arts, Heritage and Archaeology

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations 2024-25, Doctoral Training Programme in Science and Engineering in Arts, Heritage and Archaeology*

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference. 1.3 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.3</sup>(c) Transfer of Status from Probationer Research Student to D.Phil., M.Litt. or M.Sc. by research should be achieved not later than the third term following transfer to Oxford. Students are required to demonstrate that the research already accomplished shows promise of the ability to produce a satisfactory D.Phil., M.Litt. or M.Sc. by Research thesis on the intended topic. Students are required to submit to the Director of Graduate Studies a report title and abstract (of no more than 300 words/one side of A4) by Friday of eighth week Michaelmas Term. Each student will also give a Transfer of Status Presentation of fifteen minutes (plus ten minutes of questions) during noughth week of Hilary Term. Students should submit two copies (and one electronic copy) of a research proposal of no more than 7,500 words, including an outline of research plans, a preliminary review of the literature,

methodology progress to date, bibliography and a timetable for completion to the Director of Graduate studies by Friday of eighth week Hilary Term. On receiving the application, the Director of Graduate studies will, on behalf of the Graduate Studies Committee, appoint two assessors neither of whom will normally be the student's supervisor. The assessors will read the script before submitting to the Board their reports and a joint summary statement supporting their recommendation. Students will be required to attend a Transfer of Status Assessment Meeting with their supervisor(s) and assessors to discuss their report. These meetings will be held during 1st week of Trinity Term. A student whose first application is unsuccessful may be given one further opportunity to apply for transfer, following the procedures laid down in the ~~General Regulations Governing Research Degrees~~ Part 4 of the General Regulations Governing Research Degrees.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

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

SSD/2/2/4

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Major changes approved on behalf Education Committee on 16 September 2024**

**Title of Programme**

Master of Science by Coursework in Biodiversity, Conservation, and Management

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Closure of programme, replaced by MSc Biodiversity, Conservation and Nature Recovery

**Effective date**

Programme closure starting from Michaelmas term 2025.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations 2025-26, Master of Science by Coursework in Biodiversity, Conservation, and Management*

**Details of Change:**

Strike all citations and remove the entry from the regulations from 2025-26:

~~<sup>1.1</sup>1. The Social Sciences Divisional Board shall elect for the supervision of the course a Standing Committee.~~

~~<sup>1.2</sup>2. Candidates must follow a course of instruction in Biodiversity, Conservation, and Management for at least three terms.~~

~~<sup>1.3</sup>3. The examination will consist of:~~

~~<sup>1.4</sup>(i) a written examination of three papers based on core courses in *Biodiversity Science; Conservation; Ethics and Values; and Biodiversity, Policy and Management;*~~

~~<sup>1.5</sup>(ii) two assessed essays based on elective courses. These 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;~~

~~<sup>1.6</sup>(iii) a dissertation on a subject selected in consultation with the supervisor and Course Director and approved by the Course and Academic Directors.~~

~~<sup>1.7</sup>4. Candidates must submit to the Course Director by the end of Hilary Term in the year in which they enter the examination, the title and a brief statement of the form and scope of their dissertation, together with the name of a person who has agreed to act as their supervisor during preparation of the dissertation.~~

~~<sup>1.8</sup>5. The dissertation shall be of a maximum length of 15,000 words and accompanied by an abstract not exceeding 150 words. The maximum word count shall include footnotes, but exclude appendices, references and the abstract. The detailed format and specification of the dissertation shall be approved by the Standing Committee, and published in the course handbook.~~

~~<sup>1.9</sup>6. The dissertation must be uploaded to the University approved online assessment platform no later than noon on the first weekday of September in the year in which the written examination is taken. The submission must be accompanied by a declaration indicating that it is the candidate's own work.~~

~~<sup>1.10</sup>7. In the written examination, the examiners will permit the use of hand-held pocket calculators subject to the conditions set out under the heading 'Use of calculators in examinations' in the *Regulations for the Conduct of University Examinations*.~~

~~<sup>1.11</sup>8. The examiners may also examine any candidate viva voce on the candidate's written papers, dissertation, or both.~~

~~<sup>1.12</sup>9. Arrangements for reassessment shall be specified by the Standing Committee and published in the course handbook.~~

## **Explanatory Notes**

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

SSD/2/2/4

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Major changes approved on behalf Education Committee on 16 September 2024**

**Title of Programme**

Master of Science by Coursework in Biodiversity, Conservation, and Nature Recovery

**Brief note about nature of change:**

New programme, replacing the MSc Biodiversity, Conservation, and Management

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

New entry under *General Regulations for the Degree of Master of Science by Coursework*

**Details of Change:**

Insert citations and number as follows:

1. The programme shall be under the supervision of the Graduate Teaching and Examinations Committee of the School of Geography and the Environment.

2. Each candidate will be required to follow a course of instruction in Biodiversity, Conservation and Nature Recovery for one year full-time.

3. Candidates must submit three portfolios of work as detailed below, and also attend two elective courses.

**Portfolio 1 – Foundations**

4. Candidates must submit a 1,500 word case study analysis and a 5 minute recorded presentation by noon on Tuesday of week 0 of Hilary term.

**Portfolio 2 – Applications**

5. Candidates must submit a 1,000 word individual report on a group project undertaken during the course fieldtrip by noon on Friday of the week following the fieldtrip. In addition,



candidates must take a written examination and also present themselves for a viva voce examination at the beginning of Trinity term.

### Portfolio 3 – Research

6. Candidates must present themselves for an oral presentation on their research proposal during Trinity term, and submit a 1,500 word annotated bibliography, a 1,000 word briefing note, and a 7,000-9,000 word research paper by noon on the first Tuesday in September.

7. Candidates should refer to the Course Handbook for full details of the requirements for each assessment.

8. All assessments must be submitted using the University approved online submission system. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Course Handbook.

9. Arrangements for reassessment will be as follows:

Portfolio 1 – Foundations: Candidates who fail either assessment for Portfolio 1 will have the opportunity to resubmit the failed assessment in week 3 of Trinity term.

Portfolio 2 – Applications: Candidates who fail any of the assessments for Portfolio 2 will have the opportunity to resubmit/resit the failed assessment(s) in July.

Portfolio 3 – Research: Candidates who fail the research proposal presentation will have the opportunity to make a further presentation in July. In the case of failure of the remaining assessments in Portfolio 3, the assessment(s) may be resubmitted either by noon on Tuesday of week 0 of Hilary term the following year, or by the deadline in clause 6 in the following year.

Candidates will be informed of the exact dates for re-submissions/re-examination/further presentations after the exam board has confirmed that reassessment is required.

10. Candidates must present themselves for a viva voce examination if required by the examiners.

### **Explanatory Notes**

[your ref # -  
optional]

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025**

**Title of Programme:**

Research Degrees in the Blavatnik School of Government

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in the Blavatnik School of Government](#) [include reference to any relevant *Gazette* by stating 'as amended by *Gazette* of date' etc.]

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference. 1.4 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.4</sup>The DPhil in Public Policy shall be offered on a full-time and part-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Part-time research students are required to attend for a minimum of thirty days of university-based work each year, to be arranged with the agreement of their supervisor, for the period that their names remain on the Register of Graduate Students unless individually dispensed by the DPhil Committee.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of

reference.

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

SSD/2/2/4

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of Education Committee on 4 July 2024**

**Title of Programme**

Postgraduate Diploma in Early Childhood Education (Part-time)

**Brief note about nature of change:**

New programme

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

New entry under *General Regulations for Postgraduate Diplomas in Education*

**Details of Change:**

Insert citations and number as follows:

1. Each candidate will be required to follow a course of instruction specialising in Early Childhood Education for three terms, including a one-week induction session and a series of online lectures and seminars.

2. Candidates will complete the following two core courses:

a) Building the foundations of research-informed practice assessed by an essay of no more 2,500 words, to be submitted by noon on Thursday of week 0 of Hilary term;

b) Supporting children's cognitive development through research informed practice assessed by an essay of no more 2,500 words, to be submitted by noon on Thursday of week 0 of Trinity term.

3. Candidates will complete a research report of 10,000-15,000 words. The report must be submitted by noon on the second Thursday in August.

4. A candidate who receives a failing mark for a core course may resubmit the assessment on one further occasion. The resubmission shall be at the next opportunity, or on an earlier date agreed with the Course Director. The resubmission may be deferred once but must take place no later than when the assessment is next examined the following year

5. A candidate who receives a failing mark for the research report may resubmit the assessment on one further occasion. The resubmission shall be on a date agreed with the Course Director. The resubmission may be deferred once but must take place no later than when the assessment is next examined the following year.

6. All assessments must be submitted using the University approved online submission system. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Course Handbook.

7. Candidates may be required to attend an oral examination for any assessment.

#### **Explanatory Notes**

[your ref # - optional]

## Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025

### Title of Programme:

Research Degrees in Economics

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

### Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in Economics](#) [include reference to any relevant *Gazette* by stating 'as amended by *Gazette* of date' etc.]

### Effective date

For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.

### Detail of change

Amend citation reference. 1.4 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.4</sup>The DPhil in Economics shall be offered on a full-time and part-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Part-time students are required to meet the following attendance requirements for their period of part-time study: attendance for a minimum of 30 days of university-based work each year (or 60 days in the first year of registration where a first year M.Phil. Economics subject is required as part of the Qualifying Examination), normally coinciding with the full terms of the academic year, to be arranged with the agreement of their supervisor, for the period that their names remain on the Register of Graduate Students unless individually dispensed by the Graduate Studies Committee. During

a student's probationary period the attendance arrangements must take account of relevant induction and training events scheduled by the department.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

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

SSD/2/2/4

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved by Quality Assurance Committee at the meeting of 9 May 2025**

**Title of Programme**

Master of Philosophy in Economics

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Change to structure of Year 1 Core/Advanced examinations

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2025-26, Master of Philosophy in Economics](#)

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations as follows:

1.11. The course shall be under the supervision of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Department of Economics.

1.22. Each candidate will be required to follow a course of instruction in Economics for six terms.

1.3 *First-year examinations*

1.43. All candidates will take three compulsory papers: Macroeconomics, Microeconomics and Econometrics, ~~each examined by an unseen written examination at the beginning of Trinity term.~~ Each paper is examined by two unseen written examinations; Part A to be taken at the beginning of Hilary Term and Part B to be taken at the beginning of Trinity Term. These examinations are in-person. Candidates will normally take the “Core” versions of the papers, but may take one or more of the “Advanced” versions with the permission of the Graduate Studies Committee. To pass each paper overall, candidates



must achieve a mark of 50 or above when the marks for Part A and Part B are combined and averaged.

1.54. Details of the content of the three compulsory papers (“Core” and “Advanced”) will be published on the Department’s VLE site at the beginning of Michaelmas Term each year.

1.65. ~~All~~ In their first year, candidates must take either Core Empirical Research Methods or Further Mathematical Methods ~~in their first year~~ which are examined by submitted coursework. With the permission of the Economics Graduate Studies Committee, candidates may take both papers in their first year.

1.76. To progress to the second year candidates must achieve an average mark of at least 50 in across the compulsory ~~subjects~~ papers {Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Econometrics} at either Core or Advanced level; or pass two of the compulsory ~~subjects~~ papers {Macroeconomics, Microeconomics, Econometrics} at either Core or Advanced level. Candidates who fail to progress to the second year must re-sit the failed examinations when next offered. Candidates ~~that~~ who progress to the second year, but fail one or more first year papers, may re-sit the failed ~~paper(s)~~ examination(s) when next offered. ~~Candidates who fail to progress to the second year must re-sit the failed papers when next offered.~~ Candidates who fail either a Part A or Part B examination but pass the paper overall will not be permitted to re-sit the failed examination. Candidates who fail an “Advanced” compulsory paper may re-sit the “Core” version. The Graduate Studies Committee reserves the right to exercise discretion in exceptional cases.

#### 1.8 *Final Examination*

1.97. All candidates must offer four papers (except where they have taken both Core Empirical Research Methods and Further Mathematical Methods in the first year, in which case they must offer three papers), and a thesis. These papers must be chosen from {Field papers, Advanced Empirical Research Methods, Advanced Macroeconomics, Advanced Microeconomics and Advanced Econometrics} excluding any papers already taken in the first year. A maximum of two of the papers can be chosen from the set {Advanced Empirical Research Methods, Advanced Macroeconomics, Advanced Microeconomics and Advanced Econometrics}. Students wishing to offer any of these four Advanced papers need the permission of the Graduate Studies Committee. Achieving a Distinction in the corresponding Core paper in the first year, or a Pass in the corresponding Core Empirical Research Methods, will grant this permission automatically. The definitive list of Field papers together with information on content, structure and assessment method will be published on the Department’s VLE at the beginning of Michaelmas Term of the year in which the examination is to be taken.

1.108. All candidates must offer a thesis of no more than 20,000 words which must be submitted using the University approved online submission system by noon on Wednesday of week 3 of Trinity Term in which the final examination is taken. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Course Handbook. Candidates must submit their thesis title and outline to the MPhil Director by Friday of week 0 of Hilary Term in which the final examination is taken.

1.119. Candidates who fail the final examination will be permitted to retake the failed second-year examination paper(s) or resubmit the failed thesis on one further occasion, which will normally be within one year of the initial failure.

1.1210. Candidates are reminded that work submitted for the MPhil in Economics may subsequently be incorporated into a thesis submitted for the DPhil in Economics.

1.1311. The examiners will not provide calculators, but will permit the use of a hand-held pocket calculator in the examination room, both for the first year examinations and for the final examination, subject to the conditions set out under the heading 'Use of calculators in examinations' in the *Regulations for the Conduct of University Examinations*. A list of permitted calculators will be reviewed annually in the week 0 of Michaelmas Term and published on the Department's VLE.

### **Explanatory Notes**

This revision details the new assessment format for Core and Advanced papers in the MPhil in Economics for students entering in MT25.

Core/Advanced papers were previously assessed via 3-hour examinations in week 0 of Trinity term.

Each Core and Advanced paper will now be examined by two unseen 1.5 hour written examinations. Part A will be taken at the beginning of Hilary Term and Part B will be taken at the beginning of Trinity Term.

**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 Quality Assurance Committee on 20 June 2025.**

**Title of Programme**

Master of Science by Coursework in Education

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Introducing a pre-requisite for the Qualitative Research methods module

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2026

For first examination from 2026/27

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [Master of Science by Coursework in Education](#)

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations as follows:

1.1 1. The course shall be under the supervision of the Academic Committee of the Department of Education.

1.2 2. Candidates will specialise in one of the following pathways:

1.3 i. Comparative and International Education

1.4 ii. Higher Education

1.5 iii. Digital and Social Change

1.6 iv. Child Development and Education

1.7 v. Research Design and Methodology

- 1.8 3. Candidates must follow a course of instruction for three terms full-time or for the Research and Design Methodology pathway either three terms full-time or six terms part-time.
- 1.9 4. For each pathway candidates will take a combination of six one term papers as set out in the Schedule below. Details of the option papers available will be published by Friday of week 0 of Michaelmas Term. For part-time students, four papers will be taken in year 1, and two papers in year 2.
- 1.10 5. Each paper will be assessed by course work as set out in the Course Handbook.
- 1.11 6. Exceptionally, candidates may offer one paper from a relevant Master's degree in another department in the University, in place of one option paper, subject to permission from the relevant pathway convenor, the Course Director and the owning department. Applications to take such a paper must normally be made by Thursday of week 5 of Michaelmas Term. In such cases, the method of assessment shall be as described for the owning department. Further details are set out in the Course Handbook.
- 1.12 7. Candidates are also required to submit a dissertation of 15,000–20,000 words on a topic relevant to the pathway being followed. The dissertation must be submitted by no later than noon on the second Thursday in August. For part-time students, this will be during the second year of the course.
- 1.13 8. All assessments must be submitted using the University approved online submission system. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Course Handbook.
- 1.14 9. Candidates may also be required to attend an oral examination for any assessment.
- 1.15 10. If a candidate receives a failing mark for any of the summative assessments, they may resubmit the assessment on one further occasion, when the assessment is next examined the following year, or on an earlier date which will be published in the Course Handbook.

## **Schedule**

### **Child Development and Education**

- 1.16 i. Foundations of Educational Research I: Concepts and Design
- 1.17 ii. Foundations Learning and Wellbeing
- 1.18 iii. Introduction to Quantitative Research
- 1.19 iv. Cognitive Development and Educational Attainment
- 1.20 v. ~~Two option papers as set out in the Course Handbook~~ **EITHER Foundations of Educational Research II: Strategies and Methods OR Intermediate Quantitative Research**

vi. One other option paper as set out in the Course Handbook. If Qualitative Research is taken, then Foundations of Educational Research II: Strategies and Methods must also be taken.

#### Comparative and International Education

- 1.21 i. Foundations of Educational Research I: Concepts and Design
- 1.22 ii. Comparative and International Education: An overview of the field
- 1.23 iii. Researching with the South: Decolonizing communication practices in education research
- 1.24 iv. Foundations of Educational Research II: Strategies and Methods
- 1.25 v. The Implementation of the Rights of Children
- 1.26 vi. One option paper as set out in the Course Handbook

#### Digital and Social Change

- 1.27 i. Foundations of Educational Research I: Concepts and Design
- 1.28 ii. Key Concepts in Digital Education
- 1.29 iii. Social Justice and Technology
- 1.30 iv. EITHER Foundations of Education Research II: Strategies and Methods, ~~OR Qualitative Research~~, OR Intermediate Quantitative Research
- 1.31 v. EITHER Critical Digital Innovation OR Education, the Internet and Society
- 1.32 vi. EITHER Critical Digital Innovation OR Education, the Internet and Society (if not already taken), OR one option paper as set out in the Course Handbook. If Qualitative Research is taken, then Foundations of Educational Research II: Strategies and Methods must also be taken.

#### Higher Education

- 1.33 i. Foundations of Educational Research I: Concepts and Design
- 1.34 ii. Higher Education: Systems, Structures and Institutions
- 1.35 iii. Higher Education in the Economy and Society
- 1.36 iv. Foundations of Education Research II: Strategies and Methods
- 1.37 v. Global Higher Education
- 1.38 vi. One option paper as set out in the Course Handbook

#### Research Design and Methodology

- 1.39 i. Introduction to Quantitative Research

- 1.40 ii. Foundations of Educational Research I: Concepts and Design
- 1.41 iii. Philosophy of Educational Research
- 1.42 iv. Foundations of Education Research II: Strategies and Methods
- 1.43 v. EITHER Intermediate Quantitative Research, OR Qualitative Research
- 1.44 vi. One option paper as set out in the Course Handbook

### **Explanatory Notes**

When a student on the Digital and Social Change and Child Development and Education pathways take the *Qualitative Research* methods module, they must take this alongside *Foundations of Education Research II: Strategies and Methods*.

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

SSD/2/2/4

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of Education Committee on 4 July 2024**

**Title of Programme**

General Regulations for Postgraduate Diplomas in Education

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Updates to general regulations following approval of new postgraduate diplomas in Education

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

[2024-25, General Regulations for Postgraduate Diplomas in Education](#)

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations (and update numbering) as follows:

1.11. The ~~Departmental Board~~ **Academic Committee** of the Department of Education shall have power to ~~grant Postgraduate Diplomas in Education and Postgraduate Diplomas in Teaching English in University Settings~~ **award Postgraduate Diplomas as specified in the Schedule below** to candidates who have satisfied the conditions prescribed in ~~this section and any further conditions which the committee may prescribe by regulation~~ **these regulations and in the regulations for each award**.

1.22. The examinations for the **postgraduate** diplomas shall be under the supervision of the ~~Departmental Board~~ **Academic Committee** which shall have power subject to the approval of the Education Committee to make regulations governing the examinations.

~~1.3. Candidates, whether members of the University or not, may be admitted as students for the diplomas under such conditions as the committee shall prescribe, provided that~~

~~1.4 (i) before admission to a course of study approved by the committee, candidates have satisfied the committee that they have received a good general education, that~~

~~they have had appropriate educational experience acceptable to the committee, and are well qualified to enter the proposed course of study;~~

~~1.5 (ii) any person so admitted who is not a member of the University, shall be required to pay to the Curators of the University Chest through the committee the composition fee payable under the provisions of the appropriate regulation, notwithstanding that he or she is not a member of the University.~~

1.6 ~~43.~~ The ~~Departmental Board~~ **Academic Committee** shall make a return to the Registrar by the end of the sixth week of Michaelmas Term, showing the names of all persons admitted in that term as students for the **postgraduate** diplomas, and the Registrar shall add the names of non-members of the University to the Register of **Postgraduate** Diploma Students.

1.7 ~~54.~~ Any person who has been accepted as a candidate for ~~the diplomas~~ **a postgraduate diploma**, and who has satisfactorily pursued ~~a~~ **the** course **prescribed by the Committee**, ~~whose character and length have been approved by the committee,~~ may be admitted to the examinations.

~~1.8 6. A candidate must apply to the committee for admission to the examinations at such time as the committee shall, by regulation, prescribe. His or her application must be accompanied by:~~

~~1.9 (a) a certificate from the Secretary of the Committee that he or she is satisfactorily pursuing a course of study approved by the committee;~~

~~1.10 (b) such other information as the committee may, by regulation, require.~~

### **Schedule**

**Postgraduate Diplomas in Early Childhood Education**

**Postgraduate Diploma in Education**

**Postgraduate Diploma in English as an Additional Language**

### **Explanatory Notes**



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

SSD/2/2/4

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of Education Committee on 4 July 2024**

**Title of Programme**

Postgraduate Diploma in English as an Additional Language (Part-time)

**Brief note about nature of change:**

New programme

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

New entry under *General Regulations for Postgraduate Diplomas in Education*

**Details of Change:**

Insert citations and number as follows:

1. Each candidate will be required to follow a course of instruction specialising in English as an Additional Language for three terms, including a one-week induction session and a series of online lectures and seminars.

2. Candidates will complete the following two core courses:

a) Building the foundations of research-informed practice for English as an Additional Language assessed by an essay of no more 2,500 words, to be submitted by noon on Thursday of week 0 of Hilary term;

b) Supporting English as an Additional Language through research informed practice assessed by an essay of no more 2,500 words, to be submitted by noon on Thursday of week 0 of Trinity term.

3. Candidates will complete a research report of 10,000-15,000 words. The report must be submitted by noon on the second Thursday in August.

4. A candidate who receives a failing mark for a core course may resubmit the assessment on one further occasion. The resubmission shall be at the next opportunity, or on an earlier date agreed with the Course Director. The resubmission may be deferred once but must take place no later than when the assessment is next examined the following year.

5. A candidate who receives a failing mark for the research report may resubmit the assessment on one further occasion. The resubmission shall be on a date agreed with the Course Director. The resubmission may be deferred once but must take place no later than when the assessment is next examined the following year.

6. All assessments must be submitted using the University approved online submission system. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Course Handbook.

7. Candidates may be required to attend an oral examination for any assessment.

#### **Explanatory Notes**

[your ref # - optional]

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025**

**Title of Programme:**

Research Degrees in Geography

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in Geography](#) [include reference to any relevant *Gazette* by stating 'as amended by *Gazette* of date' etc.]

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference. 1.2 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.2</sup>The DPhil programme shall be offered on a full-time and part-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Part-time students are required to meet the following attendance requirements for their period of part-time study: attendance for a minimum of 30 days of university-based work each year, normally coinciding with the full terms of the academic year, to be arranged with the agreement of their supervisor, for the period that their names remain on the Register of Graduate Students unless individually dispensed by the Graduate Studies Committee. During a student's probationary period the attendance arrangements must take account of relevant induction and training events

scheduled by the department.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

**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 Quality Assurance Committee on 10 September 2025.**

**Title of Programme**

Master of Philosophy in Global and Area Studies

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Clarifying qualifying year resit rules

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2025-26, Master of Philosophy in Global and Area Studies](#)

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations and re-number as follows:

1.11. The Course shall be under the supervision of the Global and Area Studies Teaching Committee, which shall report to the Graduate Studies Committee of the Oxford School of Global and Area Studies.

1.22. Each candidate will be required to follow a course of instruction in Global and Area Studies for six terms full-time.

**1.3 *First year examinations***

1.43. Candidates will present themselves for a written examination on the core course *Competing Approaches in Areas Studies* in Trinity Term.

1.54. Candidates will choose one Comparative Area Studies paper and one option paper from lists published by the Course Director in the Course Handbook at the beginning of

the academic year in which the option paper is to be taken. For each paper, candidates will either present themselves for a written examination, or submit an essay in Hilary or Trinity term by the deadline specified in the Course Handbook.

#### **1.6 Research Methods for Social Sciences and Humanities**

1.75. All candidates will submit a 2,500 word maximum take-home paper in qualitative methods to be set on Monday of Week 8 and submitted by 12 noon on Monday of week 9 of Michaelmas Term.

1.86. In addition, all candidates will submit one of the following:

1.9(i) Historical Research Methods: a 2,500 word maximum take-home paper in historical research methods to be submitted by 12 noon on Monday of Week 9 of Hilary Term.

1.10(ii) Quantitative Methods: a 2,500 word maximum take-home paper in quantitative analysis to be set on Monday of Week 8 of Hilary Term and submitted by 12 noon on Monday of Week 9 of Hilary Term.

#### **1.11 Other requirements**

1.127. All assessments must be submitted using the University approved online submission system. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Course Handbook.

1.138. Candidates will be required to pass the core course examination or essay, the Comparative Area Studies option examination, the option paper examination or essay and the two Research Methods assessments to progress to the second year. Candidates who fail either of the Research Methods assessments will be permitted to resubmit a new submission for the failed piece(s) of work within four weeks of publication of the failed mark(s), on a date specified by the Chair of Examiners. If a student fails **or receives excusal for** one or more of the core or option papers they may, by permission of the Global and Area Studies Teaching Committee, proceed to the second year of the course and re-sit/resubmit the failed **/excused** paper(s) on one subsequent occasion **normally during the final examination**.

1.149. Candidates are required to spend a period of at least three months on an approved course of Area Studies Immersion after the examinations at the end of Trinity Term of the first year, and before the start of Hilary Term of the second year.

#### **1.15 Final year examinations**

1.1610. Candidates must submit a core Global and Area Studies essay of no more 4,000 words (excluding the bibliography) by 12 noon on Thursday of week 8 of Hilary term.

1.1711. Candidates will choose two further option papers from a list, including details of the assessment method, published by the Course Director in the Course Handbook at the beginning of the academic year in which the option papers are to be taken. Candidates

will either present themselves for a three-hour written examination, or submit an essay by the deadline specified in the Course Handbook.

1.1812. Candidates will complete a 30,000 word thesis including footnotes/endnotes but excluding the table of contents, the abstract, the bibliography of cited works and any approved technical appendices. The thesis must be submitted by 12 noon on Thursday of week 3 of Trinity Term.

1.1913. All assessments must be submitted using the University approved online submission system. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Course Handbook.

1.2014. Candidates who fail one or more of the written examinations/essays or the thesis will be permitted to retake the examination paper(s)/re-submit the essays, or resubmit the thesis on one further occasion, which will normally be when the examination is next offered the following year.

#### **Explanatory Notes**

[your ref # -  
optional]

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025**

**Title of Programme:**

Grand Union Doctoral Training Partnership

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Grand Union Doctoral Training Partnership](#)

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference. 1.1 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.1</sup>These regulations shall apply to all research students registered for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy who have been awarded a studentship by the Grand Union Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP). The ~~General Regulations Governing Research Degrees~~ General Regulations Governing Research Degrees and the relevant disciplinary Special Regulations for Research Degrees shall apply except as specified below.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.



[your ref # - optional]

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025**

**Title of Programme:**

Research Degrees in International Development

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in International Development !](#)

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference. 1.5 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.5</sup>The DPhil in International Development shall be offered on a full-time and part-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ [Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy](#). Part-time students are required to meet the following attendance requirements for their period of part-time study: attendance for a minimum of 30 days of university-based work each year (or up to 48 days in the first year of registration depending on the choice of paper required as part of the Qualifying Examination), normally coinciding with the full terms of the academic year, to be arranged with the agreement of their supervisor, for the period that their names remain on the Register of Graduate Students unless individually dispensed by the Graduate Studies Committee. During a student's probationary period the attendance

arrangements must take account of relevant induction and training events scheduled by the department.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

**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 Quality Assurance Committee on 4 September 2025.**

**Title of Programme**

Master of Philosophy in International Relations

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Some research methods options will be assessed via examination.

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2025-26, Master of Philosophy in International Relations](#)

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations as follows:

<sup>1.1</sup>1. The programme shall be under the supervision of the International Relations Graduate Studies Committee of the Department of Politics and International Relations, which is under the supervision of the Social Sciences Divisional Board.

<sup>1.2</sup>2. Candidates will be required to follow a full-time course of instruction for six terms.

<sup>1.3</sup>*Qualifying Examination*

<sup>1.4</sup>3. Candidates will complete a core course in The Development of the International System and Contemporary Debates in International Relations Theory, assessed by a written examination.

<sup>1.5</sup>*Research methods*

<sup>1.6</sup>4. Candidates will complete courses in Research Design and Methods in International Relations and two methods options. ~~Candidates will submit three~~

~~summative coursework assignments, full~~ The assessment details, timings and requirements for each research methods course ~~of which~~ will be set out in the Course Handbook.

1.75. Research methods assignments may also be submitted as part of the thesis providing:

1.8(i) it has not been submitted in whole or in part for another degree of the University of Oxford, or a degree of any other university, and the candidate submits a statement to that effect;

1.9(ii) the thesis itself is substantially new; and

1.10(iii) the candidate also submits a statement specifying the extent of what is new.

1.116. To pass the qualifying examination and proceed to the second year each candidate must pass both courses. Candidates who fail either course will normally be able to retake it before the beginning of the next academic year.

#### 1.12 *Final Examination*

1.137. Candidates will take two option papers from a list of those approved by the International Relations Graduate Studies Committee. With the special permission of the International Relations Graduate Studies Committee candidates may take an option paper from outside this list. Option papers will be assessed by written examination, research paper or essay as set out in the Course Handbook and on the University's Virtual Learning Environment.

1.148. Candidates will submit a thesis of not more than 30,000 words by noon on Tuesday of Week 1 of Trinity term.

1.159. Research methods assignments, option paper essays or research papers and the thesis must be submitted using the University approved online submission system. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Course Handbook and on the University's Virtual Learning Environment.

#### **Explanatory Notes**

Research methods options *Introduction to Statistics* and *Intermediate Statistics* will be assessed via examination.

[your ref # - optional]

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025**

**Title of Programme:**

Research Degrees in Law

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in Law](#)

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference. 1.3 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.3</sup>The DPhil programmes shall be offered on a full-time and part-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Part-time DPhil students are required to undertake a minimum of 30 days of university-based work each year, normally coinciding with the full terms of the academic year, to be arranged with the agreement of their supervisor unless individually dispensed by the Law Faculty Graduate Studies Committee or the Criminology Board of Studies. Attendance arrangements must take account of relevant induction and training events scheduled by the Centre for Criminology.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

[your ref # - optional]

## Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of the Chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025

### Name of Regulation:

Regulations for the Degrees of Master of Philosophy in Law and Master of Philosophy in Socio-Legal Research

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update to terminology to reflect current practice and update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

### Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2024-25, Regulations for the Degrees of Master of Philosophy in Law and Master of Philosophy in Socio-Legal Research* [include reference to any relevant *Gazette* by stating 'as amended by *Gazette* of date' etc.]

### Effective date

For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.

### Detail of change

Amend citation reference. 1.12 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

9. Students with disabilities may apply for alternative arrangements in accordance with the provisions of ~~section 6 of~~ the General Regulations Governing Research Degrees: Part 6 Students with Disabilities. The list of degrees in clause 3 of ~~section~~Part 6 shall include the MPhil in Law and the MPhil in Socio-Legal Research for this purpose.

Amend citation reference. 1.20 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

17. Theses shall be prepared in accordance with ~~Section 7~~ clause 2 (i)-(iii) and (vii) of the General Regulations Governing Research Degrees: Part 7 Examination of

Graduate Research Students with appropriate amendments.

Amend citation reference. 1.22 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.22</sup> 19. Candidates must upload a copy of their thesis to ~~the Research Thesis Digital Submission (RTDS) application~~ the University approved online submission system by noon on 1st August (or by noon on the preceding Friday, if 1st August falls on a weekend). This must include a statement as to what part, if any, of the thesis has already been accepted, or is being concurrently submitted, for any degree in this University or elsewhere; and a statement that the thesis is the candidate's own work, except where otherwise indicated.

Amend citation reference. 1.23 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.23</sup> 20. Candidates must upload a copy of their thesis to ~~RTDS~~ the University approved online submission system by noon on the second Friday in September. This must include a statement as to what part, if any, of the thesis has already been accepted, or is being concurrently submitted, for any degree in this University or elsewhere; and a statement that the thesis is the candidate's own work, except where otherwise indicated.

Amend citation reference. 1.28 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

25. Candidates will be required to attend an oral examination which shall be conducted in accordance with ~~Section 7~~ clause 3 of the General Regulations Governing Research Degrees: Part 7 Examination of Graduate Research Students except that clause 3. (v) shall not apply.

Amend citation reference. 1.34 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.34</sup> 27. Candidates who wish to re-submit for the Degree after referral must submit a further application for appointment of examiners and a revised copy of the thesis via ~~RTDS~~ the University approved online submission system. The procedures for the first submission will apply, except that the deadline for both submission of the thesis and the application for appointment of examiners will be three months after the formal notification of the outcome.

Amend citation reference. 1.40 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.40</sup> 31. If a candidate wishes to re-submit for the Degree after referral under clause 26 above, but is unable to do so within three months of formal notification of the first assessment, no subsequent extension shall be granted, but it shall be open to a candidate whose name has been removed from the Register of Students to apply to



the Board for reinstatement as a Student for the Master of Philosophy in Law/Socio-Legal Research. The application should have the support of their society and supervisor, a revised copy of the thesis should have been submitted to the Graduate Studies Committee via ~~RTDS~~ the University approved online submission system, and such reinstatement fee as may from time to time be prescribed by Council should have been paid. Leave to supplicate shall not be granted until this fee has been paid.

**Explanatory Notes**

The Research Thesis Digital Submission (RTDS) portal has been replaced by a new University approved online submission system. The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

**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 Quality Assurance Committee on 5 September 2025.**

**Title of Programme**

Master of Science by Coursework in Major Programme Management

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Changes to the research methods assessment

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2026/27

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations 2025-26, Master of Science by Coursework in Major Programme Management*

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations as follows:

1.9 *Research Methods*

1.10 7. Candidates will complete the core course in Research Methods and submit a 5,000 word ~~group~~ **individual** project report.

**Explanatory Notes**

The group research methods project report (due in Michaelmas term week 3 of the second year) will be replaced by an individual research methods project report (due in Michaelmas term week 1 of the second year).

[your ref # -  
optional]

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved at the meeting of [date]**

**Title of Programme:**

Research Degrees in Migration Studies

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in Migration Studies](#) [include reference to any relevant *Gazette* by stating 'as amended by *Gazette* of date' etc.]

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference. 1.4 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.4</sup>The DPhil in Migration Studies shall be offered on a full-time and part-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Part-time students are required to meet the following attendance requirements for their period of part-time study: attendance for a minimum of 30 days of university-based work each year, normally coinciding with the full terms of the academic year, to be arranged with the agreement of their supervisor, for the period that their names remain on the Register of Graduate Students unless individually dispensed by the joint Graduate Studies Committee. During a student's probationary period the attendance arrangements must take account of relevant induction and training

events scheduled by the departments.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

[your ref # - optional]

## Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025

### Title of Programme:

Research Degrees in the Oxford Internet Institute

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

### Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in the Oxford Internet Institute](#)

### Effective date

For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.

### Detail of change

Amend citation reference. 1.4 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.4</sup>The DPhil programmes shall be offered on a full-time and part-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Part-time students are required to meet the following attendance requirements for their period of part-time study: attendance for a minimum of 30 days of university-based work each year, normally coinciding with the full terms of the academic year, to be arranged with the agreement of their supervisor, for the period that their names remain on the Register of Graduate Students unless individually dispensed by the Graduate Studies Committee. During a student's probationary period the attendance arrangements must take account of relevant induction and training events

scheduled by the department.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

[your ref # - optional]

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025**

**Title of Programme:**

Research Degrees in the Oxford School of Global and Area Studies

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in the Oxford School of Global and Area Studies](#)

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference. 1.4 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.4</sup>The DPhil programme shall be offered on a full-time and part-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Part-time students are required to attend for a minimum of thirty days of university-based work each year, to be arranged with the agreement of their supervisor, for the period that their names remain on the Register of Graduate Students unless individually dispensed by the Graduate Studies Committee.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of

reference.



**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 Quality Assurance Committee on 23 July 2025.**

**Title of Programme**

Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Introduction of a Data Analytics option paper.

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics](#)

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations and re-number as follows:

**A**

1.11. The subject of the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics shall be the study of philosophy, and of the political and economic principles and structure of modern society.

1.22. No candidate shall be admitted to examination in this school unless they have passed or been exempted from the First Public Examination.

1.33. The length of the programme of study for this school shall normally be six terms of full-time study.

1.44. The examination for this school shall be under the joint supervision of the Social Sciences Board and the Humanities Board which shall appoint a standing joint committee

to make regulations concerning it subject always to the preceding clauses of this sub-section.

## **B**

<sup>1.5</sup>Candidates must offer *either* Philosophy, Politics, and Economics *or* Philosophy and Politics *or* Politics and Economics *or* Philosophy and Economics.

<sup>1.6</sup>Candidates must take *eight* courses in all, and must satisfy requirements of particular branches of the school.

<sup>1.7</sup>For all Economics courses assessed by examination, candidates are permitted the use of one hand-held pocket calculator from a list of permitted calculators published annually by the Department of Economics on its undergraduate website, which will be updated annually in the week prior to the first full week of Michaelmas Term.

<sup>1.8</sup>A. *Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.*

<sup>1.9</sup>Candidates must take (i) one of the courses 101, 102, 115, and 116, (ii) course 103, (iii) any two of 201, 202, 203, 214, and 220, and (iv) at least two courses in Economics.

<sup>1.10</sup>Their other two courses may be chosen freely from those listed under Philosophy, under Politics, and under Economics, except that (i) the *Regulations for Philosophy in all Honour Schools including Philosophy* must be adhered to; and (ii) certain combinations of courses must not be offered (see List of Courses below).

<sup>1.11</sup>B. *Philosophy and Politics.*

<sup>1.12</sup>Candidates must take (i) one of the courses 101, 102, 115, and 116, and (ii) course 103, and (iii) any two of 201, 202, 203, 214, and 220.

<sup>1.13</sup>Their other four courses may be chosen freely from those listed under Philosophy and under Politics, except that (i) at least one must be a course in Philosophy and the *Regulations for Philosophy in all Honour Schools including Philosophy* must be adhered to; (ii) at least one must be a course in Politics (other than the thesis (or the supervised dissertation) if offered); (iii) one but only one may be a course in Economics, selected from the following list: 300, 301, 302, 311, (iv) certain combinations of courses must not be offered (see List of Courses below).

<sup>1.14</sup>C. *Politics and Economics.*

<sup>1.15</sup>Candidates must take (i) any two of 201, 202, 203, 214, and 220, and (ii) at least three courses in Economics.

<sup>1.16</sup>Their other three courses may be chosen freely from those listed under Politics and under Economics except that (i) at least one must be a course in Politics (other than the thesis (or the supervised dissertation) if offered); (ii) one but only

one may be a course in Philosophy; and (iii) certain combinations of courses may not be offered (see List of Courses below).

1.17D. *Philosophy and Economics*.

1.18Candidates must take (i) one of the courses 101, 102, 115, and 116, (ii) course 103, and (iii) at least three courses in Economics.

1.19Their other three courses may be chosen freely from those listed under Philosophy and under Economics, except that (i) at least one must be a course in Philosophy and the *Regulations for Philosophy in all Honour Schools including Philosophy* must be adhered to; (ii) one but only one may be a course in Politics, excluding subjects 298 Supervised Dissertation in Politics and 299 Thesis in Politics.

### List of Courses

1.20**Certain combinations of courses must not be offered: in parentheses after the title of each course is the number of any other course with which it may *not* be combined.**

1.21*Philosophy*

1.22The syllabuses for the subjects in this List are given in *Regulations for Philosophy in all Honour Schools including Philosophy*.

1.23101. Early Modern Philosophy

1.24102. Knowledge and Reality

1.25103. Ethics

1.26104. Philosophy of Mind

1.27107. Philosophy of Religion

1.28108. The Philosophy of Logic and Language

1.29109. Aesthetics and the Philosophy of Criticism

1.30110. Medieval Philosophy: Aquinas (111)

1.31111. Medieval Philosophy: Duns Scotus, Ockham (110)

1.32112. The Philosophy of Kant

1.33113. Post-Kantian Philosophy

1.34114. Theory of Politics (203)

1.35115. Plato *Republic*

1.36116. Aristotle *Nicomachean Ethics*

1.37 120. Intermediate Philosophy of Physics

1.38 122. Philosophy of Mathematics

1.39 124. Philosophy of Science (106)

1.40 125. Philosophy of Cognitive Science

1.41 127. Philosophical Logic

1.42 128. Practical Ethics

1.43 129. The Philosophy of Wittgenstein

1.44 137. Plato on Knowledge, Language, & Reality in the Theaetetus & Sophist (in translation)

1.45 138. Aristotle on Nature, Life and Mind (in translation)

1.46 139. Knowledge and Scepticism in Hellenistic Philosophy (in translation)

1.47 140. Philosophy of Social Science (124)

1.48 150. Jurisprudence

1.49 151. Set Theory Logic (two courses from part B of the Honour School of Mathematics, counting as one Philosophy course)

1.50 198. Special Subjects

1.51 199. Thesis (298, 299, 399)

1.52 *Politics* (including Sociology)

1.53 Candidates should note that the Politics courses available in any particular year will depend on the availability of teaching resources. Not all courses will be available in every year and restrictions may be placed on the number of candidates permitted to offer certain courses in any particular year.

1.54 **The syllabuses for the courses in Politics listed below are given on the Department of Politics and International Relations undergraduate website.**

1.55 201. Comparative Government

1.56 202. British Politics and Government since 1900

1.57 203. Theory of Politics (114)

1.58 204. Modern British Government and Politics

1.59 205. Government and Politics of the United States

1.60 206. Politics in Europe

- 1.61207. Politics in Russia and the Former Soviet Union
- 1.62208. Politics in Sub-Saharan Africa
- 1.63209. Politics in Latin America
- 1.64210. Politics in South Asia
- 1.65211. Politics in the Middle East
- 1.66212. International Relations in the Era of Two World Wars
- 1.67213. International Relations in the Era of the Cold War
- 1.68214. International Relations
- 1.69215. Political Thought: Plato to Rousseau
- 1.70216. Political Thought: Bentham to Weber
- 1.71217. Marx and Marxism
- 1.72218. Sociological Theory
- 1.73220. Political Sociology
- 1.74223. The Government and Politics of Japan
- 1.75224. Social Policy
- 1.76225. Demography and Population
- 1.77226. ~~Quantitative Methods in Politics and Sociology~~ **Data Analytics**
- 1.78227. Politics in China
- 1.79228. The Politics of the European Union
- 1.80229. Advanced Paper in Theories of Justice
- 1.81230. Comparative Political Economy
- 1.82297. Special subject in Politics
- 1.83298. Supervised dissertation (199, 299, 399)
- 1.84299. Thesis (199, 298, 399)
- 1.85Thesis regulations as for course 399 below.

1.86***Economics***

1.87Courses 300, 301, 302, and 311 must be studied in the first year of the candidate's enrolment for the Honour School. The rest of the courses may be studied only in the second year of the candidate's enrolment for the Honour School.

<sup>1.88</sup>Not all Economics courses may be available in any particular year. There may also be restrictions on numbers permitted to offer some Economics courses in any particular year.

<sup>1.89</sup>More than one Special Subject in Economics (course 398) may be offered.

<sup>1.90</sup>**The syllabuses for the courses in Economics listed below are given on the Department of Economics undergraduate website.**

<sup>1.91</sup>300. Quantitative Economics

<sup>1.92</sup>301. Macroeconomics

<sup>1.93</sup>302. Microeconomics

<sup>1.94</sup>304. Money and Banking

<sup>1.95</sup>310. Economics of Developing Countries

<sup>1.96</sup>311. History of the World Economy

<sup>1.97</sup>314. Econometrics

<sup>1.98</sup>319. Game Theory

<sup>1.99</sup>398. Special subjects in Economics

<sup>1.100</sup>399. Thesis (199, 298, 299)

<sup>1.101</sup>(a) *Subject*

<sup>1.102</sup>The subject of every thesis should fall within the scope of the Honour School. The subject may but need not overlap any subject on which the candidate offers papers. Candidates are warned that they should avoid repetition in papers of material used in their theses and that substantial repetition may be penalised.

<sup>1.103</sup>Every candidate shall submit through the relevant subject administrator for approval to the Director of Undergraduate Studies for Politics and International Relations, or the Director of Undergraduate Studies for Economics, as appropriate:

<sup>1.104</sup>(i) the title they propose;

<sup>1.105</sup>(ii) an explanation of the subject in about 100 words;

<sup>1.106</sup>(iii) the name of the person who has agreed to supervise the thesis;

<sup>1.107</sup>not earlier than the first day of the Trinity Full Term of the first year of the candidate's enrolment for the Honour School and not later than the date prescribed for entry to the examination. The relevant Director of Undergraduate Studies shall decide as soon as possible whether or not to approve the title and shall advise the candidate immediately. No decision shall be deferred beyond the end of the fifth week of Michaelmas Full Term of the final year of the candidate's enrolment for the Honour School.

1.108 Proposals to change the title of the thesis may be made through the relevant Department administrator and will be considered by the relevant Director of Undergraduate Studies until the first day of the Hilary Full Term of the final year of the candidate's enrolment for the Honour School and by the relevant chair of examiners thereafter.

1.109 *(b) Length and format*

1.110 No thesis shall exceed 15,000 words. Candidates should refer to the relevant Department for guidance as to formatting, content, and submission requirements.

1.111 *(c) Notice of submission of thesis*

1.112 Every candidate who wishes to submit a thesis shall give notice of the intention to do so on the candidate's examination entry form (in addition to seeking approval of the subject from the relevant Director of Undergraduate Studies under (a) above); and shall submit the thesis using the University approved assessment platform not later than noon on Thursday of the week before Trinity Full Term of the final year of the candidate's enrolment for the Honour School.

### **Explanatory Notes**

Replacement of *Quantitative Methods in Politics and Sociology* (which has not been offered for some time) with a newly approved *Data Analytics* paper. The *Data Analytics* paper will be offered as a politics paper for FHS PPE and FHS History and Politics students.

**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 Quality Assurance Committee on 4 September 2025.**

**Title of Programme**

Preliminary Examination in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Minor changes to course content

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2025-26, Preliminary Examination in Philosophy, Politics, and Economics](#)

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations as follows:

**A**

1.11. The subjects of the Preliminary Examination for Philosophy, Politics, and Economics shall be:

1.2(1) Introductory Economics

1.3(2) Introduction to Philosophy

1.4(3) Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Politics.

1.52. Every candidate must take the relevant examination in all three subjects at the end of Trinity Term of their first year and must pass all three subjects to pass the PPE Preliminary Examination. Candidates who fail one subject at first attempt may re-sit that subject at the next available attempt (normally September). Candidates who fail two or



three subjects at first attempt will be required to re-sit the whole PPE Preliminary Examination at the next available attempt (normally September).

1.63. A candidate shall be deemed to have passed the examination if they have satisfied the Moderators in three subjects.

1.74. The Moderators may award a distinction under criteria defined in the Examination Conventions.

## **B**

1.8 Three papers will be set as follows.

### *Introductory Economics*

1.9 Elementary economics including: consumer theory; producer theory; market equilibrium with perfect competition, monopoly; oligopoly; factors of production; partial equilibrium analysis of welfare, market failure and externalities; national income accounting; the determination of national income and employment; monetary institutions and the money supply; inflation; balance of payments and exchange rates; the determinants of long-run economic growth. Elementary mathematical economics; application of functions and graphs, differentiation, partial differentiation, maxima and minima, optimization subject to constraints. Elementary probability, statistical and causal inference.

1.10 Calculators may be used in the examination room subject to the conditions set out under the heading 'Use of calculators in examinations' in the *Special Regulations concerning Examinations*. Candidates may use one hand-held pocket calculator from a list of permitted calculators published annually by the Department of Economics on its undergraduate website, which will be updated annually in the week prior to the first full week of Michaelmas term.

### *Introduction to Philosophy*

1.11 The paper shall consist of three sections: (I) General Philosophy, (II) Moral Philosophy, (III) Logic. Each candidate will be required to show adequate knowledge in each of the three sections.

#### 1.12 I. *General Philosophy*

1.13 Subjects to be studied are: knowledge; skepticism; perception; induction; the relation between mind and body; personal identity; free will; the problem of evil.

#### 1.14 II. *Moral Philosophy*

1.15 This section shall be studied in connection with Mill's *Utilitarianism*. While not being confined to the detailed views of the author of the set text, the section will be satisfactorily answerable by a candidate who has made a critical study of the text. Questions will normally be set on the following topics: pleasure, happiness and well-being; forms of consequentialism; alternatives to consequentialism; ethical truth, ethical realism and the 'Proof' of Utilitarianism; justice and rights; virtue, character, and integrity.

1.16 III. *Logic*

1.17 Subjects to be studied include: syntax and semantics of propositional and predicate logic, identity and definite descriptions, proofs in Natural Deduction, and the critical application of formal logic to the analysis of English sentences and arguments.

1.18 These topics shall be studied in conjunction with Volker Halbach's *Introduction to Logic* manual, published by Oxford University Press. The logical symbols to be used are those found in this publication. Questions 1 and 2 in this section of the paper will be of an elementary and straightforward nature.

*Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Politics*

1.19 The paper will be divided into two sections. Candidates are required to answer *four* questions, of which at least one must be from section (a) and two from section (b).

1.20 (a) *The Theory of Politics*

1.21 Questions will be set on the following topics: (i) the nature and the grounds of rights; (ii) the nature and grounds of democracy; (iii) ~~the role of civil society~~ contract, property, and empire; (iv) power and resistance ~~in the democratic state~~; (v) the nature and grounds of liberty; (vi) state paternalism; and (vii) free speech. Questions will also be set on the following texts: (i) John Locke, *Second Treatise on Government*; (ii) Jean-Jacques Rousseau, *Social Contract*; (iii) ~~Alexis de Toqueville, *Democracy in America*~~ Mary Wollstonecraft, *A Vindication of the Rights of Women*; (iv) Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, *The Communist Manifesto*; (v) John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*.

1.22 (b) *The Practice of Politics*

1.23 Questions will be set on the following topics: (i) regime types; definition and measurement of variations between types of democracy; (ii) political institutions and practice outside the advanced industrial democracies; stability, state capacity and state formation; (iii) the state and its institutions (executives, legislatures, parties and party systems, electoral systems, courts, constitutions and centre-periphery relations); (iv) parties and party systems; political values and identity politics.

**Explanatory Notes**

Minor content changes to *Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Politics*

Removing Tocqueville and Civil Society

Introducing Wollstonecraft and Disobedience, Revolt, and Self-Determination

**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 Quality Assurance Committee on 4 September 2025.**

**Title of Programme**

Master of Philosophy in Politics (Comparative Government, Political Theory, European Politics and Society)

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Some research methods options will be assessed via examination.

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations 2025-26, Master of Philosophy in Politics (Comparative Government, Political Theory, European Politics and Society)*

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations as follows:

<sup>1.1</sup>1. The programme shall be under the supervision of the Politics Graduate Studies Committee of the Department of Politics and International Relations.

<sup>1.2</sup>2. Candidates will be required to follow a course of instruction in either Comparative Government, European Politics and Society or Political Theory for six terms full-time.

<sup>1.3</sup>*Qualifying Examination*

<sup>1.4</sup>3. Candidates will complete one of the following three core courses assessed by a written examination:

<sup>1.5</sup>(i) Comparative Government (compulsory for Comparative Government students)

<sup>1.6</sup>(ii) European Governance (compulsory for European Politics and Society students)

<sup>1.7</sup>(iii) Theory of Politics (compulsory for Political Theory students)

<sup>1.8</sup>*Research methods*

<sup>1.9</sup>4. Candidates will complete one of the following:

<sup>1.10</sup>(i) *Research Design in Comparative Political Science* and two methods options (compulsory for Comparative Government and European Politics and Society students). ~~Candidates will submit three summative coursework assignments, full~~ The assessment details, timings and requirements for each research methods course of which will be set out in the Student Handbook.

<sup>1.11</sup>(ii) *Methods and Approaches in Political Theory and Reasoning in Contemporary Political Philosophy* (compulsory for Political Theory students). Candidates will submit two summative coursework assignments, full details of which will be set out in the Student Handbook.

<sup>1.12</sup>5. Research methods assignments may also be submitted as part of the thesis providing:

<sup>1.13</sup>(i) it has not been submitted in whole or in part for another degree of the University of Oxford, or a degree of any other university, and the candidate submits a statement to that effect;

<sup>1.14</sup>(ii) the thesis itself is substantially new; and

<sup>1.15</sup>(iii) the candidate also submits a statement specifying the extent of what is new.

<sup>1.16</sup>6. To pass the qualifying examination and proceed to the second year each candidate must pass both courses. Candidates who fail either course will normally be able to retake it before the beginning of the next academic year.

<sup>1.17</sup>*Final Examination*

<sup>1.18</sup>7. Candidates will take two option papers from a list of those approved by the Politics Graduate Studies Committee. With the special permission of the Politics Graduate Studies Committee candidates may take an option paper from outside this list. Option papers will be assessed by written examination, research paper or essay as set out in the Student Handbook.

<sup>1.19</sup>8. Candidates will submit a thesis of not more than 30,000 words by noon on Tuesday of week 1 of Trinity term.

<sup>1.20</sup>9. Research methods assignments and option paper essays or research papers and the thesis must be submitted using the University approved online submission system. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Student Handbook.

**Explanatory Notes**

Research methods options *Introduction to Statistics* and *Intermediate Statistics* will be assessed via examination.

[your ref # - optional]

## Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025

### Title of Programme:

Research Degrees in Politics and International Relations

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

### Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in Politics and International Relations](#)

### Effective date

For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.

### Detail of change

Amend citation reference. 1.5 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.5</sup>The DPhil programmes shall be offered on a full-time and part-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Part-time research students are required to attend for a minimum of thirty days of university-based work each year, to be arranged with the agreement of their supervisor, for the period that their names remain on the Register of Graduate Students unless individually dispensed by the Graduate Studies Committee.

### Explanatory Notes

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of

reference.

**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 Quality Assurance Committee on 4 September 2025.**

**Title of Programme**

Master of Science by Coursework in Politics Research

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Some research methods options will be assessed via examination.

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2025-26, Master of Science by Coursework in Politics Research](#)

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations as follows:

<sup>1.1</sup>1. The programme shall be under the supervision of the Politics Graduate Studies Committee of the Department of Politics and International Relations.

<sup>1.2</sup>2. Candidates will be required to follow a course of instruction in Politics Research for three terms full-time.

<sup>1.3</sup>3. Candidates will complete a core course in either *Comparative Government* or *European Governance*, assessed by a written examination.

<sup>1.4</sup>Research methods

<sup>1.5</sup>4. Candidates will complete courses in Research Methods Design in Comparative Political Science and two methods options.

~~Candidates will submit three summative coursework assignments, full~~ **The assessment**



details, timings and requirements for each research methods course ~~of which~~ will be set out in the Student Handbook.

<sup>1.6</sup>5. Research methods assignments may also be submitted as part of the thesis providing:

<sup>1.7</sup>(i) it has not been submitted in whole or in part for another degree of the University of Oxford, or a degree of any other university, and the candidate submits a statement to that effect;

<sup>1.8</sup>(ii) the thesis itself is substantially new; and

<sup>1.9</sup>(iii) the candidate also submits a statement specifying the extent of what is new.

<sup>1.10</sup>6. Candidates will submit a thesis of not more than 15,000 words by noon on the last Thursday in August.

<sup>1.11</sup>7. Research methods assignments and the thesis must be submitted using the University approved online submission system. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Student Handbook.

### **Explanatory Notes**

Research methods options *Introduction to Statistics* and *Intermediate Statistics* will be assessed via examination.

[your ref # - optional]

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025**

**Title of Programme:**

Research Degrees in the Saïd Business School

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in the Saïd Business School](#)  
[include reference to any relevant *Gazette* by stating 'as amended by *Gazette* of date' etc.]

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference. 1.4 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.4</sup>The DPhil programmes shall be offered on a full-time basis only. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

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

SSD/2/2/4

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of Education Committee on 15 August 2025**

**Title of Programme**

Master of Science by Coursework in Social Data Science

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Major changes

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2025-26, Master of Science by Coursework in Social Data Science](#)

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations and re-number as follows:

~~1.1 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.~~

~~1.2 Candidates must follow for three terms a course of instruction in Social Data Science.~~

~~1.3 The examination will be in seven parts, as follows:~~

~~1.4 Part 1: Compulsory core paper in 'Foundations and Frontiers of Social Data Science' assessed by the submission of written course work.~~

~~1.5 Part 2: Compulsory core paper in 'Applied Analytical Statistics' assessed by written coursework.~~

~~1.6 Part 3: Compulsory core paper in 'Introduction to Data Science and Machine Learning' assessed by written coursework.~~

~~1.7~~ Part 4: Compulsory core paper in 'Research Design for Social Data Science' assessed by written coursework.

~~1.8~~ Parts 5-6: Two option papers, to be chosen from a list to be published on the Oxford Internet Institute website annually by Monday of week 1 of Michaelmas Term or another paper agreed by the Director of Graduate Studies. Not all options may be available every year. The option papers will be assessed by arrangements which are specified in the reading lists for each paper.

~~1.9~~ Part 7: 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 Chair of 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 examination is to be taken.

~~1.10~~ 4. 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.

~~1.11~~ 5. The examiners may examine any candidate viva voce.

1. The course shall be under the supervision of the Graduate Studies Committee of the Oxford Internet Institute and of the Social Sciences Divisional Board.

2. Each candidate will be required to follow a course of instruction in Social Data Science for three terms full-time.

3. Candidates must submit assessments as detailed below:

Research Design for Social Data Science – Candidates must submit:

(a) one 1,500-word assignment by noon on Thursday of week 8 of Michaelmas term; and

(b) one 1,500-word assignment by noon on Thursday of week 0 of Hilary term.

Introduction to Data Science and Machine Learning – Candidates must submit a 3,500-word take-home paper by noon on Tuesday of week 10 of Michaelmas term.

Data and Society I – Candidates must submit one 3,000-word essay by noon on Thursday of week 0 of Hilary term.

Data and Society II – Candidates must submit one 3,000-word essay by noon on Thursday of week 10 of Hilary term.

Applied Analytical Statistics – Candidates must submit a 4000-word assignment by noon on Thursday of week -1 of Trinity term.

Two option papers – Candidates will take two option papers. Details of option papers available, the assessment requirements and timings, will be published on

the Oxford Internet Institute website by Monday of week 1 of Michaelmas Term. With the agreement of the Director of Graduate Studies, candidates may take an option paper offered by another relevant master's degree.

**Thesis – Candidates must submit a thesis no longer than 12,000 words by noon of the weekday on or nearest to the 1st of August.**

**4. Candidates should refer to the Course Handbook for full details of the requirements for each assessment.**

**5. All assessments must be submitted using the University approved online submission system. Technical information on the requirements for online submissions is provided in the Course Handbook.**

**6. Candidates must present themselves for a viva voce examination if required by the examiners.**

**7. Candidates who fail a summative submission-based assessment may resubmit the assessment on one further occasion, when the assessment is next examined the following year, or on an earlier date which will be published in the Course Handbook. Candidates who fail a written examination will have the opportunity to re-sit when the examination is taken the in following academic year. Candidates will be informed of the exact dates for re-submission/re-examination after the Board of Examiners has confirmed that reassessment is required.**

#### **1.12 Oxford 1+1 MBA programme**

1.13 Candidates registered on the Oxford 1+1 MBA programme will follow an additional two or three-month bridging programme at the end of their third term of the combined programme.

1.14 Each candidate will be appointed an academic advisor from the Saïd Business School to plan an individual course of study which will include, as a minimum, the following two compulsory elements:

1.15(i) Normally two meetings during the bridging programme with the senior advisor appointed by the Saïd Business School at the start of the Oxford 1+1 MBA programme.

1.16(ii) A formatively assessed Integrative Development Plan of up to 3,000 words. Candidates would be required to critically reflect on their learning from the Masters programme and relate this both to their forthcoming MBA programme as well as to their career goals. The meetings with the advisor will frame the design, delivery and discussion of the plan.

#### **Explanatory Notes**

Moving Research Design to MT and Applied Analytical Stats to HT (reversing the order of these units)

Removing 'Data Analytics at Scale' core element from MT leaving 2 four-week intensive compulsory blocks

Introduction of a new option module to be offered in HT which will largely correspond to the content from Data Analytics at Scale but be named 'Social Data Science in Practice'

Merging two existing options into one 'Applied Machine Learning and Large Language Models'

Removing core but unassessed 'Foundations of Visualisation' course from TT

Reducing max thesis length to 12,000 words

Changing the names of two core papers Foundations and Frontiers of SDS to 'Data and Society I and II'

[your ref # - optional]

**Social Sciences Divisional Board**

**Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025**

**Title of Programme:**

Research Degrees in Social Policy and Intervention

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in Social Policy and Intervention](#)

**Effective date**

**For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.**

**Detail of change**

Amend citation reference. 1.4 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.4</sup>The DPhil programmes shall be offered on a full-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy.

**Explanatory Notes**

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

**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 Quality Assurance Committee on 16 September 2025.**

**Title of Programme**

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

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Change to thesis length

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2025/26

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2025-26, Master of Science by Coursework in Social Science of the Internet \(Full-time\)](#)

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations as follows:

<sup>1.1</sup>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.

<sup>1.2</sup>2. Candidates must follow for three terms a course of instruction in Social Science of the Internet.

<sup>1.3</sup>3. The examination will be in eight parts, as follows:

<sup>1.4</sup>**Part 1:** Compulsory core methods paper in 'Digital Social Research Methods: Methods Core' assessed by written coursework.

<sup>1.5</sup>**Part 2:** Compulsory core paper in 'Digital Social Research Methods: Statistics Core' assessed by two written coursework submissions.



<sup>1.6</sup>**Part 3:** Compulsory core paper in 'Internet and Society', assessed by examination.

<sup>1.7</sup>**Part 4:** Compulsory core paper in 'Internet Technologies and Regulation', assessed by examination.

<sup>1.8</sup>**Part 5:** One methods option paper to be chosen from a list to be published on the Oxford Internet Institute annually by the first Monday of Michaelmas Term. 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.

<sup>1.9</sup>**Part 6:** One (1) substantive option paper to be chosen from a list to be published on the Oxford Internet Institute annually by the first Monday of Michaelmas Term. 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 module.

<sup>1.10</sup>**Part 7:** One further option paper, to be chosen from the list of methods and substantive option papers 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 options may be available every year. The option papers will be assessed by arrangements which are specified in the reading lists for each paper.

<sup>1.11</sup>**Part 8:** A thesis not to exceed 152,000 words on a topic within the subject of the course, to be specified jointly by supervisor and student, and approved by the Chair of 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.

<sup>1.12</sup>3. 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.

<sup>1.13</sup>4. The examiners may examine any candidate viva voce.

<sup>1.14</sup>**Oxford 1+1 MBA programme**

<sup>1.15</sup>Candidates registered on the Oxford 1+1 MBA programme will follow an additional two or three-month bridging programme at the end of their third term of the combined programme.

<sup>1.16</sup>Each candidate will be appointed an academic advisor from the Saïd Business School to plan an individual course of study which will include as a minimum, the following three compulsory elements:

<sup>1.17</sup>(i) Normally two meetings during the bridging programme with the senior advisor appointed by the Saïd Business School at the start of the Oxford 1+1 MBA programme.

<sup>1.18</sup>(ii) A formatively assessed Integrative Development Plan of up to 3,000 words. Candidates would be required to critically reflect on their learning from the Masters programme and relate this both to their forthcoming MBA programme as well as to their career goals. The meetings with the advisor will frame the design, delivery and discussion of the plan.

<sup>1.19</sup>(iii) Attendance of the MBA pre-course as described in the joining instructions for the MBA class, unless granted exemption by the MBA Committee on the grounds of prior formal study or work experience.

#### **Explanatory Notes**

Thesis length reduction from 15,000 to 12,000 words.

**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 Quality Assurance Committee on 16 September 2025**

**Title of Programme**

MSc Social Science of the Internet (Part-time)

**Brief note about nature of change:**

Correction of a conflict between two Gazette notices. Change to thesis length.

**Effective date**

For students starting from Michaelmas term 2025

For first examination from 2026/27

Resolving conflict in citation 1.11 between the Gazette notices published on [31 October 2024](#), and [24 July 2025](#).

**Location of change**

In *Examination Regulations* [2025-26, Master of Science by Coursework in Social Science of the Internet \(Part-time\)](#)

**Details of Change:**

Amend citations as follows:

<sup>1.1</sup>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.

<sup>1.2</sup>2. Candidates must follow for six terms a course of instruction in Social Science of the Internet.

<sup>1.3</sup>3. The examination will be in eight parts, normally split over two years as follows:

<sup>1.4</sup>(i) **First year:**

<sup>1.5</sup>**Part 1:** Compulsory core methods paper in 'Digital Social Research Methods: Methods Core' assessed by written coursework.

<sup>1.6</sup>**Part 3:** Compulsory core paper in 'Internet and Society', assessed by examination.

<sup>1.7</sup>**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.

<sup>1.8</sup>**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.

<sup>1.9</sup>In addition, students will be required to write a thesis proposal during Trinity Term of the first year, to be submitted to their supervisor by Friday of Week 4 of Michaelmas Term of their second year. Students will receive written formative feedback on this proposal from their supervisor.

<sup>1.10</sup>(ii) **Second year:**

<sup>1.11</sup>**Part 2:** Compulsory core paper in 'Digital Social Research Methods: Statistics Core' assessed by ~~examinations~~ two written coursework submissions.

<sup>1.12</sup>**Part 4:** Compulsory core paper in 'Internet Technologies and Regulation', assessed by examination.

<sup>1.13</sup>**Parts 7:** One further option paper, to be chosen from the list of methods and substantive option papers 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 options may be available every year. The option papers will be assessed by arrangements which are specified in the reading lists for each paper.

<sup>1.14</sup>**Part 8:** A thesis not to exceed 152,000 words on a topic within the subject of the course, to be specified jointly by supervisor and student, and approved by the Chair of 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.

<sup>1.15</sup>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.

<sup>1.16</sup>5. 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.

<sup>1.17</sup>6. The examiners may examine any candidate viva voce.

### **Explanatory Notes**

The compulsory core paper in Digital Social Research Methods: Statistics Core (Part 2 in the examination regulations) is assessed through two submissions as approved by Education Committee on 18 October 2024. This was incorrectly listed as 'examinations' in the notice published on 24 July 2025.

The thesis length has been reduced from 15,000 to 12,000 words.

[your ref # - optional]

## Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of the chair of Social Sciences Divisional Board, September 2025

### Title of Programme:

Research Degrees in Sociology

**Brief note about nature of change:** Update of references to General Regulations to reflect reorganisation of Regulations.

### Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* [2024-25, Research Degrees in Sociology](#)

### Effective date

For students starting from MT 2025 and all on-course students at this point.

### Detail of change

Amend citation reference. 1.5 as follows (new text underlined, deleted text struck through):

<sup>1.5</sup>The DPhil in Sociology shall be offered on a full-time and part-time basis. Full-time students are required to meet the residence requirements set out in ~~§6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy~~ Part 6 of the General Regulations for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy. Part-time research students are required to attend for a minimum of thirty days of university-based work each year, to be arranged with the agreement of their supervisor, for the period that their names remain on the Register of Graduate Students unless individually dispensed by the Graduate Studies Committee.

### Explanatory Notes

The corresponding General Regulations were reorganised in 2024-25 to improve ease of reference.

