

Humanities Divisional Board

Approved by the Associate Head (Education) on 30 May 2025, and by the Humanities Interdisciplinary Programmes Committee on 21 May 2025.

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation [if general]

MSt Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

Brief note about nature of change:

A change to simplify the process by which candidates may take optional courses not otherwise offered on the programme, and to remove other text in the regulations to better represent actual practice.

Effective date

For students starting from **MT2025**

and

For first examination from **TT2026**

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations* 2024/2025

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=mosiwgandsexustud&srchYear=2024&srchTerm=1&year=2024&term=1>

Detail of change

^{1.1}1. Every candidate must follow, for at least three terms, a course of instruction in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. ~~Candidates will, when they enter for the examination, be required to produce from their society a certificate that they are following such a course.~~

^{1.2}2. ~~Candidates are required to present themselves for viva voce examination if summoned by the examiners.~~

^{1.3}~~3. Syllabus:~~

^{1.4}Candidates must offer ~~A and B below~~, two options from A ~~C~~, and a dissertation (~~D~~ B).

^{1.5}~~A. Feminist Theory~~

^{1.6}~~B. Approaches to Feminist Research~~

^{1.7}~~C. Options. Candidates must follow two of a range of option courses from a list published in course information, and approved by the Steering Committee for Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Candidates must follow two option courses, one in Michaelmas Term, and one in Hilary Term. These will normally be options offered by the MSt Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. Candidates wishing to take an Option from another Masters programme, may do so with the permission of the programme convenor, the Chair of Examiners, and the department responsible for the delivery of the requested option paper. Such candidates will still be assessed according to the regulations with respect to the form of assessment and deadlines governing the MSt Women's, Gender, Sexuality Studies.~~

^{1.8}~~D. B.~~ A dissertation of 10,000-12,000 words. The subject matter of the dissertation may be related to that of either or both of the two pieces of written work submitted for the Options courses, but material deployed in such pieces of work may not be repeated in the dissertation.

^{1.9}4. In the case of A ~~C~~ candidates will be examined by the submission of written work. The essays submitted under A ~~C~~ should be of 6,000-7,000 words. The first piece of written work under A ~~C~~ must be submitted not later than noon on Thursday of Week 8 of Hilary Term; the second piece of written work under A ~~C~~ must be submitted not later than noon on Thursday of Week 1 of Trinity Term. Students must also include in the same documents a brief abstract of no more than 300 words outlining the rationale and the approach of the option essays; this will not be included in the essay word count.

^{1.10}5. In the case of ~~B~~ D, the dissertation must be submitted not later than noon on Thursday of Week 8 of Trinity Term. Students must also include in the same document a brief abstract (no more than 500 words) outlining the rationale and approach of the thesis; this will not be included in the essay word count.

^{1.11}6. In order to pass the degree, a student must pass all its assessed components. A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in the examination may enter again for the examination as outlined in the General Regulations for the Degree of Master of Studies by Coursework.

Explanatory Notes

These changes are intended to simplify the process by which students on this interdisciplinary course may enter for options courses on other programmes, which currently often requires dispensations from Education Committee. This amended process

will more clearly permit the selection of options courses not otherwise offered on the MSt WGSS, whilst still providing for approval from the course's convenors and examiners.

Sections A and B which are being removed are seminars and not examined papers, and so should not be included in the examination regulations for the course. Similarly, the viva voce examination option was not used, and therefore the text should be removed to clarify student expectations.