

HDB(25)20

Humanities Divisional Board

Approved by Associate Head (Education) on [date]

Title of Programme

Honour School of History

Brief note about nature of change:

Correction of contradictory information, and deletion of superfluous text

Effective date

For students starting from **FHS MT24**

and

For first examination from **2025-26**

Location of change

In *Examination Regulations 2023-25*

<https://examregs.admin.ox.ac.uk/Regulation?code=hschoofhist&srchYear=2024&srchTerm=1&year=2023&term=1>

Detail of change

(...)

^{1.83}3. The examination shall be under the supervision of the Board of the Faculty of History, which will specify rules and procedures respecting the examination, and will define the lists of specific papers from which candidates will choose within the various subjects described below. These lists will be published by the beginning of Trinity Term prior to candidates beginning their studies for the Honour School.

~~1.9~~4. The Board shall issue annually the Handbook for the Honour School of History by Monday of first week of the first Michaelmas Full Term of candidates' work for the Honour School.

1.105. The Board will categorise each of the papers in the History of the British Isles and European & World History in both the Preliminary Examination and the Honour School as falling into one of three chronological groups: Early, Middle and Late.

(...)

1.18The History of the British Isles is taken to include the history of England, Wales, Scotland and Ireland, and of other territories in so far as they are specifically connected with the History of Britain.

~~1.19~~Candidates will be examined by means of a three-hour written examination.

1.20B2. European & World History: any one from a list of Outline and Theme papers defined by the Faculty Board. No candidate may offer a period similar to one offered when passing the Preliminary Examination. Illegal combinations will be specified by the Board.

1.21B3. Further Subject: any one from a list of subjects defined by the Faculty Board, to be studied with reference to primary sources. Illegal combinations of Further and Special Subject will be specified by the Board.

1.22B4. Special Subjects: any one from a list of subjects defined by the Faculty Board, to be studied with reference to primary sources.

1.23Candidates will be examined by means of a ~~three-hour~~ written examination, and an essay to be submitted by no later than noon on Thursday of nough week of Hilary term in the final year of the Final Honour School. The essay is to be uploaded to the University approved online platform.

1.24B5. Disciplines of History

(...)

~~1.37~~5. Every candidate must submit the title proposed together with a typed synopsis of the thesis topic and proposed method of investigation (no more than 250 words) and the written approval of their College History Tutor to the Chair of the Examiners for the Honour School of History, the History Faculty, George Street, Oxford, not earlier than the beginning of Trinity Full Term in the first year of the Final Honour School and not later than the Friday of sixth week of Michaelmas Term in the final year of the Final Honour School. If no notification is received from the Chair of Examiners by the first Monday of Hilary Full Term of the final year, the title shall be deemed to be approved. Any subsequent changes to title require formal application to the Chair of Examiners by the Friday of Week 4 of the Hilary Term of the final year and subsequent approval.

~~1.38~~6. Theses should nor

mally include an investigation of relevant printed or unprinted primary historical sources, and must include proper footnotes and a bibliography. They must be the work of the author alone. In all cases, the candidate's tutor or thesis adviser shall discuss with the candidate the field of study, the sources available, and the methods of presentation. Candidates shall be expected to have had a formal meeting or meetings with their College History Tutor, and, if necessary, an additional meeting or meetings with a specialised thesis adviser in the Trinity Term of their second year, as well as a second formal meeting or meetings with their thesis adviser in the Michaelmas Term of their final year, prior to submitting the title of their thesis. While writing the thesis, candidates are permitted to have further advisory sessions at which bibliographical, structural, and other problems can be discussed. The total time spent in all meetings with the College History Tutor and/or the specialised thesis adviser must not exceed five hours. A first draft of the thesis may be commented on, but not corrected in matters of detail and presentation, by the thesis adviser.

(...)

^{1.44}ii. The choice of text must be approved by the submission to the Chair of the FHS in History, with the support of a supervisor, of a 250-word outline of the text and its context, and specifying its length. This submission must be made by Friday of noughth week of the Michaelmas Term of the candidate's final year, but candidates are advised to seek permission well before this. The Chair must consult appropriate colleagues before approving the project: they will need to be satisfied that it provides scope for displaying appropriate levels of knowledge and expertise.

(...)

^{1.58}4. Every candidate intending to offer an optional thesis except as defined in regulation B6 sub clause 3(a) above must submit the title proposed together with the written approval of a thesis adviser or College History Tutor to the Chair of the Examiners for the Honour School of History, the History Faculty, George Street, Oxford, not earlier than the beginning of Trinity Full Term in the year preceding that in which the candidate takes the examination and not later than Friday of the first week of the following Hilary Full Term. The Chair shall decide whether or not to approve the title, consulting the Faculty Board if so desired, and shall advise the candidate as soon as possible.

Explanatory Notes

The current exam regulations present a contradiction in what is expected for the examination of Special Subjects. Section A.7 specifies current assessment structure:

^{1.16}7. Each candidate shall offer six subjects, as follows. Subjects 2, 3, 5 and part of 4 will be assessed by timed written examinations taken in candidates'

final Trinity Term. Subjects 1, 6 and part of 4 will be examined by submitted written work subject to procedures described below.

Paragraph B.4 only references the written examination and this is now being rectified.

Other text deleted is information in the examination conventions and handbook, where it belongs as per EPS' guidelines on content of regulations.

The Faculty did not approve changing the Friday submissions deadline for the thesis.