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

SSD/2/2/4

Social Sciences Divisional Board

Approved on behalf of TAC on 24/02/16 and by Education Committee on 19/05/17

Title of Programme
Research Degrees in Law

Brief note about nature of change: introduction of part-time variant of DPhil in Law

Location of change
In Examination Regulations 2017 http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2017-18/rdegrinlaw/

Effective date
For students starting from MT 2018

Detail of change

1. Amend citation reference 1.4 as follows:

   ‘2. Special provisions for part-time D.Phil. Criminology students [For students starting from MT 2017: and part-time D.Phil. Socio-Legal Studies]’

2. Amend citation reference 1.5 as follows:

   ‘(i) Candidates 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 on the Board of the Faculty of Law. During a candidate’s probationary period the attendance arrangements must take account of relevant induction and training events scheduled by the Law Faculty, or the Centres for Criminology [For students starting from MT 2017: and the Centre for Socio-Legal Studies].’
3. Amend citation reference 1.16 as follows:

‘(v) Subject to the general time-limit in sub-paragraph (vi) below, the Graduate Studies Committee, having consulted with the supervisor, may, for good cause, allow the Qualifying Test to be deferred. Applications for deferral must be made through the Faculty of Law Graduate Studies Office (or, for students registered for the D.Phil. in Criminology, to the Graduate Studies Administrator within the Centre for Criminology) in time to allow the Graduate Studies Committee to consider the matter in the second week of the candidate’s third term. For candidates enrolled on the a part-time D.Phil. in Criminology [For students starting from MT 2017: or the part-time DPhil in Socio-Legal Studies], applications for deferral must be made in time to allow the Graduate Studies Committee to consider the matter in the second week of the candidate’s sixth term.’

4. Amend citation reference 1.17 as follows:

‘(vi) In no case may the materials for the Qualifying Test be submitted or resubmitted after the end of the fourth term from the admission of the student to the doctoral or M.Litt. programmes. A student will in any case cease to hold PRS status if he or she does not gain admission to another status within four terms of admission as a full-time student. In the case of candidates enrolled on the a part-time D.Phil. in Criminology [For students starting from MT 2017: or the part-time DPhil in Socio-Legal Studies], materials for the Qualifying Test may not be submitted or resubmitted after the end of the eighth term from the admission of the student to the doctoral programme.’

5. Amend citation reference 1.25 as follows:

‘(vii) Where the assessors have recommended resubmission, the candidate should normally resubmit at any time before the end of the subsequent term following the original submission. On resubmission the assessors may recommend (a) that the candidate be granted the transfer requested or (b) that the candidate be refused permission to transfer. In the case of a Probationary Research Student the effect of the latter recommendation is to entitle the candidate to apply for transfer to the M.St. in Legal Research under the appropriate regulation, with effect retrospective to the original registration as a Probationary Research Student. Such applications will be considered by the Graduate Studies Committee. For candidates enrolled on the a part-time D.Phil. in Criminology [For students starting from MT 2017: or the part-time DPhil in Socio-Legal Studies], the candidate should normally resubmit at any time before the end of the second term following the original submission.’

6. Amend citation reference 1.28 as follows:

‘(i) Applications for confirmation of status shall normally be made not earlier than the sixth term, and confirmation of status must normally be completed no later than three terms after the Qualifying Test. Candidates enrolled on the a part-time D.Phil. in Criminology [For students starting from MT 2017: or the part-time DPhil in Socio-Legal Studies] shall normally apply for confirmation of status not earlier than the twelfth term following their admission, and confirmation of status must normally
be completed not later than six terms after the Qualifying Test.’

7. Amend citation reference 1.31 as follows:

‘(iv) The documents described above under (ii) and (iii) shall be considered by two assessors, appointed by the Graduate Studies Committee, one of whom shall, wherever practicable, be one of those who acted at the time of the candidate’s transfer to D.Phil. status. The assessors shall interview the candidate and submit a joint written report to the Graduate Studies Committee, normally within one month of receiving the application. The report shall include a recommendation as to whether the application should be approved. The faculty may grant the application or refer it back for resubmission. Only one resubmission for confirmation may be submitted, and no such resubmission will normally be permitted after the end of the candidate’s ninth term. For candidates enrolled in the a part-time D.Phil. in Criminology [For students starting from MT 2017: or the part-time DPhil in Socio-Legal Studies], resubmission will not normally be permitted after the end of the candidate’s eighteenth term.’

Explanatory Notes

Introduction of part-time variant of DPhil in Law