Humanities Division
Board of the Faculty of Theology and Religion

Approved at the meeting of 15 June 2017

Title of Programme/ Name of Regulation
Master of Studies in Theology

Brief note about nature of change: Dispensation of viva requirement

Effective date
For students starting from MT 2017
For first examination from 2017-18

Location of change
In Examination Regulations 2016 (http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2016-17/mostudintheo)

Detail of change
1.31 Each candidate is also required to present himself or herself for an oral (viva voce) examination unless individually dispensed by the examiners, which takes place within a few days of the written examination, and may include discussion of the candidate’s work in any of the three elements listed above.

Explanatory Notes
The regulations for the MSt in Theology have previously required all candidates to attend for a viva voce examination. It was agreed to amend the regulations to permit the examiners to individually dispense the requirement to attend for a viva voce examination. This will bring the course into line with the Faculty’s other master’s degrees. A viva would be used in practice where the classification of candidates is considered to be borderline, although the external examiner would be consulted first. The proposed changes are the same as those agreed for the MPhil in Theology.