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# EXAMINATION CONVENTIONS

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## FINAL HONOUR SCHOOL OF RELIGION AND ORIENTAL STUDIES 2021

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

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This document contains the examination conventions for the Final Honour School of Religion and Oriental Studies by the Interfaculty Committee for Theology and Religion and Oriental Studies on behalf of the Faculty Boards of Theology and Religion and of Oriental Studies for the year 2021. Examination conventions are the formal record of the specific assessment standards for the course or courses to which they apply. They set out how examined work will be marked and how the resulting marks will be used to arrive at a final result and classification of an award.

### 2. RUBRICS AND WORD LIMITS FOR INDIVIDUAL PAPERS

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See Appendix 1 for rubrics for individual Theology and Religion papers and Appendix 2 for Oriental Studies Papers.

A maximum word limit has been set for individual questions/essays in open-book examinations. Penalties are not applied for overlength work in open-book examinations, but any portion of an answer that exceeds the word limit will be disregarded by the examiner. The word limit will be stipulated in the rubric for each individual examination paper.

### 3. MARKING CONVENTIONS

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#### 3.1 UNIVERSITY SCALE FOR STANDARDISED EXPRESSION OF AGREED FINAL MARKS

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Agreed final marks for individual papers will be expressed using the following scale:

70-100	First Class
60-69	Upper second
50-59	Lower second
40-49	Third
30-39	Pass
0-29	Fail

## 3.2 QUALITATIVE CRITERIA FOR DIFFERENT TYPES OF ASSESSMENT

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### **3.2.1 Timed Essays and Pre-Submitted Essays for Theology and Religion Papers**

Examiners will attend to the following criteria in marking pre-submitted essays and timed essays, as appropriate to the paper being examined:

#### Engagement

- incisiveness of engagement with the question
- range of issues addressed
- depth and sophistication of comprehension of issues and implications of the question
- relevant engagement with primary and secondary literature
- directness of answer to the question

#### Argument

- coherence and rigour of argument
- analytical clarity and power
- intellectual penetration and sophistication of ideas
- originality of argument

#### Information

- relevant deployment of information
- depth, precision and detail of evidence cited
- range of material deployed
- accuracy of facts

#### Organisation & Presentation

- clarity and coherence of structure
- clarity, fluency and elegance of prose
- correctness of grammar, spelling, and punctuation
- scholarly presentation

Please note that in 2021, examiners will attend only to these criteria in section 3.2.1 when marking *Poetic World of the Hebrew Bible*. In this paper, failure to engage the quotation from the set text (as instructed in the paper rubrics) may be deemed an ‘incomplete answer’ to the question.

The following descriptors will be used to determine the assignment of marks:

**70-100 First Class**

Work displaying excellent analytical and argumentational power, with full command of the facts and concepts, and/or the appropriate primary and secondary sources, and/or arguments relevant to the question. Evidence of ability to organise and express them with clarity, insight and efficiency. Excellence in one area may compensate for relative weakness in another.

A mark of 70-74 will be awarded for scripts that that are at least very highly competent across these areas, and 75-79 if they excel in at least one of these areas and are at least very highly competent in other respects. When these qualities are evident throughout, the mark should be 80 or above. Where work also shows remarkable originality and sophistication throughout, the mark should be 90 or above.

**60-69 Upper Second Class**

Work displaying good analytical and argumentative power, with good knowledge of the relevant facts and concepts, appropriate primary and secondary sources, and arguments relevant to the question. This class can also be awarded for work showing considerable thoroughness but less knowledge, analytical skill or clarity in organisation.

*Higher Range: 65-69*

Scripts will demonstrate considerable competence across the range of the criteria. They must exhibit some essential features, addressing the question directly and relevantly across a good range of material, and offering a coherent argument substantiated with accurate information, the whole being clearly-presented. Nevertheless, additional strengths (for instance the range of issues addressed, the sophistication of the arguments, or the range and depth of information) may compensate for other weaknesses.

*Lower Range: 60-64*

Scripts will be competent and should manifest the essential features described above, in that they must offer relevant, substantiated and clear arguments; but they will do so with less range, depth, precision and perhaps clarity. Again, qualities of a higher order may compensate for some weaknesses.

**50-59 Lower Second Class**

Satisfactory work which shows only modest knowledge of the relevant facts, sources or arguments, which gives an incomplete answer to the question, or which contains inaccuracies or lapses in analysis or argumentation. Scripts must show evidence of some solid competence in expounding information and in analysis. But they will be marred by a failure on one criterion or another: failure to address the question directly, irrelevant citing of information, factual error, weakness of argument, narrowness in the range of issues addressed or information adduced (or lack of detail), or poor organization and presentation, including incorrect English prose.

*Higher Range: 55-59*

Adequate, if somewhat basic, analysis and understanding of key concepts and arguments. Significantly lacking in scope, depth or precision; flat or pedestrian representation of thoughts and arguments; some important inaccuracies, omissions, or lapses in argumentation. Answers will lack one or more of the essential qualities of the higher class.

*Lower Range: 50-54*

Answer showing a basic grasp of relevant material and arguments, and a fair attempt to arrive at a reasoned conclusion. More serious inaccuracies or omissions; significant lapses in argumentation (e.g. non sequiturs, misuse of concepts or evidence); failure to digest material; minor irrelevance.

**40-49 Third Class**

Work that is poor with muddled argumentation, little knowledge of relevant facts or arguments, little analytical skill, and which fails to address the questions asked. Scripts will fall down on a number of criteria, but will exhibit some vestiges of the qualities required, such as the ability to see the point of the question, to deploy information, or to offer some coherent analysis towards an argument. Such qualities will not be displayed at a high level or consistently, and will be marred by irrelevance, incoherence, error and poor organization and presentation.

*Higher Range: 45-49*

Limited answer to the question; constructs a rudimentary argument; some evidence of relevant study. Superficial or incomplete treatment; some gaps or mistakes in understanding of key concepts and arguments; poor focus and organisation; some irrelevance.

*Lower Range: 40-44*

Significant elements of a basic and relevant answer. Muddled or very limited argumentation; very superficial discussion with poor focus; significant misunderstanding of key concepts and arguments; considerable irrelevance; seriously incomplete answer.

**30-39 Pass**

Very poor quality work showing only slight evidence of having studied. Scripts will display a modicum of relevant knowledge or understanding of some points, but will display almost none of the higher qualities described in the criteria. They will be marred by high levels of factual error and irrelevance, generalization and lack of information, poor organization and presentation; and lacking argumentation.

**0-29 Fail**

Unsatisfactory work which shows no evidence of having studied. Scripts will fail to exhibit any of the required qualities. Candidates who fail to observe rubrics or rules, except as explicitly envisaged in the applicable marking scheme, may also be failed.

### **3.2.2 Timed Essays and Pre-Submitted Essays for Oriental Studies Papers**

Naturally the criteria of assessment vary according to the nature of the paper and the subject. In translation from English into an Oriental language, the qualities are grammatical and lexical correctness, idiomatic construction, and stylistic propriety. For composition questions, these same qualities plus topical relevance, argument, and style of composition will be considered, and in the case of verse, metrical competence. In translation from an Oriental language into English the examiners will look for accuracy, transparency and stylistic propriety.

The fundamental criteria for the assessment of essay-type examination answers are whether the question that has been set has been answered and, if so, how well. The latter will depend on a demonstration of knowledge of the subject, the strength, clarity and focus of the argument, and the presentation of appropriate evidence.

The criteria for assessing a dissertation are how well a topic has been researched, using both primary and secondary sources, and how clearly the material has been assembled, interpreted and analysed. Further considerations are whether the dissertation is presented in scholarly format (i.e. with reference notes and bibliography), and whether it focuses on the issue it sets out to explore or answers the questions it attempts to examine.

70-100	A paper which exhibits the qualities mentioned above to a very high degree, and which is outstanding in some way.
60-69	A paper which exhibits these qualities to a high but lesser degree, which is fully competent but not outstanding.
50-59	A paper which exhibits still fewer of these qualities but in which acceptable answers appear to be predominant.
40-49	A paper which fails to exhibit these qualities to a significant degree, but which nevertheless contains an adequate proportion of acceptable answers.
30-39	A paper which shows only a marginal level of knowledge and competence.
29 and below	Any other paper

### 3.3 VERIFICATION AND RECONCILIATION OF MARKS

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Normally each script should be marked by two markers. The marks must fall within the range of 0 to 100 inclusive. Examiners should be encouraged to award high marks to good scripts, though marks above 85 should be reserved for scripts that are exceptionally outstanding (see the descriptors above). It is not permissible to exclude the use of certain marks (e.g. 69, 59). All such marks must be in the form of an integer.

Where the calculation of overall marks for a paper results in fractions of marks (e.g. 65.4, 58.7), these will, at the discretion of the Board of Examiners, be rounded to the nearest integer and figures ending .5 will be rounded up. (Thereby 65.4 becomes 65 and 58.5 becomes 59.)

Each initial marker must determine a mark for each script independently of the other marker, in a process known as 'double-blind marking'. The initial markers should then confer in order to reconcile discrepancies. Conferring should not debar markers from also re-reading where that may make it easier to reach an agreed mark.

Marks assigned as a result of conferring or re-reading may not fall outside the range of the initial marks, except where the Board of Examiners is agreed that they should do so and can provide clear and defensible reasons for its decision.

In every case, the original marks from both markers must be entered onto a mark sheet available to all examiners, as well as the marks (if any) that result from conferring.

If conferring or re-reading (which markers may choose to do more than once) does not reduce the gap between a pair of marks to a point where a mark can be agreed between the markers, the script must be third-read by a third examiner who may be an external examiner.

Marks established as a result of third readings may not fall outside the range of the original marks, except where the Board of Examiners is agreed that they should do so and can provide clear and defensible reasons for its decision. In cases where the mark of the third reading falls within the range of the original marks, the mark of the third reading shall be taken as the agreed mark. In cases where the mark of the third reading does not fall within the range of the original mark, a final mark is agreed at the discretion of the board.

### 3.4 SCALING

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The Board of Examiners is permitted to scale marks if deemed justifiable and appropriate. However, the Board of Examiners is not in any way obligated to investigate or act upon significant discrepancies between markers. The Examiners may choose to scale marks where in their academic judgement:

- a) a paper was more difficult or easy than in previous years, and/or
- b) an optional paper was more or less difficult than other optional papers taken by students in a particular year, and/or
- c) a paper has generated a spread of marks which are not a fair reflection of student performance on the University's standard scale for the expression of agreed final marks, i.e. the marks do not reflect the qualitative marks descriptors.

Note that in Trinity Term 2021, examiners may use scaling to mitigate against the changes to assessment required in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and any related difficulties faced by candidates.

Such scaling is used to ensure that candidates' marks are not advantaged or disadvantaged by any of these situations. In each case, examiners will establish if they have sufficient evidence for scaling. Scaling will only be considered and undertaken after moderation of a paper has been completed, and a complete run of marks for all papers is available.

If it is decided that it is appropriate to use scaling, the examiners will review a sample of papers either side of the classification borderlines to ensure that the outcome of scaling is consistent with academic views of what constitutes an appropriate performance within in each class.

Detailed information about why scaling was necessary and how it was applied will be included in the Examiners' report and the algorithms used will be published for the information of all examiners and students.

### 3.5 SHORT-WEIGHT CONVENTION AND DEPARTURE FROM RUBRIC

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A mark of zero shall be awarded for any question, part or parts of questions, that have not been answered by a candidate, but which should have been answered. Where answers are of insufficient length, the answer will receive a mark on its merits, taking account of its brevity and thus of inadequate range and coverage. A zero or low mark for a question or part of a question will naturally pull down the average for the whole script but never by more than that which is equivalent to the proportion of the answer that is missing. Short-weight scripts will be flagged by the markers on comment sheets and the Board of Examiners will consider all such cases to ensure consistency of treatment.

Where a candidate has failed to answer a compulsory question, or failed to answer the required number of questions in different sections, the complete script will be marked as it stands. The issue will be flagged by the markers on comment sheets and the Board of Examiners will consider all such cases and apply penalties consistently. Where it is unambiguously clear that a rubric has not been obeyed, the Board of Examiners may lower the overall mark for the script by up to 5 marks.

This penalty for departure from the rubric may be applied to scripts which are also short weight. For example, if a script contains answers to only two questions from the same section, where the rubric of the paper demanded three questions to be answered, including at least one from each of two sections, a zero mark will be awarded for the third question. This will naturally pull down the overall (average) mark for the script, which in turn may be reduced by a penalty of 5 marks for failure to comply with the rubric of answering from different sections.



### 3.6 PENALTIES FOR LATE OR NON-SUBMISSION OF WORK

#### 3.6.1 Penalties for late submission of open-book examination scripts

Candidates should upload their submission within the time allowed for their open-book examination. Candidates who access the paper later than the published start time (and who do not have an agreed alternative start time) will still need to finish and submit their work within the originally published timeframe or be considered to have submitted late. Candidates who access the paper on time but who submit their work after the published timeframe will also be considered to have submitted late.

Where candidates submit their examination after the end of the specified timeframe and believe they have a good reason for doing so they may submit a mitigating circumstances form to explain their reasons for the late submission. The Exam Board will consider whether to waive the penalties (outlined below) for late submission.

The penalties will be applied at the paper level and are as follows:

Time	Penalty
First 5 minutes	No penalty
6 minutes and later	Fail mark (0)

Penalties will only be applied after the work has been marked and the Exam Board has checked whether there are any valid reasons for late submission.

#### 3.6.2 Penalties for late submission of pre-submitted work

The scale of penalties agreed by the Board of Examiners in relation to late submission of assessed items (excluding open-book exams) is set out below. Details of the circumstances in which such penalties might apply can be found in the *Examination Regulations* (Regulations for the Conduct of University Examinations, Part 14).

Late submission	Penalty
After the deadline but submitted on the same day	-5 marks
Each additional calendar day (i.e., two days late = -6 marks, three days late = -7 marks, etc.) Note that each weekend day counts as a full day for the purposes of mark deductions)	a further -1 mark
Max. deducted marks up to 14 days late	-18 marks
More than 14 calendar days after the notice of non-submission	Fail

Penalties will only be applied after the work has been marked and the Exam Board has checked whether there are any valid reasons for late submission.

Note that failure to submit a required element of assessment will result in the failure of the whole Honour School examination.

### 3.7 PENALTIES FOR OVER-LENGTH WORK AND DEPARTURE FROM APPROVED OR PRESCRIBED TITLES OR SUBJECT-MATTER

#### 3.7.1 For over-length pre-submitted essays

The word limit relevant to each pre-submitted essay required for certain papers is stipulated in *Examination Regulations*. The Examination Board has agreed the following tariff of marks to be deducted for over-length work.

Percentage by which the maximum word limit is exceeded	Penalty
Up to 5% over word limit	-1 mark
More than 5% and up to 10% over	-2 marks
More than 10% and up to 15% over	-3 marks
More than 15% and up to 20% over	-4 marks
More than 20% and up to 25% over	-5 marks
More than 25% and up to 30% over	-6 marks
More than 30% and up to 35% over	-7 marks
More than 35% and up to 40% over	-8 marks
More than 40% and up to 45% over	-9 marks
More than 45% over	-10 marks

#### 3.7.2 Penalties for unauthorised changes to approved or prescribed titles for pre-submitted written work for Theology and Religion Papers only

The Examination Board has agreed the following tariff of marks to be deducted for unauthorised changes to titles. Note that for work submitted for Oriental Studies papers, no penalties are imposed for changes to approved titles.

Type of unauthorised change	Penalty
Minor changes to punctuation or expression which do not affect content	Up to -5 marks
Changes to wording which affect content to some degree	Up to -10 marks
Changes to wording which result in a different essay from the one that was approved	Up to -20 marks deducted
Where the change results in a piece of work which in no way meets the requirements for the paper	A Fail mark will be recorded

### 3.8 PENALTIES FOR POOR ACADEMIC PRACTICE

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Candidates are reminded that plagiarism, in any form, is not allowed and will be penalised if it is confirmed by the Proctors. For detailed information on what constitutes plagiarism, please visit the good academic practice website at <http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/skills>.

Assessors will mark work on its academic merit but the Board of Examiners may deduct marks at its discretion, to a maximum of 10 marks, for poor academic practice (lack of adequate referencing, poor use of citation conventions, etc.) depending on the severity of the case.

All candidates are reminded of the University's Honour Code, which pertains to the conduct of open book examinations.

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/exams/open-book/honour-code>

It is not permissible to submit work which has been submitted, either partially or in full, either for this Honour School examination, or for another Honour School or qualification of this University or at any other institution.

While it is naturally permissible in the course of an open-book examination to consult work during the course of study (i.e. notes, collections, tutorial essays), candidates are *very strongly advised against* copying text straight from such material into examination answers. This is especially true if the material is derived from another source (e.g. notes or essays written by someone else, direct quotations in notes, etc) due to the risks of inadvertently committing academic misconduct such as collusion or plagiarism.

Turnitin will *not* be used routinely for online-submissions but may be employed by the Examination Board or Proctors in an investigation of individual cases of suspected plagiarism.

Cases of poor academic practice where the material under review is small and does not exceed 10% of the whole shall be dealt with exclusively by the Examination Board.

If a student has previously had marks deducted for poor academic practice or has been referred to the Proctors for suspected plagiarism the case must always be referred to the Proctors

In addition, any more serious cases of poor academic practice than described above should also always be referred to the Proctors.

Where the deduction of marks results in failure of the assessment and of the programme the case must be referred to the Proctors.

### 3.9 PENALTIES FOR NON-ATTENDANCE

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Failure to attend any part of the assessment for the Honour School (e.g. failure to attend an online invigilated or open book written examination or failure to submit required written work) will result in failure of the whole Second Public Examination (the Final Honour School).

This penalty does not apply where a candidate has been officially dispensed from an exam.

Candidates are reminded that where their attendance at an exam is prevented or obstructed by circumstances beyond their control, e.g. illness or bereavement, they should notify the examiners of these mitigating circumstances, see section 6 below.

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## 4. CLASSIFICATION CONVENTIONS AND PROGRESSION RULES

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### 4.1 QUALITATIVE DESCRIPTORS FOR CLASSES

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The award of a particular class indicates work displaying the following characteristics:

#### ***First Class***

Excellent analytical and argumentational power, with full command of the facts and concepts, and/or the appropriate primary and secondary sources, and/or arguments relevant to the question. Evidence of ability to organise and express them with clarity, insight and efficiency. First class performance displays at least a very high level of competence across these areas, and sometimes displays excellence in a particular area.

#### ***Upper Second Class (2:1)***

Good analytical and argumentative power, with good knowledge of the relevant facts and concepts, appropriate primary and secondary sources, and arguments relevant to the question. This class can also be awarded for work showing considerable thoroughness but less knowledge, analytical skill or clarity in organisation.

#### ***Lower Second Class (2:2)***

Modest knowledge of the relevant facts, sources or arguments, but offering an incomplete or indirect answer to the question, or containing inaccuracies or lapses in analysis or argumentation or relevance. Nevertheless, this class indicates some solid competence in expounding information and in analysis.

#### ***Third Class***

Poor with muddled argumentation, little knowledge of relevant facts or arguments, little analytical skill, and which fails to address the questions asked. Nevertheless, this class indicates the vestiges of some desirable the qualities, such as the ability to see the point of the question, to deploy information, or to offer some coherent analysis towards an argument. Such qualities will not be displayed at a high level or consistently, and will be marred by irrelevance, incoherence, error and poor organization and presentation.

#### ***Pass***

Very poor quality showing only slight evidence of having studied. Work will display a modicum of relevant knowledge or understanding of some points, but will display almost analytical or argumentational skill. They will be marred by high levels of factual error and irrelevance, generalization and lack of information, poor organization and presentation; and lacking argumentation.

#### ***Fail***

Unsatisfactory showing no evidence of having studied or any of the required qualities of analysis or argument. Candidates who fail to observe rubrics or rules may also be failed.

## 4.2 CLASSIFICATION RULES

<p><b>First:</b></p> <p>Average mark of 68.5 or greater. At least two marks of 70 or above. No mark below 50.</p>
<p><b>Upper Second:</b></p> <p>Average mark of 59 or greater. At least two marks of 60 or above. No mark below 40.</p>
<p><b>Lower Second:</b></p> <p>Average mark of 49.5 or greater. At least two marks of 50 or above. No mark below 30.</p>
<p><b>Third:</b></p> <p>Average mark of 40 or greater. Not more than one mark below 30.</p>
<p><b>Pass:</b></p> <p>Average mark of 30 or greater. Not more than two marks below 30.</p>

All papers are given equal weight in the calculation of a candidate's average mark. Final averages are calculated from the overall mark for each paper. Final averages will be rounded to the nearest 0.01 and figures ending .5 will be rounded up. (Thereby 63.375 becomes 63.38 and 63.3749 becomes 63.37.)

Before finally confirming its classifications, the Examining Board may take such steps as it considers appropriate to reconsider the cases of candidates whose marks are very close to a borderline, or in some way anomalous, and to satisfy themselves that the candidates concerned are correctly classified in accordance with the criteria specified in these Conventions.

In cases of difficulty or dispute the advice of external examiners must be given particular weight.

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#### 4.3 VIVAS

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Any candidate may be examined *viva voce*. It is, however, the normal expectation that this will occur only in exceptional circumstances. Any 2021 vivas would be conducted remotely.

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#### 5. RESITS

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No candidate who achieves a classified result shall be admitted again as a candidate in the Final Honour School.

Candidates may resit elements of the Final Honour School if they fail or gain a pass degree. Failure does not constitute a classified result.

Candidates are entitled to one resit of any element (i.e. an individual paper or submission) of the examination which was awarded a mark of 30 or below. The normal expectation is that any resits will be taken at the time the subject is examined the following year. Where an element of an examination has been successfully completed at the first examination, the mark for the successful element can be carried over to the succeeding year and only the element or elements which have been awarded a mark of 30 or below at the first examination will be retaken.

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## 6. MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES

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The board of examiners are aware of the impact that may be felt by candidates of the disruption to studies and examination caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The University has put in place an Assessment Support Package (Annex E of the *Examinations and Assessments Framework*) comprising several different measures to take account of this impact in its various forms. Where appropriate, examiners have already implemented measures in this package by altering examination formats for remote examination. Candidates have also been encouraged to submit 'Student Statements' which allow students to indicate where their work has been impacted by loss of access to library facilities. These statements will be taken into consideration at the marking stage so that examiners may disregard e.g. incomplete references, when awarding their initial marks.

In addition, the mitigating circumstances procedure outlined below, remains in place for any candidate whose work has been detrimentally impacted by individual circumstances (including but not limited to those resulting from the pandemic). You should consult your college tutor or college office for support and advice in making a submission under the mitigating circumstances procedure, even if you are not sure whether a submission is appropriate to take account of your individual circumstances. Candidates are encouraged to make a submission under this procedure as appropriate.

A candidate's final outcome will first be considered using the classification rules as described in section 4. The exam board will then consider any further information they have on individual circumstances.

Where a candidate or candidates have made a submission, under Part 13 of the Regulations for Conduct of University Examinations, that unforeseen circumstances may have had an impact on their performance in an examination, a subset of the board (the 'Mitigating Circumstances Panel') will meet to discuss the individual applications and band the seriousness of each application on a scale of 1-3 with 1 indicating minor impact, 2 indicating moderate impact, and 3 indicating very serious impact. The Panel will evaluate, on the basis of the information provided to it, the relevance of the circumstances to examinations and assessment, and the strength of the evidence provided in support. Examiners will also note whether all or a subset of papers were affected, being aware that it is possible for circumstances to have different levels of impact on different papers. The banding information will be used at the final board of examiners meeting to decide whether and how to adjust a candidate's results. Further information on the procedure is provided in the *Examinations and Assessment Framework*, Annex E and information for students is provided at [www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/exams/guidance](http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/exams/guidance).

Candidates who have indicated they wish to be considered for DDH will first be considered for a classified degree, taking into account any individual MCE. If that is not possible and they meet the DDH eligibility criteria, they will be awarded DDH.



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7. DETAILS OF EXAMINERS AND RULES ON COMMUNICATING WITH EXAMINERS

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The Board of Examiners for 2021 comprises the following members:

Prof C. Harrison (Chair)

Prof J. Westerhoff

External examiners:

Dr S. Hawthorne, Lecturer, South Asia Institute, SOAS.

***Candidates should not under any circumstances seek to make contact with individual internal or external examiners.***

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APPENDIX 1 – RUBRICS FOR INDIVIDUAL PAPERS IN THEOLOGY AND RELIGION

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**PAPER 2102. POETIC WORLD OF THE HEBREW BIBLE**

Candidates should answer THREE questions, question ONE and TWO others.

All numbered questions are equally weighted. Each answer to part of QUESTION ONE is worth half the marks for question ONE.

Candidates should answer THREE questions, Question ONE and TWO others.

All numbered questions are equally weighted. Each answer to part of question ONE is worth half the marks for question ONE.

In question ONE candidates should engage with the quotation from the set text.

Candidates who know Hebrew may consult and refer to the Hebrew text in their answers.

Your answer to any individual question on this paper should not exceed 1600 words including footnotes. The examiners will mark up to 1600 words of an individual answer but will disregard any portion of the answer which goes beyond the 1600 word limit. For Question ONE, your two answers together should total no more than 1600 words.

**PAPER 2302. MEDIEVAL RELIGIONS**

All candidates should answer THREE questions. All numbered questions carry equal marks.

Your answer to any individual question on this paper should not exceed 1600 words including footnotes. The examiners will mark up to 1600 words of an individual answer but will disregard any portion of the answer which goes beyond the 1600 word limit.

**PAPER 2306. FOUNDATIONS OF BUDDHISM**

All candidates should answer THREE questions. All numbered questions carry equal marks.

Your answer to any individual question on this paper should not exceed 1600 words including footnotes. The examiners will mark up to 1600 words of an individual answer but will disregard any portion of the answer which goes beyond the 1600 word limit.

**PAPER 2307. HINDUISM: SOURCES AND FORMATIONS**

All candidates should answer THREE questions. All numbered questions carry equal marks.

Your answer to any individual question on this paper should not exceed 1600 words including footnotes. The examiners will mark up to 1600 words of an individual answer but will disregard any portion of the answer which goes beyond the 1600 word limit.

**PAPER 2401. MODERN JUDAISM**

All candidates should answer THREE questions. All numbered questions carry equal marks.

Your answer to any individual question on this paper should not exceed 1600 words including footnotes. The examiners will mark up to 1600 words of an individual answer but will disregard any portion of the answer which goes beyond the 1600 word limit.

**PAPER 2403. BUDDHISM IN SPACE AND TIME**

All candidates should answer THREE questions. All numbered questions carry equal marks.

Your answer to any individual question on this paper should not exceed 1600 words including footnotes. The examiners will mark up to 1600 words of an individual answer but will disregard any portion of the answer which goes beyond the 1600 word limit.

**PAPER 3221. LIBERATION THEOLOGY AND ITS LEGACY**

All candidates should answer THREE questions. All numbered questions carry equal marks.

Your answer to any individual question on this paper should not exceed 1600 words including footnotes. The examiners will mark up to 1600 words of an individual answer but will disregard any portion of the answer which goes beyond the 1600 word limit.

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APPENDIX 2 – RUBRICS FOR INDIVIDUAL PAPERS IN ORIENTAL STUDIES

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ARABIC

**TRANSLATION FROM CLASSICAL ARABIC**

Time allowed: 3 hours (plus 30 minutes technical time for scanning any handwritten passages and uploading them in PDF format).

Format: online open book

Candidates will be asked to translate four 'seen' passages from Arabic into English, and offer grammatical and linguistic comments and critical vocalisation as required.

Equal marks will be allocated to each of the four passages, so that 50% of the marks will be allocated to translation and 50% to comments and critical vocalisation.

**ARABIC (AS 2<sup>ND</sup> LANGUAGE): ADDITIONAL ARABIC: ISLAMIC TEXTS**

Time allowed: 3 hours (plus 30 minutes technical time for scanning any handwritten passages and uploading them in PDF format).

Format: online open book

Answers requiring Arabic font have to be handwritten, scanned and uploaded as a PDF

This paper consists of 2 sections. The first section will require candidates to translate a number of unseen passages resembling the Arabic texts studied in class. This section will be worth 1/3 of the marks for the paper. The second section will require candidates to answer 2 essay questions from a choice of at least 6. Unseen passages, not for translation but for commentary, may be given in conjunction with essay questions.

Each essay will be worth 1/3 of the marks for the paper (total 2/3 for the section).

**ARABIC: MEDIEVAL SUFI THOUGHT**

Time allowed: 3 hours (plus 30 minutes technical time for scanning any handwritten passages and uploading them in PDF format).

This paper consists of two sections. The first section will offer a number of short passages for translation and annotation. The average of all marks for translations will count for one-third of the final mark. Annotation is especially appropriate to indicate where a passage deviates from Modern Standard Arabic, where it seems important to remark that some word or section might be translated in more than one way, and where it is necessary to show that the translator, having departed from a literal interpretation, has correctly understood the passage in question. The second section will comprise at least six topics, in response to which two essays are required. Each essay will count for one-third of the final mark.

## TIBETAN

### [B1B] A BUDDHIST CANONICAL LANGUAGE: ADVANCED TIBETAN LANGUAGE AND TEXTS

Time allowed: (plus 30 minutes technical time for scanning any handwritten passages and uploading them in PDF format).

Format: online open book

- Answers requiring responses in Roman script must be typed.
- For answers requiring some non-Roman script you may either type directly into the answer boxes or handwrite your answers and upload them as a pdf at the end of normal time.
- You may also use a mix of both methods, marking clearly where a handwritten and scanned answer refers to a question or part of a question.
- All questions requiring answers in non-Roman script must be handwritten, scanned and uploaded into the correct answer slot.

The paper will consist of three parts:

1. Translation, into English, of an unseen passage from a pre-modern Tibetan text. Unfamiliar names or idiosyncratic vocabulary will be provided. (30% of available marks)
2. Translation, into English, of an unseen passage from a modern Tibetan text. Unfamiliar names or idiosyncratic vocabulary will be provided. (30% of available marks).
3. Translation from English into Tibetan, of ten sentences or short passages based on the vocabulary and grammar of modern spoken Tibetan covered in class or contained in lessons 1-40 of Tournadre and Dorje's *A Manual of Standard Tibetan*. (40% of available marks).

[B2] SET TEXTS IN A BUDDHIST CANONICAL LANGUAGE: TIBETAN

Time allowed: 3 hours (plus 30 minutes technical time for scanning any handwritten passages and uploading them in PDF format).

Format: online open book.

All answers should be typed

--Thu'u bkwan blo bzang chos kyi nyi ma, *Grub mtha' shel gyi me long*. Kan su'u mi rigs dpe skrun khang 1984. Chapter 2: *Bod gangs can gyi ljongs su grub mtha'i byung tshul*: 48- 81.

--Dpa' bo gtsug lag phreng ba (1504-1566) *Chos 'byung mkhas pa'i dga' ston*. Pe cin. Mi rigs dpe skrun khang 1986. Part 3: *Bod kyi skabs*: 149-161.

--Sa skya pa Bsod nams rgyal mtshan (1312-1375) *Rgyal rabs gsal ba'i me long*. Pe cin. Mi rigs dpe skrun khang 2002. Chapter 8: 58-62.

The paper will consist of three parts. Part One will be worth 50%, Part Two 30 % and part three 20% of the final marks.

1. Set Text: *Grub mtha' shel gyi me long* by Thu'u bkwan Blo bzang chos kyi nyi ma.
  - a. Translation of a passage from the set text. The translation should be annotated with at least **three** footnotes elucidating issues of terminology, cultural reference, semantics or grammar. (30%)
  - b. Answer two questions relating to the cultural, historical, religious or literary context of the text. (10% each)
2. Set Text: *Mkhas pa'i dga' ston* by Dpa' bo Gtsug lag phreng ba
  - a. Translation of a passage from the set text (20%). The translation should be annotated with at least **two** footnotes elucidating issues of terminology, cultural reference, semantics or grammar. (20%)
  - b. One question relating to the cultural, historical, religious or literary context of the text. (10%)
3. Set Text: *Rgyal rabs gsal ba'i me long* by Sa skya pa Bsod nams rgyal mtshan
  - a. Translation of a passage from the set text. The translation should be annotated with at least **one** footnote elucidating issues of terminology, cultural reference, semantics or grammar. (10 %)
  - b. One question relating to the cultural, historical, religious or literary context of the text. (10%)

[B5] FURTHER BUDDHIST TEXTS: TIBETAN

Time allowed for this paper: 3 hours (plus 30 minutes technical time for scanning any handwritten passages and uploading them in PDF format).

Format: online open book.

All answers should be typed.

--*Rdo grub chen bstan pa'i nyi ma'i zhal gdams*

--*Shes rab kyi pha rol tu phyin pa'i snying po'i mdo* W25186

--*Mkha' 'gro ye shes mtsho rgyal gyi gsol 'debs*

The paper will consist of three equally-weighted parts:

1. Set Text: *Rdo grub chen bstan pa'i nyi ma'i zhal gdams*
  - a. Translation of a passage from the set text. The translation should be annotated with at least **two** footnotes elucidating issues of terminology, cultural reference, semantics or grammar. (20%)
  - b. One question relating to the cultural, historical, religious or literary context of the text. (13%)
2. Set Text: *Shes rab kyi pha rol tu phyin pa'i snying po'i mdo*
  - a. Translation of a passage from the set text. The translation should be annotated with at least **two** footnotes elucidating issues of terminology, cultural reference, semantics or grammar. (20%)
  - b. One question relating to the cultural, historical, religious or literary context of the text. (13%)
3. Set Text: *Mkha' 'gro ye shes mtsho rgyal gyi gsol 'debs*
  - a. Translation of a passage from the set text. The translation should be annotated with at least **two** footnotes elucidating issues of terminology, cultural reference, semantics or grammar. (20%)
  - b. One question relating to the cultural, historical, religious or literary context of the text. (13%)