

**MODERN HISTORY AND POLITICS  
AT OXFORD**



**HANDBOOK**

**FOR THE FINAL HONOUR SCHOOL  
IN  
MODERN HISTORY AND POLITICS**

**2003–2005**

**Board of the Faculty of Modern History and  
Department of Politics and International Relations**

**This Handbook is intended as a guide to the second and third years of study of Modern History and Politics at Oxford. It gives the regulations prescribing the content of the syllabus and the subjects for examination in the Final Honour School of Modern History and Politics, descriptions of the courses available in the second and third years, and other information useful to undergraduates. It should be read in conjunction with the relevant pages of the *Examination Regulations* for the current year, and with the Handbooks for the parent schools of Modern History and Philosophy, Politics and Economics.**

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**NB that this handbook is to be read in conjunction with the Second and Third Year Handbook in Modern History and the Handbook in Philosophy, Politics and Economics.**

# **1. EXAMINATION REGULATIONS**

## **HONOUR SCHOOL OF MODERN HISTORY AND POLITICS**

### **i) EXAMINATION REGULATIONS**

**1. The Examination in the Honour School of Modern History and Politics shall consist of such subjects in Modern History and Politics as the Board of the Faculty of Modern History and the Social Sciences Board shall from time to time in consultation prescribe by regulation.**

**2. No candidate shall be admitted to examination in this School unless he or she has either passed or been exempted from the First Public Examination.**

**3. The examination in the Honour School shall be under the joint supervision of the Board of the Faculty of Modern History and the Social Sciences Board, which shall appoint a standing joint committee to make proposals for regulations concerning the examination. Such proposals shall be submitted to the boards which shall make regulations concerning the examination and which, in the case of difference of opinion, shall hold a joint meeting at which the matter in dispute shall be resolved by the vote of the majority.**

**4. The Chairs of Examiners for the Honour School of Modern History and for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics shall consult together and designate such of their number as may be required for the examination for the Honour School of Modern History and Politics, whereupon the number of Examiners shall be deemed to be complete.**

### **ii) REGULATIONS**

**[From 1 October 2004:**

**1. Except where indicated that a paper cannot be substituted, students are required to substitute one paper of those specified below for a compulsory substitute thesis based on original research, as**

specified under Regulation 6 below.]

**1.[2] Each Candidate shall offer any *two* periods of General History and the History of the British Isles, as specified for the Honour School of Modern History, provided that:**

**(a) any candidate who has successfully taken the First Public Examination in Modern History and Politics, or Modern History, or any other joint school with Modern History, may not offer any period in the History of the British Isles that he or she has already offered in that examination.**

**(b) any candidate who has not offered in the First Public Examination in Modern History and Politics, or Modern History, or any other joint school with Modern History, a paper - whether in General History or the History of the British Isles - covering a period before the nineteenth century is required to choose at least one such paper. The list of papers satisfying this provision is given in the Handbook for Modern History and Politics.**

**(c) any candidate who has not offered in the First Public Examination in Modern History and Politics, or Modern History, or any other joint school with Modern History, one of the periods in the History of the British Isles is required to choose at least one such period.**

**(d) any candidate who has passed a First Public Examination in a subject other than Modern History and Politics, Modern History or any other joint school with Modern History, or who has been recognised as a Senior Student as defined by decree of Council, must offer:**

**(i) at least one paper - whether in General History or the History of the British Isles - covering a period before the nineteenth century. The list of papers satisfying this provision is given in the Handbook for Modern History and Politics.**

**(ii) at least one paper in the History of the British Isles.**

**(e) [Until 1 October 2004: any candidate who in the Second Public Examination offers two General History papers must offer one from any two of Groups A, B, and C, as specified for the Honour School of Modern History.] Candidates taking Politics paper 212 (International Relations in the Era of Two World Wars) cannot also take General History (xiii); candidates taking Politics paper 213**

(International Relations in the Era of the Cold War) cannot also take General History (xiv); candidates who have taken [Until 1 October 2004: British History VI in the First Public Examination [From 1 October 2004: British History VII] or who are taking [Until 1 October 2004: it] [From 1 October 2004: British History VII (since 1900) for the Final Honour School cannot also take Politics paper 202 (British Politics and Government in the Twentieth Century). [From 1 October 2004: Candidates who are taking British History VI (1815-1924) for the Final Honour School, and who are also taking Politics paper 202 must not substantially duplicate material in those two papers.]

2. [3] Each candidate shall offer any *two* of the five ‘core subjects’ in Politics, as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (i.e. 201, 202, 203, 214, and 220). [From 1 October 2004: A thesis in Politics as specified in Regulation 6 below may not be substituted for Politics core subject.]

3. [4] Each candidate shall offer any *one* of the following combinations:

(a) one Special Subject (consisting of two papers [From 1 October 2004: only paper (b) may be substituted by a compulsory substitute thesis as specified in Regulation 6 below]) as specified for the Honour School of Modern History and one of subjects 201-27 in Politics as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics which is not offered under Regulation [Until 1 October 2004: 2] [From 1 October 2004: 3] above.

(b) two Further Subjects in Modern History as specified for the Honour School of Modern History and one of subjects 201-27 in Politics as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics which is not offered under Regulation [Until 1 October 2004: 2] [From 1 October 2004: 3] above.

(c) one Further Subject as specified for the Honour School of Modern History and two of subjects 201-27 in Politics as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics which are not offered under Regulation [Until 1 October 2004: 2] [From 1 October 2004: 3] above.

**(d) One Further Subject as specified for the Honour School of Modern History, one of subjects 201-27 in Politics specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics which is not offered under Regulation 3 above, and one Special Subject in Politics as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics, *except* that the restriction which prevents PPE candidates from combining a Special Subject in Politics with a thesis or supervised dissertation in Politics does NOT apply for Modern History and Politics candidates.**

**Provided that:**

**Candidates who choose Politics Further Subject 215 (Classical Political Thought) cannot also take Modern History Further Subject 23 and 24 (Scholasticism and Humanism and The Science of Society). Candidates who choose Politics Further Subject 216 (Foundations of Modern Social and Political Thought) cannot also take Modern History Further Subject 25 (Political Theory and Social Science).**

**4. [5] Any candidate may offer an optional thesis in Modern History in addition to all other papers. Such a thesis must be submitted in accordance with the Regulation [Until 1 October 2004: VII, 'Theses' [From 1 October 2004: VII, *An Optional Additional Thesis*], for the Final Honour School of Modern History. No candidate may offer more than one optional thesis.**

**[Until 1 October 2004: 5. [6] Any candidate may offer a substitute thesis in Modern History in place of a paper in Modern History or a substitute thesis or supervised dissertation in Politics in place of a paper in Politics:**

**[From 1 October 2004:**

**6. All candidates must offer *either* a substitute thesis based on original research in place of a paper in Modern History *or* a thesis in place of an optional paper in Politics, which shall be *either* a substitute thesis *or* a supervised dissertation submitted in accordance with the regulations prescribed for Politics in the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.]**

**(a) A thesis in Modern History submitted in accordance with**

the [Until 1 October 2004: Regulation VII, ‘Theses’,] [From 1 October 2004: Regulation VI, *A thesis based on original research*, for the Final Honour School] for the Final Honour School of Modern History may be offered in place of any paper in Modern History except for Special Subject paper (a). If a thesis is offered in place of a paper in the History of the British Isles or General History the candidate (unless he or she is a Senior Student, as defined by decree of Council, or has passed the First Public Examination in a course other than Modern History and Politics, Modern History, or any other joint school with Modern History) must also offer a paper satisfying those requirements specified in Regulations 1(b) and 1(c) above which have not been satisfied in the First Public Examination.

(b) A thesis [From 1 October 2004: , Special Subject in Politics] or supervised dissertation in Politics submitted in accordance with the regulations prescribed for Politics in the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics may be offered in place of any one of subjects 201-26 in Politics (as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics) which is not offered under Regulation [Until 1 October 2004: 2] [From 1 October 2004: 3] above.

[Until 1 October 2004: No candidate may offer more than one substitute thesis [From 1 October 2004: , Special Subject in Politics] or supervised dissertation.]

[From 1 October 2004:

All candidates must offer a substitute thesis or supervised dissertation, but may not offer more than one substitute thesis or supervised dissertation in place of a paper.]

6. [7] Any candidate may be examined viva voce.

7. [8] In every case where, under the regulations for this honour school, candidates have any choice between one or more papers or subjects, every candidate shall give notice to the Registrar not later than Friday in the fourth week of Michaelmas Full Term preceding the examination of all the papers and subjects being offered.

## **2. INTRODUCTION TO THE FINAL HONOUR SCHOOL OF MODERN HISTORY AND POLITICS**

In your second and third years you will broaden and deepen your first-year work. Most of the techniques that you have acquired and developed during your first year will be deployed once again, but they will be deployed at a higher level, and augmented by a greater specialisation on both sides of the joint school. There will be opportunities to develop the understanding of political theory that you will have gained in studying Theories of the State, and to extend the linguistic or statistical skills that you might have developed in studying a Foreign Text paper or Quantification in History. Techniques of textual and documentary analysis acquired in studying a Foreign Text paper or an Optional Subject will be required again in studying the Special and Further Subjects in Modern History. You will be able in your Politics papers to build upon the knowledge of political institutions and processes gained in studying the Introduction to Political Institutions paper. Finally, although the Final Honour School consists largely of examination papers, there are opportunities for assessed work. You must offer a thesis based on independent research. This must either be a thesis in Modern History, in place of Modern History paper, or a thesis or supervised dissertation in Politics, in place of Politics option (not a core paper). If you choose to study one of the History Special Subjects you will also be required to offer an extended essay in that subject area.

This Handbook is intended to act as guide to the course requirements for Modern History and Politics. This joint school consists entirely of papers prescribed for the parent schools of Modern History and Philosophy, Politics and Economics; detailed descriptions of these papers are given in the handbooks for the parent schools, which are available at (<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk>) for Modern History and (<http://www.politics.ox.ac.uk>) for PPE. The same is true of general information concerning such matters as the constitution of the parent faculties, library resources, information technology, etc, all of which is to be found in the parent school handbooks. You should therefore ensure that you are familiar with the two parent school handbooks, as they will be vital when you are deciding, for instance, which Politics core papers or

History Further Subjects to study. Regulations for the production of theses/dissertations also differ between the parent schools. There are, though, respects in which the requirements of the Modern History and Politics course differ from those of the parent schools, and the purpose of this Handbook is to identify and explain those differences.

### *1. The nature and purpose of the syllabus*

The outline of the syllabus is set out in the **Examination Regulations 2003**, printed in the University's *Examination Regulations* (the 'Grey Book'). You will have been issued with a copy of the Grey Book at the start of your first year. Please note that significant syllabus changes have been made to the Regulations since then and the Regulations which apply to you if you are taking Finals in 2005 are those listed in the 2003 Grey Book as coming into force "From October 2004". Up-to-date versions of the Regulations available on-line on the Modern History (where they form part of the on-line handbooks) and Politics websites. The syllabus consists of an outline paper or papers in Modern History, core papers in Politics, along with papers requiring more detailed specialist study and a thesis (History or Politics) or supervised dissertation (Politics only). You will have an even greater range of choices before you than was available in the first-year course, and you will naturally be expected to reach a higher level of analytical sophistication than was required at Prelims.

The syllabus - seven papers in all - may be summarised under three headings:

i) You will be expected to write a thesis in place of one of the papers listed below, unless it is a paper which cannot be replaced by a thesis.

ii) You will be expected to study two outline papers in Modern History, chosen from the General and British papers prescribed for the Honour School of Modern History. If you decide to substitute one outline paper for your thesis, you will study one outline paper in either General or British History.

iii) You will be required to choose two of the five 'core papers' in Politics, as specified for Politics in PPE. You cannot replace a 'core

paper' with a thesis or supervised dissertation.

iv) You will be asked to choose three more papers: either two from History and one from Politics, or two from Politics and one from History. The History papers under this heading will be text-based Special or Further Subjects, while the Politics papers will be drawn from the list of 'core' or 'further' subjects specified for Politics in PPE. Any of these papers can be replaced by a thesis in the relevant subject, except Paper 1 of a History Special Subject (which always consists of two papers).

There are seventeen General History papers, seven British History papers, twenty-six core and further subjects in Politics, twenty-five Further Subjects in Modern History and twenty-four Special Subjects in Modern History. You have, therefore, an enormous range of options before you, and this is one of the most attractive features of the joint school. You should note, though, that your choice is limited in some significant respects:

a) The overall course requirements specify that you should study one British paper and one paper covering a period before the nineteenth century at some point in your three years (they can of course be the same paper, i.e. any of the first five British History papers). If you have not already satisfied this provision in Prelims, you must make sure that you do so in your choice of Finals papers. This requirement is not fulfilled by the subject area of your thesis, only by a paper.

b) You are obviously not allowed to study again a British History paper that you studied for Prelims, or to offer under provision (iii) above a Politics core paper already chosen under provision (ii).

c) In cases where there is a substantial overlap between a paper prescribed for the Modern History course and a paper prescribed for Politics in PPE, you are prevented from choosing both papers.

These limitations are spelled out in detail in sections 3 and 5 below.

## 2. Programme Specifications

The Programme Specifications for the undergraduate degree in Modern History and Politics can be found on the Modern History Faculty website

at (<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk>). The Programme Specifications are primarily intended to provide a formal statement of our syllabus aims and students outcomes, in response to official requirements. The Specifications provide some detail on the range of skills and capacities fostered by the Modern History and Politics Degree which will be of use in justifying the study of History and Politics to future employers, and will show you the kinds of expectations that your tutors have of students undertaking the degree in Modern History.

### **3. BRITISH AND GENERAL HISTORY**

#### **REGULATION**

**1. Each Candidate shall offer any *two* periods of General History and the History of the British Isles, as specified for the Honour School of Modern History, provided that:**

**(a) any candidate who has successfully taken the First Public Examination in Modern History and Politics, or Modern History, or any other joint school with Modern History, may not offer any period in the History of the British Isles that he or she has already offered in that examination.**

**(b) any candidate who has not offered in the First Public Examination in Modern History and Politics, or Modern History, or any other joint school with Modern History, a paper - whether in General History or the History of the British Isles - covering a period before the nineteenth century is required to choose at least one such paper. The list of papers satisfying this provision is given in the Handbook for Modern History and Politics.**

**(c) any candidate who has not offered in the First Public Examination in Modern History and Politics, or Modern History, or any other joint school with Modern History, one of the periods in the History of the British Isles is required to choose at least one such period.**

**(d) any candidate who has passed a First Public Examination in a subject other than Modern History and Politics, Modern History or any other joint school with Modern History, or who has been recognised as a Senior Student as defined by decree of Council, must offer:**

**(i) at least one paper - whether in General History or the History of the British Isles - covering a period before the nineteenth century. The list of papers satisfying this provision is given in the Handbook for Modern History and Politics.**

**(ii) at least one paper in the History of the British Isles.**

**(e) [Until 1 October 2004: Any candidate who in the Second Public Examination offers two General History papers must offer one from any two of Groups A, B, and C, as specified for the Honour School of Modern History.] Candidates taking Politics paper 212 (International Relations in the Era of Two World Wars) cannot also take General History (xiii); candidates taking Politics paper 213 (International Relations in the Era of the Cold War) cannot also take General History (xiv); candidates who have taken [Until 1 October 2004: British History VI in the First Public Examination [From 1 October 2004: British History VII or who are taking [Until 1 October 2004: it] [From 1 October 2004: British History VII (since 1900) for the Final Honour School cannot also take Politics paper 202 (British Politics and Government in the Twentieth Century). [From 1 October 2004: Candidates who are taking British History VI (1815-1924) for the Final Honour School, and who are also taking Politics paper 202 must not substantially duplicate material in those two paper.]**

A full description of the British and General History papers is given in the Modern History Handbook, chapters 3 and 4 (refer to the website at (<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk/currentunder/honours/history/british/index.htm>) (<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk/currentunder/honours/history/general/index.htm>) which you should consult before making your choice. It is important, though, to spell out here the special requirements applying to Modern History and Politics. First and foremost, you must ensure that you have opted - either in Prelims or in Finals - for *at least one* British history paper and *at least one* paper - British or General - covering a period before the nineteenth century. If, for example, you offered British History I (c.330-1087) at Prelims, you have satisfied both aspects of this requirement and need worry about it no further. If, on the other hand, you studied General History IV (1815-1914) at Prelims, you have still to ensure that both parts of the requirement are satisfied (you can, if you wish, do this with only one paper by choosing one of the first five British History papers, leaving you free to choose a modern General History paper for your second History outline). These requirements are not fulfilled by your thesis subject choice.

The papers defined as covering a period before the nineteenth century are as follows:

British History I (c.300-1087) to V (1685-1830)

General History i (285-476) to x (1715-1799)

General History xv (History of the USA, 1600-1830)

Where there is an overlap between the contents of a History paper and those of a Politics paper, you may not choose both papers. The papers affected by this rule are:

- General History xiii (1914-1945): cannot be offered alongside Politics paper 212 (International Relations in the Era of Two World Wars).
- General History xiv (1941-1973): cannot be offered alongside Politics paper 213 (International Relations in the Era of the Cold War).
- British History VII (Since 1900): cannot be offered alongside Politics paper 202 (British Politics and Government in the Twentieth Century).
- British History VI (1815-1924): this CAN be offered alongside Politics paper 202, but you must avoid significant duplication of material.

***NB. For those taking Finals in 2005.***

*The overlap rule applies also to papers taken in your First year.*

*The British History syllabus has been revised, so that as from October 2003 the old British History VI (Since 1830) has been divided into two new papers: British History VI (1815-1924) and British History VII (Since 1900). This means that if you took the old-style British History VI (since 1830) in your First Year you may not take either British History VII, or Politics paper 202 for your Finals examination. In subsequent years students will be able to take the new style British History VI (1815-1924) for Prelims together with Politics 202 for Finals, as long as significant duplication of material is avoided, but will not be able to take British History VII for Prelims and Politics 202 for Finals.*

## **4. CORE PAPERS IN POLITICS**

### **REGULATION**

**2. Each candidate shall offer any *two* of the five ‘core subjects’ in Politics, as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (i.e. 201, 202, 203, 214, and 220). [From 1 October 2004: A thesis in Politics as specified in Regulation 6 below may not be substituted for a Politics core subject.]**

The five core subjects in Politics are as follows:

201. Comparative Government.

202. British Politics and Government in the Twentieth Century.

203. Theory of Politics.

214. International Relations.

220. Political Sociology.

The content of these papers is described in detail in the PPE Handbook, pp.48-50. Remember that you may not choose paper 202 if you have taken the old-style British History VI (Since 1830) at Mods in 2003, or will take British History VII in Finals.

**5. SPECIAL AND FURTHER SUBJECTS IN HISTORY,  
FURTHER SUBJECTS IN POLITICS  
SPECIAL SUBJECT IN POLITICS**

**REGULATION**

**3. Each candidate shall offer any *one* of the following combinations:**

**(a) one Special Subject (consisting of 2 papers [From 1 October 2004: only paper (b) may be substituted by a compulsory thesis as specified in Regulation 6 below] as specified for the Honour School of Modern History and one of subjects 201-27 in Politics as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics which is not offered under Regulation [Until 1 October 2004: 2] [From 1 October 2004: 3] above.**

**(b) two Further Subjects in Modern History as specified for the Honour School of Modern History and one of subjects 201-27 in Politics as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics which is not offered under Regulation [Until 1 October 2004: 2] [From 1 October 2004: 3] above.**

**(c) one Further Subject as specified for the Honour School of Modern History and two of subjects 201-27 in Politics as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics which are not offered under Regulation [Until 1 October 2004: 2] [From 1 October 2004: 3] above.**

**(d) one Further Subject as specified for the Honour School of Modern History, one of subjects 201-27 in Politics specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics which is not offered under Regulation 3 above, and one Special Subject in Politics as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics, *except* that the restriction which prevents PPE candidates from combining a Special Subject in Politics with a thesis or supervised dissertation in Politics does NOT apply for Modern History and Politics candidates.**

**Provided that:**

**Candidates who choose Politics Further Subject 215 (Classical Political Thought) cannot also take Modern History Further Subject**

**23 and 24 (Scholasticism and Humanism and The Science of Society). Candidates who choose Politics Further Subject 216 (Foundations of Modern Social and Political Thought) cannot also take Modern History Further Subject 25 (Political Theory and Social Science).**

Some seventy-three different papers fall under this heading. If you opt for a History Special Subject, that will account for two papers (one a commentary paper on extracts from the set texts, the other an extended essay submitted at the beginning of Hilary term), leaving you to choose one Politics further subject or a Politics core subject that you have not taken already. The list of History Special Subjects is given in chapter 6 refer to the website at:

(<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk/currentunder/honours/history/special/index.htm>)

of the Modern History Handbook, along with details of the scope and themes of each subject. The list of Politics further subjects is given in the PPE Handbook under the section, *The Final Honour School of PPE, 2. Politics* along with a description of each subject. The list of History Further Subjects (refer to the website at:

(<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk/currentunder/honours/history/further/index.htm>)

with descriptions, is given in chapter 5 of the Modern History handbook. If you opt for a History Further Subject, you may not then take a History Special Subject: you must either take one more History Further Subject and a Politics further subject or core paper, or take two Politics papers. The operation of this section ensures that overall your Final Honour School course will be as balanced as is possible with an odd number of papers, i.e. that you will either take four History papers and three Politics papers or vice versa (including your thesis). You may substitute a thesis (History or Politics) or supervised dissertation (Politics) for any of the papers in this section, except the commentary paper ('gobbets') of the History Special Subject. We would advise against substituting a thesis for the second paper of the Special Subject as you will lose out on part of the in-depth study that the Special Subject teaching offers.

Please note that some of the more popular History Special and Further Subjects are 'capped', in order to avoid placing an undue strain upon the Faculty's teaching resources. Each year a ballot takes place to determine who should be allowed to take those subjects, and you cannot therefore be certain that you will be able to study the subject that you want until the

outcome of the ballot is clear. The ballot procedure is described in detail in the section on Further Subjects in the Modern History Handbook, chapter 5.

Note once again the restrictions upon your combinations of papers, designed to ensure that those taking one of the Modern History Further Subjects in Political and Social Thought cannot duplicate their work by taking the nearest political theory papers in Politics. Remember also that your choice of Politics papers might have been restricted by your earlier choice of British and General History papers if you chose General History xiii or xiv or British History VI or VII (see above, section 3).

For the first examination in 2005, the Department of Politics is introducing a new Special Subject option in Politics. The subject matter is likely to be more narrowly defined than the case with other papers, and may be closely linked to the specialist research areas of the members of staff who teach them. They offer an opportunity to study an area of political studies in greater depth. Further details on when and how details of available Special Subjects will be announced and possible choice restrictions are available from the PPE handbook at :

<http://www.politics.ox.ac.uk/teaching/index.htm>.

Examination Regulations for PPE state that PPE candidates may not do a Special Subject in Politics and a thesis or supervised dissertation in Politics. This is NOT the case for Modern History and Politics candidates who, under Regulation 4, option (d) may substitute a thesis in Politics for the Politics option paper 201-227 AND offer a Special Subject in Politics.

## 6. THESIS

### REGULATION

**4. Any candidate may offer an optional thesis in Modern History in addition to all other papers. Such a thesis must be submitted in accordance with the Regulation [Until 1 October 2004: VII, ‘Theses’] [From 1 October 2004: VII, *An Optional Additional Thesis*], for the Final Honour School of Modern History. No candidate may offer more than one optional thesis.**

**[Until 1 October 2004: 5. [6] Any candidate may offer a substitute thesis in Modern History in place of a paper in Modern History or a substitute thesis or supervised dissertation in Politics in place of a paper in Politics:**

**[From 1 October 2004:**

**6. All candidates must offer *either* a substitute thesis based on original research in place of a paper in Modern History *or* a thesis in place of an optional paper in Politics, which shall be *either* a substitute thesis *or* a supervised dissertation submitted in accordance with the regulations prescribed for Politics in the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics.]**

**(a) a thesis in Modern History submitted in accordance with the [Until 1 October 2004: Regulation VII, ‘These’], [From 1 October 2004: Regulation VI, *A thesis based on original research*, for the Final Honour School] for the Final Honour School of Modern History may be offered in place of any paper in Modern History except for Special Subject paper (a). If a thesis is offered in place of a paper in the History of the British Isles or General History the candidate (unless he or she is a Senior Student, as defined by decree of Council, or has passed the First Public Examination in a course other than Modern History and Politics, Modern History, or any other joint school with Modern History) must also offer a paper satisfying those requirements specified in Regulations 1(b) and 1(c) above which have not been satisfied in the First Public Examination.**

**(b) a thesis or supervised dissertation in Politics submitted in accordance with the regulations prescribed for Politics in the Honour**

**School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics may be offered in place of any one of subjects 201-26 in Politics (as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics) which is not offered under Regulation [Until 1 October 2004: 2] [From 1 October 2004: 3] above.**

**[Until 1 October 2004: No candidate may offer more than one substitute thesis or supervised dissertation.]**

**[From 1 October 2004:**

**All candidates must offer a substitute thesis or supervised dissertation, but may not offer more than one substitute thesis or supervised dissertation in place of a paper.]**

The Thesis or Supervised Dissertation provides an opportunity for you to carry out an extended study of a theme or topic, involving your own independent or guided research. The thesis is a demanding part of the Final Honours School, requiring a good deal of organisation and self-discipline, but it does allow you to break free from the constraints of structured, exam-oriented work and to embark upon research of your own choosing. You are likely to find it the most intellectually rewarding part of their course.

You have a choice to do your thesis in either History or Politics, depending which of the seven Finals papers you decide to replace with a thesis. As the Regulations for theses differ between the parent schools, it is important to be clear under which category you are submitting your thesis. If you feel that your thesis subject is on the boundary between History and Politics, discuss this with your tutors as soon as possible to ensure that it falls into the appropriate category.

**a) *Choosing a History thesis***

If you substitute a thesis for a History paper, your thesis must be in History and must be undertaken according to the Regulations for the Modern History Main School. These are laid out in Regulation VI A *thesis form original research* in the Modern History Main School Regulations. These are reproduced and explained in the Modern History Main Subject on-line Handbook (<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk>) including the amount of tutorial support you are allowed to receive. The title has to be submitted by the end of Michaelmas Term in your Final Year, and the thesis itself submitted by the end of Hilary Term. The word limit is

12,000 including footnotes, but excluding bibliography.

A thesis in History can be submitted in place of any of your written papers, with the exception of the Special Subject commentary paper. It does not have to be confined to the subject area of the paper replaced. Note, though, that you may not evade the requirement to offer a British History paper and a pre-nineteenth century paper in your First Year or Final examinations by submitting a thesis instead, even if the subject of the thesis itself falls within these areas.

**b) *Choosing a Politics thesis***

If you substitute a thesis for a Politics paper, your thesis must be in Politics and must be undertaken according to the Regulations for Politics under the PPE Honour School, as detailed and explained in the PPE Handbook (<http://www.politics.ox.ac.uk>). The amount of supervision allowed, and the word length (15,000) differ from the requirements of History. In addition Politics does offer the option of a Supervised Dissertation which you can do instead of “normal” thesis. The Supervised Dissertation is similar to the thesis in structure but the subjects for these dissertations will have been suggested by members of the Department of Politics and International Relations in areas of their own expertise, with a view to their providing specialist guidance to undergraduates. For more information, see the PPE handbook, (<http://www.politics.ox.ac.uk>).

**c) *An optional additional thesis in History***

The Modern History syllabus does offer the possibility of doing a second thesis in addition to the compulsory thesis (Politics does not offer this option). See Regulation VII *An optional additional thesis* in the Regulations for the Modern History Main School. This is clearly yet more demanding but in most cases it will be likely to enhance your Finals performance by allowing you to be assessed additionally on a subject in which you have gained expert knowledge.

You may not substitute a thesis or supervised dissertation for more than one paper, and you may not offer more than two theses (including a supervised dissertation).

## 7. EXAMINATIONS FOR THE FINAL HONOUR SCHOOL

### Criteria for marking examination questions in Modern History and Politics

These criteria will be used in marking all three-hour question papers in both public examinations (Prelims; Schools), and in the marking of College Collections.

<b>Mark band</b>	<b>Value for Schools classification</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>70-85</b>	<b>Honours First</b>	A script judged first-class will always be felt to have engaged closely with the questions, even if it approaches them from an unanticipated angle. A first-class mark may be awarded on more than one set of criteria. The argument may be highly incisive, and sophisticated. There may be a wealth of information, showing exceptional knowledge and understanding of the issues involved. The approach may be original, suggesting novel ways of considering the material or issues. Many first-class scripts will combine elements of all three. First class scripts will combine elegance and clarity of style, and cogency of organisation.
<b>60-69</b>	<b>Honours Upper Second (2.i)</b>	Work showing evidence of a good and well-based engagement with the questions. The scripts will display a good command of the necessary amount of information needed to sustain their arguments, and good understanding of the relevant material. Essays will be presented in a clearly-argued, well illustrated and relevant fashion.

<b>50-59</b>	<b>Honours Lower Second (2.ii)</b>	Scripts awarded marks in this category will have shown some evidence of intelligent preparation and application, and will involve solidly competent work. But scripts may lack focus on the exact questions set, breadth of reference, or organisational skills that might have secured 2.i marks. They may contain too much indiscriminate information, or factual errors and inaccuracies. Clumsy prose style, and errors of syntax and spelling may also lead to a 2.ii mark. Individual essays that are competent but pre-packaged answers that bear a limited relation to the question set may also be given 2.ii marks.
<b>40-49</b>	<b>Honours Third</b>	Scripts awarded a third class mark will have displayed a few of the qualities expected of a successful Honours candidate, such as the ability to see the point of a question, to deploy relevant information, and to proceed through a structure of reasoned argument to a coherent conclusion. However, none of these qualities will be displayed either consistently, or at a particularly high level, and the script may be marred by irrelevance, incoherence, error, and poor presentation.
<b>30-39</b>	<b>Pass Degree</b>	A modicum of appropriate knowledge will be displayed, but answers will be marred by high levels of factual error and irrelevance. Muddled ideas or uncritical and superficial generalisation will detract from the coherence and organisation of argument. The writing will be weakened by errors of syntax or vocabulary and by passages that degenerate into incoherence.
<b>Below 30</b>	<b>Fail</b>	A script may fail for a number of reasons. The candidate may not observe the rubrics concerning the number or type of questions to be taken. Answers may be irrelevant, failing to engage with the questions set. Errors of fact – or a lack of specific facts – may characterise the script. Presentation may be of a very poor quality.

For information on such matters as the conduct of examinations, the typing of illegible scripts, the use of typewriters and the dictation of papers, the use of computers and special arrangements for blind candidates and for Jewish candidates please refer to the Grey Book.

## **8. THE PASS SCHOOL OF MODERN HISTORY AND POLITICS**

### **REGULATION**

**Each candidate must satisfy the examiners in the following four papers as specified for the Honour School of Modern History and Politics.**

**1. Each candidate shall offer any *two* periods of General History and the History of the British Isles, as specified for the Honour School of Modern History, provided that:**

**(a) Any candidate who has successfully taken the First Public Examination in Modern History and Politics, or Modern History, or any other joint school with Modern History, may not offer any period in the History of the British Isles that he or she has already offered in that examination.**

**(b) Any candidate who has not offered in the First Public Examination in Modern History and Politics, or Modern History, or any other joint school with Modern History, a paper - whether in General History or the History of the British Isles - covering a period before the nineteenth century is required to choose at least one such paper. The list of papers satisfying this provision is given in the Handbook for Modern History and Politics.**

**(c) Any candidate who has not offered in the First Public Examination in Modern History and Politics, or Modern History, or any other joint school with Modern History, one of the periods in the History of the British Isles is required to choose at least one such period.**

**(d) Any candidate who has passed a First Public Examination in a subject other than Modern History and Politics, Modern History or any other joint school with Modern History, or who has been recognised as a Senior Student as defined by decree of Council, must offer:**

**(i) at least one paper - whether in General History or the History of the British Isles - covering a period before the**

nineteenth century. The list of papers satisfying this provision is given in the Handbook for Modern History and Politics.

(ii) at least one paper in the History of the British Isles.

(e) [Until 1 October 2004: Any candidate who] [From 1 October 2004: specified for the Honour School of Modern History] in the Second Public Examination offers two General History papers must offer one from any two of Groups A, B, and C, as specified for the Honour School of Modern History. Candidates taking Politics paper 212 (International Relations in the Era of Two World Wars) cannot also take General History (xiii); candidates taking Politics paper 213 (International Relations in the Era of the Cold War) cannot also take General History (xiv); candidates who have taken [Until 1 October 2004: British History VI in the First Public Examination] [From 1 October 2004: British History VII] or who are taking [Until 1 October 2004: it] [From 1 October 2004: British History VII (since 1900)] for the Pass School cannot also take Politics paper 202 (British Politics and Government in the Twentieth Century).

[From 1 October 2004:

Candidates who are taking British History VI (1815-1924) for the Pass School and who are also taking Politics paper 202 must not substantially duplicate material in those two papers.]

2. Any *one* of the five ‘core subjects’ in Politics, as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics (i.e. 201, 202, 203, 214, and 220).

3. *One* of the following:

i) any one of subjects 201-227 in Politics as specified for the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics which is not offered under Regulation 2 above.

ii) a thesis in Modern History submitted in accordance with [Until 1 October 2004: Regulation VII, ‘Theses’,] [From 1 October 2004: Regulation VI, *A thesis based on original research,*] for the Final

**Honour School of Modern History.**

**iii) a thesis or supervised dissertation in Politics submitted in accordance with the regulations prescribed for Politics in the Honour School of Philosophy, Politics and Economics.**

*Note: the Pass School is **not** an alternative to the Final Honour School, and a candidate is entered for it only in the most exceptional circumstances. It is **not** an Honours degree and is not classified.*

## 9. LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS

The availability of books is supremely important, and undergraduates at Oxford are fortunate in having access to libraries and museums of an unrivalled scale and variety. The following libraries and museums are particularly useful to undergraduate students of History and Politics:

- 1. The History Faculty Library.** This is designed particularly for service to undergraduates: it provides reading rooms and lends books and it holds multiple copies of popular works. It covers most subjects available in the Modern History School.

Hours of opening:

Term: (Weeks 0-9)	9am-7pm (Mon-Fri) 9am-12.30 (Sat)
Vacation:	9am-5.30pm (Mon-Fri) (Closed August)

Librarian: Dr C. Skelton-Foord	(2) 77263 (Faculty) (2) 77294 (Bodleian)
Assistant Librarian: Ms Valerie Lawrence	(2) 77264

- 2. The Politics, International Relations, and Sociology Library.** Located on George Street is the main Politics Library for MHP and PPE students and is therefore the principal lending library for politics. It also holds politics periodicals and books on post-1945 British and International history.  
Tel: (2)78710

Hours of opening:

Term	9a.m.-7.00p.m.(Mon-Fri), 9.30a.m.-1.00p.m.(Sat)
Vacation:	9.a.m.-5.00p.m. (Mon-Fri)

Librarian: Ms Margaret Robb	
Assistant Librarian: Ms Louise Clarke	(2)78721

**3. The Bodleian Library.** One of the greatest libraries in the world, this is a national copyright library owned by the University. It does not lend books, which must be consulted in the Library reading rooms. There is a large collection of books frequently used by undergraduate historians on open shelves in the Radcliffe Camera (upper floor), and history periodicals and reference works are also kept in the Upper Reading Room of the Old Library. Books and Periodicals on politics are housed in the PPE Reading Room of the New Bodleian Library (entrance in Parks Road). Undergraduates may also order books which are kept in the Library's stacks: the Bodleian's huge collections are particularly useful for work on Further and Special Subjects in the second and third year, and for independent research.

Opening Hours:

Radcliffe Camera: Term: 9am-10pm-(Mon-Fri),  
9am-1pm (Sat)  
Vacation: 9am-5pm-(Mon-Fri),  
9am-1pm (Sat)

Old Bodleian: Term: 9am-10pm (Mon-Fri),  
9am-1pm (Sat)  
Vacation: 9am-7pm (Mon-Fri),  
9am-1pm (Sat)

**4. College Libraries.** Each college has its own library, for use by members of that college. These libraries contain good, sometimes excellent, history collections, maintained primarily (but not exclusively) for undergraduates. Access to and borrowing from college libraries is normally restricted to members of the college only. Opening hours are determined by colleges individually.

**5. Specialised University Libraries.** There are several other specialised University libraries which undergraduates are encouraged to use for relevant books:

Ashmolean Western Art Library, in the Ashmolean Museum.  
The Sackler Library, Ashmolean Museum (History of Art)  
The Taylorian Library, St Giles (for books in modern foreign languages)

The Bodleian Japanese Library, at the Nissan Institute of Japanese Studies, Winchester Road (St Antony's College)  
The Indian Institute Library, at the top of the New Bodleian Library (for South Asian history and Politics)  
The Rhodes House Library, South Parks Road  
(for American and Commonwealth History and Politics)  
The Radcliffe Science Library, Parks Road (for the History of Science)  
The Rothermere American Institute (American History)

For details of opening hours, loan facilities, xerox and computing provision, etc, for all these libraries refer to the PPE handbook, under 'Libraries'.

- 6. Museums.** Oxford also has outstanding museums, which are rich resources for the study of the history of art, archaeology and visual and material culture. These include:

The Ashmolean Museum, Beaumont Street  
The Pitt Rivers Museum, Parks Road  
The Museum of the History of Science, Broad Street  
Christ Church Picture Gallery, Christ Church

Opening hours are published by the individual institutions.

OLIS, the University's on-line library information system, contains catalogues of many University and some college libraries. It is accessible from any workstation on the University network.

University-wide library information is on the World Wide Web at <http://www.lib.ox.ac.uk/olis/>

## **10. ADMINISTRATION AND STUDENT REPRESENTATION.**

### **1. The Modern History Faculty**

The Modern History Faculty of the University of Oxford contains over 100 members, all active historians; it includes the great majority of those who are involved in teaching undergraduates. Like that of the University at large, its governmental structure is complex, ensuring a careful distribution of power. The two principal decision-making bodies within the Faculty are:

The Faculty Meeting: meets termly, open to all member of the Faculty.

The Board of the Faculty: meets twice per term; its members are elected from the Faculty.

The Faculty Board has several committees, of which those with particular responsibilities for undergraduate affairs are: the Teaching Committee; the Lectures Committee; the Examinations Committee. Further details of the staff and officers in Modern History can be found on the Faculty's website, at <http://www.history.ox.ac.uk>.

### **2. The Department of Politics and International Relations**

The administration of Politics in Oxford is the responsibility of the Department of Politics and International Relations. Further details of staff in Politics, including their research interests, are available on the web at: <http://www.politics.ox.ac.uk>

### **3. The Joint standing Committee for Modern History and Politics**

This is a committee made up of members of the teaching and administrative staff of the Faculty of Modern History and the Department of Politics, and two students members. It meets termly to deal with issues such as examinations criteria, handbooks, prospectus, and changes to the

syllabus. The current Chairman is Dr John Davis at The Queen's College. He is responsible for Modern History and Politics across the University, and he will be happy to attempt to answer any questions concerning the course which cannot be answered by your college tutors in either Modern History or Politics. His email address is [john.davis@queens.ox.ac.uk](mailto:john.davis@queens.ox.ac.uk).

#### **4. The Joint Consultative Committees**

Consultation with students is an essential feature of Oxford University life. Your tutors, and others involved in the administration of the course, are anxious to receive feedback concerning the operation of the course. Procedures exist already to gather feedback from lecture audiences. Undergraduate Joint Consultative Committees, consisting of members elected by the students, exist both for Modern History and for PPE Politics. There is also a separate Undergraduate Joint Consultative Committee for Modern History and Politics. Its co-chairs describe its role as follow:

Like most other subjects Modern History and Politics has an Undergraduate Joint Consultative Committee (UJCC), comprising of students like you, to represent your views to the academics at University level who oversee what is undeniably the best course in Oxford. If you discover a lecture clash, have examination problems, or just have a great idea on how the course could be improved, please tell us – that way we can help you to solve your problems, and to improve the lot of those who follow after you.

However, the JCC is not entirely concerned with academic pursuits – we're currently the only JCC we know of to run termly socials and other events, allowing you to meet and get to know fellow HistPolists across the University (and we do talk about things other than the subject by the way!). Thanks to its size, our subjects offers a unique and manageable opportunity to make friends in other colleges early on, and all without a membership fee! Do try and make it along to the special events we're arranging for Freshers. We hope to see you there!

Details of all three Joint Consultative Committees, with the names of current student representatives, can be found on the relevant Faculty/Departmental websites.

## **5. The Modern History Faculty Office and the Department of Politics and International Relations**

(i) The Modern History Faculty Office is situated on the ground floor of the Modern History Faculty. Its staff facilitate the administration and operation of the Faculty's business in a great variety of ways, including the servicing of the Faculty Meeting, the Faculty Board and its Committees, and of Boards of Examiners and Moderators; and the production of handbooks, bibliographies, the Lecture List, seminar programmes and other circulars.

The present staff of the Modern History Faculty Office are:

Administrative Officer: Mrs S.Ling	77255
Miss S-J White (Lectures)	77254
Miss I. Moriceau (Examinations)	77256
Mrs S. Harris	77256

Undergraduates should *not* normally approach the Faculty Office with individual enquiries and requests, but should in the first instance direct these through their College tutors, who are primarily responsible for the organisation of their teaching, the distribution of bibliographies, etc.

The History Faculty Common Room is on the Ground Floor of the Modern History Faculty Building. Coffee and tea are available at advertised times in the morning and afternoon

(ii) The Department of Politics and International Relations is located in George Street, opposite the MGM cinema (entrance from New Inn Hall Street). On all visits bring your University Card for entry and identification. The Department is open in term time from 09.00 to 19.00, Monday to Friday, and also 09.30 to 13.00 on Saturdays; in vacation from 09.00 to 17.00, Monday to Friday, except for about ten days at Christmas and Easter (however, the Library remains open during most of the Easter break - see below). It contains the Departmental Library, the Computing and Research Support Unit, the Departmental Office, a common room, a lecture theatre, two seminar rooms, and a computing room. Coffee may

be purchased in the Common Room from 10.30 to 11.30, and tea from 15.30 to 16.30. There is a PPE and MHP Syllabus noticeboard near the General Office. The office of the Administrator, Dr Bridget Taylor (tel. (2)88566), is next to the General Office.

## **11. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES AND STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**

### **1. Equal Opportunities**

The University has in place policies relating to equal opportunities, harassment and disability which are kept under review. Details can be found in the university prospectus, on the Oxford University website (<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/>) and in the Proctors' and Assessor's Memorandum, a booklet which is given to all students on arrival.

### **2. Students with Disabilities**

The Modern History Faculty and the Department of Politics are committed to ensuring that disabled students are not treated less favourably than other students, and to provide reasonable adjustment to provision where disabled students might otherwise be at a substantial disadvantage. For students who have declared a disability on entry to the University, the Faculties/Departments will have been informed if any special arrangements have to be made. Students who think that adjustments in Faculty teaching, learning facilities or assessment may need to be made should raise the matter first with their college tutor, who will ensure that the appropriate people in the Faculties are informed. General advice about provision for students with disabilities at Oxford University and how best to ensure that all appropriate bodies are informed, can be found on the University's Disability Services website at <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/>.

## 12. FEEDBACK AND COMPLAINTS PROCEDURES

### 1. Harassment

In common with other universities, Oxford regards harassment as unacceptable behaviour and has introduced a Code of Practice designed to protect its students, staff and other people for whom it has a special responsibility. For purposes of this Code, *harassment* is regarded as unwarranted behaviour which disrupts the work or reduces the quality of life of another person. Such harassment could involve a single act or a series of acts of bullying, verbal or physical abuse, ill-treatment, unwelcome sexual advances; or otherwise creating or maintaining a hostile studying, working or social environment.

**The University's Code of Practice Relating to Harassment is reproduced in Appendix B of *Proctors' and Assessor's Memorandum*, available also on-line at <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/proctors>.**

The Proctors appoint Senior Members to a University Advisory Panel on harassment. As explained in the Code, these advisers may be approached by any student or member of staff in the University suffering from harassment, as defined in the Code. The Panel has also prepared a pamphlet, *Harassment: what it is and how you can deal with it*. Copies are available from the Proctors' Office, or from JCR Welfare Officers, or OUSU. Some colleges have appointed special advisers or advisory panels to respond to complaints of harassment. If your college has no special arrangements, people you might approach within college could include the dean, tutor for women, or chaplain.

Contact numbers:

The Proctors' Office                      telephone: (2)70090  
Advisory Panel on Harassment telephone: (2)70760

The Modern History Faculty and the Department of Politics and International Relations operate the University's Code of Practice Relating to Harassment. Details of this, and of the courses of action open to undergraduates, are available from Colleges.

The History Faculty advisers are:

Dr Jane Humphries (Michaelmas Term 2003) (2)79346  
(All Souls College)

Dr Senia Paseta (Trinity and Hilary Terms 2004) (2)74942  
(St Hugh's College)

Dr Nick Davidson (St Edmund Hall) (2)89128

The Department of Politics and International Relations advisers are:

Dr Elizabeth Frazer (New College) (2)79516

Dr Nicholas Owen (Queen's College) (2)79175

Undergraduates who feel that they have been subject to harassment in a Faculty or Departmental context may wish to contact one or other of the above Advisers.

## **2. Complaints Procedures**

The Department of Politics and International Relations has an internal complaints procedure, designed to deal with individual complaints promptly, fairly and in confidence. Complaints relating to the teaching or administration of Politics should normally be addressed in the first instance either to Dr. Mark Philp, Head of the Department of Politics and International Relations. Complaints in respect of harassment should be addressed to Dr Elizabeth Frazer at New College or Dr Nicholas Owen at The Queen's College.

The Modern History Faculty also has an internal complaints procedure via your college History tutor, college Senior Tutor and the Faculty Teaching Committee. Full details of the procedure are in the Modern History First Year Handbook

<http://www.history.ox.ac.uk/currentunder/prelims/modhist/index.htm>

Complaints in respect of harassment should be addressed to the Modern History Faculty Advisors on Harassment listed above.

In addition, at Oxford there are three officers called the Proctors and the Assessor, who act as kinds of "independent ombudsmen" and provide a special forum for dealing with complaints. They have power to

investigate directly complaints from any member of the University and to take appropriate measures to provide redress. Details can be found in the *Proctors' and Assessor's Memorandum*, which sets out complaints procedures, equal opportunities policy, harassment, disability and other welfare issues.

Finally, however, it is important to remember, in a collegiate University, that even on matters relating exclusively to university teaching and examining, your college tutor, or your college's senior tutor and its other officers concerned with welfare, provide an immediate and well-informed source of advice about the best procedure to adopt.

### **3. Student Feedback**

The feedback which you provide to lecturers and tutors is valued and is taken seriously. It has an important contribution to make to maintaining the quality of the education you receive at Oxford.

Lecture questionnaire forms will be provided for you to comment on each set of lectures. They will be handed out by the lecturer towards the end of his or her set of lectures, and further copies will be available from Faculty or Department. Completed forms may either be left for the lecturer at the end of the lecture or sent to the Faculty or Department office. The results of the questionnaire are seen by the lecturer and also by the appropriate Faculty and Departmental Committees. They are responsible for ensuring that any problems reported through the questionnaires are addressed. Questionnaires for Modern History are also available to download from the Modern History website at <http://www.history.ox.ac.uk>.

You will also be expected to provide feedback on tutorial teaching to your college, although you will find that colleges may differ in the ways in which they provide for this.

### **4. Illness**

If illness seriously affects your academic work, make sure that your tutors know the fact. If at all possible choose a Fellow or Lecturer of your college in whom to confide – otherwise it will be difficult for the college

to help. Help may involve: excusing you tutorials for a bit; sending you home; asking the University to grant you dispensation from that term's residence (to qualify for the BA you must reside and study in Oxford for nine terms – or six if you have Senior Status – and a term for that purpose means forty-two nights); or permitting you to go out of residence for a number of terms, with consequent negotiations with your funding body.

If illness has interfered with preparation for a University examination, or has affected you during the exam itself, your college must report the fact to the Proctors, who will pass the information to your examiners 'if, in their opinion, it is likely to assist the examiners in the performance of their duties.' Your college also reports to the Proctors if illness or disability has prevented you from attending part of a University examination, or makes it desirable that you should be examined in a special place or at a special time. The college officer concerned is the Senior Tutor. You, therefore, must deal with your Senior Tutor, never directly with the examiners. Give the Senior Tutor as much notice as possible; in particular, examinations specially invigilated in a special place (usually your college) take a lot of organising, and the deadline for getting permission in respect of foreseeable problems such as dyslexia is Second Week of the term of the examination. Probably you will need a medical certificate; college doctors have the right University forms.

## **5. Financial Problems**

Many colleges have funds available for hardship grants to their members. There are also two more general schemes. (1) Access Funds are provided by the state to give financial help to full-time 'home' undergraduates and postgraduates where access to higher or further education might be inhibited by financial considerations, or where students, for whatever reasons, including disabilities, face financial difficulties. Application should be made to your college. (2) The University's Committee on Student Hardship makes grants and loans for the relief of financial hardship, which must have been unforeseeable at the time of admission. It meets once a term, and application forms, which are held in your college office, must be completed and in the hands of a designated college officer, probably the Senior Tutor, before a designated time, probably in Fourth Week (First Week in Trinity Term).

Many colleges make grants to undergraduates for special purposes, such as research travel.

### 13. FOREIGN LANGUAGES

In the Second and Third Years several Further and (particularly) Special Subjects in Modern History are based on texts and documents in one or more foreign languages and can only be taken by students with an adequate reading knowledge of the language(s) in question. Without foreign languages, therefore, a student's choice of history papers will be restricted.

For those who wish to learn a new language, or improve their existing language(s) the **University Language Centre**, 12 Woodstock Road, offers students the following facilities, free of charge:

1. *Taught Classes* in general language, in French (3 levels), German (2 levels), Italian (3 levels), Spanish (2 levels), Russian (1 level) and Modern Greek (2 levels).
2. *Materials for Private Study*: available in 80 languages; facilities for viewing live TV by satellite in French, German, Italian and Russian.

Undergraduates should visit the Centre in Noughth Week [i.e. the week before the start of Full Term] to obtain full information.

The Modern History Faculty has also Commissioned the Language Centre to provide a course in *Reading French for Historians*, for students in their second year. Details of this will be circulated to undergraduates at the end of their first year through their College Tutors in Modern History.

## 14. INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Oxford University Computing Services (OUCS) building at 13 Banbury Road is open to non-keyholders Monday to Friday 08.30 - 22.00. Undergraduates have access to courses on the use of the central computers and personal computers, to the Learning and Resource Centre (Monday to Friday 09.00 - 22.00), and to the Shop (Monday to Friday 09.15 (Thursday 09.45) - 17.00); also, by application, to printers and software on the central UNIX computers. Further details may be obtained on-line at <http://www.oucs.ox.ac.uk/oxford/>.

The Department of Politics and International Relations contains a computing room with fifteen PCs connected to the Internet. They have access to a wide range of specialist social sciences research software, which undergraduates may apply to use. The room is mainly used for computer-based courses. The Department also houses the Social Studies Computing and Research Support Unit which provides computing, statistical and data support for social science research; details are on line at <http://www.politics.ox.ac.uk>.

Many colleges have a computer room, with software for word-processing and other applications, connections to the central University machines and the Internet, and printers.

For those wishing for further information about electronic resources, including guidance on navigating the internet, Jayne Plant in the Upper Reading Room of the Radcliffe Camera (tel: (2)77200; e-mail: [jep@bodley.ox.ac.uk](mailto:jep@bodley.ox.ac.uk)) will offer short training sessions for small groups at your request.

There is a web-based information service for Politics (and other PPE) students which you are advised to use: <http://www.politics.ox.ac.uk/students/> This contains information on, amongst other things, the Lecture List, reading lists, recent finals papers and examiners' reports; the JCC also has its own web page.

Students should be aware of the extensive networked databases offered through OXLIP (access through machines in College Libraries and Computing Rooms, Faculty Library, and Bodleian). Click on title list for a full list. Among the most useful is the Royal Historical Society Bibliography of works on the history of Britain, Ireland, and the British Overseas. This database comprises 250,000 records (books, journal articles,

and articles in books) searchable by subject matter and time period. Students may find it useful for supplementing bibliographies on British history provided by tutors or for checking references to articles. Other important networked resources for historians include the Dictionary of National Biography (an updated version, the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography is being published in September 2004), Historical Abstracts (summaries of many articles searchable by subject as well as author), the Bodleian pre-1920 catalogue (for earlier works, and probably particularly useful for those thinking of writing dissertations), and the Bibliography of Art History. Another useful resource is provided by the somewhat discouragingly entitled Web of Science (formerly BIDS) which offers a high-level journal awareness service including the opportunity to search for book reviews. Jayne Plant or the Faculty Information Technology Officer will be able to assist you with registration for this service if required.

Navigating the internet for material useful can be a dispiriting experience, but there are some useful gateways which will take you to useful sites. Among the most useful are NISS, HUMBUL and the Institute of Historical Research in London. Students can access these from the History Faculty web-site which is to be found at <http://www.history.ox.ac.uk>. It contains lecture lists, bibliographies, recent examination papers and examiners' reports. The Politics website at <http://www.politics.ox.ac.uk> also contains lecture lists, bibliographies, recent examination papers and examiners' reports.

The attention of undergraduates is drawn to the *University Rules for Computer Use*, available on the University website at <http://www.ox.ac.uk/it/rules/>