

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

**REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER IN PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES
(MPhilStud)**

Candidates for the MPhilStud degree are required to comply with any additional regulations prescribed by the College of registration.

1. Admission and Registration

1.1. Application for admission to a course of study for the degree of Master in Philosophical Studies (MPhilStud) should be made to the relevant College in accordance with the procedures prescribed by the College to which application is made.

1.2. Entrance Requirements and any qualifying examinations are prescribed by the College to which application is made.

2. Attendance and Course of Study

2.1. Every student is required to pursue a regular course of study at a College.

2.2. The course of study for the degree of MPhilStud requires attendance at seminars/tutorials as prescribed by the College at which the student is registered.

2.3. A College shall have a code of practice for supervisors and research students and appoint a supervisor for each of its students registered for the MPhilStud degree in accordance therewith.

2.4. The length of course for the degree of MPhilStud shall be two calendar years of full-time study or the equivalent in part-time study.

2.5. A course must be pursued continuously except by special permission of the College.

2.6. A College may permit a student to spend part of his/her course in 'off-campus' study and prescribe the conditions which shall apply, and which shall include regular contact with his/her supervisor.

2.7. A student must apply to his/her College for permission to enter the examination at a date later than that prescribed in paragraph 4.3 below.

3. Fields of Study

3.1. Students select one of the following three fields of study: Philosophy; or Philosophy of Psychology; or Ancient Philosophy. The assessment for each field comprises the submission of a thesis, an oral examination on the thesis, and two or three essays for each of three options (but see paras. 3.9 and 3.10 below).

The thesis

3.2. The topic of research for the thesis shall be agreed with the student's supervisor and contact with the supervisor shall be in accordance with the College's code of practice for supervisors and research students.

3.3 The thesis shall:

- (i) consist of the candidate's own account of his/her investigations;
- (ii) be either a record of original work or an ordered and critical exposition of existing knowledge and shall provide evidence that the field has been thoroughly surveyed;
- (iii) be an integrated whole and present a coherent argument;
- (iv) give a critical assessment of the relevant literature, present the findings of research and include a discussion on those findings;
- (v) be written in English and the literary presentation shall be satisfactory; and
- (vi) not exceed 30,000 words, including notes and appendices, but excluding bibliography.

3.4. The greater proportion of the work submitted in a thesis must have been done after the initial registration for the research degree.

3.5. A candidate will not be permitted to submit as his/her thesis one which has been submitted for a degree or comparable award of this or any other university or institution, but a candidate shall not be precluded from incorporating in a thesis covering a wider field work which he/she has already submitted for a degree or comparable award of this or any other university or institution provided that he/she shall indicate on his/her entry form and also on his/her thesis any work which has been so incorporated.

3.6. The decision to submit a thesis in any particular form rests with the candidate alone.

The options

3.7. The options for the three fields of study are:

I Philosophy

Three options, of which one shall be from List 1, one from List 2 and the third from either List (see paragraph 3.8), provided that it does not overlap with either of the other two options.

II Ancient Philosophy

Option 1 Greek Philosophical Texts.

Option 2 *Either* Greek Philosophy from the beginnings to Aristotle *or* Post-Aristotelian Philosophy.

Option 3 One further option from either List 1 or List 2 (see paragraph 3.8), provided that it does not overlap with Option 1 or Option 2.

III Philosophy of Psychology

Option 1: Philosophy of Psychology

Option 2: Philosophy of Mind.

Option 3: One further option from either List 1 or List 2 (see paragraph 3.8), provided that it does not overlap with Option 1 or Option 2.

3.8. The lists of options to which reference is made in paragraph 3.7 above are:

List 1

- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| 1 The pre-Socratics | 20 The empiricists |
| 2 Plato | 21 Kant |
| 3 Aristotle | 22 Hegel |
| 4 Greek philosophical texts | 23 Frege |
| 5 The Epicureans | 24 Marx |
| 6 The Stoics | 25 Schopenhauer |
| 7 Plotinus | 26 J S Mill |
| 8 Aquinas | 27 Bradley |
| 9 Mediaeval philosophy | 28 Existentialist philosophy from Kierkegaard |
| 10 Renaissance philosophy | 29 Nietzsche |
| 11 Bacon | 30 Phenomenology |
| 12 Hobbes | 31 Heidegger |
| 13 Descartes | 32 The pragmatists |
| 14 Leibniz | 33 Russell |
| 15 Spinoza | 34 Wittgenstein |
| 16 The Rationalists | 35 Another philosopher or school or area of philosophy, with the approval of the Panel in Philosophy |
| 17 Locke | |
| 18 Berkeley | |
| 19 Hume | |

List 2

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| a Logic and metaphysics | k Philosophy of mathematics |
| b Epistemology and methodology | l The philosophical foundation of physics |
| c Philosophy of mind | m Philosophy of education |
| d Ethics | n Philosophy of social sciences |
| e Aesthetics | o Philosophy of psychology |
| f Philosophy of religion | p Philosophy of history |
| g Political philosophy | q Philosophy of Linguistics |
| h Symbolic logic | r Formal Semantics |
| i Philosophy of language | s Gender and Philosophy |
| j Philosophy of science | |

Teaching will not necessarily be available for all the options listed above in any given year. The choice of options is subject to the approval of the candidate's College. If candidates submit themselves for assessment in overlapping areas, they should avoid repeating material in any work they present.

3.9. For students registering in and after **September 2008** each of the options (except Greek Philosophical Texts and Symbolic Logic) will be assessed by means of two essays of

up to 5,000 words each*. Each essay will be on a different topic within the scope of the option. Greek Philosophical Texts and Symbolic Logic will each be assessed by means of an unseen written examination. Candidates wishing to take as an option a subject not appearing on either list must seek the approval of the Panel in Philosophy not later than **10 January** of the final year. The syllabuses for Greek Philosophical Texts and Symbolic Logic are appended to these Regulations [see Appendices 1 and 2].

3.10 *For students registered in or before **September 2007*** each of the options (except Greek Philosophical Texts and Symbolic Logic) will be assessed by means of three essays of up to 3,000 words each*. With the special permission of his/her Department, a student may submit, for any of his/her three options, two essays of up to 5,000 words each. Whether three or two essays are submitted, the provisions detailed in para 3.9 above apply.

3.11. Essay topics and their specific titles are subject to approval by specialist examiners drawn from the Board of Examiners appointed for the MPhil Stud degree. Candidates will normally be expected to submit their proposed topics and essay titles to the Philosophy Departmental Office in their College before the end of the academic year prior to the year of examination. They can apply for permission to change these topics and titles until **1 March** in the year of the examination. Essays submitted on topics and with titles other than those so approved will not be accepted.

4. Entry to Examination and Submission of Thesis and Essays

4.1. A College shall submit a completed entry form for each of its candidates to the Head of the Academic Office, University of London, Senate House.

4.2. A candidate shall be examined in accordance with the regulations in force at the time of his/her entry or re-entry to the examination.

4.3. The entry form must be submitted by the College to the Research Degree Examinations Office in Senate House by **10 January** in the final year of the course. A candidate permitted to re-enter for the examination who has passed his/her three options may submit his/her entry form together with his/her thesis at any time, subject to the permission of the examiners.

4.4. The essays must be submitted to the Research Degree Examinations Office not later than **15 April** (see paragraph 4.9).

4.5. Any unseen written examinations will normally take place in the first week of **May**. The Head of the Academic Office will advise each candidate who has entered for an unseen written examination(s) of the timetable for those examinations.

4.6. Two copies of the thesis must be submitted to the Research Degree Examinations Office at the Senate House not later than **1 September** in the year of examination (see paragraph 4.10).

* Inclusive of footnotes, but exclusive of bibliography

4.7. A short description of the content of the thesis in about 300 words, to assist in the appointment of suitable examiners, should be submitted with the entry form (see paragraph 4.3 above).

4.8. A candidate must include in each copy of his/her thesis and in each of the essays submitted for the options a signed declaration that the work presented in the essay/thesis is his/her own as follows (see also paragraph 8.3 below):

I confirm that the work that the work presented in this [essay/thesis] is my own and the work of other persons is appropriately acknowledged.

4.9. There is no set format for the submission of essays.

4.10. A thesis must be presented for examination in a final form in typescript or print and be bound in accordance with the instructions issued by the Head of the Academic Office of the University.

4.11. Every candidate is required to present a short abstract of his/her thesis of not more than 300 words and bound with each copy of the thesis submitted to the Research Degree Examinations Office. One additional loose copy of the abstract must also be provided.

4.12. A candidate is required to bring to the thesis oral examination a copy of his/her thesis paginated in the same way as the copies submitted to the University.

4.13. *Overlap between submitted essays and thesis or between different submitted essays:* the general principle governing overlap is that the same work may not be submitted for two different elements of the assessment for the MPhil Stud degree, i.e., for any two essays or an essay and the thesis. A candidate may refer to material included in another element and briefly rehearse arguments from it. However, such material, whether included verbatim or paraphrased, must be properly referenced to its first use. If material from one element is included in another, then the amount of new material in the second element must be what would normally be expected for the particular piece of work, i.e., a candidate will receive credit for repeated material in only one of the elements of the assessment. This will be at the examiners' discretion, if there is any doubt as to which element credit for the material should be given.

5. Conduct of Examination

5.1. The assessment for the degree is in two parts, ie the assessment of the options and the assessment of the thesis. Candidates are required to pass both parts.

5.2. A Board of Examiners shall be appointed annually which shall be responsible for examining the essays submitted for the options and any unseen written examinations. In addition two examiners shall be appointed to examine each thesis and conduct the oral examination thereon [see Appendix 3 for the Instructions on the Appointment of Examiners].

Assessment of the Options

5.3 Essays and scripts for options shall be marked in accordance with the marking scheme appended to these Regulations [see Appendix 4].

5.4. If the Board of Examiners consider that a candidate's essays or unseen examination answers have not reached the pass standard in all of the options, they may, if they think fit, determine that the candidate be exempted on re-entry from re-entering options that have been passed. A candidate may, subject to the approval of his/her College when re-entry would involve further attendance at the College, re-enter for the option(s) *on one occasion only*. Unless the Federal Degrees Group otherwise determines, such re-entry shall be in the following session (see paragraph 4.3 above). *No further re-entries will be permitted*.

5.5. The Board of Examiners may determine that a candidate be given an oral examination on his/her essays or on his/her answers to unseen written examinations.

5.6 The Chairman of the Board shall be responsible for reporting to the Research Degree Examinations Office the results of the assessment of the options/unseen written examinations for each candidate.

Assessment of the Thesis

5.7. Examiners are advised that all matters relating to the examination must be treated as confidential. Examiners are not permitted to divulge the content of previously unpublished material contained in a candidate's thesis until such time as the award of the degree has been made.

5.8. The examiners shall prepare independent preliminary written reports on the thesis to assist in conducting the oral examination (or the preparation of the joint report in those cases where no oral examination is held - see paragraph 5.12 (c) below). Copies of the preliminary reports should be submitted to the Research Degree Examinations Office together with the joint report. The preliminary reports will not normally be released to candidates but will be made available to the members of an appellate committee in the case of an appeal against the result of the examination of the thesis. In such an event the preliminary reports will also be provided to the candidate. After the oral examination, a joint final report shall be prepared for submission to the University through the Chairman of the Board of Examiners. The joint report will be released routinely to candidates for their personal information and a copy will be sent to the Head of College.

5.9. Each joint final report of the examiners shall include a reasoned statement of the examiners' judgment of the candidate's performance.

5.10. Examiners have the right to make comments in confidence to the University in a separate report. Such comments should not normally be concerned with the performance of the candidate but may cover, for example, matters which they wish to draw to the attention of the University or the candidate's College.

5.11. Except as provided in paragraphs 5.11.(c) and 5.11.(d) below the examiners appointed to examine the thesis, after reading the thesis, shall examine the candidate orally on the subject of the thesis and, if they see fit, on subjects relevant thereto.

5.12. There are four options open to examiners in determining the result of the examination of the thesis as follows:

(a) If the thesis fulfils the criteria (see paragraph 3.3. above), the examiners shall report that the candidate has satisfied them in the examination of the thesis for the degree of Master in Philosophical Studies.

(b) If the thesis otherwise fulfils the criteria but requires minor amendments, the examiners shall report that they require the candidate to make within three months amendments specified by them. [The amended thesis shall be submitted to the examiners or one of their number nominated by them for confirmation that the amendments are satisfactory.]

(c) If the examiners consider that the thesis does not fulfil the criteria, they may on one occasion, if they think fit, determine that the candidate be permitted to re-enter the examination and submit a thesis in a revised form by 1 September of the following year. The examiners may at their discretion exempt the candidate on re-entry from taking a further oral examination.

(d) The examiners may determine that the candidate has not satisfied them in the thesis examination and the candidate shall not be permitted to re-enter the examination. The examiners shall not, however, save in very exceptional circumstances, make such a decision without submitting the candidate to an oral examination on the thesis.

5.13. The examiners shall submit their preliminary and final reports on the thesis to the Research Degree Examinations Office (see paragraph 5.2. above) by 30 November.

6. Notification of Results

6.1. Every candidate shall be notified of the result of the options part of the examination after the June meeting of the Board of Examiners.

6.2. Every candidate shall be notified by the Head of the Academic Office of the overall result of his/her examination after the Chairman of the Board of Examiners has submitted the overall results to the Head of the Academic Office (see paragraphs 5.11. and 5.12. above).

6.3. A diploma under the seal of the University shall be subsequently delivered to each candidate who has been awarded a degree.

6.4. The diploma for the degree will bear the names of the candidate in the form in which they appear in the records of the College at the date of issue.

7. General

7.1 Communications sent from the University to an individual student must be regarded as applying to that student only.

7.2. Candidates at any examination by written papers taken under supervision and within a defined time limit are permitted to use such books, notes, instruments or other materials or aids as are specifically permitted by the Board of Examiners for the degree.

7.3. Except as provided in paragraph 7.2. above, no books, notes, instruments or other materials or aids whatsoever may be introduced into an examination room or be handled or consulted during an examination. Any such materials or aids in the possession of the candidate on entry to the examination room shall be deposited immediately with the Invigilator.

7.4. Any unauthorised materials or aids introduced by a candidate into an examination room must upon request be surrendered to the Invigilator. Any aids so surrendered may be handed over by the Invigilator to the University which may make copies thereof, and the original aids (together with all such copies) may be retained by the University at its absolute discretion.

7.5. Candidates shall not, unless expressly so authorised, pass any information from one to another during an examination nor shall any candidate act in collusion with another candidate or other person or copy from another candidate or engage in any similar activity.

7.6. The work in the essays and in the thesis submitted by the candidate must be his/her own and submission of the essays and a thesis for examination for the MPhilStud degree will be regarded as a declaration of this fact (see paragraph 4.8 above).

7.7. All work submitted as part of the requirements for any examination of the University of London must be expressed in the candidate's own words and incorporate his/her own ideas and judgments. Plagiarism is the presentation of another person's thoughts or words as though they were the candidate's own and is an examination offence. Direct quotations from the published or unpublished work of another must always be clearly identified as such by being placed inside quotation marks, and a full reference to their source must be provided in the proper form. A series of short quotations from several different sources, if not clearly identified as such, constitutes plagiarism as much as does a single unacknowledged long quotation from a single source. Equally, if another person's ideas or judgments are summarised, the candidate must refer to that person in his/her text, and include the work to which reference is made in the bibliography.

7.8. Failure to observe any of the provisions of paragraphs 7.3., 7.4., 7.5., 7.6. or 7.7. above will constitute an examination offence. All examination offences will be treated as cheating and will fall to be considered under the appropriate procedure of the College of registration or, if this degree is specifically excluded from that procedure, under the Regulations for Proceedings in respect of Examination Offences by Candidates for University Awards, as will any other allegations of examination misconduct, including, but not limited to:

- 7.8.1. deliberate attempts to represent falsely or unfairly the ideas or work of others;
- 7.8.2. the invention or fabrication of data;
- 7.8.3. the submission of work commissioned from another person.

The Regulations for Proceedings in respect of Examination Offences by Candidates for University Awards are available from the Head of the Academic Office of the University [made under former Ordinance 15, para. 12].

7.9. If a candidate has entered the examination for the MPhilStud degree, but the authorities of a College, or of a Central Activity, or of the University Library, or the University Accountant notify the Head of the Academic Office of the University that he/she has not settled with them or made acceptable arrangements to settle any account outstanding, no report will be made on the result of the examination until the same authority certifies that payment has been made in full.

8. Representations against Results

8.1 Chairmen and examiners must not communicate with candidates on behalf of the Board of Examiners about their performances at the examination. Any representation which a candidate may make in connection with the examination of his/her options must be referred to the Director of External and Internal Student Administration of the University. Representations shall be considered in accordance with the Procedure made under Paragraph 10(17) of Ordinance 15. The Procedure may be obtained from the Head of the Academic Office or found at

http://www.london.ac.uk/fileadmin/documents/about/governance/ordinances/Ordinance_015_regulations_para_10_17_06.pdf

8.2. The University has approved a Procedure for Consideration of Appeals by Candidates for Research Degrees, which is available from the Head of the Academic Office of the University and may be found at http://www.london.ac.uk/research_degrees. A candidate for the Master in Philosophical Studies may only invoke the Procedure in respect of the thesis (not the essays/unseen papers for which the decision of the examiners shall be final – but see paragraph 8.1. above). An application under the Procedure must be made within two months of notification of the result of the examination to the candidate.

Syllabus for Greek Philosophical Texts

Aims: To teach students to read the important texts of Plato and Aristotle in the original Greek, and to enable them to develop critical skills of analysis in respect of these works, to a level appropriate for a research degree.

Objectives: In each year students will be required to translate in class, from the original Greek, a dialogue of Plato and a short work of Aristotle (since 2001, and until announced otherwise, these are: Term 1--Plato, Meno; Term 2--Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics I). They will be asked to make a critical analysis of the arguments to be found in these texts, to consider their historical, cultural and literary background, and to comment on their philosophical significance.

There is a weekly (2 hr) class. The class will proceed by reading, translating and discussing these texts in detail, with a particular section assigned for each week. MPhilStud students will also be expected to attend some tutorials which will focus on an advanced level of analysis of these texts.

The examination paper consists of 12 passages taken from the set texts. Candidates are expected to translate and comment on three of these passages.

Syllabus for Symbolic Logic

Mathematical Logic

This covers full proofs of the main positive results.
Soundness, completeness and decidability of propositional logic.
Soundness and completeness of first order quantifier logic.

Also covered are full proofs of the main limitative theorems.
Löwenheim-Skolem theorem: Non-categoricity of first-order theories with infinite models.
Church's theorem: the undecidability of first order logical validity.
Tarski's theorem: the undefinability of arithmetical truth.
Gödel's underivability theorems:
 Incompleteness of formal number theory.
 Impossibility of an internal 'consistency' proof for formal number theory.

In the course of this some basic model theory and recursive function theory will be covered.

Axiomatic Set Theory

This covers the development of the axiomatic theory of Zermelo-Faenkel plus the axioms of Choice and Foundation. Topics covered include
The theory of ordinals.
Transfinite induction and transfinite recursion.
The theory of cardinality and the alephs.
The set theoretic derivation of the Dedekind-Peano axioms for number theory.
The cumulative hierarchy.
The class paradoxes and informal motivation for the axioms.

Modal Logic

This covers the main systems and techniques of propositional and quantified uni-modal logic.

The main systems of propositional modal logic and their inter-relations; Kripke semantics; validity testing. Soundness of some systems.

Introduction to quantified modal logic; Kripke semantics; the Barcan formula and domain variation; transparency and opacity; identity and descriptions; actuality.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF EXAMINERS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER IN PHILOSOPHICAL STUDIES (MPhilStud) FOR STUDENTS AT COLLEGES

Board of Examiners for the Options

1.1. A Board of Examiners for the MPhilStud Degree shall be appointed annually by the Federal Degrees Group on the recommendation of the Panel in Philosophy to act for examinations to be held in the calendar year commencing 1 January and shall be responsible for the examination of the Options.

1.2. The Chairman of the Board of Examiners shall be a Professor, Reader or Teacher of the University and shall have overall responsibility for the examination and for returning the results of both parts of the examination for each candidate.

1.3. The Board of Examiners shall include at least one examiner who is external to the University and who has particular responsibility for monitoring consistency of standard in respect of the essays and the unseen written examinations.

1.4. The number of examiners appointed to the Board shall be the minimum necessary for the efficient conduct of the examination and the Federal Degrees Group shall ensure that the Board of Examiners appointed is competent to examine the course at research degree level.

1.5. In the nomination and appointment of External Examiners regard shall be given to the following:

(a) only persons of seniority and experience who are able to command authority should be appointed;

(b) in order to have sufficient time for the proper performance of their function, individuals should normally be expected not to hold more than two external examinerships;

(c) an External Examiner should not normally be appointed from a department in an institution where a member of the inviting institution is serving as an examiner, although exceptions may on occasions be unavoidable; for example, in the case of subjects taught only in a very small number of institutions;

(d) former members of staff shall not be appointed as External Examiners before a lapse of at least three years or sufficient time for students taught by that member of staff to have passed through the system, whichever is the longer.

1.6. Persons invited to act as External Examiners will be invited to advise the relevant University officer if they have any connections with any candidate on, or member of academic staff involved with, the course, which would make it desirable for their appointments to be reconsidered.

1.7. After serving for a period of not more than four normally consecutive years or, in exceptional circumstances, for such limited extension of this period as the Federal Degrees Group shall determine, the External Examiner shall not be eligible for re-appointment until after a lapse of two further years.

1.8. External Examiners wishing to resign during their period of office should write formally to the Vice-Chancellor, giving sufficient notice for the appointment of a replacement.

1.9. The termination of an External Examiner's appointment during his/her period of office shall rest with the Vice-Chancellor as Chairman of the Collegiate Council. This power shall only be exercised after consideration of a formal report on which the Chairman of the Board of Examiners and the Chairman of the Federal Degrees Group shall have had the opportunity to comment. Grounds for such termination shall include that criteria for appointment are found to have been breached, and failure to fulfil duties in a timely way.

Examiners for Theses

2.1. For each candidate the Panel in Philosophy, acting on behalf of the Federal Degrees Group, shall normally appoint two persons to act as examiners, but the Panel may, if it considers it desirable, appoint three persons to act as examiners jointly.

2.2. The examiners shall be expert in the field of the thesis and be able to make an independent assessment of the student.

2.3. One of the examiners shall be external to the University of London (that is, not only external to the candidate's College) and one examiner shall be from a College of the University.

2.4. The candidate's supervisor shall not be an examiner.

2.5. All the examiners shall be external to the candidate's College when the candidate is also a member of the academic staff of the College.

2.6. The Panel shall appoint an examiner from overseas only in exceptional circumstances where the Panel considers that such an appointment is necessary. If an examiner from overseas is appointed, the Panel must be satisfied that the examiner appointed is familiar with the British higher education system.

2.7. At least one of the examiners for each candidate shall, whenever practicable, have had experience in examining for the MPhil in Philosophy/MPhilStud degree of this University.

2.8. When two examiners are appointed in the first instance the Panel shall also appoint, when called upon by the University at the request of the examiners, an additional examiner

who is external to the University. The original examiners shall so request before they report formally that they are unable to reach agreement and may do so at any time, if they consider it desirable. Whenever possible the additional examiner shall be of professorial status and shall have considerable experience of examining for the MPhil in Philosophy/MPhilStud degree of this University.

Marking Scheme for the Options

1. The essays/papers are marked using a literal scheme (A, A-, A--, AB, BA, B++, B+?+, B+, B?+, B, B-, B--, BC, CB, C, D, E).
2. The pass mark on the papers is B+. To attain a pass mark a candidate must demonstrate advanced knowledge of the subject area, informed by relevant research, displaying either a clear and critical understanding of the topic under discussion or originality in addressing the stated problem. Higher marks will be awarded to answers showing greater critical insight, presenting additional arguments or displaying greater originality. Uncompensatable marks (below BC) will be awarded to failing papers which display insufficient understanding of the philosophical problem or topic under discussion, show inadequate knowledge of relevant research, or exhibit poor argument and unclear exposition.
3. Each set of essays and each script (ie option), should receive one of the above marks from each of a pair of internal examiners. The mark for the set of essays or script should take account both of the marks for each essay or answer in a script and of the overall impression caused by the set of essays or script as a whole. Each pair of examiners should agree a mark for any script or set of essays not sent to the External Examiner for adjudication unless they feel that that would give a misleading impression (in which case they should return a pair of marks).

Borderline or disputed scripts should be sent to the External Examiner. His/her mark is then decisive, unless it is changed as the result of a viva.

Each option may be sat or submitted twice.

B+ is the pass mark, to be achieved on each paper. However, marks below B+ do not necessarily mean failure, since they may be

- (i) changed as a result of a viva (which can raise, but never lower, a candidate's mark);
- (ii) changed by compensation: one failing mark may be compensated for by higher marks elsewhere, with any quantum below B+ which is not lower than BC being compensated for by two quanta above B+ (a quantum being the smallest difference between two marks);
- (iii) overlooked on various discretionary grounds (e.g. medical).

After the application of compensation, a student who has passed at least one paper may be given a viva on a B or a B?+ paper provided that the student might pass all papers if the viva results in a raised mark.

Guidelines on Marking Standards

To achieve a mark of B+, B+?+, B++, or BA on a question, a student must demonstrate:

1. A full understanding of the nature and significance of the question under consideration.
2. Familiarity with the relevant philosophical literature.
3. An ability to bring independent thought to bear on the philosophical issues raised, and to discuss them in a coherently organized manner.

To achieve a mark of AB or above on a question a student must satisfy the above conditions and in addition demonstrate:

4. A detailed knowledge of some existing attempts to resolve the issues, including some or all of the following: an appreciation of the complexities of the views discussed; an ability to judge the merits of the views discussed; an ability to argue cogently in support of the judgements made.
5. An ability to offer an independent resolution of the issues, with the help of relevant, coherent, sustained and systematic argument, and to anticipate and respond to potential difficulties or objections.

Marks of BC, B--, B-, B, which are not pass marks, will be awarded on a question if the student demonstrates:

6. Some understanding of the nature and significance of the questions under consideration.
7. Some familiarity with the relevant philosophical literature.
8. An ability to discuss the philosophical issues raised in an intelligent and informed manner.