

FINAL HONOUR SCHOOL OF HISTORY AND ENGLISH EXAMINERS' REPORT 2021

Part I

A. Statistics

All candidates

Class	No						%					
	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016
I	7	6	6	2	3	4	50	46.2	50	33.3	33.3	44.4
II.1	7	7	6	4	6	5	50	53.8	50	66.7	66.7	55.6
II.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
III	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

All candidates, divided by male and female

Class	Number										Percentage (%) of sex									
	2021		2020		2019		2018		2017		2021		2020		2019		2018		2017	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
I	2	5	2	4	1	5	0	2	1	2	50	50	66.7	40	100	45.5	0	66.7	50	28.6
II.1	2	5	1	6	0	6	3	1	1	5	50	50	33.3	60	0	54.5	100	33.3	50	71.4
II.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
III	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

NEW EXAMINING METHODS AND PROCEDURES

- A. This year because of the pandemic new classification rules were agreed. In order to ensure parity with History, finalists (whose British History assessment was cancelled in 2020) were assessed on seven papers but if they chose to submit a British History portfolio of essays in their final year, the mark for this could substitute their lowest mark in a History paper, provided that it was not below 50 and did not disadvantage the candidate. This measure did not apply to returning candidates who had submitted their British History essays in the normal way in 2019.
- B. Candidates were informed directly by email in April and May 2021 detailing the new examination procedures and assessment support package.

Part II

A. GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE EXAMINATION

Fourteen students sat the examination. Seven received Firsts (five women and two men).

The Chair was very grateful for the quality of the preparatory work undertaken by the History Faculty Office. The advice from and work undertaken by External Examiners was invaluable in handling borderline cases. The advice of the Undergraduate Officer was key to thinking through mitigations and complex cases, and the Chair is extremely grateful for her guidance throughout the process.

B. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY ISSUES AND BREAKDOWN OF THE RESULTS BY GENDER

With such a small cohort, it would be unwise to extrapolate any information regarding discrepancies between the achievements of male and female candidates. It is noteworthy that half of the female candidates achieved Firsts.

C. DETAILED NUMBERS ON CANDIDATES' PERFORMANCE IN EACH PART OF THE EXAMINATION

All candidates submitted a Bridge Essay: The average mark was 66.86, with a range from 58 to 73.

All candidates submitted a Compulsory Interdisciplinary Dissertation: the average mark was 69.79, with a range from 61 to 78. (This compares favourably with the History Thesis, where the average mark was 68.54)

12 candidates submitted a History of the British Isles portfolio of essays: the average mark was 66.75 with a range from 63 to 72. (Two candidates chose not to submit)

11 candidates took an English Further Subject: the average mark was 72.57, with a range from 64 to 80.

11 candidates took a Period paper in English Literature: the average mark was 64.27, with a range from 57 to 72.

10 candidates submitted the Shakespeare paper: the average mark was 68.7, with a range from 65 to 74.

9 candidates took a European and World History paper: the average mark was 68.33, with a range from 63 to 72.

8 candidates took a History Further Subject: the average mark was 69.38, with a range from 63 to 72.

4 candidates took History Special Subject papers: the average marks were 69.5 for the Extended Essays and 70.3 for the Gobbets papers, with ranges from 68 to 72 and 66 to 78 respectively.

D. COMMENTS ON PAPERS AND INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS

E. COMMENTS ON THE PERFORMANCE OF IDENTIFIABLE INDIVIDUALS AND OTHER MATERIAL WHICH WOULD USUALLY BE TREATED AS RESERVED BUSINESS

F. Members of the Board of Examiners

Dr Christina de Bellaigue (Chair)

Professor Helen Gittos

Professor Steven Gunn

Dr Sian Gronlie

Dr Margaret Kean

Professor David Womersley

Professor Nicole Reinhardt (external examiner in History)

Professor Anke Bernau (external examiner in English)

