

PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION IN HISTORY AND POLITICS EXAMINERS' REPORT 2024

Part I

A. Statistics

All candidates

Class	No						%					
	2024	2023	2022	2021	2019	2018	2024	2023	2022	2021	2019	2018
Dist.	18	11	12	17	18	9	36.7	28.2	27.3	31.5	39.1	18.4
Pass	31	27	32	35	27	40	63.3	69.2	72.7	64.8	58.7	81.6
LV Resit	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	2.6	0	3.7	2.2	2

All candidates, divided by male and female

Class	Number										Percentage (%) of gender									
	2024		2023		2022		2021		2019		2024		2023		2022		2021		2019	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Dist.	11	7	7	4	8	4	12	5	8	10	39.3	33.3	43.8	17.4	40	16.7	41.4	20	40	38.5
Pass	17	14	9	18	12	20	16	19	12	15	60.7	66.7	56.3	78.3	60	83.3	55.2	76	60	57.7
LV R	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	4.3	0	0	3.5	4	0	3.9

NEW EXAMINING METHODS AND PROCEDURES

A. All papers were examined by three-hour timed written in-person exams in Examination Schools. The European and World History papers were typed directly into InSpera, as the politics papers have been since 2023. Classification procedures were the same as in 2019, pre-pandemic.

B. Candidates were informed directly by email in April and May 2024 detailing the examination methods and procedures.

Part II

A. GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE EXAMINATION

49 students sat the examination. 18 received Distinctions (seven women and eleven men).

MCE Applications – 3 MCE notices were received. No adjustment to marks was made in 2 of these cases; in one case the mark of one paper was disregarded, and an adjustment was made.

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

The results by gender continue to be a cause for concern; there are now no years in the last five (omitting 2020) where women have had as high a percentage of distinctions as men. While in any individual year the numbers are small, over these years in total n=232 (113M 119F). Taking that period as a whole we get the following results:

Class	Number		% of gender	
	2019-24 inclusive		2019-24 inclusive	
	M	F	M	F
Dist.	46	30	40.7	25.2
Pass	66	86	58.4	72.3
LV R	1	3	0.9	2.5

These seem to indicate a large gap in attainment at Distinction level (more than 15%). History & Politics committee should continue to consider this issue. More positively, the 2024 results at least show a smaller than average gap after three years of more than 20% gaps.

Additionally we think it worth noting that two candidates who achieved a Distinction were admitted under the Opportunity Oxford scheme

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

Subject	Candidates	70 or more	65-69	60-64	50-59	Average Mark	Average Mark (2023)
History of the British Isles	28	6	10	9	3	64.5	66.4
European and World History	21	8	7	4	2	66.3	65.9
Optional Subjects (not including OS1)	10	5	2	1	1	67.3	66.4
OS 1 Theories of the State	18	3	6	6	3	64.7	65.7
Introduction Theories of Politics	31	8	13	8	2	66.5	65.9
Introduction to Practice of Politics	49	13	9	16	11	64.3	65.0
History Paper IV	39	14	12	11	2	66.8	66.0

E. COMMENTS ON PAPERS AND INDIVIDUAL QUESTIONS

N/A

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

N/A

G. Members of the Board of Examiners

Dr Paul Martin (Chair)
Dr Fanny Bessard
Professor George Garnett
Dr Jeanne Morefield