

Part III Standard Examination

Dear all,

Further to the email sent to you on 9 October 2020, we are writing to confirm that the Faculty *has every expectation* that the Part III Standard Examination will be delivered online in January. The Faculty would have much preferred to hold the examination in Cambridge, but this is unfortunately not practicable given the "second wave" of the epidemic sweeping Europe.

Although the Faculty has engaged in intensive discussions and negotiations with the University over the past few weeks about the precise arrangements, the University's Education Committee has yet to give its final approval. *Therefore the arrangements set out below are subject to confirmation but we are providing them in good faith, and we strongly recommend that you begin to make preparations for the examination as soon as possible.*

Dates of the Examination

The examination period will start on Thursday, 7 January. We anticipate that the examination period will extend to 28 January (or thereabouts), but this will depend on candidates' paper choices.

An Online and Remotely Invigilated Examination

The examination will be delivered online and will be remotely invigilated. Hence:

- candidates will be expected to arrange access to a reliable internet connection (ideally with minimum upload speed of 1Mbps);
- as for the Pass/Fail examination, candidates will need to be in possession of a device for scanning their answers (for example, a smartphone);
- in order to allow for the detection of misconduct, it is also very likely that candidates will need to be equipped with *two* video cameras, where one could be a webcam and the other a smartphone (as we understand it, the smartphone can be used both for scanning and as a second camera).

We expect further details on the examination arrangements and precise technical requirements to be available by the end of next week once they have been approved by the University's Education Committee.

Timing of the Papers

Papers will start at noon UK time and all candidates are expected to sit at the same time. However, candidates expecting to take the examination in an extreme time zone (UK time + X where $X > 9$ hours, or UK time - Y where $Y > 6$ hours) may apply for permission to start the exam up to 2 hours earlier/later, provided that in the "earlier" case they agree to remain invigilated until examinations have started in both the UK and in locations with a "later" start time (if applicable).

Paper Choices and Timetable

There will be a firm deadline for making paper choices of noon on Friday, 27 November 2020. This will also be the point at which candidates should withdraw from the examination if they do not wish to sit it as candidates' names will be passed to the Student Registry on this date. Further details on the process for submitting paper choices will be made available by the end of next week. The Faculty hopes to publish the examination timetable by Friday, 4 December 2020.

Revision Support

In order to help students with revision for this examination, the Faculty has agreed to provide online access to up to eight of this term's Part III lecture courses. Details of how to request such access will be made available alongside the form for making paper choices.

Questions

As noted above these arrangements are still subject to confirmation by the University. We regret the remaining uncertainty and realise that many of you may have questions, but could we please request that if they concern details of the arrangements set out above you delay asking them until the end of next week.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.

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