Subject: Please read: HML Part II  
From: April McIntyre <ajm325@cam.ac.uk>  
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To all students in HML Part II (for Tripos 2021) (cc: Directors of Studies)

1. HML students have the option to offer a dissertation in Part II. This is a piece of research of between 10,000 and 15,000 words in place of one taught paper. The dissertation must be not less than 10,000 and not more 15,000 words. The dissertation may be in any area of study taught in History or MMLL for which one or other Faculty can provide supervision. In addition to the dissertation you will have to take one MMLL scheduled paper, one History specified or political thought or special subject paper, and the Part II language papers.

2. Your dissertation will be marked by MMLL or History examiners (or one of each) as appropriate to the subject. The dissertation will count as one taught paper.

3. Detailed guidelines for the dissertation will be circulated by September 2020; the most important point is that a dissertation must show knowledge of primary sources (which can include printed, archival, or oral sources) and must give full reference in footnotes to all sources used.

4. If you wish to take this option you must register your intention to do so, as well as the subject of your proposed dissertation and the name of your supervisor, with the MMLL Faculty Office by 30 June 2020. If you envisage that your dissertation will involve travel (for example to archives) or that you will involve oral sources, this must be stated when you register your topic.

5. At the same time as registering your dissertation topic you should inform us which two other papers (one from MMLL and one from History) you intended to take in your final year. We need to check for possible overlap of subjects. Your dissertation cannot be registered unless you provide this information.

6. You will then have to register your title by the end of the third week of Michaelmas Term. Your title may be revised up to the division of Lent Term. After that point, further changes will only be allowed in the most exceptional circumstances.

7. The dissertation has to be submitted to the MMLL Faculty Office by 4 pm on the first Friday of Easter Term 2021.

There is no application form. If you wish to do a dissertation, please send an email with the details specified in points 4 and 5 above to April McIntyre at hml@mmll.cam.ac.uk. Please also ask your proposed supervisor to send an email to the same address simply confirming that s/he approves your application.

If you have any questions about the dissertation or the application procedure, please contact us at hml@mmll.cam.ac.uk. We will get back to you within one working day.

Professor Joachim Whaley  
Chair of the HML Management Committee