

MPhil/PhD Oral Examination / Viva

All MPhil/PhD candidates who are submitting for the first time will need to have an oral examination (viva), which will be based on the thesis they have submitted. Those who are resubmitting may not need to have a second oral examination (please see the 'Resubmissions' page for further details)

- **The organisation of the date and location of the oral examination**

Once the nominated examiners have been approved, and they have accepted the invitation to examine, they will each be sent a copy of your thesis. At this point, your supervisor will be asked to liaise with you and the examiners to arrange the date and location of your oral examination. The oral examination will be held at the College or in central London, unless both the student and the College agree that it is expedient to hold the oral examination elsewhere.

- **During the oral examination**

The student must bring to the oral examination a copy of his/her thesis paginated in the same way as the copies submitted to the College. The lead supervisor will be invited to attend the oral examination as an observer, unless the student indicates otherwise at the time of his/her formal entry or re-entry to the final examination. The supervisor will not participate in the examination of the student unless invited to contribute by the examiners. Otherwise the oral examination will be held in private.

- **The outcome of the oral examination**

Within two weeks of the oral examination, the examiners are asked to return their report forms to the Examinations and Research Degrees Office. These reports indicate the outcome of the oral examination. The most common outcomes are:

- Pass
- Pass with minor corrections (these are to be completed within 3 months)
- Resubmission requested (to be resubmitted within 18 months)

The student will be informed of the outcome of the MPhil/PhD examination by the Examinations and Research Degrees Office in writing.