

Faculty of HSPS Supervision Recommendations

Students should expect to receive 6 to 8 supervisions for each paper, including revision supervisions in Easter term. The HSPS Tripos Management Committee consider that between 4 to 6 pieces of work for each paper over Michaelmas and Lent is a suitable workload. This work typically consists of writing essays, but in some disciplines and papers it may be appropriate for supervisors to consider alternative modes of formative assessment other than essays, for some of the pieces of work. Other forms of assessment might include, for example, focused reading and discussion of an article or student presentations on a topic, or develop alternative ways of engaging with the topic that provide strong learning outcomes for students. Directors of Undergraduate Education can advise on what is recommended in each paper and discipline in this regard. The approach to supervisions is ultimately a matter for agreement between College Directors of Studies (DOS) and Supervisors. Students are reminded that their College DOS is available to actively discuss their workload with and to enable bespoke arrangements for workload management.