

Undergraduate Prospectus 2017



OXFORD

OPEN DAYS

29 AND 30 JUNE AND 16 SEPTEMBER 2016



Open days are the best time to explore student life at Oxford – visit places not normally open to the public – and talk to current students and tutors. You can just turn up to most events but some require booking so check first and plan your day at ox.ac.uk/opendays



After feeling the atmosphere and exploring the city on an open day I knew I wanted to spend the next few years of my life in Oxford.

Sam, 2nd year

The tutors and students I spoke to on the open day were all incredibly encouraging and welcoming and I loved the thought of studying in such a unique community of passionate and friendly students.

Francesca, 2014 graduate

If you can't make one of these days don't worry – you are welcome to visit us any time. See page 188 or ox.ac.uk/ugvisit

Have a look at our virtual college tours at ox.ac.uk/ugcolls

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Do you need this prospectus in another format?

Download a high-contrast version from ox.ac.uk/moreinfo
Braille, large print and audio formats are also available on request from:

+44 (0) 1865 288000
study@ox.ac.uk
ox.ac.uk/study

Details are correct at the time of going to press in January 2016. Any updates or changes to information can be found on our webpages: ox.ac.uk/study.

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Why Oxford?

NO. 1 LARGEST VOLUME OF
WORLD-LEADING RESEARCH
IN THE COUNTRY

2014 Research Excellence Framework

NO. 1 IN EUROPE
AND **NO. 2**
IN THE WORLD

Times Higher Education
World Rankings 2015–16

Oxford is a fantastic university, renowned for academic excellence – the teaching is world class, and being taught by experts in my subject area in this way really appealed to me. Also, Oxford is a really great city, so this factored into my decision too.

Megan, 2nd year



Though the academic reputation was definitely a factor, I was really attracted by the collegiate structure. Everything works on a smaller scale with concentrated resources, a close-knit community and highly individual teaching with tutors who take a real interest in you.

Archie, 2nd year



Funnily enough, Oxford was also actually the cheapest place for me to go to university. Even before I was aware of the Moritz-Heyman Scholarship, the Oxford Bursaries scheme is the most comprehensive one at the time of my application.

Bertrand, 4th year

AROUND

1 IN 4

STUDENTS GETS A BURSARY

On top of any government support (UK/EU only)

OVER

11

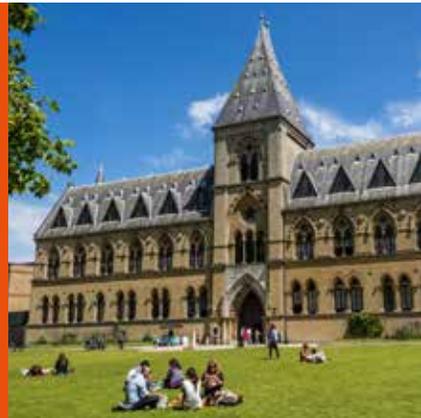
THOUSAND UNDERGRADUATES IN 35 COLLEGES

All the benefits of a small local community, with all the resources of a big international university. It's like having a campus in the middle of a city.



Oxford is known all over the world for academic excellence and I think the unique collegiate system plays a huge part in that. I chose Oxford because I thought it would be an unbelievable opportunity for me if I was fortunate enough to be successful in my application.

Naveed, 2015 graduate



I had been to Oxford on a day trip with my family when I was 16 and completely fell in love with the city. The stunning beauty of the old buildings and the sense of history made me realise this would be the most inspiring place to study.

Rosanna, 2015 graduate



I'd never thought about applying to somewhere so prestigious, but I was lucky enough to be encouraged by a fantastic maths teacher. Both the academic reputation and the beautiful city were enough to win me over, and since applying I have never looked back.

Ian, 2nd year

How Oxford works

As an Oxford undergraduate you'll be part of one or more departments, depending on the course you're studying. You'll also be a member of a college – a community of students and academics from many different subject areas.

Whichever college you go to, you will be studying for the same degree.

When you accept your offer of a place at Oxford you will enter into two separate contracts: one with the University and one with your college. These contracts are inter-linked: as an undergraduate you cannot be a member of the University without being a member of a college and vice versa. While you are admitted by your college, you are awarded your degree by the University. See more information about this at ox.ac.uk/oxforddegree.

I think the teaching is outstanding. The quality of the lectures, tutorials and practicals is incomparable. I have really benefited from the attention and challenges of small group tutorial learning which has driven me to work harder and learn more than I thought I could and still enjoy it.

Joe, 3rd year

NEARLY

250
COURSES

FROM OVER

30
FACULTIES AND
DEPARTMENTS

IN GROUPS OF

2 OR 3
FOR SPECIALISED
TUTORIAL TEACHING

COURSE

Each one has a compulsory core (usually in your 1st year), plus a broad range of options which allows you to tailor your studies to your personal interests. These aspects of the course are organised by the departments of the University.

For more on courses see page 38.

Lectures

All students in a particular subject will come together for lectures. These provide core information that may be useful in tutorials, essays or exams. Lectures also give you an opportunity to meet students from other colleges doing your course.

Practicals

All students in science-based subjects work together for lab work and/or fieldwork – typically for at least two half days a week.

Assessment

Oxford courses have two stages. There are exams at the end of the first stage (usually at the end of your first year) that you must pass, but they don't count towards your final degree grade. Your tutors will need to be happy with your work for you to progress throughout the course.

After this, assessment depends on the course you are studying. You might sit your Finals (written exams on which your final grade is based) at the end of your last year, or at the end of each year. Some exams may be replaced by a project, extended essay or dissertation, or there might be an oral exam.

**COLLEGES
ARE NOT JUST
WHERE YOU LIVE
– IN MOST CASES
THEY ARE A BASE
FOR TUTORIAL
TEACHING.**

ACROSS
35
UNDERGRADUATE
COLLEGES AND HALLS



COLLEGE

Oxford is made up of undergraduate colleges and halls spread across the city of Oxford. There is no central university campus. Whatever course you are studying you will become a member of one of these small academic communities. It is here that college tutors will oversee your studies and normally arrange your tutorial teaching. All colleges provide somewhere for their students to live during the first year and often for the duration of their course.

For more on colleges see page 144.

Tutorials

These usually take place twice a week in your first year though this may vary later depending on the options you choose. It's up to you to research and

prepare for tutorials, often by writing an essay or solutions to set problems. You meet your tutor, usually with one or two other students, to discuss your work in the tutorials. The aim is to review your answers or theories and explore ideas that arise in discussion.

A tutorial relies on the exchange of ideas so you don't need to be experienced in debating – just ready to present and defend your opinions, accept constructive criticism and listen to others. Tutorials develop your ability to think for yourself – an essential skill for academic success and something that the best employers look for in Oxford graduates. As well as overseeing your studies, college staff are responsible for your welfare.

Read more about the breadth of support on offer at Oxford on page 25.

Your college is so much more than just buildings, it's your home (not just for 3 years either... I never want to leave!) It's where you live, work, sleep and eat. It's where you're going to develop into an adult, make memories and create friendships that last for a long time... this is very cheesy – but I genuinely couldn't imagine myself anywhere else.

Jane, 2nd year

Is Oxford for me?

91%

SCORE FOR SATISFACTION
IN THE 2015 NATIONAL
STUDENT SURVEY

98.4%

COMPLETE THEIR DEGREE
– ONLY 1.6% OF STUDENTS
DROP OUT – COMPARED TO
7% NATIONALLY*

We are committed to ensuring that Oxford provides a safe and inclusive community for all its students, in which they are able to thrive and feel supported.

24%

OF ALL OUR STUDENTS
IDENTIFY AS BLACK
OR MINORITY ETHNIC

8%

OF OUR STUDENTS
ARE REGISTERED WITH
OXFORD'S DISABILITY
SERVICE

*Higher Education Statistics Agency, 2015

Selection for Oxford is entirely based on academic criteria.

To make a competitive application, you need to have, or expect to achieve, three A-levels or any other equivalent qualifications. The exact requirements vary depending on the course you want to apply for, but as a guide you will need to achieve:

A-levels: AAA–A*A*A

International Baccalaureate:

38–40 (including core points)

Many more qualifications are acceptable: see the list at ox.ac.uk/enreqs.

Apart from any specific requirements, we accept all subjects (except General Studies) – particularly those which can demonstrate that you have the necessary skills for your chosen degree.

We don't care about your background, your extra-curricular activities** or what kind of school you went to – we're just looking for academic potential.

***unless your extra-curricular activities show your engagement with or aptitude for your chosen course*

Three years ago I thought it extremely unlikely that I would be here today. If you're reading this and thinking the same, then we have something in common.

Nikita, 3rd year

OXFORD BURSARIES

HELP UK AND EU STUDENTS FROM LOWER-INCOME HOUSEHOLDS TO MEET THEIR LIVING COSTS



The bursary has offered me the financial security I've needed to be able to focus on the academic and social sides of my degree without fear of becoming overdrawn or needing to seek employment during term time.

Matthew, 2nd year



Most importantly I think the bursary has allowed me to enjoy myself more, as I am not constantly worrying about whether I have enough money to do something or not. The generosity of the support has also given me the motivation to work as hard as I can, because I want to know that I deserve it.

Seamus, 2nd year



Oxford has the most generous bursary package I've come across. I keep track of what I'm spending week by week but haven't found myself stretched.

Elizabeth, 1st year



My time at Oxford has been absolutely incredible so far, and that would not have been possible without the bursary support I have received. It has allowed me to purchase essential things such as textbooks and meet daily living costs, without having the constant worry of money hanging over my head. It has also allowed me to engage in social activities with my friends which I never even thought I would be able to afford or consider. It really has been life changing.

Amy, 2nd year



Read more about fees and funding on page 18 or visit [ox.ac.uk/funding](https://www.ox.ac.uk/funding)

At Oxford, how do you...

...RELAX?

It can be difficult to switch off after a day in the library, so exercise is a really important part of the week – I run near my house and go to the gym occasionally. I still find time just to watch bad TV with my friends though.

Noni, 2nd year

I sing in my college choir and play in an orchestra which are always nice ways to unwind just before or after dinner.

Hannah, 1st year

Ultimate Frisbee is the best (temporary) cure for every essay crisis, no matter how severe.

Noémi, 2nd year

If clubbing is your thing, there's plenty of that; if not, there is a load of stuff to get involved in, from societies to people just getting together for a bit of midnight ice skating.

Jack, 1st year

...MANAGE YOUR WORKLOAD?

I know that I'm not good at working in the evenings so I tend to get up fairly early to work in the mornings instead.

Sarah, 2nd year

Managing your workload is about being honest with what you can and can't achieve.

Jane, 2nd year

I keep a diary – essential! Then somehow everything falls into place. I've had to resist some of my perfectionist tendencies – it can be a bit difficult at first but you quickly fall into a good work ethic.

Isla, 2nd year

Somehow it gets done. It does take time to figure out how to work well, and what that means for you. Once you've got it sussed, you can get down to it and find an enjoyable rhythm.

Lillian, 3rd year



Realise that it is okay to say 'No' to something if you have too much work to do, but also realise that if you're not getting anywhere, sometimes a social/ "me-time" break might be just what you need.

Susanna, 3rd year

...AFFORD EVERYTHING?

In term time, budgeting is key. Hall food can be good value, but it is often cheaper to cook for yourself, and that often fits better into your timetable.

Nicola, 2nd year

At the beginning of term, I do a bulk food buy – this is so much cheaper than ‘buying as you go’.

Isla, 2nd year

I eat in hall as frequently as I can. The food is good and it’s not expensive at all.

Ruxandra, 2nd year

I’ve kept a spreadsheet of all my spending to make sure I keep on top of my finances.

Georgina, 1st year

...GET HELP?

When I had a family bereavement last year, my friends were my main support network, but I also got support from my college chaplain (even though I’m not religious – they function in a non-religious capacity as a welfare officer) and my tutors were also very understanding in reducing my workload for that week.

Sarah, 2nd year

I have a couple of close friends I can turn to.

The welfare reps at my college are amazing.

And the counselling service is there too.

There’s support in every direction – it’s brilliant. The welfare service was one of the things that I was most impressed with – as was my mum – it definitely put her at ease!

Isla, 2nd year

It’s a good idea to meet up regularly with your course mates to discuss any problems with your latest essay or problem sheet. If you still can’t work out a problem, your tutor will be very willing to provide help or extra explanation.

Sam, 3rd year

...MAKE FRIENDS?

Going to meals in Hall is great for meeting random new people, including graduate students, who are often very interesting to talk to!

Nicola, 2nd year

Societies are the best place to make friends. It is a lot easier when you have similar interests to the people you want to be friends with.

Ruxandra, 2nd year

Everyone is in the same situation! I just found that engaging people in conversation and being as confident (or brave!) as possible worked.

Marcus, 1st year



Joining societies is a good way of meeting like-minded people from many different colleges and subjects. During the first week of your first term there will be plenty of structured events to make friends with other people in your college.

Sam, 3rd year

Global Oxford



If you are interested in your subject, then you must apply to Oxford! There are almost no places globally which can provide the same student experience.

Niloy, 3rd year

INTERNATIONAL STUDY & RESEARCH

While at Oxford there are lots of opportunities for you to gain international experience to further your academic, career and personal development. These include studying, working or undertaking research abroad. Organised and funded by the University and its colleges, examples include:

Over 650 college travel grants

More than 500 summer internships

Funded summer schools at universities abroad

Student exchanges with the US, Asia and Europe

A year abroad for most students of Modern Languages, Oriental Studies and Law with Law Studies in Europe

ox.ac.uk/students/goabroad

Erasmus study exchanges let you spend up to 12 months at one of our partner universities. Modern Languages students also have the option of an Erasmus traineeship during their year abroad. Erasmus is supported by the European Commission, and includes a monthly allowance to help with studying or working abroad.

ox.ac.uk/erasmus



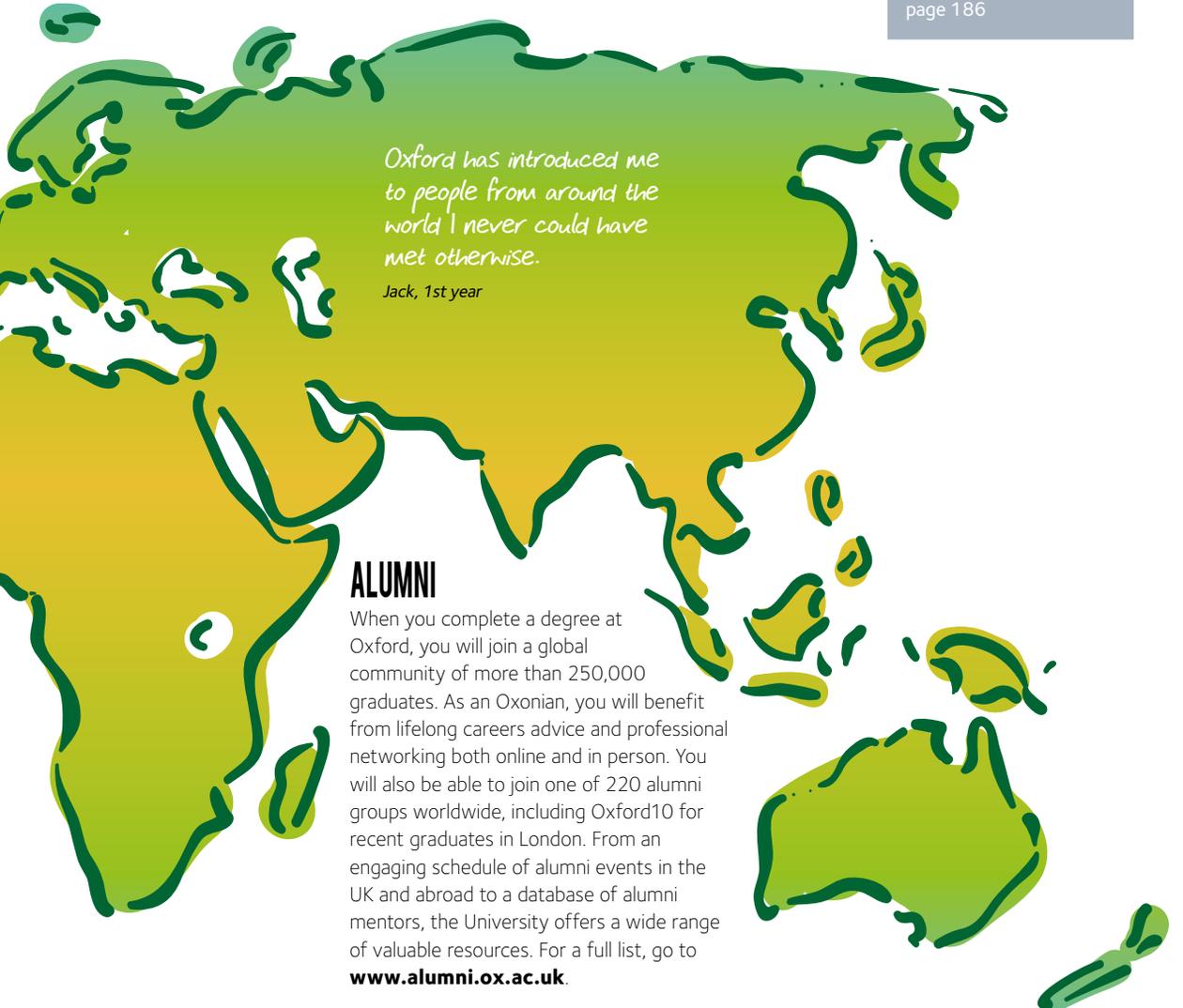
Erasmus+

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International students:
page 14

Events near you:
page 186



Oxford has introduced me to people from around the world I never could have met otherwise.

Jack, 1st year

ALUMNI

When you complete a degree at Oxford, you will join a global community of more than 250,000 graduates. As an Oxonian, you will benefit from lifelong careers advice and professional networking both online and in person. You will also be able to join one of 220 alumni groups worldwide, including Oxford10 for recent graduates in London. From an engaging schedule of alumni events in the UK and abroad to a database of alumni mentors, the University offers a wide range of valuable resources. For a full list, go to www.alumni.ox.ac.uk.

Oxford: a great group of interesting people who come from all across the world and yet can relate to each other so easily.

Mathew, 1st year

OXFORD PEOPLE

26 Nobel Prize winners

26 UK prime ministers

International leaders including Aung San Suu Kyi, Bill Clinton and Malcolm Turnbull

Scientists like Ben Goldacre, Stephen Hawking, Susan Greenfield and Tim Berners-Lee

Writers and poets including Vikram Seth, William Boyd, Jeanette Winterson and Wendy Cope

Actors and filmmakers including Emilia Fox, Hugh Grant and Ken Loach

How to apply

If you want to study at Oxford in 2017, you need to apply by **15 October 2016**. Choose a course and check that you meet its entrance requirements, then follow these steps to apply:

OCTOBER 2016

UCAS APPLICATION

You will need to provide information about yourself, including a **personal statement** where you talk about your interest in the course you're applying for. A teacher or advisor needs to give you a **reference**. This is all submitted through an online form – no additional references, transcripts or certificates are required unless you have already completed your first degree.

Make sure you start your UCAS application in good time.

Most people apply to Oxford before they have finished their final year of school or college. If this is the case for you, then your referee will need to provide you with predicted grades – where they say what they expect you to achieve in your A-levels (or equivalent qualifications).

Submit by 6pm UK time on 15 October at www.ucas.com

TESTS

For most courses, **you are required to take a test** as an essential part of your application: check your course page.

Most Oxford admissions tests are organised by the **Admissions Testing Service**. If you are currently at school or college, you must ask your exams officer to register you to take the test there. Otherwise, see the website for advice on finding an open centre. **ox.ac.uk/tests**

You must:

be registered by 15 October 2016
sit the test on **2 November 2016**

If you are applying to study **Law**, you must take the LNAT (the National Admissions Test for Law) between **1 September and 20 October 2016**.

To guarantee a test slot you will need to **register by 5 October 2016 at www.lnat.ac.uk**.

*The application process is the same for everyone but please see our additional guidance if you are: a **international student** (page 14) a **mature student** (page 15) a **disabled student** (page 16)*



FIND OUT MORE

Fees and funding:

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Subject requirements:

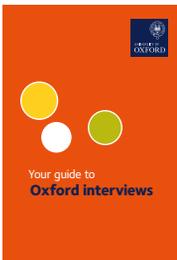
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Seriously, relax during the interview. Rushing off the first thought that comes to mind will very likely end in a wrong answer. Although getting an answer wrong doesn't mean that you will fail – if you have fun learning from the interview – chances are that you'll do just fine.

Yedam, 2nd year

NOVEMBER 2016 WRITTEN WORK

For some courses, you need to send in written work as part of your application: check the page for your course. For exact requirements for each subject, and to download a cover sheet, please visit ox.ac.uk/writwork.



Download
Your guide to
Oxford interviews
at ox.ac.uk/interviews

DECEMBER 2016 INTERVIEW

Tutors review each UCAS application, along with any test or written work, and decide on a shortlist of candidates to interview. You will find out whether or not you have been shortlisted in late November or early December.

If you are shortlisted, you will be invited to come to a particular college in December. The college will provide free accommodation and food while you are here. You will be interviewed by tutors at that college, and possibly by tutors at other colleges as well.

If you live outside the EU, and are unable to travel to Oxford for interview, then you may be offered an interview by Skype. (Medicine is an exception – all shortlisted candidates must come to Oxford.)

There are lots of myths about interviews at Oxford, but really they're just conversations about your chosen subject. For more information visit ox.ac.uk/interviews.

JANUARY 2017 DECISIONS

You will hear by mid-January 2017 whether or not your application has been successful.

If you have not yet completed the necessary qualifications, then any offer made will be a conditional offer. **You will have until August 2017 to achieve the required grades.**

SPRING 2017 FINANCE

Student finance applications open from early 2017.

For fees, funding, grants and bursaries information see page 18 or visit

ox.ac.uk/funding

OCTOBER 2017 START YOUR COURSE?



International students

We encourage applications from academically strong students from around the world, and welcome the diversity international students contribute to the University.

Over a third of our students (including 17% of undergraduates) are international citizens, and come from over 140 countries. Student societies represent most countries in the world.

In a survey of international students at 54 UK universities, Oxford was rated for satisfaction:

Good place to be	97%
Expert lecturers	96%
Online library	95%
Physical library	93%
Research	92%
Course content	91%

Source: International Student Barometer, IGI Services Ltd (2014)

Entrance requirements

You do not have to take British A-levels to apply to Oxford – we accept school-leaving qualifications and test scores from many countries: see the list at ox.ac.uk/intquals. Sometimes, if your school-leaving qualifications aren't sufficient, you might need to undertake further study before applying.

English language

Teaching at Oxford is all in English (apart from some language-specific courses) so to study here you must have sufficient fluency in written and spoken English.

If you are not a native speaker you may be asked to take an English test to prove your fluency. See the list at

ox.ac.uk/enlang.

Coming to Oxford

Our Student Information team offers:

- an International Student Orientation Programme
- immigration and visa advice.

ox.ac.uk/students/new/international

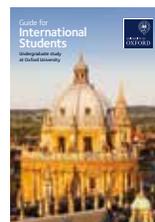
If you are offered a place to study at Oxford and you are not an EEA or Swiss national, you must apply for a visa in your home country/country of residence before you enter the UK.

www.gov.uk/tier-4-general-visa
ukcisa.org.uk

Visiting students

University students from overseas can spend up to one year in Oxford on a course related to their degree. Visiting students apply directly to individual colleges, not through UCAS.

ox.ac.uk/visiting



Download the *International Students guide* at ox.ac.uk/int/app

The number of international fee status medical students at each medical school in the UK is subject to a government quota: currently this is 14

FIND OUT MORE

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Mature students

21 or over at the start of October in your first year



Download the **Mature Students guide** at ox.ac.uk/mature

Oxford is looking for the best and brightest candidates, irrespective of their age or background. Just like everyone else who applies, mature students need to demonstrate academic ability and commitment to study.

Which college?

As a mature student, you can apply to any college. One college (Harris Manchester) and three of the Permanent Private Halls (Blackfriars, St Stephen's House and Wycliffe Hall) take only mature students. An environment specifically catering for mature students can provide excellent peer support in which to enjoy the varied and fast-paced life of Oxford.

Accommodation

All undergraduate degrees at Oxford involve intense study and high levels of commitment. Undergraduate students are required to be resident in the city during term time: either in college, in other accommodation within 6 miles of the city centre, or within 25 miles if at your family home.

Qualifications and study skills

Tutors will take your work experience and life skills into account, but it's essential that you have also undertaken formal academic qualifications within the three years before you apply. We need to be sure that you will be able to cope with the demands of academic study at Oxford. Many different academic qualifications could be acceptable: see ox.ac.uk/enreqs.

Department for Continuing Education

Those with less recent academic experience or with work or family commitments may be interested in the part-time Undergraduate Certificates, Diplomas and Advanced Diplomas we offer in many subjects through the Department for Continuing Education. Some courses may be studied online, and all earn nationally recognised credits. Students from the Foundation Certificates in English and History can apply to join the second year of our full-time English or History degree course. www.conted.ox.ac.uk

Second undergraduate degrees

Studying for a second undergraduate degree is a common route for students who decide to change direction in their education or to pursue a new area of study. The application procedure and entrance requirements are exactly the same, except that you will be expected to have a good academic record from your first degree (usually at least a 2:1). You may apply for Senior Status, which gives direct entry to the second year of the course: ox.ac.uk/sud.

Studying for a second undergraduate degree will have funding implications: see ox.ac.uk/elq.

I wasn't able to complete university at the usual age, due to a number of financial responsibilities, but for as long as I can remember, it was my dream to one day make it to Oxford and complete a BA degree. I was always waiting for the right time to apply, and then one day it was the right time, and so I applied.

Leonie, 3rd year



**Priority
NURSERY**
places for student
parents – page 25



Disabled students

FIND OUT MORE

Hear about disabled students' experiences:
ox.ac.uk/swd
Colleges:
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The University welcomes applications from disabled students, and makes reasonable adjustments to facilitate access to courses.

The **Disability Advisory Service** (DAS) provides information, advice and assistance with coordinating practical study support arrangements, and works with both prospective and current students.

The DAS will arrange support in line with your individual circumstances. This might include, for example, access to support workers, help with travel costs, provision of specialist equipment, or alternative examination arrangements such as extra time. The University can also supply materials in alternative formats – see www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/services/disability/aracu for details.

The unimaginable has happened – I have been awarded a degree with distinction and a prize for best dissertation. I was able to do an amazing amount of work and edit my dissertation very fast with the assistive technology you recommended and put in place. For once I was able to do a vast amount of work without it impacting on my health.

Sabena, graduate

students with dyslexia, dyspraxia and other specific learning difficulties

1,800+

students registered with Oxford's disability service

students with Autistic spectrum conditions

students with any long-term mental or physical health condition

UK students are encouraged to apply for the **Disabled Students Allowance** (DSA) as soon as possible and our **Assessment Centre** can offer the study needs assessments to support your application.

If you are disabled, and thinking of applying to Oxford, we'd advise you to:

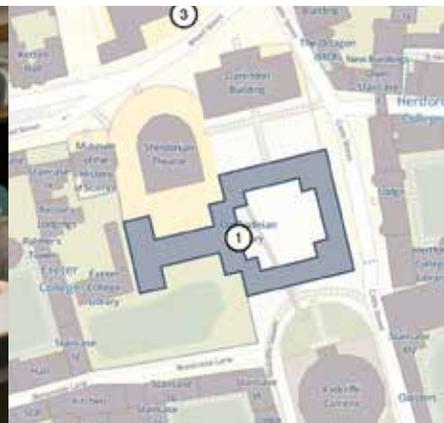
- consider the requirements of your chosen course before applying
- identify any elements that might present particular barriers
- talk to or visit your college and department of choice, to explore facilities and discuss any specific disability-related issues.

It is essential to contact the DAS as early as possible in the application process so that any necessary arrangements can be made for a possible visit or interview and well in advance of the start of your course. Find out more by visiting: ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/disability.



Download our **Supporting your move to Oxford** leaflet at ox.ac.uk/swd

Plan your way around the city using our interactive map at www.maps.ox.ac.uk and have a look at our **access guide** at www.admin.ox.ac.uk/access



Equality for all

If you have high academic ability and potential, you're the kind of person we'd like to welcome to Oxford.

You will have the chance to make a unique contribution while enjoying the opportunity to study and socialise with talented people from a wide range of backgrounds, and with a huge variety of interests and passions. We make admissions decisions solely on the individual merits of each candidate using selection criteria appropriate to the course of study. Our students and staff all contribute to making Oxford an inclusive environment where we feel respected and valued.

I'm autistic, and I have an anxiety disorder. My tutors were understanding and always supported me. I hope no one is put off from applying to Oxford if they're disabled, because as much as it is a challenge, it is an incredible opportunity.

Chris, former OUSU Welfare & Equal Opportunities Officer

I coordinated a campaign called 'Bye Bi Prejudice', which brings attention to the hurtful stereotypes faced by people who are non-monosexual.

Adam, former OUSU LGBTQ Officer

10%
of all our
undergraduate
students are
disabled

24%
of all our students
identify as Black
or Minority
Ethnic

Oxford students
come from over

140
countries.

Academic and research
staff come from
nearly 100.

Equality-focused activities include:

- **Gender:** the Women's Campaign within Oxford University Student Union (OUSU) tinyurl.com/l2nnm9m
- **Ethnicity:** CRAE (the OUSU Campaign for Racial Awareness and Equality) tinyurl.com/l7p3l76
- **LGBTQ issues (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer):** OUSU LGBTQ Campaign tinyurl.com/m4syo47 LGBTQ Society ougbtsoc.org.uk
- **Religion and belief:** worship facilities for a wide variety of faiths tinyurl.com/k5tyz3e
- **Disability:** support for disabled students ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/disability
- **Care leavers and looked-after children:** one-on-one meetings at open days and support throughout your time here. Contact: james.slattery@admin.ox.ac.uk or **01865 270543**

I organised weekly welfare events for trans students where I met lots of other students like me, created an online resource centre for trans students, and worked with colleges to help them support students who want to come out as trans.

Crash, 3rd year (previously LGBTQ Society Trans Rep/Chair of LGBTQ Campaign)



Fees and funding

FIND OUT MORE

Visit ox.ac.uk/funding for the latest information

Oxford is committed to providing generous financial support to UK/EU students from lower-income households to ensure that those with the academic ability to achieve a place here are not held back by their financial circumstances.

Having the bursary this year has enabled me to focus on my studies fully without having to worry about financial issues on a day-to-day basis. It also meant that I could afford to go on my first-year biology field trip to Wales...The bursary has enhanced my Oxford experience greatly, to the point where I am able to enjoy my time here without a single worry about if I can actually afford it!

Lily, 2nd year

WHAT IT COSTS

Fees

What you pay each year is determined by your fee status (based on your nationality and where you usually live). You will be classed as Home (UK), EU (rest of European Union), Islands (Channel Islands or Isle of Man) or Overseas (outside EU).

More on fee status:

ox.ac.uk/ugfeestatus

Living Costs

Your living costs will vary depending on your lifestyle. In 2016–17 living costs at Oxford are estimated to be between £970 and £1,433 a month for essentials like accommodation and food. Budget over nine months to cover the full academic year (£8,727–£12,894).

Full breakdown of living costs:

ox.ac.uk/uglivingcosts

CHANGES TO FEES

The University caps the amount by which it can increase its fees annually. More information about the amount of the cap and how the increase is calculated is available at www.ox.ac.uk/ffchanges-fees.

For Home and EU undergraduate students, tuition fees are also subject to a governmental fee cap and will not increase above the level of the fee cap, which is subject to annual review.

Home/EU fees:

The 2017–18 tuition fee for Home/EU students will be confirmed in spring 2016. You can receive a loan to cover your fees and **do not have to pay this cost upfront**.

Islands fees:

Islands students pay the same tuition fee as Home/EU students*.

Overseas fees:

Overseas undergraduates pay a higher rate of tuition fee than Home/EU students, which varies according to subject (up to £22,515* in 2016–17) plus an annual college fee (£7,135 in 2016–17).

*with the exception of Clinical Medicine, where the fee is significantly higher



FIND OUT MORE

Check the costs of studying and support available using the Fees, Funding and Scholarship Search: ox.ac.uk/ffsearch

WHAT YOU GET – HOME AND EU STUDENTS ONLY

From the UK government

Home/EU students:

A loan to cover **all your fees**

Home students:

A Maintenance Loan to cover some of your living costs

Home students from lower-income households:

Additional maintenance support to cover more of your living costs

UK government loan repayments are combined into a single amount which only becomes repayable once you have left your course.

Student Finance applications open from early 2017; you should apply as early as possible. To be considered for additional maintenance support and bursaries, you must have your household income assessed by your funding agency. Where to apply depends on whether you are from:

England:

www.gov.uk/student-finance

Scotland:

www.saas.gov.uk

Northern Ireland:

www.studentfinanceneni.co.uk

Wales:

www.studentfinancewales.co.uk

the rest of the EU:

www.gov.uk/apply-for-student-finance

From Oxford

Oxford's financial support will be confirmed in summer 2016. As a guide: in 2016–17, Oxford is offering generous annual bursaries of up to £3,700 for students from lower-income households.

We make it as easy as possible to access our funding – there is no separate application process. We use information from your funding agency to assess you for Oxford funding, so **make sure you are financially assessed or means tested.**

Updates on Oxford's funding will be available from spring 2016 at ox.ac.uk/funding

Without the bursary I doubt that I would be able to afford to be here. It has enabled me to go for meals with friends and to get a bike, which allows me to get to any extracurricular activities that I may take part in. Most importantly it has allowed me this year to focus on my academic work and just being at university, rather than on financial issues.

Michael, 2nd year

MORITZ–HEYMAN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME

UK students from lower-income households may be eligible for enhanced support from Oxford. The Moritz–Heyman Scholarship programme provides funding, opportunities for volunteering and access to internships during the summer vacations. ox.ac.uk/mh

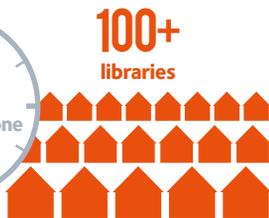
PREVIOUS STUDY

If you have previously completed a course at undergraduate level, you will be classed as an Equivalent or Lower Qualification (ELQ) student and won't receive funding for your course. If you began but did not complete a degree, you might not get funding for the full length of your course.

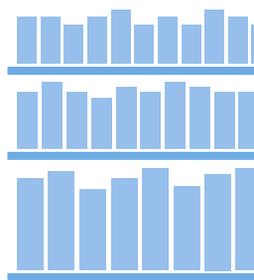
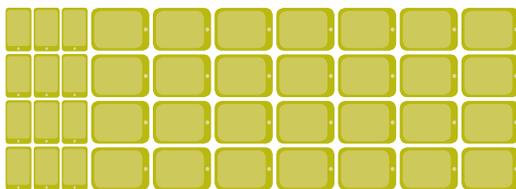
See: ox.ac.uk/elq



Libraries



70,000 e-journals



READ KEY TEXTS

Whether you're writing an essay or preparing for an experiment, you'll be given a reading list to start from. You can find the books you will need in your college or department, or both.

College libraries are open to everyone in your college. They stock the core materials for your course, and have generous lending arrangements. They are often open 24 hours a day, providing quiet, convenient places to study. The college librarian can help you to find what you need, and in many cases will order books in specially.

Sitting in the Bodleian Library at the same desk that might once have been occupied by John Locke and Robert Hooke, I feel part of the University's rich history.

Olinga

RESEARCH A TOPIC IN DEPTH

When you find something really interesting, Oxford makes it easy to go beyond your reading list and find out more. Many courses offer a chance to write a dissertation or carry out a research project.

Subject librarians are your guides to Oxford's world-class research collections. They can advise on the latest publications in your field, or on the best databases to search. They often run classes to help you make the most of what they can offer.

The Bodleian Libraries form the UK's largest academic library service with combined collections of over 12 million items on 117 miles of shelves. The Bodleian Library is a legal deposit library, meaning it can claim a copy of any book or journal published in the UK or Ireland. All Oxford students are entitled to use the Bod for their research.

www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk

Duke Humfrey's Library



FIND OUT MORE

Visit
www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk

12 MILLION+
printed items

on
117 MILES
of shelves

Every
21
seconds someone
borrows a
book

STUDY ONLINE

Oxford has an extensive online collection, available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This includes databases, books, reference works and an excellent online journal collection. These are available to members of the University from anywhere with an internet connection.

SOLO (Search Oxford Libraries Online) lists books and journals, print and online:
solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk

OxLIP+ lists databases, electronic reference works and e-journals:
oxlip-plus.bodleian.ox.ac.uk

Research assistance, subject guides and how the Oxford library system works:
libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk

READING ROOMS

Oxford has a mix of old and new libraries, which offer a fantastic range of places to study. Choose from Duke Humfrey's (built in 1488, and used as the Hogwarts library in some of the Harry Potter films), the elegant circular Radcliffe Camera, the bright modern Social Science Library, and many more.
www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk

I think the big realisation for me was that you actually don't need to buy that much. So much is provided for you; for example, as a History student I've never ever had to buy a book or course materials. Everything I need is in a library, somewhere!

Chloe, 2nd year

NEW WESTON LIBRARY

Opened to readers in September 2014 with three refurbished reading rooms as well as exhibition spaces, shop and café.

Charles Wendell David Reading Room, Weston Library



Museums and collections

6,500+
species of plants

Oxford has collections of international importance – databanks for research, teaching and study – full of wonderful treasures that anyone can enjoy.



ASHMOLEAN MUSEUM

Founded in 1683, the Ashmolean is the oldest public museum in the world. Its rich and incredibly diverse collections range from artefacts of the world's great ancient civilisations to modern art, telling human stories across cultures and across time. The Ashmolean hosts major international exhibitions which will be of interest to many students, and of particular use to students in Ancient and Modern History, Fine Art, History of Art, Archaeology, Classics and Anthropology.

www.ashmolean.org

OXFORD UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

The spectacular neo-Gothic architecture of a Grade I-listed building houses the University's geological and zoological specimens. Among its most famous are the only soft tissue remains of a dodo, the first dinosaur to be scientifically identified, and the swifts in the tower. The Archaeology, Biological and Earth Sciences courses make use of its staff expertise and collections.

www.oum.ox.ac.uk

MUSEUM OF THE HISTORY OF SCIENCE

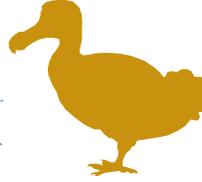
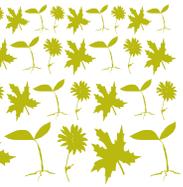
The world's oldest purpose-built museum houses an unrivalled collection of scientific instruments from antiquity to the 20th century. Astrolabes, sundials, quadrants, mathematical and optical instruments and apparatus associated with chemistry, natural philosophy and medicine are displayed, alongside temporary exhibitions. The collections are used in teaching History of Science and History of Art.

www.mhs.ox.ac.uk



2,000+
 musical instruments

1
 dodo



PITT RIVERS MUSEUM

The Pitt Rivers is a museum of ethnography and world archaeology, celebrated for its period feel and the density of its displays. Courses that use the museum's resources include Human Sciences, Archaeology and Anthropology, Geography, Classics, History of Art and Fine Art. In addition to a collection which now numbers over half a million objects, there are extensive photographic and sound archives.

www.prm.ox.ac.uk



BOTANIC GARDEN & HARCOURT ARBORETUM

Oxford is unusual amongst UK universities having both a Botanic Garden and an extensive Arboretum, with over 6,500 species of plants from all over the world. The collection includes unique specimens not in cultivation anywhere else. The gardens and glasshouses at the Botanic Garden, and the exotic collection, meadows and native woodland at the Arboretum, are perfect for visiting any time of the year.

These collections are particularly used by students in Biological Sciences.

www.botanic-garden.ox.ac.uk
www.harcourt-arboretum.ox.ac.uk

BATE COLLECTION

One of the most magnificent collections of musical instruments in the world, the Bate has more than 2,000 instruments from the Renaissance, through the baroque, classical and romantic periods up to modern times. More than a thousand instruments are on display, by the most important makers and from pre-eminent collectors. Music and History of Art undergraduates make use of the collection.

www.bate.ox.ac.uk

BODLEIAN LIBRARIES

Treasures include rare books, maps and manuscripts, such as Shakespeare's First Folio and the Magna Carta.

www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk



Supporting your studies

IT SERVICES

The University Wi-Fi network covers most of central Oxford, including parks, cafés and pubs.



Mobile Oxford

Whether you need maps, library books, the next bus, or even collection times at the nearest postbox, Mobile Oxford is here to help.

m.ox.ac.uk

Podcasts and iTunes U

Public lectures, teaching material, interviews with leading academics – all available to download for free.

podcasts.ox.ac.uk

itunes.ox.ac.uk



IT learning programme

You can choose from more than 200 different, free or low-cost courses each term: from fundamental skills in the common Office applications through to web design, programming and multimedia. Plus you have free 24/7 access to a large online library of video-based courses. You can find it all at:

courses.it.ox.ac.uk

Getting started

What to bring with you to Oxford, and how to get started or find help if you need it:

welcometoit.ox.ac.uk

LANGUAGE CENTRE

The Language Centre's term-time programmes of study offer students a chance to learn a new language or keep up an old one, whatever their degree.

The Language Library has a range of multimedia facilities including text and audio-visual material in over 190 languages.



Daytime (LASR) classes can be started at different times of the year and have priority registration for those with study and research needs.

Evening (OPAL) courses offer a certificate and must be started in October, culminating in an examination and assessed presentation.

Special courses are currently available to students from certain departments.

Courses in academic English are available for international students who would like to improve their English for study purposes while they are here.

The Lambda Project provides independent learners of French and German with advice and support.

More about the Language Centre, courses, and fees:

www.lang.ox.ac.uk



Supporting you

FIND OUT MORE

Visit
ox.ac.uk/students/welfare

YOUR SUPPORT NETWORK

College welfare contacts

Colleges are a great source of personal support. Those who are available to help include your subject tutor, student peer supporters, people in designated welfare roles, NHS doctors and college nurses.

350 students across the University are trained peer supporters, supervised by the Counselling Service.

ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/peer

I am one of six trained peer supporters in my college. Our photos and phone numbers are up around college for people to get in touch if they want to. As college LGB+TQ rep, I organise things like LGB+TQ teas and dinners out with nearby colleges. Oxford is an incredibly welcoming and supportive environment, and my job is to make it even more so.*

Daniel, 3rd year

Student Counselling Service

The counselling service, staffed by counsellors, psychologists and psychotherapists, is available to help you address personal or emotional problems that affect your experience at Oxford. Its aim is to help you realise your full academic potential and develop greater ability to take decisions for yourself that effect real change. Alongside individual and group sessions there are workshops and self-help materials available.

ox.ac.uk/students/welfare/counselling

Childcare

Extensive childcare provision for student parents is available. University Childcare Services manage multisite nursery provision within Oxford. Four colleges operate independent nurseries.

www.admin.ox.ac.uk/childcare

Oxford Nightline

Nightline is a confidential listening, information and support service run by students, for students. It is open 8pm–8am, every night in term time.

users.ox.ac.uk/~nightln

Harassment

The University is committed to maintaining an environment in which the rights and dignity of all members of the University community are respected. There is a network of harassment advisors and a dedicated harassment line.

www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/har

Student Advice Service

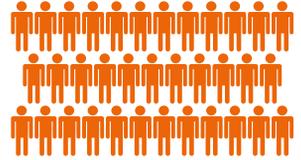
The Student Advice Service is the only independent advice, information and advocacy service exclusively available to Oxford University students. Independent of colleges and the University, they can provide information and support to students facing any difficult situation.

www.ousu.org

www.ousu.org/advice

*see page 17

350 students are trained Peer Supporters



I was convinced somebody had made a mistake letting me into Oxford. I got to the point where I started to think I should leave before they told me to. My counsellor helped me to understand why I felt a fraud and we worked on how I could change the way I thought about myself. I got a first in Finals!

Zara



Sport

FIND OUT MORE

Visit ousu.org/get-involved/clubs-societies to explore over 400 clubs and societies

It isn't all rowing and rugby at Oxford. You can play for fun, try a new sport or just get fit. But if you want to represent the University, you have the chance to join a rich tradition and some very competitive teams.

Oxford is currently ranked among the top British universities for sport thanks to our talented students. As well as the British Universities and Colleges Sport (BUCS) championships and other tournaments, there are inter-university competitions and college leagues.

You have the use of some of the best sporting facilities of any university on three main sites: the Iffley Road sports complex, the University Parks sports grounds and the Marston Road sports ground. Iffley Road is where many clubs train and compete; it boasts a fitness gym, an all-weather running track, an Olympic-standard hockey pitch, a 25-metre swimming pool, rowing tank, cricket school, sports hall and dojo, along with provision for association football, lawn tennis and rugby.

Cricketers play on the picturesque University Parks – the only place in Britain where spectators can watch first-class cricket for free.

Most of the colleges have facilities of their own, from squash courts and fitness suites to boathouses, cricket pitches and lively clubhouses.

The University's Sports Federation helps to run more than 80 clubs – including traditional sports, new and esoteric activities, and everything in between – for anyone from the interested beginner to the international athlete. Whether you want to play in a serious team or a college kickabout, or you just enjoy running, swimming or cycling, you will find what you are looking for here.

The University's top athletes gain the status of Blue – an accolade that stems from the first boat race in 1829, when Cambridge tied light blue ribbons to their boat and Oxford adopted Christ Church's dark blue.

www.sport.ox.ac.uk







Music

FIND OUT MORE

Visit ousu.org/get-involved/clubs-societies to explore over 400 clubs and societies

From classical to jazz through indie, rock, folk and electronic, all the styles of music you could dream of (and then some) are represented at Oxford. Whether you want to sing, perform, DJ or just listen, you will find what you are looking for here.

For live music, the city's big venues (O2 Academy, New Theatre) regularly draw national and international acts. Many smaller venues host local unsigned acts, as well as regular jam sessions and open mic nights. RockSoc, the rock music society, spawns many student bands and organises group trips to gigs. If you prefer classical music, you'll enjoy Oxford's wealth of lunchtime and evening concerts, often taking place in spectacular settings such as the Sheldonian Theatre or the Holywell Music Room.

If you're looking to practise an instrument or form a band, then check out your college's music room – they're often well equipped with piano, amps and drums. College parties are a great place to try DJing, and many colleges have their own choirs, orchestras and bands.

The Oxford University Music Society (OUMS) runs four orchestras, a wind orchestra, a big band, a brass band, a string ensemble and the University chorus.

Singers can choose from traditional college choirs, Glee-style a cappella groups and non-auditioned vocal ensembles.

oums.org

Choral and organ awards

Oxford's chapel music environment is extremely lively, offering scope for outstanding work in liturgical music and also experience in concert performance, touring and recording. Whatever subject you're planning to apply for, you can audition for a choral or organ award in September. For details see:

ox.ac.uk/choralorganawards

Choral scholars gain invaluable performance experience and training at a high level through membership of a college chapel choir. Many of today's leading singers, such as Toby Spence, Emma Kirkby and Robin Blaze, were choral scholars.

Organ scholars play a crucial part in Oxford music. In some colleges they direct the music in chapel; in others they assist professional directors of music. The role develops skills in choral accompanying, direction and administration. Many Oxford organ scholars have gone on to become celebrated musicians while others have attained distinction beyond music, including a prime minister and a Hollywood actor.

University is a great chance to pick up something new, make a difference, and learn new skills that are not taught in your degree.

Jacob, 4th year

CHORAL AND ORGAN AWARDS OPEN DAY

An open day on Saturday 30 April 2016 provides workshops and the opportunity to join a college choir for Evensong.

See: www.music.ox.ac.uk/apply/undergraduate/choral-and-organ-awards



Drama

FIND OUT MORE

Visit
www.ouds.org
for more about Oxford
University Drama

Oxford is full of theatre spaces – everything from the Burton Taylor Studio, which hosts student shows every week, through the nationally renowned Oxford Playhouse which hosts two large-scale student productions a term, to theatre spaces inside colleges. More adventurous producers might aim for an outdoor garden show in the summer term, or put on a play in a nightclub or chapel.

On stage, backstage or in the audience, you can take part in a great variety of traditional, contemporary and experimental productions.

Oxford University Dramatic Society (OUDS)

represents a huge body of students interested in making theatre. Each year they tour internationally with a Shakespeare production directed, performed and produced by students.

www.ouds.org

Tabs Are For Flying (TAFF) is the society for those who work on the technical side of theatre and theatre design, including stage and production management, lighting, sound, props, and costume and set design.

www.tabsareforflying.co.uk

The **Oxford Imps** perform improvised comedy every Monday night in term, and go to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival for a month each

summer. They are a training and performance company, offering a boot camp and workshops for a new generation of comedians and actors.

www.oxfordimps.com

The **Oxford Revue** has spawned some of Britain's best loved writers and comedians, from Alan Bennett and Rowan Atkinson to Stewart Lee and Katy Brand.

www.oxfordrevue.com

Cameron Mackintosh Visiting Professor

Each year a major theatrical figure is appointed to give a series of lectures and workshops at St Catherine's College. The current Visiting Professor of Contemporary Theatre is Simon Russell Beale. Previous professors include Stephen Fry, Stephen Sondheim, Kevin Spacey and Meera Syal.







Visit ousu.org/get-involved/clubs-societies to explore over 400 clubs and societies

Oxford University Student Union and more

OUSU

Oxford University Student Union (OUSU) exists to enhance student experience at Oxford. A team of officers, elected annually by the whole student body, work hard to ensure that Oxford's 22,000 student voices are heard – international or home student, undergraduate or postgraduate – OUSU represents all Oxford University students.

For example, OUSU deals with University-wide issues like bursary negotiations and welfare, representation on national debates surrounding higher education and its funding, and liaises with the local community. Students can get involved with OUSU's LGBTQ campaign, Campaign for Racial Awareness and Equality, Women's Campaign, Homelessness Campaign, Mental Health Campaign and more.

www.ousu.org

OUSU's Raise and Give (RAG) organises fun fundraising activities.

ousu.org/get-involved/raise-and-give

OUSU – WORKING ON YOUR BEHALF

See: www.ousu.org

CHARITY

Oxford offers a wealth of opportunities for volunteering, many of which can be found through the Oxford Hub.

www.oxfordhub.org

MEDIA

Oxide is a student-run radio station combining a diverse playlist with talk shows and interviews.

www.oxideradio.co.uk

The *Cherwell* and *Oxford Student* newspapers publish everything from restaurant reviews and crosswords to investigative journalism and sports reports.

www.cherwell.org

www.oxfordstudent.com

Isis Magazine is Britain's oldest student publication.

www.isismagazine.org.uk

THE OXFORD UNION SOCIETY*

Established in 1823, the world's most famous debating society aims to promote debate and discussion not just in the University, but across the globe. The Union is also a social centre and there are frequent lectures by all kinds of figures, from Ronald Reagan, the Dalai Lama and Tanni Grey-Thompson to Johnny Depp, Stephen Hawking and Shakira.

www.oxford-union.org

Whatever your level of expertise, you can become involved in any club or society that interests you. OUSU's Freshers' Fair at the start of your first term can help you find out what is available – and if a society or team doesn't exist, it's easy to set one up.

READ THE ALTERNATIVE PROSPECTUS

at www.ousu.org

*Not to be confused with the Oxford University Student Union (OUSU).

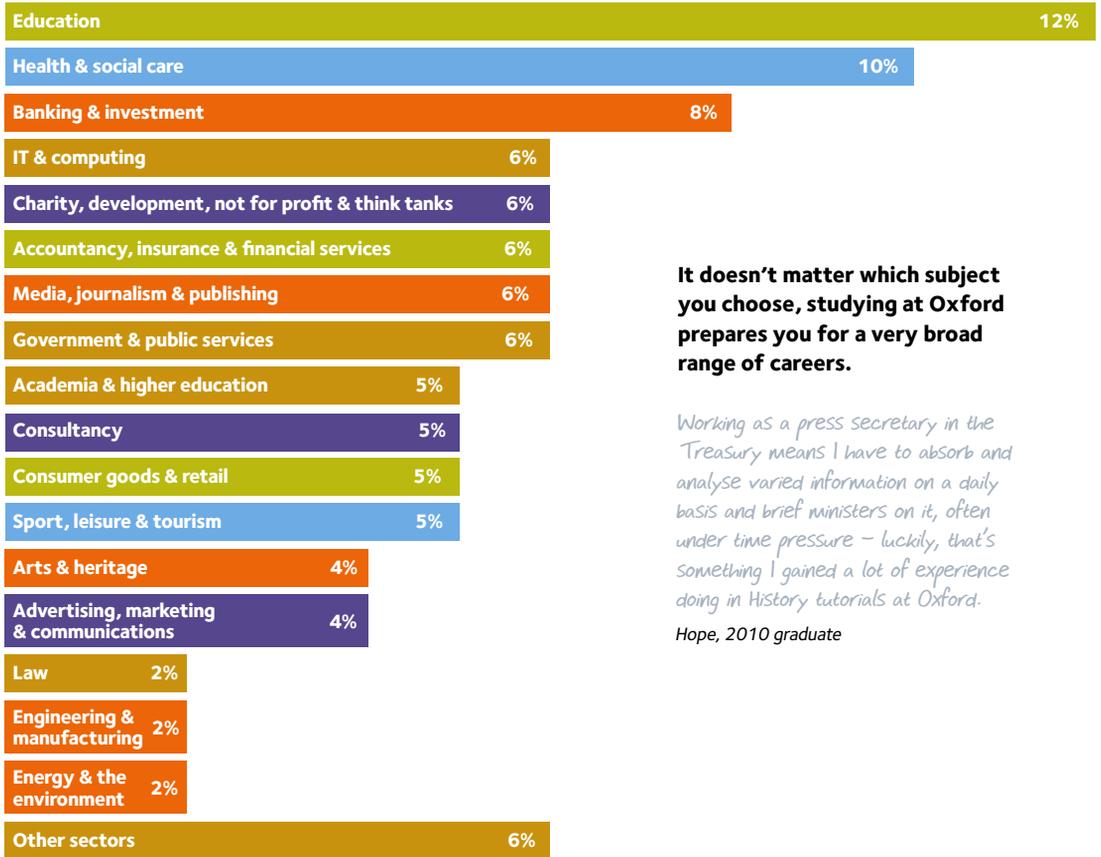


Your career after Oxford

Six months after leaving, the majority of our students are in employment and most of the rest are in further study. When we checked with the 2014 leavers, only 3% were looking for work and 6% were doing something else such as taking time out to travel.



And of those in work:



It doesn't matter which subject you choose, studying at Oxford prepares you for a very broad range of careers.

Working as a press secretary in the Treasury means I have to absorb and analyse varied information on a daily basis and brief ministers on it, often under time pressure – luckily, that's something I gained a lot of experience doing in History tutorials at Oxford.

Hope, 2010 graduate



FIND OUT MORE

Take a look at Oxford's
Careers Service:
www.careers.ox.ac.uk

OXFORD UNIVERSITY CAREERS SERVICE

The University's Careers Service is committed to helping all students find the next best step.

560

workshops run
by our Careers
Advisers and visiting
recruiters each year

4,700

one-to-one
careers advice
appointments
available to
students each
year

14

annual careers fairs
so you can explore
your options and
meet employers

8,900

opportunities
advertised over the
past year on our
website

27%

of students take home
over £30,000 in the first
year after graduation

DEVELOPING SKILLS OUTSIDE YOUR COURSE

Join societies

There are numerous student societies and sports teams at Oxford. Taking part can help you demonstrate teamwork, time management, leadership skills and more.

Do an internship

In addition to over a thousand internships advertised by employers on our website, Oxford's Internship Office sources hundreds of global placements exclusively for Oxford students. Past placements have included a water sanitation project in Cambodia, biodiversity research in the Amazon and working in a museum in the USA.

Get business experience

Unique programmes such as the Student Consultancy and Insight into Business allow students to work with Oxfordshire organisations to solve real business problems and develop commercial awareness.

Gain confidence

Springboard is an award-winning programme for professional women. The Oxford version provides female students with the tools to boost their confidence and reach their aspirations – across many areas of life.

The breadth of PPE has meant that not only did I learn a vast amount about how economies and institutions function, but successfully completing the degree also enabled me to develop strong organisational skills, particularly with regards to prioritising and focusing. This was very useful to me when I entered an intensive software coding bootcamp immediately after Oxford and is proving invaluable now, a couple of years down the line, as I start up a tech company.

Nadia, 2013 graduate



In and around Oxford

There are around 40,000 students at Oxford's two universities (Oxford University and Oxford Brookes University). They make up a big part of the city's 150,000 population. The city is youthful and cosmopolitan, with plenty to see and do.

Oxford is a wonderful city to spend time in. I love walking or running in the University Parks and around the Meadows with friends, followed by coffee in one of the many lovely coffee shops!

Rebecca, 2nd year

COWLEY ROAD

The area around the Cowley Road is vibrant and diverse. Its restaurants cater to all tastes – Jamaican, Thai, Polish, Kurdish, Italian, Lebanese and more. It is also home to lots of pubs and live music venues, including the O2 Academy which attracts many high-profile acts.

IFFLEY ROAD

Parallel to Cowley Road, home to the University sports centre and a lot of students living out of their college, this part of town has a community feel.

The best thing about Oxford as a city is Iffley in all its glory.

George, 3rd year

RIVER THAMES or Isis

Summer Eights, the colleges' rowing competition, takes place every June and attracts large numbers of students supporting their college from the river bank. Whether you are sporty or not, you can enjoy the buzz and party atmosphere at the event, which lasts several days.

In summer a great thing to do is get a group of friends together and cycle up the river for a pub lunch.

Jacob, 4th year

GREEN SPACES

The green spaces around Oxford are beautiful. It's a bustling city but it also has gardens and parks with rivers, cows(!) and lovely views of the dreaming spires.

Ella, 2nd year

The Botanic Garden is my hidey hole, it's a haven of tranquillity.

Emily, 1st year

LIVING OUT

All students live in college accommodation in their first and usually last year, so there's no need to look for accommodation before you arrive. In many colleges, you can live in for your whole course. If you do have to live out of college (or you prefer to) you can share a house with friends or rent a room in a family home. Most students who live out do so in the area around the Cowley and Iffley Roads, or in Jericho. See ox.ac.uk/ugcolls.

CITY CENTRE

You will find the usual high street stores, as well as smaller independent retailers. The famous Covered Market has everything from quirky fashion boutiques to pie shops. If you want to go on a spending spree, you can catch a coach to the enormous Westfield shopping centre in West London. Many student club nights are held in the city.

The city centre is so alive with people and music and colour.

Louise, 1st year

ARTS & THEATRE

Modern Art Oxford is one of the UK's most exciting and influential contemporary art spaces, with an international reputation for ambitious and innovative projects.

The Oxford Playhouse is one of Britain's leading theatres, with regular high-profile productions. The New Theatre stages a variety of touring shows, including West End musicals and famous comedians.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Summer events include **Cowley Road Carnival**, the **Jericho Street Fair** and **Oxford Pride**. Historic events include **May Morning**, where crowds gather at sunrise on 1 May to hear choristers sing an invocation to summer from the top of Magdalen College tower.

My best Oxford memory (so far) is spending May Morning with friends, watching Magdalen Choir sing at sunrise.

Ben, 3rd year

MUSEUMS

I've only visited the Ashmolean and Pitt Rivers, and I still haven't been able to fully explore them. The special events are really enjoyable – Northern Lights at the Pitt Rivers had a beautiful atmosphere to it, and the Ashmolean's Egyptomania-themed 'LiveFriday' was right up my street.

Jordan, 1st year

JERICHO

Just north-west of the centre, the part of town known as Jericho is famous for its arthouse cinema, cocktail bars and high-end restaurants. Pepper's burgers are also legendary. From here you can also take picturesque walks across Port Meadow: a large area of common land mentioned in the Domesday Book.

