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OXFORD SUMMER COURSES

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# SUMMER 2018

ACADEMIC COURSES FOR 16-24 YEAR OLDS





# WELCOME

At Oxford Summer Courses, we believe in the best. The best teachers, the best setting and the best experiences. If you want summer 2018 to stick in your mind – while stretching and strengthening it– you’ve come to the right place.

We are both Oxford alumni. We set up Oxford Summer Courses because we’re passionate about the University and the city – and we’re determined to share the magic of Oxford with the world.

We’re proud to have teamed up with Cambridge in 2017, uniting the world renowned “Oxbridge” duo. While we’re not part of the University, Oxford is at the heart of everything we do. It shapes what we teach, how we go about it, and where. Study with us and you’ll be taught by Oxford academics. You’ll live in Oxford college accommodation. And you’ll experience the world renowned Oxford tutorial system. What’s different about Oxford Summer Courses is that we don’t go in for large classes and big groups. Tutorials are what Oxford is built on and they’re what we’re committed to. Our tutors dedicate their lives to researching and teaching but during the summer they love to share their passion with students who want to find out more about their subject.

It’s not all work, though. You’ll have time to meet like-minded students as you punt down the River Isis or take in the sights of the ancient city. We eat out in our favourite restaurants every evening (except for Friday’s formal banquet in the college dining hall) so by the time you leave, you’ll know all about the best the city has to offer. Beyond the city you’ll call your home, we take trips to Shakespeare plays, English castles and museums as well as music at the Royal Albert Hall.

We founded Oxford Summer Courses in 2010 because we love Oxford and the social and academic adventure it brings. We have grown from a small organisation to a BAC accredited provider of short courses. Across seven summers we have welcomed over 1,500 students from across the globe. Many of our former students now study the subject they read at Oxford Summer Courses at British Universities, including Oxford and Cambridge. There are lots of summer schools in Oxford but we believe ours is the best because we are former Oxford students who intimately know the city, the University and what it really means to be a student in Oxford. We want to share our knowledge and experience with you – so join us, and make summer 2018 unforgettable.

HARRY HOARE & ROBERT PHIPPS  
**Co-founders and Directors of Oxford Summer Courses**



Oxford Summer Courses is Accredited by the British Accreditation Council for Independent Further and Higher Education as a Short Course Provider in the UK.





# TESTIMONIALS



MERCEDES POUTAKIDIS

**2017 Business & Entrepreneurship student from Australia**

Oxford Summer Courses really has been something I will remember for life; whether it's through the friends I've made or through the things I've learnt in my seminars and tutorials. My tutor at OSC is incredibly intelligent and engaging, and I have found the tutorial system challenged me much more than the teaching style at my university. It has been an all-round amazing experience, and I couldn't recommend it enough to other students.



KATHERINE WIATRAK

**2017 Medicine student from America**

I know that I will never again have friends like these, and I will never forget the times that we shared together. Nothing can replace what this program has given me, and I hope that many more students are able to share this experience in the future.



JELENA LUKIC

**2017 Economics student from Serbia**

I met other teenagers from all around the world, everybody was so happy to meet new people and accept them as they are. With classes divided into small groups, everybody got to participate and speak their minds. I had an amazing experience at Somerville college and am looking forward to coming here next year!



HIDA AL KADI

**2017 Law student from Jordan**

This course helped me decide whether I want to study law in the future or not. What I loved most about the teaching method was the discussions and debates. Discussing the cases rather than simply being taught what to do helped me change my way of thinking. This course is indeed life changing, and I strongly recommend it.



GIULIA BRASI

**2017 International Relations student from Italy**

Having just graduated from the University of Milan, the International Relations course at OSC allowed me to apply what I had previously learnt and discuss with a world-leading expert on the topic. Although I've loved Oxford, it's been great to be able to see more of England during my stay!

For a student's-eye perspective on Oxford Summer Courses visit

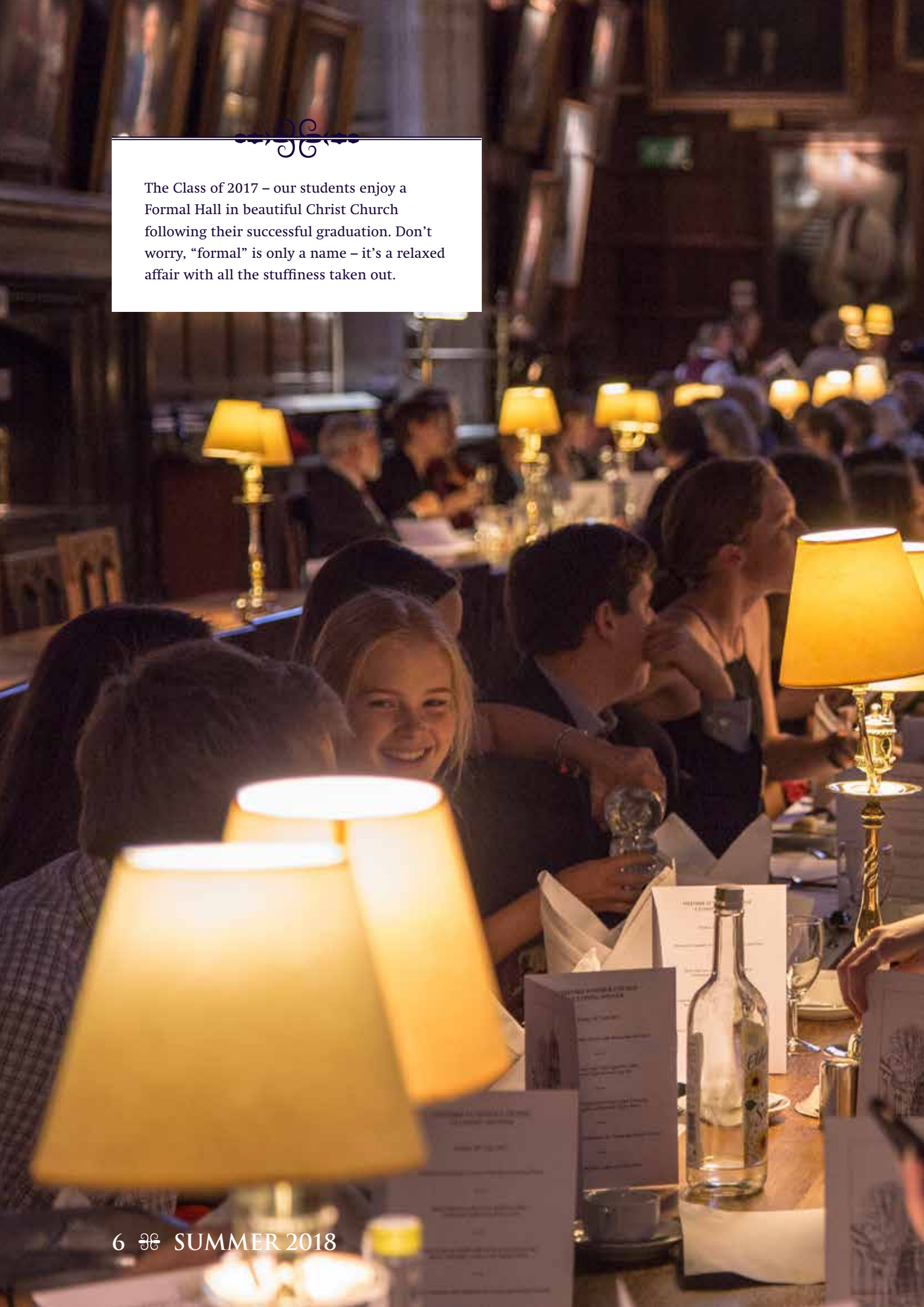


Search for "Oxford Summer Courses"





The Class of 2017 – our students enjoy a Formal Hall in beautiful Christ Church following their successful graduation. Don't worry, "formal" is only a name – it's a relaxed affair with all the stuffiness taken out.











# PROGRAMMES

## **The value of Oxford Summer Courses**

We provide a learning experience that would stand alone as a fantastic memory and highlight of any student's summer. However, in this increasingly competitive world the value of a good education is more valuable than ever for securing entry to top academic institutions, and jobs.

For this reason at Oxford Summer Courses we're committed to providing a learning experience that helps to give you an edge, not only at school but also in preparation for university applications and the world of higher education itself. We're dedicated to helping passionate students realise their aims, and hope that by providing a genuinely stimulating and challenging curriculum, in a collaborative and inspiring learning environment, we can enable students to get ahead in their chosen subjects. We also aim to improve your written and spoken English skills through this experience.

With Oxford Summer Courses, students distinguish themselves from their peers and unlock their own academic talent. Our tutors don't provide 'how to get into Oxbridge' courses – there's no magic formula. Instead, the best preparation is becoming passionate about your subject and sampling the tutorial experience. Our tutors and the courses they run are of serious academic quality.

Students are divided into separate age groups, 16-17 and 18-24 year olds. Both courses offer a similar structure and timetable and you'll all be living side by side on college site.

We do however have course rules that are age appropriate so if you are aged over 18 you will have greater independence due to the different legal framework in the UK. You'll also be matched with students of your age and ability - if over 18 you'll be expected to produce better quality and more thoughtful work for you tutorials.

## **Courses for 18-24 year olds**

Maybe you're gearing up for university – or perhaps you're already there. Either way, this is the perfect chance to find new academic fire. Whether you want to study your degree subject or try something new, make it happen with Oxford Summer Courses.

## **Courses for 16-17 year olds**

Do you fancy sampling life as an Oxford student and seeing how the British university system works? We'll give you academic and pastoral guidance to bring out your best through individually tailored independent learning – with plenty of guidance for university applications.

# TEACHING METHODS

## Tutorials

Tutorials make the University of Oxford a global academic force. They're an unrivalled opportunity to scrutinise your work with the world's finest minds. Your tutorials, quite simply, will shape your thinking forever.

Each week you will attend a tutorial. Your tutor will closely attend to your essays and argument- and force you to justify your conclusions. And they'll share their own approaches, honed throughout many years of intense study and reflection.

Don't be daunted, though. Our teachers are here to guide and inspire you. They want to hear what you think, and why – and help bring out the very best in you. You'll learn new ways to think, marshal evidence and defend your views with flexibility and flair. This learning style has the additional advantage of improving your written and spoken English skills.

## Seminars

We run four seminars each week with groups of no more than 6 students. You'll be supervised by an Oxford tutor, but the emphasis here is on you. So you'll each prepare a topic in advance, then present your work to the group.

It's a chance to learn from, and share with, your peers in a collaborative, friendly setting – while taking part in lively and thought-provoking debate, and our tutors will help give your academic presentation skills serious sheen.

## Tutors

Your tutor is your academic guide; he or she will help you navigate your way on an intellectual journey in your chosen subject. Your tutor will set your reading list, pose your essay question and, ultimately, challenge the answers you come up with. Our tutors are experienced teachers and they know where to prod and push to get your brain working.

Tutorials aren't question-and-answer sessions. They're a way of developing an answer, as a team, to a deep or problematic issue. Your tutor will be responsible for stretching your mind and looking after your academic well-being.

What's different about Oxford Summer Courses is that we don't go in for large classes and big groups. Tutorials are what Oxford is built on and they're what we're committed to. One tutor, two students. You'll learn how to critique your tutorial partner and how to defend your views. You go at your pace and tackle the questions you want. Don't worry if you don't know what these are yet – our tutors are experts in helping you find out.



# STAFF PROFILES

Our teachers have a range of backgrounds, ages and interests. But they all have first-rate minds, research credentials and approaches to teaching – as well as years of academic and teaching experience with the University. The BAC noted in their inspection that our teaching was of an ‘excellent standard and students reported very favourably upon the quality of teaching.’

Our tutors are the experts. We believe in giving them autonomy – and they’ll respond quickly and efficiently to your needs and enthusiasms. Throughout your course, you’ll get to know your tutor well. They may even take you out to libraries and museums as part of their teaching. Their goal is to inspire you – so even if you’re not entirely sure what you want to study, they’ll guide you along the way. Here are some of our staff:



DR KIERON WINN  
**Creative Writing**

Dr Kieron Winn’s first collection of poetry, *The Mortal Man*, was published in 2015, and has been widely praised. He was educated at Christ Church, Oxford, where he was awarded a doctorate for a thesis on Herbert Read and T. S. Eliot. He has twice won, in 2007 and 2013, the University of Oxford’s most valuable literary award, the English Poem on a Sacred Subject Prize.



DR GAURI ANG  
**Medicine**

Dr Gauri Ang completed a BSc in Biomedical Sciences in University College London. She then completed her D.Phil. in Neuroscience at the University of Oxford, investigating the role of schizophrenia-relevant genes in the generation of body clocks, sleep, and cognition.



KRISTOFER HAMMERBACK  
**Economics**

Kristofer Hammerback is a current D.Phil. candidate in Economics at Regent’s Park College, University of Oxford, after previously having completed an MPhil in Economics at Oxford. He has been involved in undergraduate admissions interviewing for Economics and Management as well as for Economics and History at Somerville College and Keble College, Oxford.



DR DANIEL KAUTE  
**Business and Entrepreneurship**

Dr. Daniel Kaute’s lifelong passion is innovation, especially high tech commercialization strategy and implementation. Through Oxford University Innovation he is involved in a number of projects in the storage and renewable energy area, and he is Chairman of Silicon Fuel, a solid state hydrogen start up that could enable the hydrogen economy. He is also Managing Director Europe for MedX Health Corp, a unique and innovative skin cancer screening technology.







# ACCOMMODATION

“In 2018 our courses will be based in 4 of the 38 colleges that make up the University of Oxford - Somerville College, Christ Church, St Edmund Hall and Corpus Christi. We will also be hosting courses in Cambridge’s Sidney Sussex college. Your age and course dates will determine in which of these you’ll stay. Within our partnered colleges, we assign student accommodation based on age group and gender.\*

At each location our pastoral staff and group leaders will be nearby to make sure you’re safe, comfortable and happy – and can help with anything from finding a teaching room to doing your laundry.”

## **Somerville College**

Somerville College is known for its beautiful gardens and excellent location close to the city centre and the trendy Jericho quarter. You will live alongside course staff whilst your tutors will visit the college to teach you (unless you need to be off site, such as in a lab). Despite having everything on site you will also be in the centre of Oxford and have shops, restaurants and the city itself on your doorstep – and plenty of time to explore them. The rooms at Somerville are home to undergraduates and graduates during term time and have high-speed internet, desks for working and views over the college quadrangle. Breakfast is served in Somerville’s dining hall and there is a large lawn that’s perfect for reading, working, playing frisbee or taking afternoon tea (which we enjoy twice a week).

The rooms share bathrooms (as is standard across Oxford). There is at least one staff member in each block who will make sure all rules are being obeyed.

## **Christ Church**

Christ Church is the most magnificent and famous college in Oxford. It was re-founded by King Henry VIII in the 16th century and has educated 13 Prime Ministers but today offers students modern rooms en-suite rooms in a grand setting. Christ Church is the setting for many films including the Harry Potter dining hall (where you’ll have breakfast each morning) and the fountain featuring a statue of the winged God Mercury is one of Oxford’s most enduring images. You’ll also be treated to a four course banquet each Friday in the college’s Harry Potter hall.

Christ Church is located in the centre of Oxford and boasts magnificent views across Christ Church Meadows down to the river where Oxford’s famous rowing crews practise.

All the rooms in Christ Church have private en-suite facilities so cost more than staying in Somerville or St Edmund Hall where a bathroom is shared.

\* Please note – Oxford Summer Courses is an organisation which contracts with the university for the use of facilities, but which has no formal connection with the University of Oxford or Cambridge.

## **St Edmund Hall**

St Edmund Hall (affectionately known as “Teddy Hall”) is hidden away with its peaceful quadrangle and medieval hall (the last surviving one in Oxford) occupying an excellent location close to the city centre and the hustle and bustle of Oxford High Street. Despite having everything on site you will also be in the centre of Oxford and have shops, restaurants and the city itself on your doorstep – and plenty of time to explore them. The rooms at St Edmund Hall are a mixture of singles and twin rooms that are home to undergraduates and graduates during term time and have high-speed internet, desks for working and views over the dreaming spires of Oxford.

## **Corpus Christi College Annex**

Corpus Christi College was founded in 1517 by Richard Fox, a political advisor to Henry VII, and was regularly visited by Queen Catherine of Aragon during its early history. It is a small, friendly college of around 300 undergraduate and postgraduate students, and half a century of distinguished alumni. Corpus Christi is known in Oxford for hosting the annual Tortoise Fair, where colleges bring their pet tortoises (it’s an Oxford tradition to keep a college tortoise!) to compete in a race. With central Oxford on your doorstep, you will have no shortage of opportunities to explore and be inspired by the university’s world-famous “dreaming spires”.

You will be housed in one of Corpus Christi’s annexes, in comfortable single rooms with washbasins and shared shower facilities.

## **Sidney Sussex College**

Sidney Sussex College occupies a secure site in the heart of Cambridge’s centre and offers single rooms occupied by students during term time. Sidney Sussex was founded in 1596 on the site of a Franciscan friary, and has educated great minds including Oliver Cromwell, who ruled England as a Parliamentarian after the Civil War (1642-1651). The college is also credited with providing many of the mathematicians for the code breaking triumphs at Bletchley Park during World War II. Sidney Sussex remains a thriving, world-leading academic community to this day.







# CULTURAL AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

## Formal three-course meal

Formal dinners are one of Oxford's great traditions. Students and professors dine together in the great halls of the colleges and under huge portraits of their college's most famous members. It's a great way to get a sense of the history and tradition of Oxford as the Latin grace that has been read for nearly 700 years is recited before everyone begins their meal.

We try to maintain this historical element but without the stuffiness. You won't be expected to wear a dinner suit or follow the rules of etiquette – instead, we sample the best of the college's kitchen in a more relaxed atmosphere. The sense of occasion is still very much maintained, particularly at the second formal meal, which has a graduation ceremony beforehand (look out for the scrolls presented to each Oxford Summer Courses student) and the Course Director's "Oscars" after dinner.

## Oxford Castle and Open-air Shakespeare

Oxford's famous castle offers the perfect setting to watch Shakespeare in the open air on a warm summer's evening. In previous years we've watched professional productions of *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Tempest* and *The Merchant of Venice*.

## Sports activities

We offer a wide range of sports activities catering to all sorts of interests: You can get to know your fellow students over a game of football, rugby, cricket, croquet or even quidditch with our resident experts who'll teach you the rules. The sheer number and diversity of nationalities at Oxford Summer Courses creates a great sporting atmosphere.

## Punting

Punting is one of the quintessential Oxford activities. Floating lazily down a meandering river in the shade of the botanical gardens provides a fantastic way to see Oxford from a different perspective – and it's a great way to relax after a hard day's study.

## Debating

One of Oxford's most famous pastimes is debating, centred on the Oxford Union. Some of the greatest ever orators and world leaders have graced the famous chamber. With a debating workshop and debate night, along with a visit to the Union itself, students gain the authentic Oxford debating experience.

## Blenheim Palace

Blenheim Palace was birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill and it offers a fascinating insight into his childhood, and English aristocracy through the ages. The beautiful house, built in 1704, is set in a stunning landscaped garden boasting an enormous maze.

## London day trips

Whether or not you've been to London before, our day trips will offer you something new. In previous years our trips have taken in the stunning scenery provided by the London Eye, the crown jewels in the Tower of London, modern art at the Tate Modern gallery and dinner overlooking St Paul's Cathedral – and all in one day.

No trip to London would be complete without a visit to the British Museum. Its collection boasts more than seven million objects and artefacts from around the world, including Greek marbles, Egyptian mummies, and the world-famous Rosetta Stone. We sometimes even use it as inspiration for the topic of one of our debates later in the week: 'Western museums should agree to requests to repatriate cultural artefacts'. These activities have the additional benefit of exposing students to the English culture.







# SUBJECTS

## **Biology**

How do species interact with one another? What is the relationship between an eco-system and its inhabitants? Our course looks at the theoretical and practical applications of Biology in modern society. Topics range from bioethics to how viruses infect humans. The course will also introduce students to Darwin's theory of evolution and the development of this theory by Professor Dawkins – one of Oxford's most celebrated scientists. Genetics remains one of the most controversial and exciting topics of study, and our tutors will give you an informed take on the debate.

## **Business and Entrepreneurship**

The goal of the course is to let you discover best practice in the start up world, so that one day you have the basic tools to pursue your own dreams. The course pulls together key learnings from leading authorities in entrepreneurship, and teaches them in a hands on, interactive fashion. You will develop your own business ideas in teams and learn about the most important aspects of business design. This includes developing a business model, pitching it, determining hypotheses and experiments to validate your key assumptions, developing a minimum viable product and action plan. Some part of this will involve going out and talking to potential customers.

## **Chemistry**

Oxford has one of the world's leading Chemistry departments. But it's not just the size and calibre of the department that makes Oxford a great place to study the subject – there is a whole industry of spin-out companies set up in the Science Park as a result of research breakthroughs made in the department. Oxford chemists are not only great researchers but they can see how their work relates to everyday life. Our Chemistry course aims to make the most of what's on offer here – great research facilities and cutting-edge thought. Tutorials focus on innovative thinking around Chemistry and its important role in understanding – and improving – the world around us.

## **Classical Civilisation**

The Greek and Latin cultures marked a high point in philosophy, writing and art that was not surpassed for 1,500 years. Studying classical civilisation involves looking at various sources of information about how the Greeks and Romans lived their lives, conducted their politics and fought their wars. You will study classical culture and society as well as the major historical events that defined the period, such as the Peloponnesian War. Students will discuss the problems of running an empire and evaluate the poetry of Virgil and Ovid. The course is tailored so that any standard of classical languages can be accommodated.

## **Computer Science**

From app development to HTML and CSS, Computer Science touches the very cutting edge of today's online and offline technology. Our course introduces and explores a range of coding techniques and languages, including Python SQL and web development, giving you the perfect base from which to build your knowledge and become the new Mark Zuckerberg.

## **Creative Writing**

Oxford has long inspired and excited some of the world's finest writers. JK Rowling's Harry Potter was dreamt up in this town of 'dreaming spires'. Marvel at Hogwarts' dining hall and Alice in Wonderland's Tea Party. From Oscar Wilde to Philip Pullman, Oxford has a literary pedigree that is hard to match elsewhere. What better place to try your hand at crafting your own literary masterpiece? Our tutors will introduce you to some of the techniques that these greats have used, and you will be encouraged to write as much as possible so that you go home with your own short stories.

## **Earth Sciences**

By studying Earth Sciences at Oxford Summer Courses students should expect focussed lectures on the science behind a range of natural phenomena, as well as targeted debates on how we can best manage the risks associated with natural hazards.

Should scientists be put on trial for failing to predict an earthquake? How would you supply a country's energy needs whilst simultaneously meeting specific carbon emissions targets? Tutorials give students an opportunity to showcase their background reading and discuss further the topics within Earth Sciences that most interest them.

### **Economics**

Economics involves the study of how markets work and why businesses succeed and fail, both at an international level and within a domestic economy. You will study key ideas such as supply and demand, market structures and reasons for market failure, and how government intervention can mitigate – or exacerbate – the problems. Our tutors always relate their teaching back to current events and this keeps the study of economics stimulating and relevant. Causes of – and solutions to – the recession can be investigated alongside the arguments for and against protectionist policies to help domestic industries.

### **Engineering**

Engineers take the abstract laws of maths and physics and use them to solve problems in the real world. The Engineering course gives the opportunity to explore the underlying principles behind the subject. Students will examine the strengths and limitations of a range of engineering problems including looking in detail at sustainable energy. You will explore the newer and older sustainable technology methods and draw on physics and mathematics to help understand and develop technical solutions to sustainable energy.

### **English as a foreign language (EFL)**

For more information about our courses please visit our dedicated website: [oxfordsummercourses.com/efl](http://oxfordsummercourses.com/efl)

### **English Literature**

Oxford has long been an inspiration for the creation of some of the best known, and best loved, novels. Our course is taught by academics who actively write (poetry, fiction and dramatic works) to give you an insight to the subject from a practitioner's perspective. The course allows you to focus on their own areas of literary interest, whether that be a genre, a particular author or a specific work. English

Literature is a vast and wide-ranging subject – the course aims to hone textual analysis skills that are common to all sub-disciplines within the subject.

### **Environmental Science**

The course will use a seminar, and case-study led approach to understand, analyse, and solve critical environmental problems facing the world today. The tutorial topics (with case studies) will emphasise the inter-disciplinary nature of environmental problems, and draw upon a range of scientific knowledge, technical and analytical skills, and communication methods. Topics covered could include: climate change impacts, water and soil resources, bioremediation, ecology, wildlife and fisheries, environmental engineering, geographic information systems, urban inequalities, and environmental laws. You will be trained to anticipate the kinds of solutions 'environmental scientists' develop, explore the various contexts in which such knowledge and training is valuable, and to communicate effectively to individuals and groups of diverse backgrounds and expertise.

### **Geography**

Our Geography course focuses on the most important challenges that face our world today: environmental change, global justice and globalisation in all its forms. How do developing countries trade off economic growth against increasing carbon emissions? How do developed countries and developing countries reach agreements about these kinds of problems? Geography seminars are lively and led by debate with a prominent focus on evidence and empirical research. Offering the chance to study the physical and human aspects of the world around us, Geography is a subject never far from the news.

### **History**

History is an investigation into the politics, culture and economics of past peoples and societies. Our course teaches a range of skills that are universal in their application, such as the ability to investigate and analyse different source materials. By studying conflicting sources you will have to sort factual accounts from biased ones – and then defend these opinions in your essays and tutorials. Defending your position teaches you the power of debate, an



important skill for any good historian. Our course gives you the flexibility of which era to specialise in; our tutors are experts of the ancient and the modern.

### **International Development**

The International Development course will give you an opportunity to learn about and review the most popular theoretical approaches and highly debated case studies in the field, providing you with tools to analyse and assess the effectiveness of international and regional solutions to different global challenges. Our International Development course is interdisciplinary, and covers themes from Politics, History, International Relations, and Economics. It is also practice-orientated, using case studies from many different countries and continents. This will provide you with an in-depth understanding of the challenging process of bi-lateral and multi-lateral negotiations related to international cooperation.

### **International Relations**

The course studies power and international politics to analyse the relationships between states. It aims to combine theoretical and empirical perspectives to address pressing questions and survey neo-realist, neo-liberal, constructivist and post-structuralist approaches. You'll look at case studies from around the world to help uncover the diverse patterns of relations between states and regions. The course will give you a sense of the nature of modern international politics, but also develop your confidence in addressing challenging questions, both on paper and in the tutorial environment.

### **Law**

The question 'What is the law?' in relation to a particular problem is far more complicated than it initially appears. The answer will not be revealed simply by turning to the correct page in the statute book. Instead, different cases, legal theories and overarching principles of law must be taken into consideration. During your time at Oxford Summer Courses we do not intend to teach you the entirety of English law; nor, in the time available, could we. Rather, the focus is on the constant themes that run throughout legal topics. All of your tutors will work regularly in this environment and will be involved in investigating – and shaping – the latest legal developments.

### **Leadership**

Our course will focus on how to reach the level of inspired leadership by delving into the ancient texts of the Bhagavad Gita, Upanishads, Chanakya Niti, Tao Te Ching and Sun Tzu's Art of War. Insights and stories from these texts will be used to explore key leadership themes such as developing self-awareness, clarifying personal values, handling conflict, seeing the big picture, managing emotions, building relationships, leading by serving others, fighting for a great cause, understanding the importance of storytelling, team building and finally inspiring others. This knowledge will be compared with and applied to modern-day leadership challenges in business or politics. The fundamental element of the course will be interactive group discussions and self-reflection on various key insights carefully curated from the selected great texts.

### **Mathematics**

Our Mathematics course is specifically tailored to meet your ability and understanding of the underlying material. The tutorial format focuses on solutions to problem sheets rather than the discussion-based tutorials. Mathematics can be sub-divided into many individual disciplines, all of which are available for students to study. Previously, our mathematical finance course has proved popular, covering mathematical accounting and financial derivatives, beginning with basic options and futures and moving through to more complex exotic products.

### **Medicine**

Oxford has taught medicine since the 1300s and remains at the cutting edge of the discipline today. The course at Oxford Summer Courses introduces you to the practical study of Medicine through Medical Biology and Anatomy. You will consider ethical questions about the value of a human life and the possibility of human enhancement. You will build a solid understanding of the foundations of medical science, and have the opportunity to engage with the latest developments in medicine.

### **Philosophy**

Philosophy is the study of how arguments are put together and taken apart. By studying classic texts such as Plato and Aristotle, students will see how

arguments are constructed using premises that move to conclusions – and how such arguments can be questioned, both by attacking the assumptions that constitute the starting points, and by criticising whether the conclusions really are entailed by what has come before. Philosophy develops the skills necessary to make strong arguments and deconstruct the arguments of others. It is invaluable training for any arts degree at university, or any occupation that requires making and analysing arguments.

## **Physics**

Our Physics course studies the universe from large-scale theories such as the Big Bang to the minutiae of particle behaviour. By gaining an understanding of why the world around us is the way it is, and how it works, physicists can push the boundaries of scientific knowledge. Mathematics is crucial to this endeavour. So, our seminars investigate physical mathematics and mechanics – both of which play a crucial role in the discipline. From planetary motion to tracing the trajectory of rockets, physics can help us understand why physical objects in the universe behave as they do.

## **Politics**

The study of politics can be divided into three main areas: the past, the present and the future. Political history is the study of what institutions were like and how this affected life in the past. It looks at how institutions contributed to wars, famine and social reform. Political institutions is the study of what institutions are like today – how parties and the media affect policy. Political theory deals with questions about how institutions should be set up, such as ‘What would be a just distribution of society’s resources?’ Studying such questions will enable you to evaluate any argument about concrete political issues.

## **Psychology**

The human brain is the most complex object on earth, containing over 100 billion nerve cells, and 100 trillion connections among them. It is the source of all thought and behaviour. Focusing on the relationship between brain, mind and behaviour, you will have the opportunity to engage with the frontier of scientific research. You will develop many different skills and modes of thought by considering

questions from Linguistics to Philosophy. Frequently studied psychological questions include: ‘How do we perceive the world around us?’, ‘Why do we conform to society’s norms?’, and ‘What is emotion?’

## **Theatre & Cultural Studies**

This course will examine changing attitudes to diversity from the time of Shakespeare down to current controversies in contemporary theatre. Case studies will be taken mainly from English and French theatre, as well as African and Caribbean theatre in these languages, in order to provide a variety of contexts in which to explore these issues. Students will have the opportunity to engage in staged readings of relevant texts. They will be encouraged to discuss their own perspectives on diversity in the theatre.

## **Theology**

We can’t provide you with answers to questions about the existence of God, but we can point you to those fine minds that have attempted to tackle them in the past. The course provides an introduction to the basis of the Christian religion and the texts that informed its earliest development, looking at how their interpretation has changed over time, reflecting the societies that have grown up alongside them. The course also offers an opportunity to study other religious doctrines, and we welcome people from diverse backgrounds to study in a multicultural environment.





# WELFARE

It's not all about studying though. Our main concern is that you're happy and having the best summer ever. So we've got non-academic staff on board to help you settle in and provide any support you need.

The Course Director will make sure the whole programme runs smoothly and is available if you want a chat. Student helpers are also on hand and are local experts. They'll be around to show you the hidden corners of Oxford that larger groups often miss – and they'll join us on extra-curricular expeditions. They're all Oxford-educated too, so they'll be able to help you prepare for tutorials and seminars.



CHRIS ADAMSON  
**Course Director**

Chris studied Classics as an undergraduate at the University of St Andrews before taking an M.Phil in Classical Studies at Oxford University. He is currently finishing his D.Phil at St Cross College, Oxford in Classical, Ancient Mediterranean and Near Eastern Studies and Archaeology. Alongside his studies, Chris has worked for Oxford Summer Courses since 2013 and is the Course Director at Somerville college.

He is a qualified first aider and our child safeguarding lead. Chris enjoys putting together pub quizzes and runs a famous college pub quiz at St Cross during term time. He also runs cruise ships around Greece lecturing about classical archaeology.



TIM BIRD  
**Student Helper**

Tim is a second year undergraduate studying Geography at St Peter's College, Oxford. His previous experience with children and young people is in the voluntary sector, helping run Youth Groups and Holiday clubs in Oxfordshire. Tim's role at Oxford Summer Courses involves making sure that the students have a fun, engaging and above all safe experience while they are with us. He provides pastoral care to a group of students, helping them settle in and supporting them during their time at Oxford Summer Courses. He accompanies students to lessons, the theatre, cinema and on trips. He really enjoys getting to know students from a diverse range of countries and cultures and watching students confidence grow throughout the course.

# ENROLMENT

Before you apply, there are a couple of things we need to check. You don't need to be a prodigious scholar – but you must have a genuine, demonstrable passion for your subject.

So, we'll ask you to write an online personal statement and supply your examinations grades to secure your place on Oxford Summer Courses. You'll also need to be proficient in English. And your age will determine which course you embark on.

## The prices

Our standard price for summer 2018 is £4,195 for 2 weeks and £7,895 for 4 weeks. En-suite prices for summer 2018 start at £4,395 for 2 weeks and £8,350 for 4 weeks. You don't have to pay it all in one go – the deposit is £695 for a 2 week course and £1,000 for a 4 week course and the rest can be paid in installments if you prefer.

### Included in the price is:

- All teaching, including tutorials and small group seminars
- Accommodation and breakfast every day
- All evening meals at local restaurants
- A three-course college banquet on Friday evening
- All cultural activities in Oxford and further afield

The price does not include flights or medical insurance. In

2018 we will be running courses on the following dates:

### 2 week courses:

- 24th June to 7th July
- 1st July to 14th July
- 8th July to 21st July
- 15th July to 28th July
- 22nd July to 4th August
- 29th July to 11th August

### 4 week courses:

- 24th June to 21st July
- 1st July to 28th July
- 8th July to 4th August

To apply for your place visit [www.oxfordsummercourses.com/apply](http://www.oxfordsummercourses.com/apply)





# EXAMPLE TIMETABLE 2018

	Morning					Afternoon					Evening				
	8	9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Sunday					Arrival and walking tour of Oxford by staff						Course Director's induction		Chutney's (Indian)		Ice-cream icebreaker
Monday			Seminars (1.5hrs) during this period					Seminars (1.5hrs)   Scavenger Hunt					Pizza Express		Punting
Tuesday			Seminars (1.5hrs) during this period					Seminars (1.5hrs)   Tours of St Mary's Tower throughout day					Byron Burger		"TED-style" talks
Wednesday			Tutorial preparation					Tutorial preparation – independent research and essay writing / problem sheet preparation					Al Shami (Lebanese)		General Knowledge Quiz
Thursday					Day trip to Windsor Castle								Chiang Mai (Thai)		Punting
Friday			Tutorials (1hr) during this period – check your academic timetable					Tours of Christ Church throughout day					Formal Hall at Somerville		Karaoke
Saturday					Day trip to Blenheim Palace								Pizza		Classic Music Concert / Cinema
Sunday			Optional Activities e.g. sports (football, cricket, ultimate Frisbee)					Optional Activities e.g. Bicester Village Designer Outlet store / Modern Art Oxford					Pierre Victoire (French)		Debate
Monday			Seminars (1.5hrs) during this period					Seminars (1.5hrs)   Tours of the Ashmolean Museum throughout day					Gino's (Italian)		Bill Sceptre's Ghost Trail
Tuesday			Seminars (1.5hrs) during this period					Seminars (1.5hrs)   Tours of the Ashmolean Museum throughout day					Mission Burrito		Shakespeare play
Wednesday			Tutorial preparation					Tutorial preparation – independent research and essay writing / problem sheet preparation					Brasserie Blanc (French)		Games Night
Thursday					Day trip to London's South Kensington Museums (Natural History Museum / Science Museum / Victoria & Albert Museum of Art and Design)								Picnic in Hyde Park		Return to Oxford
Friday			Tutorials (1hr) during this period – check your academic timetable					Tours of the Bodleian Library throughout day					Formal Hall at Wadham		Graduation & Bop (disco)
Saturday			Group photos and goodbyes												

The timetable shown is based on the actual activities form 2016. The 2017 timetable may be subject to minor adjustments (and improvements).



**In addition to our academic courses for 16-24 year olds,  
we offer a number of other courses in Oxford and beyond.**

**Visit [www.oxfordsummercourses.com](http://www.oxfordsummercourses.com)  
for more information.**

**Academic Courses for  
16-17s & 18-24s**

**Academic Courses for  
10-12s & 13-15s**





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OXFORD SUMMER COURSES

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**Oxford Summer Courses Ltd**

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