

## 2018-19 ENTRY



























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### THROW BACK >



## NO.1 for research quality\*\*



52 Nobel Prize winners Medical and health teaching and research ranked as the **world's** BEST for six years running\*

A community of more than **10,000** graduate students



**1,100** fully funded scholarships are available for new master's and doctoral students in 2018–19

More than



### www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/factsandfigures

\*Times Higher Education 2016–17 \*\*REF 2014

#### Photography credits - see page 26

- 1 Yunli Song (Systems Biology, EPSRC CDT)
- 2 Brita Bergland (MPhil Development Studies)
- 3 Ian McGregor (MSc Environmental Change and Management)
- 4 Fran Walker (MSc Nature, Society and Environmental Policy)
- 5 Anahitha Sagar (MPhil Development Studies)
- 6 Victoria Maguire-Rajpaul (DPhil Geography and the Environment)
- 7 Vinesh Rajpaul (DPhil Astrophysics)
- 8 Hayley Hamilton (MSt English)
- 9 Ashley Tsai (MSc by Research Chemical Biology)
- 10 Lucy Steeds (MSt World Literatures in English)

- 11 Victoria Maguire-Rajpaul (DPhil Geography and the Environment)
- 12 Davide Volpi (DPhil Radiobiology)
- 13 Syed Ali Asad Rizvi (DPhil Engineering Science)
- 14 Sarah Boone (MSc Water Science, Policy and Management)
- 15 Cosima Gillhammer (DPhil English)
- 16 Favour Mandanji Nyikosa (DPhil Engineering Science)
- 17 Lukas Fieber (DPhil Materials)
- 18 Syed Ali Asad Rizvi (DPhil Engineering Science)
- 19 Tim Westwood (Partial Differential Equations (EPSRC CDT)







Graduate students arrive from more than 150 different countries



**I REME**MBER WHEN I FIRST **STARTED STUDYING HERE** FEELING COMPLETELY **FLOORED... IT HAS BEEN** A RADICALLY HUMBLING **EXPERIENCE TO WORK WITH** AND LEARN FROM JUST PHENOMENAL MINDS.

SIMUKAI CHIGUDU, DPHIL INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

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OXFORD IS QUITE INTENSE IN THE SENSE THAT I FEEL LIKE I'VE HAD 20 YEARS OF LIFE Experience compressed Into About three years.

NIKITA KAUSHAL, DPHIL EARTH SCIENCES

# BELONGING TO THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD COMMUNITY

We welcome students representing more than 150 countries and territories – 44% UK students, 17% EU and 39% international students\*.

### There is no formula for what makes a great Oxford graduate student, but

what you will definitely share with others studying here is an excellent academic track record, a passion for your subject and a desire to push the boundaries of your learning and research.

As soon as you arrive, you become part of the fabric of Oxford, belonging to your department and your college if your course has college membership. You'll have the opportunity to meet other students and academics from all over the world from day one.

From building your post-University network to making lifelong friendships, your Oxford experience will open up all kinds of possibilities.

And will most certainly change you.

\*Figures from a snapshot of enrolled students - 1 December 2016

IT'S PROBABLY MADE ME A FAR Better Researcher than had I limited myself and thought I couldn't study here.

JEN CHESTERS, DPHIL EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY



# **RESEARCH AND INNOVATION**

A key priority for our applicants is the strength of our research. Oxford came top of all universities in the UK for research quality in the REF 2014\*, but that is only one part of the story of research and innovation here at Oxford.

- Oxford's total research income is consistently higher than any other UK university, with a total of more than £676m in 2015–16.
- The academic work of our staff is regularly recognised by the award of prestigious international prizes.
- Oxford's research commercialisation office, Oxford University Innovation (www.innovation.ox.ac.uk), has created more spinout companies than any other UK institution, creating more than 160 since launching in 1987, and was named best in the world in 2017 at the annual Global University Venturing awards.

\* REF 2014. The REF is the Research Excellence Framework, an impact evaluation assessing the research of British higher education institutions.

- Oxford Sciences Innovation, an independent investment company focused entirely on University of Oxford companies, is the largest university venture fund manager focused on a single institution in the world, with £580m under management.
- Enterprising Oxford is a multidisciplinary online guide to entrepreneurship which provides support and highlights opportunities for students, staff and academics.
- The University of Oxford is also home to Europe's largest student entrepreneurship society.
- The Oxford Foundry is the University of Oxford's new entrepreneurial hub for our students, alumni, faculty and staff. It inspires our students to become more entrepreneurial and provides them with the skills and space to meet, collaborate, build startups and connect with prospective funders. Follow **@OxFoundry** on Twitter for updates.

www.innovation.ox.ac.uk www.eship.ox.ac.uk

# **OUR COURSES**

We have more than 320 graduate courses. They are high quality and constantly evolving. You'll always find the very latest information on our website for those starting in 2018–19.

### www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursesaz

If you follow one of our 200+ masters' courses, your studies will usually last one or two years; these courses are taught via lectures and seminars, with assessment typically by exams and coursework.

If you opt to study for one of our 120+ DPhil (PhD) courses, this usually entails three to four years of research during which you will meet regularly with your supervisor. The DPhil culminates in the production of a major research thesis.

If you're interested in studying parttime – which 18% of our graduate students do – we offer a range of courses, from carefully designed postgraduate certificates and diplomas to taught masters' degrees and doctoral degrees. Whatever your age and career stage, take a look: we could have just the right thing for you.

### www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/parttime

### You'll find plenty of guidance on each of our course pages, including:

- entry requirements
- specific guidance to produce a competitive application
- the number of places compared to the number of applications\*
- information on funding and fees
- colleges accepting this course
- relevant deadlines
- course contact details

\* based on previous application years





# FEES, FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS

We want to enable the most talented individuals to study at Oxford. We offer more than 1.100 full scholarships, covering all fees plus a grant for living costs. These are usually awarded to new students on the basis of academic excellence and potential starting in 2018–19.

## **TOP TIPS**

Apply for your course by the January deadline.

You will be considered automatically for most Oxford scholarships.

Our scholarships are provided by the University, its colleges and supporters. Some scholarships also have additional benefits such as academic, leadership and social events and membership of interdisciplinary communities.

Start looking early and look outside Oxford too for other scholarship opportunities.

Use our online search tool to find the scholarships for which you may be eligible: www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ fundingsearch

50%

of new graduate

partial scholarship

funding.\*

Our dedicated scholarships pages are at: www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ scholarships

\* Based on data collected from students starting a new graduate course in 2016/17

www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/funding

students have full or Ensure your funding is in place before vou arrive.









# YOUR COLLEGE

As an Oxford graduate student, you are part of a large, internationally renowned institution. You will normally belong both to a department (which will provide your teaching and supervision) and to a smaller community at one of the University's worldfamous colleges.

Each of our colleges has its individual character and history, and all offer opportunities that can enrich your graduate student experience. Their cross-disciplinary academic and social communities include academic staff and alumni as well as students.

Most colleges offer meals, events, sports, libraries, accommodation and IT facilities.

Of our 43 colleges\* there are several that are specifically for graduate students:

- Campion Hall
- Green Templeton
- Kellogg
- Linacre
- Nuffield
- St Antony's
- St Cross
- Wolfson

Once you receive an offer from your department, you are guaranteed a college place if the course involves college membership. Applying for a college is part of your course application so there is no separate process. You can either let us find you one or tell us your preferred college, although we cannot guarantee that you will be placed there.

### www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/colleges



24 Favour Mandanji Nyikosa (DPhil Engineering Science)
25 OU Images, Rob Judges
28 Elizabeth Nye (DPhil Social Intervention)
27 Steve Langton (DPhil Evidence Based Health Care)
28 Laura Taylor
29 Steve Buchanan
30 OU Images, John Cairns



**THERE ARE SMALL PIECES OF HISTORY ALL OVER THE SHOW.** YOU GO INTO THE EAGLE AND CHILD [PUB] AND THIS IS WHERE **CS LEWIS USED TO HANG OUT.** WALKING PAST A LAMP POST. **MY FRIEND SAYS 'THAT WAS** THE LAMP POST THAT INSPIRED NARNIA' AND YOU JUST **GO 'THAT'S SO COOL!'** 

ADI LEES, MSC ECONOMICS FOR DEVELOPMENT





# YOUR DAILY LIFE

35% of Oxford's residents are aged 15-29 years, making Oxford the youngest city in England and Wales. With 40,000 university students out of a total city population of 150,000 there is a dynamism that makes Oxford a vibrant and lively place to be.

As a graduate student, you'll have a variety of residence options. Colleges have rooms for graduate students, as does the University. There is specific accommodation for couples, families and students with disabilities though many of our students rent privately. Oxford is a small city, so it's easy to get around by bike or on foot. www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ accommodation You'll never be short of something to do when you take a break from your studies. Oxford has an incredible array of shops, cafés, restaurants, pubs and clubs. The cultural scene – with theatres, cinemas and music venues, art galleries and museums – is especially rich.

You won't need to go far for fresh air and a beautiful landscape either. There is plenty of green space around the city, with riverside walks, parks, college grounds and England's oldest botanic garden to enjoy.

When you want to go further afield, you'll find that Oxford is very wellconnected. London – the UK's global capital – is only 90 minutes away (60 minutes by train), with buses running 24 hours a day. Heathrow Airport is

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only 80 minutes away, with a direct bus link also running 24 hours a day.

As a graduate student you'll be well catered-for by Oxford's student groups and societies which cover music, sport, performing arts, faiths, opportunities for volunteering and much more. And if you can't find your particular niche, you can always create your own society. www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ studentsocieties

You'll encounter many people who are able to support your daily life at Oxford, from your peers and departmental and college staff to the Careers Service and OUSU (Oxford University Student Union).

The University's Counselling Service offers a wealth of services, from

1:1 counselling to group workshops, and we offer self-help podcasts on exam revision, perfectionism and self-compassion that anyone can listen to for a little boost at any time: www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ counsellingpodcasts

The Disability Advisory Service provides information and advice for students with disabilities or long-term physical and mental health difficulties. Each college and department has a Disability Lead and Coordinator who also puts support in place for students.

There are a host of other welfare and support services, including doctors and dedicated welfare teams attached to your college, to ensure your wellbeing every step of the way.









# **OUTSTANDING RESOURCES**

The gardens, libraries and museums of Oxford hold a particularly special appeal for our students, staff and visitors to the University, but their significance stretches far beyond this.

As one of the greatest concentrations of university collections in the world, you'll find more than **20 million artefacts**, specimens and printed items here, constituting one of the largest and most important research repositories anywhere.

These outstanding resources are very much part of the teaching and research life of the University. Through multi-disciplinary research projects, curatorial expertise and teaching, and dynamic public engagement with research programmes, the museums and collections use their assets to provide enriching experiences for students and scholars. Making resources available to a global audience has been a major goal of the museums and collections in recent years. The Bodleian Libraries has an online digital library (www.digital.bodleian.ox.ac.uk), ensuring its unique resources are accessible wherever you are. The Ashmolean's Eastern Art Online (www.

### jameelcentre.ashmolean.org)

showcases Indian, Chinese, Japanese and Islamic Art while the Museum of Natural History's Collections Online (www.oum.ox.ac.uk/collections)

#### (www.oum.ox.ac.uk/collections)

will provide a unified database for the museum's earth, life and archival collections.

Find out more about the gardens, libraries and museums of Oxford at: www.glam.ox.ac.uk

Alejandro Salgado Montejo (DPhil Experimental Psychology)
 Yunli Song (Systems Biology, EPSRC CDT)
 OU Images, Ian Wallman
 OU Images, Ian Wallman



# DATES TO REMEMBER

Course applications for graduate study must be submitted by the relevant January deadline to be considered for most of Oxford's scholarship funding.

## MAIN DEADLINES

12 noon UK time, Monday 8 January 2018

Courses offered by the Medical Sciences Division, Department of Computer Science, Faculty of Philosophy and Department of Politics and International Relations.

### 12 noon UK time, Friday 19 January 2018

All other courses

## **OTHER DEADLINES**

Some courses also accept applications for deadlines on

### Friday 17 November 2017 and Friday 9 March 2018

Check the course page to see which deadlines apply to your course: www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/courses

There are also separate application deadlines for some specific studentships and some courses may remain open after 9 March 2018 if places are still available.

The Saïd Business School operates separate deadlines for its courses. See www.sbs.ox.ac.uk for more details.



# **APPLYING FOR GRADUATE STUDY AT OXFORD**

We're keen to make the process of applying for graduate study as straightforward as possible, so we have lots of information on our website to help quide you every step of the way.

Here's a short introduction to what you can expect.\*

\*For full information please see the Application Guide and After You Apply pages on our website: www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/application-guide and www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/afteryouapply

## FACT **FINDING**

See our courses: www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursesaz

Here you can check important information about your course and link to the department website for more detail.

Look up funding opportunities: www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ fundingsearch

**Read the Application Guide:** www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ applicationquide

Find out about college membership If your course involves college membership you are guaranteed a college place. Find out more at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/colleges

### Check the application deadline

Remember that, in most cases, your course's January deadline is also the deadline for the vast majority of Oxford scholarship funding.

## 2 DECIDED TO APPLY? THEN...

### **Contact your referees**

Check they will submit a reference for you by the deadline.

## Ensure you have an official transcript

If you don't have one already, ask your university for this straight away as it can take several weeks.

### Start your application online

You'll find a link on your course page.

## Register your referees' contact details

Do this as early as possible to avoid delays.

## Prepare documents for your application

Your course page has details of all documents required in the 'How to Apply' section.

# B DEADLINES AND SUBMITTING

### **Course deadlines**

Make sure you check the deadline(s) that apply to your course on the relevant course page.

## It's best to submit well in advance if you can

We can then identify any issues at an early stage and let you know if your application is not ready for assessment.

### **Applicant Self Service**

This will be available via your application account within a few days of submitting your application. For more information, see

### www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ selfservice. You will be able to check whether your referees have submitted, whether there are documents missing and change your contact details.

## 4 AFTER YOU APPLY

### Assessment of your application

After the deadline, if we have everything we need from you, the academic department will start assessing your application.

### Decision on your application

You should receive this eight to ten weeks after the deadline.

### Your college

You will usually be notified of your college around eight to ten weeks after receiving your departmental offer (although, please note, this is quite a complex process and may take longer).

Timeline after you apply The pages at www.graduate. ox.ac.uk/afteryouapply explain what happens next.

SEE... THE IDEA OF WHAT 'OXFORD MATERIAL' IS ISN'T A COOKIE-CUTTER THING. YOU CAN COME FROM SO MANY DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS, AND HAVE DONE SO MANY THINGS, AND YOU CAN GET IN. AND YOU'LL DO JUST FINE.

STEPH ODIASE, MPHIL EVIDENCE-BASED SOCIAL INTERVENTION AND POLICY EVALUATION

39 Steve Buchanan

# **TOP TIPS ON APPLYING**

Based on our applicants' most common questions, we've put together a handy guide to the areas where you may need a little more help...

### ESSENTIAL ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Entry to Oxford's graduate courses is highly competitive. The minimum requirement is a First or a strong Upper-Second class undergraduate degree (equivalent to US grade 3.5–3.8 GPA) depending on the course. See the specific requirements for your course, listed under the entry requirements section on each course page.

## RESEARCH PROPOSAL OR STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

You will need to submit a research proposal or a statement of purpose when you apply, explaining what you want to study at Oxford and why. Research proposals will usually have more information about the specific area you plan to work on whilst statements of purpose might look at your background in the subject and what you want to achieve.

## CONTACTING SUPERVISORS

For a master's, you don't need to contact a supervisor; it is more usual for DPhil applicants to do this. In all cases, see the 'How to Apply' section of your course page which will tell you whether you should contact a supervisor or not.

### MASTERS' QUALIFICATIONS FOR ENTRY TO OUR DOCTORAL COURSES

Many DPhils (PhDs) require a master's in a relevant subject – you can check the entry requirements on each course page.

## REFEREES

Contact your referees as soon as you have decided to apply and fill in their details on your form as soon as possible. We need to receive references by the application deadline for the course, so the sooner you start this process, the better.

## **OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS**

It can take some universities several weeks to produce a transcript. As we need to receive this document by the application deadline, you should request your transcript as soon as you know that you are going to apply.







# USEFUL INFORMATION FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

# Application process for non-UK students

The application process for graduate study at Oxford is the same for all applicants. The Application Guide – www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ applicationguide – that we produce is for all applicants of all nationalities.

40 Greta Pintacuda (DPhil Chromosome and Developmental Biology)
41 Ian McGregor (MSc Environmental Change and Management)
42 Lucy McDonald (BPhil Philosophy)
43 Joseph Caruana (DPhil Astrophysics)



### If English is not your first language...

You'll need to demonstrate your ability to study in English – your course page specifies exact requirements. Departments can request either standard or higher scores as follows:

Test	Standard overall score	Higher overall score
IELTS Academic	7.0	7.5
TOEFL iBT (Internet- based)	100	110
Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English	185	191
Cambridge Certificate of Advanced English	185	191

See our website for the breakdown of minimum requirements for each component of the tests at www. graduate.ox.ac.uk/englishproficiency

### Translations of transcripts

If your official transcript is not in English, you must submit both:

- the original official transcript, and
- a translation of the transcript into English, visibly certified by either a professional translator, the issuing body of the original transcript or an authorised notary.

### Visas

We offer help and support throughout the student visa process for all students who require one. Contact our visa and immigration advisers for guidance.

Students studying a masters' course shorter than 14 months at the University of Oxford currently benefit from a new Home Office pilot scheme. These students do not need to submit supporting documentation with their visa application and will be granted six additional months after their course end date for the visa expiry date.

www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/visa



# **AFTER YOUR DEGREE**

## CAREERS

Comprehensive careers advice and support for all our graduate students is available from our expert Careers Service, and not just while you're here: our careers support is for life.

As well as tailored advice, job fairs and workshops to support careers in research, you'll have access to thousands of UK-based and international internships, work experience and jobs while you're studying here.

The Careers Service aims to equip students with the skills that employers are looking for, whether within or beyond academia, and **The Student Consultancy Programme** is just one way of achieving valuable team-working and business awareness skills. This innovative and unique programme equips students with demonstrable consulting and teamwork skills to help local businesses, charities and community organisations with their real business challenges. Since its launch, more than 3,000 undergraduate and graduate students have taken part, helping more than 250 clients.

Students work over eight weeks in teams of six to address a strategic issue or business problem for a client organisation in Oxfordshire. Whatever your career plans, you can benefit from the programme, including developing skills in strategic thinking, self-management, team working, business and customer awareness, problem solving and communication.



Previous students have found this experience extremely helpful for roles in academia or beyond, particularly in terms of being able to cite their experiences in job applications and interviews.

'The Student Consultancy Programme gave me not only an interesting insight into the consultancy sector, but also a comprehensive idea of the intricacies and difficulties of the working world more generally.' PAST STUDENT

## ALUMNI

As an Oxonian, you can access support from the University wherever you are in the world. Support is available to help you search for your first job, change career and network with others in your industry. With more than 300,000 alumni and 220 alumni groups worldwide, there are bound to be alumni networking opportunities near where you live. Join a local alumni group to stay connected to Oxford and fellow alumni.

Information and advice is also available online. The Oxford Alumni Community – a professional networking platform – offers a wide range of benefits, including:

- access to the knowledge, expertise and connections of fellow Oxonians
- jobs specifically posted for Oxford alumni
- opportunities to approach mentors to gain their advice, insights and experience.

www.careers.ox.ac.uk and www.alumni.ox.ac.uk

# GRADUATE Photography Competition

Our Graduate Photography Competition is now in its seventh year and has grown in popularity over that time: in 2017 we had more entries than ever before.

We love to see Oxford through the eyes of our students and try to use as many of their images as possible in our publications, on our website and on our social media channels.

We've credited all the student photography that we have used throughout this brochure. Thank you to all our amazing graduate students for sharing your views and experiences of Oxford. Here are some recent winning shots by Vinesh Rajpaul (DPhil Astrophysics) and Victoria Maguire-Rajpaul (DPhil Geography and the Environment).





46 Vinesh Rajpaul (DPhil Astrophysics)

47 Victoria Maguire-Rajpaul (DPhil Geography and the Environment)

48 Vinesh Rajpaul (DPhil Astrophysics)

49 Vinesh Rajpaul (DPhil Astrophysics)

50 Victoria Maguire-Rajpaul (DPhil Geography and the Environment) 51 Vinesh Rajpaul (DPhil Astrophysics)









# YOUR NEXT STEPS

## HEAR FROM OUR STUDENTS

You can see many of the students you have heard from in this brochure on our YouTube channel.

## JOIN US AT OUR EVENTS

We attend a range of events throughout the UK and in Oxford, which are listed on our website: www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/events

## ASK US A QUESTION

www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/aq

Follow us **f D D** OxfordGradStudy

Detailed course descriptions, including information relating to fees, can be found at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/courses

It may be necessary for the University to make changes to courses and to increase fees. Information on the circumstances in which such changes can be made is set out on the Graduate Admissions website – www.graduate.ox.ac.uk.

This prospectus was correct at the time of going to print in August 2017.

Produced by the Design Studio, Public Affairs, University of Oxford.

# I THINK OXFORD HAS Changed me in quite A profound way.

SIMUKAI CHIGUDU, DPHIL INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT







Graduate Admissions www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/aq Tel: +44 (0)1865 270059

www.graduate.ox.ac.uk

