Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

MSt in Literature and Arts

About the course

This is a two-year, part-time MSt degree in interdisciplinary studies in literature and arts. The course takes place over four five-day residences and two online modules. You will select two options from each of three periods of English history. Assessment is based on four essays and a dissertation.



This literature and arts course brings together the creative, intellectual, and manufactured output of people in the past. It has a twofold aim: to explore the past through the lens of human creativity, and to inform our understanding of that creativity by studying the context within which it emerged. It is therefore an interdisciplinary programme which encompasses literature, art and architectural history, political thought and theology.

Based in Oxford, and taking full advantage of the remarkable human and cultural resources which this university has at its disposal, the literature and arts course is designed around three sequential periods of British history, from Early Modern (c. 1400) to the early twentieth century (c.1914). By studying each period through a range of disciplines, you will acquire a broad and multi-faceted picture of the past. In this framework giant achievements such as Milton's poetry or Wren's architecture can be understood not only as products of their times but also in so far as they stand as uniquely inspired statements, or as harbingers of future developments.

The MSt in Literature and Arts is a part-time two-year course. In year one there are three compulsory five-day residences and one online module consisting of 9 units. In year two there is one residence and one online module. Although the online modules are not assessed it is a requirement that you engage with the online modules to the satisfaction of the course director. The online modules are fully supported by a dedicated Virtual Learning Environment.

After taking a broad view of British culture in a global context at the first residence, the three subsequent residences enable you to choose from a range of subjects, from different humanities disciplines, which relate to the historical period assigned to the unit. The options are taught in the mornings and afternoons, and represent a range of disciplines, specifically literature, history, visual culture and political thought/theology. You will choose two options out of four offered. The periods studied are 'Late Medieval and Early Modern', 'The Long Eighteenth Century' and the 'The Long Nineteenth Century'. Please note due to timetabling constrictions it is not always possible to allocate you to your first and second choices.

In keeping with the Oxford ethos of tutorial instruction, individual tutorials and supervisions will be an integral part of the programme, most notably with regard to the dissertation. Individual supervision will be undertaken both face-to-face and by email.

Assessment is through four 4,000- to 5,000- word assignments, each assignment following a residential session, and an 11,000-word dissertation. The four assignments contribute up to 40% of the final mark and the dissertation contributes up to 60%.

Changes to courses

The University will seek to deliver each course in accordance with the descriptions set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after registration. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions.

Expected length of course

2 years

Annual fees for entry in 2016-2017

Fee Status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees	
Home/EU	£4,660	£1,467	£6,127	
(including islands)				
Overseas	£8,140	£1,467	£9,607	

The fees shown above are the annual tuition and college fees for this course for entry in the 2016-17 academic year; for courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. For details, please see our guidance on likely increases to fees and charges.

Tuition and college fees are payable each year for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay tuition and college fees).

Additional cost information

This course has residential sessions in Oxford so you will need to meet any travel and accommodation costs you may incur in attending these sessions.

Living costs

In addition to your fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for 2016-17 are published below. These costs are based on a single, full-time graduate student, with no dependants, living in Oxford. We provide the cost per month so you can multiply up by the number of months you expect to live in Oxford.

	Likely living costs for 1 month		Likely living costs for 9 months		Likely living costs for 12 months	
	Lower	Upper range	Lower	Upper range	Lower	Upper range
Food	£265	£298	£2,384	£2,673	£3,177	£3,565
Accommodation	£469	£667	£4,221	£6,002	£5,627	£8,006
Personal items	£119	£244	£1,073	£2,187	£1,429	£2,915
Social activities	£60	£107	£539	£960	£718	£1,280
Study costs	£36	£73	£314	£661	£418	£880
Other	£19	£44	£197	£410	£265	£547
Total	£970	£1,433	£8,727	£12,894	£11,636	£17,191

When planning your finances for any future years of study in Oxford beyond 2016-17, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 2% each year.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/living-costs.

21 October 2015