



Third Floor, Chester House
21-27 George Street
Oxford OX1 2AY
United Kingdom
osapabroad.com | info@osapabroad.com

GUIDANCE FOR TUTORIAL SELECTION

A very wide range of courses is available at Oxford, taught by highly qualified specialists who are often leaders in their fields. The links below will take you to some of the many subject areas offered with descriptions of some tutorials and tutors that work with OSAP. In addition to your area of academic interest, it is recommended that you read the Academic Information carefully.

GENERAL BACKGROUND ON TUTORIAL COURSES

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Associate Members and Visiting Students are not, of course, candidates for Oxford degrees. Their credits are awarded by their home colleges and count towards their home college degrees. Their curriculum in Oxford must, therefore, be approved by both their home college and their Oxford academic advisers.

This means that many options are open to them, so long as the courses they study make good sense academically. Naturally, they must possess the academic background to pursue any particular course. Within those constraints, however, their Oxford academic advisers are free to seek out the best teachers available anywhere in the University. They will often be faculty of other colleges.

The academic advisers have found by experience that most OSAP students tend to select from five or six subjects, primarily history, English, politics (including political thought and international relations), economics and philosophy. A few students will study psychology, physics, chemistry, math, law, geography, sociology, art history, etc. (Remember that practical science courses, i.e., those requiring laboratory facilities, are usually available given sufficient notice).

Laboratory use must be approved by the Science Department, not by your Oxford college.

Study at the graduate level is available. Several students enrolled by Law Schools received ARA approval to study in this program. We also have many summer courses, details about all of which can be found on our website.

Home college advisers and students often ask for course descriptions of Oxford tutorials. Since all education at Oxford is highly individual (the exact courses are worked out jointly by the academic adviser, the student and the tutor) there is no Oxford Course Catalog in an American sense.

As a convenience to North American students, academic advisers in Oxford have collected as much information as possible from individual tutors. They have relied upon the Oxford Examination Decrees for some of the information and for some of the wording. The Oxford University Press is aware that we have made use of some of the material in their publications. They have then analyzed which courses seem most in demand by North American students. Not surprisingly, a good many wish to come to Oxford to study British History, British politics, and English Literature -- especially Shakespeare, Milton, Chaucer, the Victorian novels, etc. A good number wish to study Modern European History, the EC, Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth, etc.

After much discussion with students, tutors, other advisers, and with US professors and advisers, the academic advisers in several Oxford colleges have identified a good range of tutorial courses which seem well suited to the academic needs of one-year or one-term North American students.

We must stress that this list is not by any means exhaustive or complete. One of the many advantages of Oxford is that there is a faculty: student ratio of about 1:4; there are specialists in almost every academic subject. Please look upon this as a starting point and a rough guide.

Also please bear in mind that most of the courses listed may be sub-divided and studied in greater depth. That is, "History of Philosophy" could consist of four philosophers or two or even one. "Seventeenth Century English History" could be divided so that a student might study "Economic Aspects of the Civil War", as an example. IMPORTANT: All courses are taught at the level of the U.S. Junior or Senior year; they are similar to U.S. "electives" and are specialised, one cannot study a "survey course", such as "European History", or "British Literature".

Associate Members normally study a primary course for 9 tutorials and a secondary for 5 tutorials (equal to 14 U.S. semester credits in each term/semester). Visiting Students usually study in two primaries - 18 meetings in total, and recommended to receive 18 U.S. semester credits each term/semester).

Under most courses we have listed a few Oxford teachers who have taught Visiting Students or Associate Members. The Academic Advisers have been very successful in persuading some of the very best teachers and scholars in Oxford to offer to teach Associate Members or Visiting Students. Many of these tutors are international leaders in their fields - Fellows of the British Academy (only a few scholars in Britain in each field are elected to the British Academy), Fellows of the Royal Society (the equivalent honour for scientists), Fellows of the Royal Historical Society, Fellows of All Souls and of other leading graduate colleges (Nuffield, St. Antony's, Wolfson), holders of chairs in their field (there are only one or two chairs in each subject in Oxford), Heads of colleges, Directors of Institutes, etc. Almost all have published widely in their fields. About a third of Oxford's permanent faculty never bothered with a Ph.D; they wrote a book (or several books instead) - the equivalent. You will note that many of the Chairs (and Fellows of the British Academy, etc.) never took a PhD degree.

For some tutorials, advisers will appoint a young scholar (less widely published but a leading specialist in the student's chosen subject); in all cases every tutor will be a scholar who has normally taught candidates for Oxford degrees, or has been associated with Oxford University.

Some of our staff are broadly familiar with Oxford; if you have a detailed question an Oxford scholar will be glad to discuss it with you.

RECOMMENDED TUTORIALS

ANTHROPOLOGY

Renowned as a center for both research and teaching in Anthropology, Oxford boasts both the School of Anthropology and the Museum of Ethnography including the Institutes of Biological and Social & Cultural Anthropology.

A diverse and flexible course selection is available, including an Anthropological Theory introductory course and topics spanning the representation, practices, development, beliefs, analysis and interpretation of social and cultural trends. Topics may be explored with both a regional (e.g. South America, South East Asia) and thematic (e.g. Art, urban anthropology, gender) approach. Also available are courses in human evolution and ecology, and comparative studies of change and urbanization in complex social structures.

ARCHAEOLOGY

Oxford is a major center for archaeology, with research concentrated at the Institute for Archaeology. A wide variety of courses may be studied, including regional studies such as Archaeology of the Middle East, Aegean Archaeology, Egyptology, etc.

ART, PRACTICAL ART & ARCHITECTURE

Associate Members may draw upon considerable resources in Oxford in these fields. Students may study the history of art and architecture, fine arts, and may do practical work in painting and drawing.

BIOLOGY

Every field of Biological Science is available, containing a formidable range and depth of courses. A selection of courses include: introductions to both Biochemistry and Genetics; Proteins; Molecular Biology; Cell Biology; Biological Chemistry; Pharmacology; Environmental Biology; Physiology (including Development Neurobiology and Neurophysiology); Invertebrate and Vertebrate Zoology; Ecology; Animal Biology and Behaviour; Human Evolution; Plant Physiology and Quantitative Methods and Statistics for Biology.

BUSINESS

A good number of courses in business are taught at Green Templeton College, the Business Management college of the University. The Said Business School constitutes the University's department of Business Studies. Subjects

generally available include: Advertising Management; Business Ethics; European and British Business Culture; International Management; Organizational Behaviour; Management Studies; Leadership; Marketing, Business Strategy, Business Entrepreneurship.

CHEMISTRY

A wide variety of courses is available, covering all branches of the subject. The list includes: Introduction to Reaction Kinetics; Quantum Theory of Atoms and Molecules; Biophysical Chemistry; The Chemistry of Solutions; Structure and Bonding in Inorganic Compounds; Introduction to Transition Metal Chemistry; Introduction to Physical Chemistry; Introduction to Chemical Thermodynamics; and Introduction to General Organic Chemistry.

CLASSICS

Oxford is world famous for its Classical curriculum, known as *Literae Humaniores* or "Greats". Unlike almost all universities today, it still has a large number of classical specialists in almost every field.

Students may study the history of Greece and Rome (including Jewish Studies) and the literature of the classical world (Homer, Sophocles, Thucydides, Aristophanes, Virgil, Horace, Ovid, Tacitus etc.) Greek and Roman philosophy may be studied (the pre-Socratics, Plato, Aristotle, etc.).

Courses in ancient art & archaeology are offered as well as the politics, sociology, theology and culture of the ancient world. All work may be studied in English translation as well as in the original language. Students may study Latin and Greek at any level as well.

ECONOMICS

The following courses are recommended:

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development since 1945: Post-war development of the OECD, comprising a comparative study of OECD countries and/or economic analysis of USA, Japan or Western Europe. The course includes the formation of institutional policies and strategies; macroeconomics; labor markets; industrial, financial and trade relations; economic competition and integration, etc.

Numerous other courses are available: Money and Banking; Microeconomics; Macroeconomics; Economic Theory; Econometrics; International Financial Markets; Development Economics; Labor Markets and Industrial Relations; Collective Bargaining; Classical Economic Thought; Command Economies and their Marketization; Public Economics; Economics of Industry and Management and Business Administration; Mathematics for Economists; Environmental Economics.

THE EUROPEAN UNION

Topics include the cost of UK entry into the EEC; the Common Agricultural Policy; European Integration Policy and Regional Policy; Industrial Policy in Europe; European Labour Market; and the implications of the Single Market (1992). This subject may be studied with an economic, a political or an historical emphasis.

Statistical Methods in Social Science; Statistical Theory; Economic Statistics; Politics and Sociology (applications of statistical theory to social and political research; problems in the collection of aggregate and survey data).

EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

A number of courses are taught at the University's Department of Educational Studies, including Sociology of Education; Educational Policy; Alternative Education; Comparative Education and Educational Research Methodology.

ENGINEERING

A wide variety of courses in Engineering may be studied including: Metallurgy, Physical Metallurgy, Electrical and Magnetic Properties of Materials, Polymeric Materials (including synthesis, microstructures and engineering applications of polymers).

ENGLISH LITERATURE

The following courses are recommended in particular:

English Literature from its Origins to 1100

Students may study Anglo-Saxon, Old English, Norse, Norman-French and other aspects of the literature and language of the time.

English Literature from 1100-1509

The following may be studied (not exhaustive): Piers Plowman: Pearl (ed. E.V. Gordon), Malory, Morte D'Arthur: Henryson, Fables, Chaucer, The Canterbury Tales, Troilus and Criseyde: Langland, as well as other texts in Old English and Middle English.

English Literature from 1509-1642

There are courses available in this subject area. The list includes: Spenser's The Faerie Queen, Elizabethan and Jacobean Prose, Social Contexts for Renaissance Drama, Renaissance Tragedy, Marlowe, and a large number of specialist courses on Shakespeare (see below).

English Literature from 1642-1740

The following courses are among those available in this subject: Puritans and Literature, Political Contexts for Milton and Marvell, Bunyan, Restoration Comedy, Milton, 18th Century Poetry, Defoe, the Metaphysical Poets etc.

Shakespeare

A tutorial course would normally examine one, two or three plays, to be studied in relation to dramatists contemporary with Shakespeare. This subject may also be studied with a political, sociological or philosophical emphasis. A number of tutors offer special subjects such as "Women in Shakespeare" etc.

The English Novels and Poetry

A large number of novelists and poets from the Eighteenth century to the Twentieth century may be studied, among them the following: Fielding, Richardson, Trollope, Henry James, Dickens, Thackeray, Tennyson, Austen, George Eliot, D.H. Lawrence, Melville, Browning, Woolf, James Joyce, Yeats, Larkin, Plath and Hughes. Courses may examine in detail the works of one author. Alternatively, a thematic approach may be taken: e.g., British and Irish Drama from Wilde to Beckett, Literature of the First World War, Novels and Victorian Society, Women's Literature in the 19th (or 20th) century, contemporary British Literature, Interconnections between British and American literature, etc.

GEOGRAPHY AND SOCIOLOGY

The following courses are particularly recommended (Sociology is often included under Geography in Oxford):

Social Geography

Aspects of social segregation and behaviour, with particular reference to urban environments displaying complex cultural and racial patterns (e.g., USA); ethnic minorities; systems of legally enforced segregation (such as the former system in South Africa).

The Geographical Environment

The impact and problems of human development of the natural environment; exploitation and conservation of natural resources in different cultures; industrial and agricultural evolution and methods of political control; environmental issues (e.g., deforestation, acidification, climate change, pollution, erosion, desertification).

The Geography of Southern Africa

Lesotho, Zambia, Namibia, Botswana, Angola, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Swaziland, Malawi. "Human Geography" in Oxford is similar to "sociology" in the US.

There are many other courses available in all areas of the subject. They include; Geomorphology, Concepts in Economic Geography, Climatology, Cities and Societies, Aspects of Landscape, etc.

HISTORY

Many specialist courses in history are regularly taught in Oxford, some of the main general topics include:

Ancient History

Oxford is well known for its scholars in the ancient world. The history of Egypt, Greece and the Roman Empire may be studied including specialised aspects such as economic history, women's history, religious history, etc. See Classics.

Medieval History

Oxford University itself has its origins in the Middle Ages and Medieval history springs to life in this city which traces its development to the Dark Ages when King Alfred the Great established a school in Oxford.

English (British) History

The History of Scotland, Ireland, Wales and England; including the history of British India; the history of British colonies and dominions, etc. The following periods may be studied: (1) Pre-1330; (2) 1330-1685; and (3) 1685-1964; any one of which may be approached thematically with regard to social, economic, political, cultural and constitutional issues.

History of the United States

The history of English-speaking America from Jamestown (1607) to the present day. Relations with other English-speaking nations, with Europe and Africa, and with the other Americas may also be studied. Specific topics include early Colonial America; the War of Independence (1775-1783); the American Constitution and early years of the Republic; the Civil War; America's development as a world power; the two World Wars; Women's history in America; Black history; the Impact of Hispanic culture; economic and social history, etc.

Modern European History

The history of Europe or of individual nations, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, etc. may be studied in both the 19th and 20th centuries or earlier. Special topics might include the expansion of Europe, Imperialism, the two world wars, the rise of a united Europe, etc.

History of African, Latin American and Asian Nations

In part because of the Commonwealth, many scholars in Oxford teach the history of most nations around the world. There are many courses in non-European history in Oxford.

LAW

Law may be studied at both the undergraduate and graduate level. Courses of special interest to overseas students include: international law, European Community law, the philosophy of law, jurisprudence, history of law, maritime law, Roman law, etc. A number of students currently in Law School have received American Bar Association approval to study law in Oxford at the graduate level.

MATHEMATICS

A very wide range of courses is on offer, in all areas of the subject, including computer science, pure and applied mathematics, and probability and statistics. The following courses may well be of interest: Linear Algebra; Statistics; Differential Equations and Discrete Mathematics; Numerical Analysis; Abstract Algebra; Differentiability and Convergence; Geometry and Mechanics; Topology; and Probability. A great variety of more advanced courses is also available.

MODERN LANGUAGES

Although most overseas students would choose to study a modern language in its nation of origin, almost any modern language can be studied at Oxford.

Associate Students often "keep up" with their foreign languages while in Oxford and new languages may be learned (not for academic credit) at the introductory level through the Oxford Language Center and with personal tutors.

MUSIC

A wide number of courses in Music are offered in Oxford, including compositional techniques, the history of music, psychology and music etc.

ORIENTAL STUDIES

Oxford has long been a major center for the study of Egypt (both Ancient & Modern) India (including Sanskrit and ancient and modern history & literature) Jewish Studies, Islamic civilization, the society, culture and literature of East Asia, (China, Japan, etc.) the Ottoman Empire and modern Turkey and other non-European cultures.

PHILOSOPHY

Oxford has a large and distinguished philosophy faculty, and tuition can normally be arranged in a wide variety of subjects. The following are recommended:

The History of Philosophy

Ancient (Pre-Socratic, Plato, Aristotle, Hellenistic and Roman, in the original or in translation); Medieval Philosophy; Renaissance Thought; Descartes and the Rationalists; the British Empiricists; Kant; Hegel; Nineteenth and Twentieth Century Philosophy; Existentialism; Modern British Philosophy; Wittgenstein

General Philosophy

Metaphysics, Epistemology; Philosophical Logic; Philosophy of Science; Philosophy of Mind; Philosophy of Mathematics; Philosophy of Language.

Moral Philosophy

Ethics; Ethics of War; History of Ethics; Practical Ethics; Medical Ethics; Business Ethics.

Philosophy of Human Nature

Personal identity and the Self; Philosophy of Biology; Philosophy of Psychology.

The Philosophy of Law

Theory of Law, Rights, Responsibility, Civil Liberties.

Political Philosophy

There is a wide range of options available, in both the history of political thought and the examination of more recent theories, as well as analytical and comparative studies.

PHYSICS

Courses are available in all areas of the subject. The list includes: Electromagnetism; Waves and Optics; Atomic Physics; Quantum Physics; Astronomy; Special Relativity and Mechanics. Advanced study is also possible in other subjects including Nuclear Physics, Biophysics, Particle Physics, Astrophysics, General Relativity and Condensed Matter Physics.

POLITICS

The following courses are recommended in particular:

British Politics and Government since 1880

British politics; domestic political issues (including the effects of socio-economic developments and foreign policy); political ideology; the evolution and constitution of the British political system (including the operation of the electoral system, political parties, government, and Parliament).

Classical Political Thought up to 1800

A range of texts may be chosen for critical analysis, including Plato, *The Republic* and other writings; Aristotle, *Politics* and *Ethics*; Machiavelli, *The Discourses*, *The Prince*; Hobbes, *Leviathan*; Locke, *Second Treatise of Civil Government* and other writings; Montesquieu, *The Spirit of the Laws*; Rousseau, *The Social Contract*, *Discourse on the Origin of Inequality*; works by Hume and Bentham, *The Federalist Papers*; Burke, *Reflections on the Revolution in France*, etc.

Foundations of Modern Social and Political Thought

An examination of some of the important texts relating to modern social and political theory. The following may be examined: John Stuart Mill, *On Liberty*; Hegel, *The Philosophy of Right* and other works, Tocqueville, *Democracy in America* and other works; Marx; writings on Fascism, Nazism, Communism, Liberalism, Socialism, Democracy, etc.

Politics and the Media

Increasingly the media is being viewed as a "Fourth Estate"; it is difficult to understand modern politics without knowing how the media interacts with government and politics.

Political Institutions

Modern systems of government, their administration, constitution, legislative and judicial procedures, parties, etc. Detailed study may be made of individual countries, or a comparative approach may be taken.

International Relations

Numerous courses are available in this subject, and the following topics in particular may be pursued in detail: The Cold War; the relations of Eastern and Western Europe; the European Union; Pacific Rim nations (e.g., China, Japan, Russia, USA); the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe; regional and global conflict, area studies, the intelligence services, defense studies, etc.

The European Union

The European Union, its origins, evolution, current affairs and future development; Britain and the EU; European Parliament, policy and legislation; monetary unity and the European Monetary Union (the single currency); Common Agricultural Policy; trade and international relations (e.g., with the US, Eastern Europe, Japan).

Changes in Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union

Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union since 1945; the Warsaw Pact; the Cold War; post-war Communism; relations with countries in the West; modern developments; the weakening and collapse of the Eastern Bloc.

PSYCHOLOGY

The following courses are particularly recommended. Please note that Associate Members are not able to use the Psychology Library of laboratories.

Developmental Psychology

Evidence from comparative studies; psychological development in humans; the environmental and hereditary, physiological and biological, influences which bear upon development in homo sapiens.

Psychological Disorders

Classification of disorders: traits, symptoms and states; diagnostic reliability and validity; psychiatric nosologies; Definitions of abnormality: social, statistical and biological approaches; the medical model; psychological abnormality as disease and deviance. Mechanisms of disorder. Clinical description of disorder. Treatment of disorders. Origins of disorder.

Social Behaviour

Social behaviour, its biological and social framework. Topics for study may include a comparative analysis of social behaviour patterns in animals and humans; emotional and cultural influences; communication (verbal and non-verbal); relationships; cognition; and analytical method.

THEOLOGY

The Development of Doctrine in the Early Church to AD 461

A study of doctrinal development in the Christian Church, and its historical framework, using primary sources (in translation).

The History and Theology of the Reformation from AD 1500-1564

The Reformation, its history, ideals and development in Europe, including an examination of the major reformist leaders (Calvin, Luther and Zwingli); the Reformation in England; the Counter-Reformation.

Other religions such as Judaism, Islam, Hinduism and Buddhism may also be studied. There is a Center for Hebrew Studies and a Center for Islamic Studies.

Theology as taught in Oxford is an interdisciplinary study combining history, philosophy, literature and sometimes archaeology, for this reason it is studied by students from both religious and unreligious backgrounds.

WOMEN'S STUDIES

Among general courses in women's studies are the following: Gender and Women in the Middle Ages; Women and Gender in England and France 1500-1800; Feminist Theory; Feminist Theology; Philosophy and Feminism. Specialized literature courses may also be available, such as Feminist Approaches to Shakespeare, and New American Women's Fiction.