



Help the University improve its services to you

The [Student Barometer survey](#) gives you the chance to share your views. Your feedback will be used by colleges, departments, faculties and central University services to identify strengths and weaknesses and put in place changes to help improve your experience at Oxford. A link to the Student Barometer will be sent from the Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) to your University email address today. Please do take the time to complete it.

[Read more](#)

Academic Life



Plagiarism avoidance course

If you want to learn about academic writing skills and avoiding inadvertent plagiarism, IT Services is offering a free session on Thursday 29 November. Topics include a tutor's video presentation of how she uses Turnitin (plagiarism awareness software) and how to use the Turnitin report. You will have a chance to submit a document to Turnitin, so bring along an electronic copy of an article or chapter you have written. Places are limited and [booking is required](#).

[Read more](#)

Graduate Supervision Reporting – self-assessment reporting to start soon

Self-assessment reporting will open in Graduate Supervision Reporting (GSR) soon. When your report is available to edit, you will be sent an automated GSR email notification, which will include details of how to get started. Further information is in the [Student Self Service Manual](#), available from the Student Self Service web page, and a link to this will be included in your GSR notification.

[Read more](#)

Careers & Entrepreneurship



Intellectual Property (IP) Rights & Responsibilities

Whether you're an undergraduate, masters or DPhil student, it's important to [understand your rights and responsibilities when it comes to intellectual property](#) (IP). This session will help you understand what it is, who "owns" it, and the things to think about when you think you have created IP. Case studies will also be presented to help explain the University's policy. Ask any IP related questions in the second half of the session, where expert presenters will give you the official University answers to your queries. The talk starts at 12.30pm but a sandwich lunch and networking will be provided from 12pm.

[Read more](#)



Have you visited the Oxford Foundry yet?

[The Oxford Foundry](#) is the newest University of Oxford entrepreneurship space – supporting all Oxford Students. The Foundry is there to help you think more entrepreneurially, enhance your employability, build confidence and overcome fear of failure. They deliver hands-on learning through a vast range of workshops and offer an accelerator programme, which provides startups with a co-working space and a suite of support. If you want to unleash the entrepreneur in you, become more business minded or you're looking for a creative and chilled space to work in, visit the Oxford Foundry.

[Read more](#)

Oxford Life



**BAME
LEADERSHIP
in Oxford**

Join Oxford SU for its first ever BAME student leadership event!

Oxford SU launches its first 'BAME Leadership in Oxford' event

[BAME Leadership in Oxford](#) is an evening aimed at empowering current and aspiring leaders to be effective in their role. Run by Oxford SU, it will include talks delivered by experienced professionals and Oxford students, each sharing insights and practical tips for navigating white-dominated environments. Based on issues raised by current BAME students, the event will cover topics such as being confident as the only BAME person in the room, managing conflict and using your position to create change. There will be the opportunity to build your network with other BAME student leaders, to express your views on being a leader at Oxford and to discover leadership opportunities across the University. This event is open to all BAME students and will take place on Monday 19 November at Merton College, from 5.30-9pm. Attendance is free of charge.

[Read more](#)



Learn a modern language or improve your academic english

The Language Centre is running its most popular [modern language courses](#) as intensive courses from Monday 3 December. Early booking is recommended to secure a space. If you are not a native speaker and you want to improve your written communication, the [Academic English: Written Communication](#) - key issues course might be for you. This is also an intensive course, taking place from week 9 of Michaelmas term. Enrolment for [Hilary term Academic English courses](#) is also now open.



Advice on staying safe online

We expect safe online experiences, and that's usually what we get. However, you shouldn't take it on trust that all your services are giving you the level of security you need. Things you can do to improve your safety online include using two-step login verification to add an extra level of protection to your online accounts; using anti-virus software to protect your devices against viruses; and using trusted cloud services. If you want to find out what else you can do to ensure your online experiences are as secure as possible, visit the University's official [Information Security website](#).

Jenner Institute vaccine trials

The Jenner Institute is looking for healthy volunteers to take part in a malaria challenge study testing the effectiveness of new malaria vaccines. If you're aged 18-45, in good health and have never had malaria, you may be eligible to participate. Volunteers are compensated for their time, inconvenience and travel during the study period of three to six months. Participants will receive up to £2960 on completion of the study. To find out more, [email](#) the Volunteer Co-ordinator or visit the [website](#).

[Read more](#)

Just 13 days to go until Oxmas...



Oxmas: Christmas at Oxford

If you're new to Oxford, you might not have heard of 'Oxmas' before. Oxmas refers to Christmas at Oxford, which takes place on 25 November - exactly one month before Christmas day. We celebrate Oxmas so we can spread a little Christmas cheer during term time. Very soon the Christmas lights will turn on and you'll start seeing trees going up across the University. Some colleges and departments provide an Oxmas dinner, and if you're lucky, there may even be a carol service - complete with mince pies and mulled wine. As our next student newsletter won't be going out until 26 November, we just want to say, have a very Merry Oxmas.



Michaelmas term closure dates

The Examination Schools will be closed from 5pm on Friday 21 December and will re-open



Oxford's Christmas Light Festival

This annual City Council festive celebration is a highlight of Oxford's cultural calendar. The

at 8.30am on Thursday 3 January. If you plan to submit work during this period, the building will be closed for submissions delivered in person, by post or by courier. Submissions made via the Examination Schools post box will not obtain proof of submission.

three day festival takes place from Friday 16 November to Sunday 18 November, and includes light and sound installations, a festive market, music, dance, and lots of free activities in venues across the city. For more information about what's on when, [visit the festival website](#).



Christmas card collages

[Create your own unique Christmas cards](#) at the Weston Library on Friday 16 November between 6-9pm. You can also explore the exhibitions and browse unusual Christmas presents at the Bodleian gift shop. The Oxford Bach Choir will sing carols in Blackwell Hall at 7pm and 8pm, and the café will be serving mulled cider, mince pies and other seasonal treats.

Share your #Oxmas photos and videos

We want to see how you celebrate Oxmas at your college or department. Share your Oxmas photos and videos with us on Twitter and Facebook by using the #Oxmas hashtag. We'll be reposting student content during November and we'll also include our favourite posts in an Oxmas 2018 Twitter Moment.



Talking Maps Lightshow

Come to the Bodleian's Old Schools Quad to [experience a spectacular light display projected onto the library's historic buildings](#), designed from images from its Special Collection materials. The incredible map



Oxford Botanic Garden Christmas Fair

Find the spirit of Oxmas at the [Oxford Botanic Garden Christmas Fair](#), from 1-2 December. Stroll through the festive marquee laden with handcrafted stocking fillers, admire

collections of the Bodleian Library will be brought to life on Sunday 17 November, as a grande finale to this year's Christmas Light festival.

the Herbarium Room decorated with 234 individual prints and browse the Botanic Garden shop. Entry for students is £3.50 and there will be food and entertainment all weekend.

Bursaries & Scholarships



Interested in undertaking research in Brussels?

The [Philippe Wiener-Maurice Anspach Foundation](#) is offering research grants to DPhil students from all academic disciplines to conduct research at the Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB) during 2019/20. Awards are available to cover a minimum of six months and maximum of one year, and applicants must be in at least their second year of study. A grant of €1,800 per month will be provided and the Foundation will cover the University visiting student registration fees. The deadline for applications is Friday 3 December 2018.

[Read more](#)

Wellbeing & Welfare



Free flu jab for students with serious long-term conditions

Did you know that [the flu vaccine](#) is offered free of charge on the NHS to anyone with a serious long-term health condition? Long term conditions include chronic respiratory diseases such as asthma; chronic liver, heart or kidney disease; diabetes; sickle cell disease, and more. Flu on top of any long-term health condition can easily develop into something very serious, and you could end up in hospital. If you are eligible and want to take up the offer of a free vaccine, contact your GP surgery or your local pharmacy to organise an appointment.

[Read more](#)



Student Resolution Service

The Student Resolution Service is a free mediation service for students finding themselves in conflict with another student. It provides a confidential and carefully managed space to voice your feelings and to hear the view point of the other person. The team of mediators are trained in

facilitating conversations in a non-judgemental and safe fashion. [Find out more on the Oxford Students website.](#)

[Read more](#)

Research & Innovation



Image credit: Auguste von Bayern

Research highlight: New Caledonian crows can create tools from multiple parts

An international team of scientists from the Max Planck Institute for Ornithology and the University of Oxford has revealed that New Caledonian crows are able to create tools by combining two or more otherwise non-functional elements, an ability so far observed only in humans and great apes.

[Read more](#)



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