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# Student News



## Week 0 - Michaelmas term 2014

Student News is emailed to you fortnightly during term from Week 0 and contains key information, including deadlines, reminders and events from the central University. Further information is available from the [Oxford Students website](#).



## University registration closes Friday 17 October

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An essential part of being a student of the University is the annual completion of registration. Whether you are a new or continuing student you must complete your registration using Student Self Service, before **Friday of Week 1**. If you are a new student, you will not have your status as a member of the University confirmed until your registration has been completed by your college (or department for non-matriculated courses). For more information, visit the [guide to registration](#).

## Freshers' Fair at the Examination Schools, 8-10 October

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The Oxford University Student Union (OUSU) Freshers' Fair taking place this week will be packed with stalls showcasing Oxford student life. The free event is a great chance to sign up to clubs and societies and find out more about living in, and studying at, Oxford. The first two days of the fair are ticketed and reserved for Freshers only, with continuing students welcome to attend 'ReFreshers' Fair' on Friday. Find out more from the [Freshers' Fair website](#).

## Submission of work at the Examination Schools

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When arriving at the Examination Schools, please check signs for where submissions are being received, which may be either at the Student Information desk or at the submissions desk, depending on the volume of submissions expected. The submissions preparation area remains on the right of the Examination Schools entrance hall and information leaflets on how to complete your submission are available there. The final Trinity term submission date for **research degrees is Friday 10 October 2014**. Visit the [Oxford Students website](#) for advice on preparing your work for submission.

## Win a £1,000 book bursary

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Know someone in desperate need of some new books? Nominate them (or yourself!) to win a £1000 National Book Token - enough to cover every book they'll ever need. The competition will close on **Thursday 9 October 2014**. To enter and read the terms and conditions, visit the [National Book Tokens website](#).

## Funding opportunity for research in Asia

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European Union (EU) funding for research students to undertake research placements at South-East Asian universities is available for 2015/16. Students must be EU nationals enrolled for an MPhil or DPhil at Oxford, and apply by **10 October 2014**. Contact Katherine Benson, [katherine.benson@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:katherine.benson@admin.ox.ac.uk), for further details.

## Student volunteers needed for testing

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Exams... stressful enough without taking on the grey tome of Exam Regs. Good news! The grey book is being replaced with a new paperless online version; it's gone from grey to green! It's also much easier to search. Volunteer testers are needed prior to its release. The testing can be carried out on your own pc or tablet, at your own convenience, during Week 1 of term. It takes less than 30 minutes and you get a £10 Amazon voucher (limited to the first 20 testers) on completion of the testing. Interested? Email [Valentina.martilotti@it.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Valentina.martilotti@it.ox.ac.uk) to express interest and for further details and conditions.

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## Missed the European and international student orientation events?

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If you missed the graduate and undergraduate orientation events for European and international students held on 2, 3, and 6 October, drop-in sessions will be held on **Friday 17 and Friday 24 October 2014** from 15:00-17:00 at the Examination Schools. The drop-in session is not a lecture format, but the chance to collect a welcome pack and ask staff questions you may have about settling in to Oxford as a non-UK student. Visit the [Oxford Students website](#) for details.

## Oxford University Newcomers' Club

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The Oxford University Newcomers' Club welcomes wives, husbands and partners of graduate students of the University to help them feel settled in Oxford. Visit the [Oxford University Newcomers' Club website](#) for information on the programme of events and activities held each term.

## IT support

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If you are looking for information on IT courses or getting started with IT at Oxford, visit [www.it.ox.ac.uk](http://www.it.ox.ac.uk). There is also a website specifically for help and support at <http://help.it.ox.ac.uk> which holds information on what to do when things aren't working and how to request services and products. You can also get on-the-spot help from your college or department or by visiting the IT Services Help Centre at 13 Banbury Road.

## Term time English courses

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There are a number of resources available at the Language Centre if your first language is not English. The Language Centre also offers several English for Academic Studies courses during term-time, including courses focusing on academic writing and communication skills. Visit the [English for Academic Studies pages](#).

## Applying for alternative examination arrangements

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The deadline for applying for alternative arrangements for examinations taking place in Hilary term 2015 is **Week 4 of Michaelmas Term 2014 (7 November)**. Applications must be submitted through your college, with whom you should discuss your requirements. It is particularly important to ensure your college is aware of any adjustments made to your examination sittings at the Examination Schools, and any changes in your circumstances. Alternative arrangements for reasons of disability or a medical condition include extra time, use of a computer, sitting in college, adjustments to seats, desk location etc. Visit the [Oxford Students website](#) for further information.

## Changes to graduate taught degree regulations

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New regulations to govern the suspension of, removal from, and reinstatement to the register for graduate taught students came into effect from 1 October 2014. The changes, made in the [Examination Regulations](#), will limit the number of terms that a graduate taught student may suspend status and the time within which a student might apply for reinstatement, while simplifying the regulations for ceasing to hold student status.

## Changes to research degree regulations

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With effect from 13 October 2014, the maximum number of terms' extension permitted for MSc by Research and MLitt students will be reduced from six terms to three terms. Applications for extensions which would take you beyond three terms of extension can no longer be granted without the support of your supervisor(s), college and department or faculty. Applications should be made through your [Graduate Studies Assistant](#).

## Training with the Environmental Sustainability team

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Join Oxford's Environmental Sustainability team from 10:30-13:30 on **23 October 2014** for a free environmental training opportunity. Training will include sustainability issues and solutions; project and team management skills; environmental communication techniques and a free lunch! Once trained, you will be expected to commit an hour per week during Michaelmas and Hillary terms, helping University departments improve their environmental practices. If you are interested in attending, please complete [this questionnaire](#) or email [sustainability@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:sustainability@admin.ox.ac.uk) with any questions. You can also follow the Environmental Sustainability team on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) to ensure you are kept up to date with future opportunities.

## Engage: Social Media Michaelmas

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You can explore different social media strategies and digital tools for use in an academic setting through *Engage: Social Media Michaelmas* (#Oxengage). The series of workshops and seminars will use the experiences of others to inspire you to consider using social media and digital technology to develop your online presence for impact, outreach and public engagement. For information about the series, follow the [Engage blog](#) and [Facebook](#) page.

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## Training with Oxford Sparks

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From an [Introduction to Public Engagement and Science Communication](#) to [Social Media for Communicating Science](#), Oxford Sparks runs a series of training courses focusing on the sciences. The courses and networking events give you the opportunity to meet Oxford academics with strong experience in engagement and communications. The next networking event - Seven Secrets of Great Videos - takes place from 12:30-13:30 on **Thursday 30 October 2014**. To register, visit [WebLearn](#) or find out more on the [Oxford Sparks website](#).

Student News is produced by [Academic Administration Division Communications](#), Examination Schools, 75-81 High Street, Oxford OX1 4BG.