



UNIVERSITY OF  
OXFORD

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR COLLABORATION WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD – AN OVERVIEW



# OPPORTUNITIES FOR STUDENTS TO SPEND SOME TIME AT OXFORD

## Joint programmes with the Department for Continuing Education

Oxford's Department for Continuing Education (OUDCE) runs many accredited and non-accredited spring and summer schools of between one and six weeks' duration held at the Department's home, Rewley House, or at one of Oxford's historic colleges. Some, such as the Oxford Experience programme, are open to all, while others have selective entry requirements.

The Department enjoys many long-standing partnerships with leading universities including The University of Chicago, UC Berkeley, Tsinghua University and Kyoto University. Each year, a number of residential study programmes in a wide variety of subjects is offered for undergraduate and graduate students, as well as for university alumni. Although the majority take place between June and September, many are held at other times of the year. In addition to delivering short courses, OUDCE regularly hosts a number of visitors, both academics and students, who engage in research at Oxford for a minimum period of three months. The Department would be pleased to discuss partnerships with potential collaborators.



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## Summer research placements in departments – undergraduate and postgraduate level

Some of Oxford's academic departments, for instance the Nuffield Department of Medicine and the Department of Biochemistry, host undergraduate and Master's students from universities across key collaborating countries on a summer research programme. This gives interns the opportunity to work in a laboratory environment with an Oxford University Principal Investigator for a period of six to eight weeks. In addition, a range of departments, including Geography, Materials and Plant Sciences, have hosted undergraduate students from China to undertake summer research internships funded by the Victor and William Fung Foundation. None of these internships are associated with a college, although college accommodation is often arranged. New partnerships are developed on a regular basis.

## Visiting Student programme – undergraduate level

Visiting Student status is typically intended for undergraduate students who spend a year at Oxford. Visiting programmes are organised and run at the college level, with most colleges developing links with specific institutions abroad. Visiting students become a member of an Oxford college, and it is that college that will arrange tuition and supervision. Oxford does not award a qualification for this year of study, but colleges can provide transcripts for credit purposes at home institutions. Students are usually undergraduates and follow the curriculum of an Oxford undergraduate course. University tuition fees and college fees are payable, so this is the most expensive option for students wishing to visit Oxford.

## **Student exchange programmes – undergraduate level**

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Full student exchanges are substantial and complex programmes, which require careful negotiation and preparation. They are usually based on existing academic collaborations within specific departments and are initiated by Oxford academics proposing an exchange link with an institution abroad that they think would be of particular interest and benefit to their students. Exchanges can be up to a year long and can include formal assessment, which will count towards the final degree classification at the student's home institution. The cost to the incoming student is minimal, as these programmes are based on a direct exchange. Incoming students are members of colleges while at Oxford. Tuition fees are waived in exchange for the outgoing Oxford student continuing to pay their fees at Oxford (although reduced). Currently, Oxford runs undergraduate student exchanges in a limited number of subject areas, including Modern Languages, Law with Law Studies in Europe, and Engineering.

## **Doctoral research visit, placement or exchange – postgraduate level**

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Many Oxford departments host doctoral visitors on an ad hoc basis, mostly on the basis of personal connections with academic colleagues at other institutions. These visits can be either one-way or organised as part of an exchange, and logistical issues such as the waiving of fees need to be discussed at the departmental level. Occasionally, central University funding is available to support such visits. The University's departments have had student exchange agreements at doctoral level with a range of partner institutions, including Freie Universität Berlin, the University of Bucharest, University College Dublin, Sciences Po Paris and Columbia University.

## **Recognised Student programme – postgraduate level**

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Institutions are able to approach individual Oxford departments to discuss setting up a Recognised Student programme. These programmes enable students from another institution to stay in Oxford for a minimum of one term and a maximum of three terms. While at Oxford, the students receive a mentor who meets them regularly and directs them on a study programme. As part of the scheme, they have access to lectures, seminars and libraries across Oxford. The status of Recognised Student is intended primarily for postgraduates of some years' standing engaged in research elsewhere who wish to work in Oxford on a specific topic under the guidance of an academic familiar with their chosen area of study. Recognised students are not affiliated to a college and will not receive a University of Oxford qualification or formal accreditation for their studies here.



# OPPORTUNITIES FOR PARTNERS TO HOST OXFORD STUDENTS

## **Student exchange programmes – undergraduate and postgraduate level**

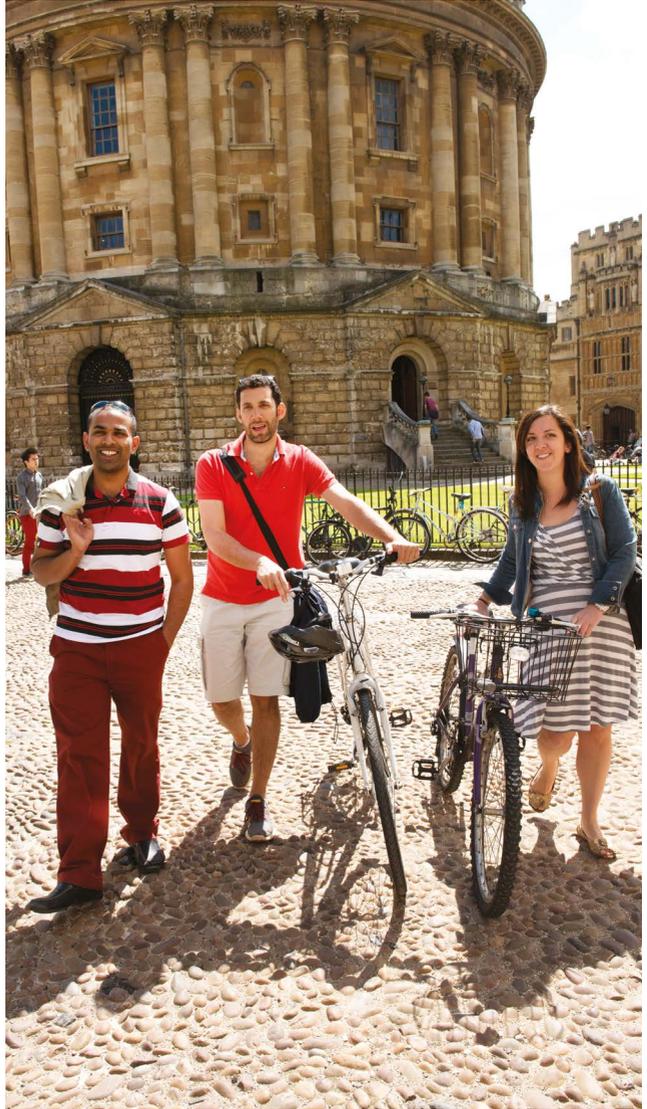
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As explained in the previous section, these two-way exchange programmes require institutional support, and careful negotiation at the departmental level, based either on established programmes such as Erasmus+ or close academic ties between the two institutions.

## **Oxford University's Summer Internship Programme – undergraduate and postgraduate level**

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Oxford's Careers Service runs the University's flagship Summer Internship Programme, facilitating over 500 summer internship experiences for Oxford students in over 35 countries. The programme includes opportunities for Oxford students to undertake funded research or summer school programmes at partner institutions abroad. The programme currently enjoys successful working relationships with many global research universities, including the University of Canterbury (New Zealand), Aix Marseille University (France), Perm State University (Russia), the University of Nizwa (Oman), and Huazhong University of Science and Technology (China) among others. The projects are varied in scope. Examples include internships researching



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renewable energies, internships participating in urban regeneration studies, and internships in which students participate in Life Science research. The Summer Internship Programme is interested in expanding its links with institutions abroad in order to be able to offer more such opportunities to its students. Host universities are asked to provide partial or full financial support in order to ensure that a student's financial background is no bar to participation.

# OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACADEMICS, INCLUDING FACULTY AND POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCHERS

## Departmental visits

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Oxford departments host academic visitors on a regular basis and these visits are often arranged and supported at the departmental level. For instance, the Law Faculty's Academic Visitor Programme welcomes applications from academics holding a full-time position in another institution who wish to spend a minimum of four months at Oxford, pursuing their own research agenda. External funding schemes for academic visitors can help with the cost of spending time at Oxford, for instance the British Academy Visiting Fellowships, Leverhulme Visiting Professorships and Euraxess. These visits are based on existing academic links and partnerships. Arrangements for them vary widely.

## Centrally supported academic mobility programmes

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There are also a number of University-level opportunities for academic exchange, including the Oxford–Canterbury Exchange Programme or the Wiener Anspach Foundation supported link with the Université Libre de Bruxelles. In addition, funded programmes, such as the Association of Commonwealth Universities' Titular Fellowship Programme, provide support for one-way academic visits. While these programmes are facilitated at a central level, visitors are hosted by individual departments and most practical arrangements are taken care of by the hosting department.



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## Professional development through the Department for Continuing Education

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In addition to residential study programmes for students, bespoke professional development courses for university staff (academic and administrative) can also be arranged in areas such as management, leadership and education. The Department for Continuing Education is always pleased to discuss potential partnerships, new course provision and research opportunities with representatives of overseas universities, organisations, government departments and businesses at any point during the year.



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# OPPORTUNITIES FOR RESEARCH PARTNERSHIPS

## Collaborative research

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At Oxford, as in many other universities, collaborations are based on academic interest and partnerships are established as a result of individual contacts, or colleagues across institutions having successfully worked together. All research collaborations are department and researcher led.

In order to explore possible avenues of international cooperation and collaboration, institutions are encouraged to identify individual departments with which they know their academics would have research interests in common, and contact these directly in the first instance.

## Joint research seed-funding

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Oxford regularly runs small programmes in partnership with other institutions which see both partners disbursing seed-funding for collaborative research. Current programmes include the Oxford Berlin Research Partnership, launched in 2018, and the Nuffield Department of Clinical Neurosciences-based partnership with ETH Zurich and McGill University. Past partnerships were established with Princeton University, the São Paulo Research Foundation, FAPESP, and CNRS (the French National Centre for Scientific Research).



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## USEFUL LINKS

[www.conted.ox.ac.uk/about/summer-schools](http://www.conted.ox.ac.uk/about/summer-schools)

[www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/internships](http://www.ndm.ox.ac.uk/internships)

[www.bioch.ox.ac.uk/summer-research-opportunities](http://www.bioch.ox.ac.uk/summer-research-opportunities)

[www.ox.ac.uk/students/new/visiting](http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/new/visiting)

[www.ox.ac.uk/students/new/recognised](http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/new/recognised)

[www.careers.ox.ac.uk/about-our-internships](http://www.careers.ox.ac.uk/about-our-internships)

[www.ox.ac.uk/research/support-researchers/international-visiting-researchers/first-steps](http://www.ox.ac.uk/research/support-researchers/international-visiting-researchers/first-steps)

## CONTACT DETAILS

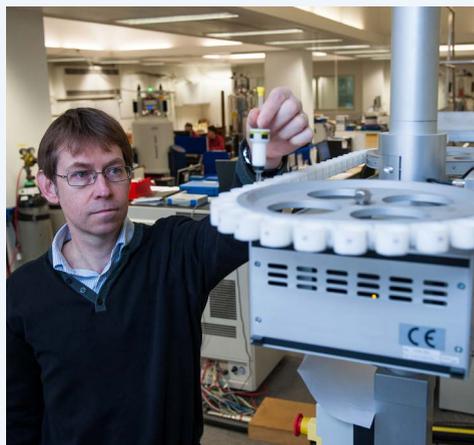
For further details on any of these opportunities, please contact the International Engagement Office at:

Tel: +44 01865 280417

Email: [international.engagement@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:international.engagement@admin.ox.ac.uk)

Website: [www.ox.ac.uk/international](http://www.ox.ac.uk/international)

Postal address: The International Engagement Office, University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JD, UK.



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