

Archaeology and Anthropology Information Sheet for entry in 2021

Archaeology and anthropology together encompass the study of humankind from the origins of the human species to the present day. Both disciplines have a long history: archaeology grew from 18th-century antiquarianism, while anthropology began even earlier in the first days of colonial encounter. Today, both subjects involve a range of sophisticated approaches shared with the arts, social sciences and physical sciences.

Oxford's distinctive combination of archaeology and anthropology, pursued over three years, offers an unusually broad perspective on human societies from earliest prehistory to the present. The course offers a comprehensive guide to the richness and diversity of human cultural experience throughout space and time. By choosing to study here you will be able to:

- explore how humans evolved
- get to grips with major transformational processes in human history such as the development of farming, the emergence of towns and trading systems and the spread of world religions
- learn why societies structure their families, economies and political systems in the ways that they do
- investigate how material culture represents and reproduces beliefs and ideologies.

Six Oxford institutions specialise in these subjects: the Schools of Archaeology and of Social and Cultural Anthropology, the [Ashmolean Museum](#), the [Pitt Rivers Museum](#), the [Oxford University Museum of Natural History](#) and the Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art. All play a key role in the provision of teaching for the degree.

Fieldwork/work placements/international opportunities

*As part of your course you must undertake four weeks of fieldwork (subject to approval by your tutors), to be completed in the summer vacation at the end of the first year. Fieldwork can take place in field settings, or in a laboratory or museum and involve anthropological as well as archaeological projects. Recent destinations include Azerbaijan, Denmark and South Africa.

Financial support for your fieldwork is available from the University and may also be available from your college. You may also choose to engage in further fieldwork as part of your final-year dissertation, while other opportunities may exist for work-based learning in the University's own museums.

*** This section is an updated version of the University's course listing webpage.**

A typical week

Your timetable will be divided into lectures, tutorials and practical classes (on topics such as dating, isotope analysis, and the analysis of plant, animal and human remains, as well as artefacts). In the first year you will spend around six hours a week in lectures, which focus



on the course’s core papers. In Years 2 and 3, lectures for core and optional papers take up around ten hours a week. Throughout the course, there are one or two tutorials a week, normally taught in a pair (typically a total of twelve in each term).

Tutorials are usually two students and a tutor, but may include up to three students depending on circumstances. Lectures will include the whole year group of around 25 students, although they are sometimes shared with Human Sciences students and are therefore larger. Lecture sizes for optional courses are normally smaller and could be as low as 3-6 students.

Most tutorials, classes, and lectures are delivered by staff who are tutors in their subject. Many are world-leading experts with years of experience in teaching and research. Some teaching may also be delivered by postgraduate students who are usually studying at doctorate level.

To find out more about how our teaching year is structured, visit our [Academic Year](#) page.

Course structure

YEAR 1	
<p>COURSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Four core courses are taken: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Introduction to world archaeology ○ Introduction to anthropological theory ○ Perspectives on human evolution ○ The nature of archaeological and anthropological enquiry • Practical classes • Fieldwork 	<p>ASSESSMENT</p> <p>First University examinations: four written papers</p>
*YEAR 2 AND 3	
<p>COURSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five core courses are taken: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Social analysis and interpretation ○ Cultural representations, beliefs and practices ○ Landscape and ecology ○ Urbanism and society ○ Fieldwork and Methods 	<p>ASSESSMENT</p> <p>Final University examinations:</p> <p>Year 2 - the option taken in this year is examined by a 5000-word-long essay. The <i>Fieldwork and Methods</i> paper is examined by a 5000-word-long report on the fieldwork completed at the end of Year 1, plus three 1000-word-long reports written in respect of the practical classes</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Options (three from a broad range of anthropological and archaeological courses, one normally taken in Year 2, two taken in Year 3)• Dissertation <p><i>A full list of current options is available on the Archaeology website.</i></p>	<p>Year 3 – six written papers in respect of the remaining core courses and options, plus a 15,000 word dissertation, which is double-weighted.</p>
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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](#).

Teaching delivery

At the time of writing course information sheets for 2021/22 entry, the COVID-19 pandemic was still impacting the University. A range of measures have been put in place to comply with Government legislation and guidance in response to the pandemic, and to help keep students, staff and the wider community safe.

Inevitably, some changes have been necessary to teaching and student services during the pandemic (for example, a greater amount of online teaching and examinations, and restrictions on numbers allowed to access facilities at one time).

Whatever the circumstances in the 2021/22 academic year, the University will deliver core services and learning outcomes for each course, even though the modes of delivery may change.

All course information sheets should be read in that context, and we will keep offer holders and students regularly informed if circumstances change. Further details are available on our [website](#) and within the [Student Terms and Conditions](#).

Fees

These annual fees are for full-time students who begin this undergraduate course here in 2021.

Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University’s Terms and Conditions.

Please note that while the University sets out its annual fees as a single figure, this is a combined figure for both your University and college fees. More information is provided in your Terms and Conditions.

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Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home (UK, Republic of Ireland, Channel Islands & Isle of Man)	£9,250
Overseas (including most EU students— see Note below)	£28,370

Note: Following the UK's departure from the EU, most EU students starting a course in 2021/22 will no longer be eligible to pay fees at the 'Home' rate and will instead be charged the higher 'Overseas' rate. This change will not apply to Irish nationals living in the UK or Ireland, who will continue to be charged fees at the 'Home' rate for the duration of their course.

The government has issued guidance stating that EU, other EEA, and Swiss nationals who have been granted settled or pre-settled status in the UK under the EU settlement scheme may be eligible for 'Home fee' status and student loan support, subject to meeting residency requirements. However, until the government formally updates its fee status regulations the University is unable to confirm fee statuses for students who may qualify on this basis. We will contact you directly if we need further information from you to determine your fee status.

Please refer to the [Undergraduate fee status](#) and the [Oxford and the EU](#) pages for more information.

***Additional Fees and Charges Information for Archaeology and Anthropology** Students must complete at least four weeks of approved fieldwork before the start of the second year. The cost of this will depend on the location. Funding is available from the University and potentially from your college to help towards costs.

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Living costs

Living costs for the academic year starting in 2021 are estimated to be between £1,175 and £1,710 for each month you are in Oxford. Our academic year is made up of three eight-week terms, so you would not usually need to be in Oxford for much more than six months of the year but may wish to budget over a nine-month period to ensure you also have sufficient funds during the holidays to meet essential costs. For further details please visit our [living costs webpage](#).

Living costs breakdown

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	Per month		Total for 9 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£280	£400	£2,520	£3,600
Accommodation (including utilities)	£655	£790	£5,895	£7,110
Personal items	£130	£250	£1,170	£2,250
Social activities	£45	£115	£405	£1,035
Study costs	£45	£100	£405	£900
Other	£20	£55	£180	£495
Total	£1,175	£1,710	£10,575	£15,390

In order to provide these likely living costs, the University and the Oxford University Students' Union conducted a living costs survey to complement existing student expenditure data from a variety of sources including the UK government's Student Income and Expenditure Survey and the National Union of Students (NUS). The likely lower and upper ranges above are based on a single student with no dependants living in college accommodation (including utility bills) and are provided for information only.

When planning your finances for future years of study at Oxford beyond 2021-22, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 3% each year.

Document accessibility

If you require an accessible version of the document please contact Undergraduate Admissions by email (uao.comms@admin.ox.ac.uk) or via the online form (<http://www.ox.ac.uk/ask>).

Please note, at the time of publishing the CIS, further details regarding the availability and eligibility of financial support for some EU students with settled or pre-settled status remained outstanding. Confirmation about funding arrangements for the year abroad were also outstanding. Any updates impacting students will be published on the Oxford and the EU webpage.