

Classics Information Sheet for entry in 2021

Classics (Literae Humaniores) is a wide-ranging degree devoted to the study of the literature, history, philosophy, languages and archaeology of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds. It is one of the most interdisciplinary of all degrees, and offers the opportunity to study these two foundational ancient civilisations and their reception in modern times. The degree also permits students to take extensive options in modern philosophy, a flexibility which makes Oxford's Literae Humaniores different from most other Classics courses.

Oxford has the largest Classics Faculty and programme of courses in the world, with outstanding teaching, library and museum resources, including the [Sackler](#) and [Bodleian Libraries](#), the [Ashmolean Museum](#) and a designated Classics Centre. The course involves extensive study of ancient languages, with a view to studying texts in the original.

Applications are welcomed from candidates with and without prior knowledge of Greek and/or Latin. The breadth of courses available means you can study papers ranging from Homeric archaeology to Byzantine literature, while the length of the course allows students to explore the various disciplines within this vast subject and to engage with their particular interests within the classical world in real depth.

The Philosophy Faculty is the largest in the UK and one of the largest in the world, with more than 70 full-time members and a worldwide reputation. Each year the faculty admits around 450 undergraduates to read the various degrees involving Philosophy.

Fieldwork/international opportunities

Fieldwork is not a requirement in any part of the course, but some undergraduates may participate in archaeological excavations.

A typical week

Your time is divided between lectures, tutorials and private study. The working week is typically structured around two tutorials in different subjects. Most of your independent work will be in preparation of essays for your tutorials, although systematic language-learning and reading of texts will also require considerable time and effort. Much of the teaching will take place in your college, but lectures are given in the Classics Faculty and the Examination Schools, and for particular subjects you may also work with tutors from other colleges. For more information, visit the [Classics website](#).

Tutorials in colleges usually involve up to three students and a tutor. Class sizes will vary depending on the options you choose, and there are usually 5-20 students in a class. Some classes are jointly taught by two tutors at the same time. For centrally organised language classes in Classics, there are usually 8-10 students in a group. Most tutorials, classes, and lectures are delivered by senior staff who are active researchers in their subject. Many are world-leading experts with years of experience in teaching and research. Some teaching may be delivered by postgraduate students at doctorate level.

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

Course structure

COURSE NAME	TERMS 1-5 COURSES	TERMS 1-5 ASSESSMENTS
<p>Course IA (Latin and Greek, for those who have studied Latin and Greek to A-level or equivalent)</p> <p>Course IB (Latin and Greek, for those who have studied only Latin to A-level or equivalent)</p> <p>Course IC (Latin and Greek, for those who have studied only Greek to A-level or equivalent)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homer's <i>Iliad</i> • Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i> • Texts and contexts: integrating literary/ archaeological material • A special subject in Philosophy (ancient or modern) • A classical special subject: historical, archaeological or philological • Greek and Latin language work 	<p>First University examinations IA: ten papers, including four language papers (Latin and Greek)</p> <p>First University examinations IB: ten papers, including four language papers (Greek language work at a less advanced level than IA, Latin at the same level as IA)</p> <p>First University examinations IC: ten papers, including four language papers (Latin language work at a less advanced level than IA, Greek at the same level as IA)</p>
<p>Course IIA (Latin only, for those who have not studied Greek or Latin to A-level or equivalent)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virgil's <i>Aeneid</i> • Special subjects and Texts and contexts (as Course I) • Latin language work 	<p>First University examinations IIA: seven papers, including two language papers</p>
<p>Course IIB (Greek only, for those who have not studied Latin or Greek to A-level or equivalent)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homer's <i>Iliad</i> • Special subjects and Texts and contexts (as Course I) • Greek language work 	<p>First University examinations IIB: seven papers, including two language papers</p>

COURSE NAME	TERMS 6-12 COURSES	TERMS 6-12 ASSESSMENTS
<p>Course IA (Latin and Greek, for those who have studied Latin and Greek to A-level or equivalent)</p> <p>Course IB (Latin and Greek, for those who have studied only Latin to A-level or equivalent)</p> <p>Course IC (Latin and Greek, for those who have studied only Greek to A-level or equivalent)</p>	<p>Choose eight options from more than 80 in the following subjects (no area is compulsory; it is usually possible to offer an undergraduate thesis in place of one paper:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek and Roman history (up to five): some are period papers, others topic-based • Philosophy (up to five): numerous ancient and modern options; up to four can be in modern Philosophy • Greek and Latin literature (up to five) • Greek and Roman archaeology (up to two, plus a thesis if you wish) • Philology and Linguistics (up to two, plus a thesis if you wish) • Second classical language: Course II students can take up the second 	<p>Eight exam subjects taken, with the possibility of offering one paper as a thesis. For some literature options: instead of a three-hour paper, assessment involves the composition of one long essay over a three-week period</p> <p><i>The options listed here are illustrative and may change. A full list of current options is available on the Classics website.</i></p>
<p>Course IIA (Latin only, for those who have not studied Greek or Latin to A-level or equivalent)</p>	<p>Choose eight options from more than 80 in the following subjects (no area is compulsory; it is usually possible to offer an undergraduate thesis in place of one paper:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Greek and Roman history (up to five): some are period papers, others topic-based • Philosophy (up to five): numerous ancient and modern options; up to four can be in modern Philosophy • Greek and Latin literature (up to five) • Greek and Roman archaeology (up to two, plus a thesis if you wish) • Philology and Linguistics (up to two, plus a thesis if you wish) • Second classical language: Course II students can take up the second 	<p>Final University examinations: as Course I, but Latin only, unless you take optional second classical language</p>

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Course IIB (Greek only, for those who have not studied Latin or Greek to A-level or equivalent)	classical language if they wish (will count as two papers in the final exam)	Final University examinations: as Course I, but Greek only, unless you take optional second classical language
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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)	£31,230

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

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.

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.

Living costs breakdown

	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.