

English and Modern Languages Information Sheet for entry in 2019

The English side of the course offers you a choice from a list of papers covering all literature written in the English language from its origins in Anglo-Saxon through to works produced in English-speaking countries across the world in the present day. The Modern Language side of the course will give you practical linguistic training, encourage you to think coherently about language as a subject of study and introduce you to an extensive and fascinating field of Western literature and thought.

The English Faculty is the largest in the UK, and the Modern Languages Faculty is one of the largest, with both faculties including major scholars in all areas of the respective subjects. Students thus have access to a range of expert tutors. Library provision at Oxford is excellent: all students have access to the English Faculty Library, the Taylor Institution Library (for languages), the Bodleian Library and their own college libraries.

The course is extremely flexible. In the first year you will do practical work in your chosen language and study a selection of important texts from its literature. On the English side, you will be introduced to the conceptual and technical tools used in the study of language and literature, and to a wide range of different critical assumptions and approaches. You will also do tutorial work on either early medieval, Victorian or modern literature. In the second year, a wide range of options opens up for you. Language work in your modern language will continue and you will study literature from a wide range of periods in English and in your language. The third year of this four-year course is spent abroad – see below. On your return, you will choose from a range of special option papers in both English and Modern Languages, and in comparative literature.

International opportunities

Students spend a compulsory year abroad, usually in the third year. They may work as paid language assistants in a foreign school or do internships abroad, both of which provide valuable opportunities to develop career experience while improving language competence. The year may also be spent studying at a foreign university. (Students taking Beginners' Russian spend the second year – as opposed to the third year – of their studies on a specially designed eight-month language course in the city of Yaroslavl.) Students are encouraged to spend as much as possible of their vacations in the countries whose languages they are studying. In addition to the possibility of [Erasmus funding](#), extra financial support, including travel scholarships, may be available from your college and/or the faculty.

A typical week

Most students will have one or two tutorials a week as well as compulsory language classes. Typically, students also attend three to four lecture courses per subject.

Tutorials are usually 1-4 students and a tutor. Seminar and language class sizes may vary depending on the options you choose or the language you are studying, but there would usually be no more than around 20 students and would often be much fewer.

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

| | |
|--|---|
| 1st year | |
| <p>Courses Six papers are taken:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to English Language and Literature • One period paper from single honours English Language and Literature • Two practical languages papers • Two literature papers in modern languages | <p>Assessment Six written papers form the First University Examination including a submitted portfolio of two essays for Introduction to English Language and Literature. All exams must be passed, but marks do not count towards the final degree.</p> |
| 2nd and 4th years (3rd year is spent abroad) | |
| <p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three papers from single honours English Language and Literature • Dissertation • Modern Language (four papers) including: practical language work (two papers plus oral examination), a period of literature and options (prescribed authors and texts from the 12th to 20th centuries, a special subject or a linguistics paper) <p><i>The options listed above are illustrative and may change. More information about current options is available on the English and Modern Languages websites.</i></p> | <p>Assessment Papers will be examined by extended essays over the course of the second and fourth years, and by practical and written examinations at the end of your fourth year.</p> |

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.

Fees

These annual fees are for full-time students who begin this undergraduate course here in 2019.

| Fee status | Annual Course fees |
|--|--------------------|
| Home/EU | £9,250 |
| Islands (Channel Islands & Isle of Man) | £9,250 |
| Overseas | £26,235 |

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

Additional Fees and Charges Information for English and Modern Languages

During the year abroad, students pay significantly reduced fees. For students who started an undergraduate course from 2018, who are going on their year abroad in 2019, the course fees are:

- Home/EU/Islands students: £1,385 for the year.
- International students: £8,415 for the year.

We recommend that students begin to research their year abroad options – including the financial implications – as early as possible in the second year of the course. There is plenty of support, information and advice to help you. You may choose to work or study during your year abroad, or you may do both. Students undertake a range of activities while on their year abroad, some activities may receive a salary and thus - depending on individual choices - it is possible for the year abroad to be cost neutral. Actual costs (such as course fees) and living costs will vary depending on the destination and the activity undertaken.

You will need to pay for living costs during the year abroad, including accommodation and travel expenses. Subject to the UK continuing to be eligible to participate in the Erasmus Programme after leaving the EU, students taking part in Erasmus study exchanges will not need to pay course fees to other institutions. However, if you decide to study outside Erasmus you will be liable to pay course fees to the relevant institution.

You may receive salary payments or grants to offset some or all of these costs. Also, if you receive government funding for the rest of your course, you will still be entitled to government support during your year abroad. Hardship funds are available from the [Faculty of Medieval & Modern Languages](#) for students who can demonstrate particular difficulties related to their year abroad. These are awarded through a termly application process.

Living costs

Your living costs will vary significantly dependent on your lifestyle. These are estimated to be between £1,058 and £1,643 per month in 2019-20. Each year of an undergraduate course usually consists of three terms of eight weeks each but you may need to be in Oxford for longer. As a guide you may wish to budget over a nine-month period to ensure you also have sufficient funds during the holidays to meet essential costs.

| | Per month | | Total for 9 months | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|
| | Lower range | Upper range | Lower range | Upper range |
| Food | £265 | £371 | £2,387 | £3,342 |
| Accommodation (including utilities) | £566 | £739 | £5,093 | £6,655 |
| Personal items | £122 | £271 | £1,098 | £2,435 |
| Social activities | £42 | £126 | £380 | £1,138 |
| Study costs | £40 | £88 | £359 | £788 |
| Other | £23 | £48 | £208 | £432 |
| Total | £1,058 | £1,643 | £9,525 | £14,790 |

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 2019-20, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 3% each year.