



European and Middle Eastern Languages Information Sheet for entry in 2019

This course in European and Middle Eastern Languages (EMEL) enables students to combine papers in one of the languages taught in the Faculty of Modern Languages with papers in Arabic, Hebrew, Persian or Turkish, providing opportunities to take advantage of the cultural links which exist between a number of European and Middle Eastern languages. For example, appropriate combinations might well be French and Arabic, German and Turkish, or Hebrew and Russian, but even some of the less obvious pairings would provide similar cultural and historical linkage. So, Spanish and Turkish would be an interesting combination for the history of Sephardi Judaism, while Persian and Portuguese are important for the study of early imperialism.

Through its long-standing traditions and more recent gifts, Oxford has outstanding resources for the study of Middle Eastern and modern European languages. The Bodleian Library and Taylor Institution Library (for languages) have a magnificent collection of books and manuscripts. The Taylor Institution Library is one of the biggest research and lending libraries devoted to modern European languages in the world. Associated with the University is the Centre for Hebrew and Jewish Studies, which houses the Leopold Muller Library with more than 35,000 volumes in Hebrew and more than 7,000 volumes in Western languages.

International opportunities

You will normally spend your second year on an approved course of study in the Middle East. There are arrangements in place with partner universities to help you make the most of your time abroad. You are strongly advised to spend the adjacent summers in a country where the European language of your choice is spoken.

A typical week

Your work is divided between language classes, lectures and tutorials (one or two a week). In the first year, the emphasis is on intensive learning of the Middle Eastern language. Throughout your course, you will prepare essays for your weekly tutorials and classes.

Tutorials are usually up to four 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 smaller.

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 European languages: two language papers and one literature paper</p> <p>Middle Eastern language: intensive language learning</p> | <p>Assessment First University examinations: Five written papers; plus oral/aural examination (Arabic only)</p> |
| 2nd year | |
| <p>Year abroad For the Middle Eastern Language, students attend an approved course of language instruction in the Middle East.</p> <p>For the European Language, students are encouraged to spend as much of their vacation time as possible in a relevant country.</p> | <p>Qualifying examination at the end of the 2nd year course (Middle Eastern language only)</p> |
| 3rd and 4th years | |
| <p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical language work in the European language • Period of literature and further paper chosen from a wide range of options in the European language • Practical language work in the Middle Eastern language • Three papers including literature and a range of options in the Middle Eastern language • Extended essay on a topic bridging the European and the Middle Eastern language <p><i>The options listed above are illustrative and may change. More information about current options is available on the Oriental Studies website.</i></p> | <p>Assessment Final University examinations: Nine written papers are taken including a bridging extended essay; Oral exam (both languages, but not Hebrew on the Middle Eastern side)</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 European and Middle Eastern 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.