



Course Information Sheet for entry in 2018-19

MSc in Economic and Social History

About the course

This one-year specialist course offers a unique framework for research training in economic and social history. It offers a wide range of options and allows you to specialise in economic and/or social history, or historical demography, although the boundaries between these areas are deliberately permeable.

This course is intended to introduce you to the wide variety of methods used in the study of economic and social history, as well as to the subject itself. The core qualifying papers provide an opportunity to evaluate a range of different qualitative and quantitative methodological approaches; they impart a common language, and create a close and friendly community, in which ideas are shared, and strong personal ties are forged, developing a community that provides a base from which to venture out and experience the intellectual, social and cultural rewards of Oxford.

Teaching and examination comprise:

- 'What happened and why: an introduction to themes and approaches in economic and social history', a required course for all students, focusing on social sciences methodologies and approaches and taught through a series of lectures and parallel classes during Michaelmas term (evaluated by essay, submitted in mid-December);
- a course in quantitative methods and computer applications for economic and social history: You will be allocated to either the standard or the advanced course, depending on your previous statistical and/or econometric training. More advanced students will be able to take a quantitative methods course provided as part of the MPhil in Economics, subject to satisfying admission criteria;
- two advanced papers, usually taught in small classes, mostly during Hilary term. Candidates may choose to be assessed for one of their advanced papers by a three-hour examination, two extended essays of up to 5,000 words each, or a single extended essay of 8,000 to 10,000 words; and
- a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words on a topic of your choice, approved by your supervisor, and submitted at the end of September.

Please note that not every optional subject listed may be on offer every year, depending in part on levels of student demand. Full details of core and optional papers available are available on the course webpage.

The standard course in quantitative methods and computer applications for economic and social history is a simple and very informal introduction to elementary quantitative methods covering some of the techniques most widely used in research in the historical and social sciences and emphasizing the relevance of the historical issues. No prior knowledge of mathematics or statistical theory is expected.

The advanced course is intended for students who have already been introduced to some form of quantitative methods, with the first few sessions serving as a refresher course in elementary quantitative methods. The course aims to ensure that you are aware of the range of quantitative techniques available for analysing problems in economic and social history. You will be taught how to use a number of popular statistical and econometric packages. Teaching sessions will involve computer classwork.

If you wish to apply for the DPhil you will be encouraged to develop your doctoral proposal during the first few months of the course, so that you will be well placed to make doctoral applications. The MPhil in Economic and Social History provides an alternative route to the DPhil, which would allow for entry to the doctoral programme at the beginning of students' third academic year in Oxford.

You should not apply to both the MSc and MPhil in Economic and Social History. Both courses have the same entry requirements and it is possible to transfer from one to the other while on course.

Changes to courses

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description 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.

Expected length of course

11 months

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2018-19

Fee status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees
Home/EU (including Islands)	£8,975	£3,112	£12,087
Overseas	£19,915	£3,112	£23,027

The fees shown above are the annual tuition and college fees for this course for entry in the stated academic year; for courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions.

Tuition and college fees are payable each year for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay tuition and college fees).

Additional cost information

There are no compulsory elements of this course that entail additional costs beyond fees and living costs. However, as part of your course requirements, you may need to choose a dissertation, a project or a thesis topic. Please note that, depending on your choice of topic and the research required to complete it, you may incur additional expenses, such as travel expenses, research expenses, and field trips. You will need to meet these additional costs, although you may be able to apply for small grants from your department and/or college to help you cover some of these expenses.

Living costs

In addition to your tuition and college fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for 2018-19 are published below. These costs are based on a single, full-time graduate student, with no dependants, living in Oxford. We provide the cost per month so you can multiply up by the number of months you expect to live in Oxford.

	Likely living costs for 1 month		Likely living costs for 9 months		Likely living costs for 12 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£258	£361	£2,318	£3,245	£3,090	£4,326
Accommodation	£536	£677	£4,824	£6,093	£6,432	£8,124
Personal items	£118	£263	£1,066	£2,364	£1,421	£3,152
Social activities	£41	£123	£369	£1,105	£492	£1,474
Study costs	£39	£85	£348	£765	£464	£1,020
Other	£22	£47	£202	£419	£269	£559
Total	£1,014	£1,556	£9,127	£13,991	£12,168	£18,655

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2018-19, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 3% each year.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/livingcosts.