

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2023-24: MSc in Intellectual Property



About the course

This new programme builds on the foundations of the PGDip in Intellectual Property Law and Practice and provides in-depth research training, encompassing perspectives drawn from the fields of copyright, design, patents and trade marks.

The programme provides a unique opportunity to reach a greater degree of theoretical content, exploring historical and comparative ways of approaching the study of intellectual property, driven by the research and expertise of Oxford academics. Teaching is undertaken in Oxford in intensive short periods and despite the part-time nature of the course, the degree has been designed to ensure that students may still enjoy the unique Oxford experience, including college life, small class sizes, tutorials and interaction with Oxford faculty and students.

Students select two of four taught option courses:

- Comparative Copyright
- Principles of Intellectual Property
- Trade Marks and Brands
- Incentivising Innovation

The remaining part of the year is dedicated to writing a dissertation that tests academic research skills and the ability to develop and maintain a detailed argument across an extended piece of writing. This not only provides more in depth research training, encompassing perspectives drawn from the fields of copyright, design, patents and trade marks but also demands a higher level of critical engagement. Students will be encouraged to view individual issues in particular areas in the broader context of the relationship between the state and the market, and deep dive into the technical aspects of a subject and their relationship with broad policy issues.

Led by academics from the Law Faculty and the Oxford Intellectual Property Research Centre, the programme also draws on the assistance of eminent practitioners with a broad interest and wide knowledge of intellectual property law.

Supervision

The allocation of graduate supervision for this course is the responsibility of the Faculty of Law and it is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff. Under exceptional circumstances a supervisor may be found outside the Faculty of Law.

Students will have six tutorials during their two modules. For their dissertation, students will have three meetings with their supervisor, either online or in person during Michaelmas term and the first half of Hilary term.

Assessment

The option courses are assessed at the end of the term in which they are run. Three modules (Comparative Copyright, Principles of Intellectual Property, and Trade Marks and Brands) rely on a final examination. The Incentivising Innovation option is assessed by two extended essays. The dissertation is to be submitted at the end of the third term. The two option courses each contribute 25% of the final degree outcome, and the dissertation will contribute 50%. To pass the degree, students must pass both option courses and the dissertation.

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. These may include significant changes made necessary by a pandemic (including Covid-19), epidemic or local health emergency. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>) and our page on changes to courses (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursechanges>).

Expected length of course

	Part Time Only
Expected length	9 months

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2023-24

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home	£11,055
Overseas	£11,055

Information about course fees

Course 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 course fees). 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 (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>).

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional cost information (below), course fees do not cover your accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also don't cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information.

Additional cost information

Please note that this course requires that you attend in Oxford for teaching, and you may incur additional travel and accommodation expenses for this. Further, as part of your course requirements, you will need to choose a dissertation topic. 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 course fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

If you are studying part-time your living costs may vary depending on your personal circumstances but you must still ensure that you will have sufficient funding to meet these costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for 2023-24 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 one month

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£300	£470
Accommodation	£715	£860
Personal items	£180	£305
Social activities	£40	£90
Study costs	£35	£80
Other	£20	£35
Total	£1,290	£1,840

Likely living costs for nine months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£2,700	£4,230
Accommodation	£6,435	£7,740
Personal items	£1,620	£2,745
Social activities	£360	£810
Study costs	£315	£720
Other	£180	£315
Total	£11,610	£16,560

Likely living costs for twelve months

	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£3,600	£5,640
Accommodation	£8,580	£10,320
Personal items	£2,160	£3,660
Social activities	£480	£1,080
Study costs	£420	£960
Other	£240	£420
Total	£15,480	£22,080

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2023-24, it is suggested that you allow for potential increases in living expenses of 5% or more each year – although this rate may vary significantly depending on how the national economic situation develops.

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

Document accessibility

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