



Oriental Studies Information Sheet for entry in 2019

Arabic, Chinese, Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies, Hebrew Studies, Japanese, Jewish Studies, Persian, Sanskrit, Turkish.

Among subjects in the humanities, Oriental Studies is unique in introducing students to civilisations that are different from the Western ones that form the basis of the curriculum in most British schools and colleges. The courses present both the major traditions of the regions studied and, in most cases, their modern developments. All courses include language, literature, history and culture and there is a wide range of options in such fields as art and archaeology, history, literature, philosophy, religion and modern social studies.

Oriental Studies has a long history in Oxford. The Bodleian and other libraries have acquired magnificent collections. The Oriental Institute, Institute for Chinese Studies, Bodleian Japanese and Indian Institute Libraries are all specialists in their respective fields. Around the corner from the Oriental Institute is the Ashmolean Museum, which houses superb collections. The Sackler Library contains the renowned Griffith Library, one of the finest libraries in the world for the study of ancient Egypt and the Ancient Near East.

Work placements/international opportunities

Most courses offer the opportunity to spend time in the region being studied. The Arabic course includes a year in the Middle East, the Persian and Turkish courses a year in Iran (due to visa restrictions some students are unable to travel to Iran, in which case separate individual arrangements are made) or Turkey respectively, and the Hebrew course an optional year in Israel. The Chinese and Japanese courses also include a year in China and Japan respectively.

A typical week

Your time is divided between lectures, tutorials, language classes and private study. Tutorials are usually up to three 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 10 students and would often be smaller. Lectures are normally around 15-25 students.

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 structures

Arabic and Islamic Studies T601 Arabic with subsidiary language T6T9 Persian T613 Persian with subsidiary language T6TX Turkish T600 Turkish with subsidiary language T6TY		
1st year	2nd year	3rd and 4th years
<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary language Islamic history and culture 	<p>Courses</p> <p>Year abroad: approved course of language instruction</p>	<p>Project</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Core work on language and literature History Specialisation or subsidiary language <p><i>Options listed are only illustrative of what is available. A full list of current options is available on the Oriental Studies website.</i></p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>First University examinations after term 3: Three written papers; an oral exam (Arabic only)</p>	<p>Assessment</p> <p>Qualifying examination at the end of the course</p>	<p>Assessment</p> <p>Final University examinations: Oral exam and eight or nine written papers (one of which may be a dissertation)</p>
Chinese (T101)		
1st year	2nd year	3rd and 4th years
<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary language in classical and modern Chinese History and culture 	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year abroad at Peking University 	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extended language classes and historical study Options: Ancient history; Literature; Modern society and politics; or subsidiary languages: Tibetan, Japanese or Korean <p><i>Options listed are only illustrative of what is available. A full list of current options is available on the Oriental Studies website.</i></p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>First University examinations: Three written papers; an oral exam</p>		<p>Assessment</p> <p>Final University examinations: Oral examination; eight written papers; dissertation</p>

Egyptology and Ancient Near Eastern Studies Q401

Egyptology Q400

Ancient Near Eastern Studies Q402

1st year	2nd year	3rd year
<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Broad survey of civilisations of Egypt and the Ancient Near East Language teaching in Egyptian or Akkadian 	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Addition of second language, or Archaeology and Anthropology Language options: Akkadian, Egyptian, Arabic, Aramaic and Syriac, Coptic, Hebrew (Biblical and Mishnaic), Old Iranian, Sumerian or Hittite (if available) Literary and historical topics through study of texts and essay writing Intensive class work Artefact classes <p>Subject to acceptance, students may also have the option of Classical Greek or Latin from the Classics with Oriental Studies degree.</p>	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essay writing and dissertation work Intensive classes in the first and second terms Artefact classes Field of concentration <p><i>Options listed are only illustrative of what is available. A full list of current options is available on the Oriental Studies website.</i></p>
<p>Assessment First University examinations: Four written papers</p>		<p>Assessment Final University examinations: Ten units</p>

Hebrew Studies Q480 (primarily languages, literature, culture and history)

1st year	2nd year	3rd and 4th years
<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensive study in Hebrew language in all periods Introduction to Jewish history and culture 	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Handling Hebrew texts and developing knowledge of historical and cultural background Choice of options from Jewish Studies 	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Texts Historical and cultural background <p><i>3rd year can optionally be spent abroad</i> <i>Options listed are only illustrative of what is available. A full list of current options is available on the Oriental Studies website.</i></p>
<p>Assessment First University examinations: Four written papers</p>		<p>Assessment Final University examinations: Seven written papers;</p>

		dissertation 4-year course only: oral examination
Japanese T201		
1st year	2nd year	3rd and 4th years
<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary Japanese language History and culture 	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year abroad at Kobe University 	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extended language classes Options (five subjects to be chosen): Classical literature; Modern literature; Linguistics; History; Politics; Economics; Subsidiary language (counts as three subjects); either Chinese, Korean or Tibetan <p><i>Options listed are only illustrative of what is available. A full list of current options is available on the Oriental Studies website.</i></p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>First University examinations: Three written papers</p>	<p>Assessment</p> <p>Test at end of course</p>	<p>Assessment</p> <p>Final University examinations: Oral examination; eight written papers; dissertation</p>
Jewish Studies QV91 (primarily focused on the history, religion and culture of the Jews from biblical to modern times)		
1st year	2nd year	3rd year
<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensive study in Hebrew language in all periods Introduction to Jewish history and culture 	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options (three subjects to be chosen) 	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Options (two subjects to be chosen) <p><i>A full list of current options is available on the Oriental Studies website.</i></p>
<p>Assessment</p> <p>First University examinations: Four written papers</p>		<p>Assessment</p> <p>Final University examinations: Seven written papers; dissertation</p>
Sanskrit Q450		
1st year	2nd year	3rd year
<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Intensive language teaching 	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preparation for Final University examinations in third year Study of Sanskrit grammar 	<p>Courses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanskrit literature Special subject <p><i>Options listed are only illustrative of what is available. A full list of current options is available on the Oriental Studies website.</i></p>

UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Subsidiary language options: Hindi, Old Iranian, Pali, Prakrit and Tibetan	
Assessment First University examinations: Three written papers		Assessment Final University examinations: Nine papers: seven in Sanskrit and two in subsidiary languages

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 Oriental Studies

Students taking Arabic, Chinese, Japanese, Persian or Turkish will take the second year abroad.

Students of Hebrew can choose to take a year abroad, but it is not compulsory.

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.

The Oriental Institute covers the cost of language tuition abroad, but not living costs and flights. Students who are eligible for government maintenance support will also be assessed for an Oxford Bursary during their year abroad.

Some bursaries and scholarships are currently available for students of Chinese and Japanese, and a number of colleges have funds to support their students' period of study abroad.

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.