



Politics, Philosophy and Economics Information Sheet for entry in 2019

PPE brings together some of the most important approaches to understanding the world around us, developing skills useful for a whole range of careers and activities.

Studying Philosophy, you will develop analytical rigour and the ability to criticise and reason logically, and be able to apply these skills to questions concerning how we acquire knowledge or make ethical judgements. The study of Politics provides a thorough understanding of the impact of political institutions on modern societies. It helps you to evaluate the choices that political systems must regularly make, to explain the processes that maintain or change those systems, and to examine the concepts and values used in political analysis. Economics is the study of how consumers, firms and government make decisions that together determine how resources are allocated. An appreciation of economics has become increasingly necessary to make sense of governmental policy-making, the conduct of businesses and the enormous economic transformations throughout the world.

All three branches of PPE at Oxford have an international reputation, supported by more than 200 renowned scholars. PPE at Oxford is a very flexible course which allows you to study all three branches, or to specialise in two after the first year.

PPE at Oxford

PPE students have the opportunity to study a curriculum with a balance of breadth and depth, and consciously kept at the cutting-edge. It encompasses specialist and technical training in economics, philosophy, and social science, together with truly global coverage and in-depth study of increasingly diverse social and political ideas and history.

The Oxford PPE degree requires and develops in students an exceptional ability to grasp, analyse, and evaluate essential information rapidly. This ability is honed within Oxford's famous tutorial system, which continues to offer students the wonderful opportunity to discuss their ideas with scholars of the highest calibre. Students explore and challenge new ideas and research in a degree pioneered at Oxford and catered to by its specialised structure of tutorials, classes, and lectures.

Degree Structure

PPE is a highly flexible degree which allows you to shape your own path through it: you may choose to specialise in two branches at the end of the first year, or continue with all three. You can also explore a wide variety of disciplines under the overarching headings of Philosophy, Politics, and Economics - for example, you can specialise in Sociology or International Relations by choosing the relevant Politics options.

A typical week

Your work is divided between lectures (typically six to eight a week), tutorials and classes (typically two tutorials or one tutorial and one class a week), and private study mainly spent preparing essays or problem sets for tutorials and classes.

Tutorials are usually 2-4 students and a tutor. Class sizes may vary depending on the options you choose. Teaching in all three PPE subjects is normally done in tutorials rather than classes. Where classes do form part of the teaching for a paper, there would usually be no more than around 20 students though classes for some of the more popular papers may be up to 30 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 structure

1st year	
<p>Courses All three branches of PPE are studied:</p> <p>Philosophy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General philosophy • Moral philosophy • Elementary logic <p>Politics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The theory of politics (introductory political theory) • The practice of politics (introductory comparative government and politics) • Political analysis (introductory empirical and quantitative methods) <p>Economics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microeconomics: the functioning of the market economy • Macroeconomics: dealing with national output and employment, exchange rates and policy issues • Mathematical techniques used in economics 	<p>Assessment First University examinations: Three written papers</p>
2nd and 3rd years	
<p>Courses Students choose to continue with all three branches (be tripartite) or concentrate on any two (be bipartite), taking compulsory courses in the chosen branches along with optional courses:</p> <p><i>Compulsory courses</i></p> <p>Philosophy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ethics, and • either Early modern philosophy or Knowledge and reality or Plato's <i>Republic</i> or Aristotle's <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> <p>Politics (any two of these)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comparative government • British politics and government since 1900 • Theory of politics • International relations • Political sociology <p>Economics (all three if bipartite, two if tripartite)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Microeconomics • Macroeconomics • Quantitative economics <p><i>Optional courses</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than 50 choices, currently including: Post-Kantian philosophy, Politics in sub-Saharan Africa and International economics <p><i>Please note that the options offered may change. A full list of current options is available on the course website.</i></p>	<p>Assessment Final University examinations: Eight papers, one of which can be replaced by a thesis/ supervised dissertation</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 Philosophy, Politics and Economics

There are no compulsory costs for this course beyond the fees shown above and your living costs.

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.