History and English Information Sheet for entry in 2016

A joint degree in History and English requires students to think critically about how we define ‘history’ and ‘literature’, and about how the two disciplines interrelate and, in large measure, overlap. Close attention is given to changing methodologies, to the nature of evidence and to styles of argument. It is assumed that historical documents are just as much ‘texts’ as are poems, plays or novels, and are therefore subject to interpretation as works of narrative, rhetoric and, fundamentally, language. Equally, it is assumed that poems, plays and novels represent historically grounded ways of interpreting a culture.

History and English at Oxford

The History and English Faculties are the largest in Britain, with long and distinguished traditions of teaching and research. Students are offered a great deal of choice in the course over their three years, and whether their interests are in the medieval period, the Renaissance or the later periods, intellectually fruitful combinations are always possible.

The course structure at Oxford is intended to enable students to relate literary and historical ideas as effectively as possible in the investigation of their chosen historical periods, topics or authors, while recognising that some students will wish to opt for variety rather than close congruity between their historical and literary papers. Interdisciplinarity is embedded in each year of the course with dedicated classes in the first year as part of the Introduction to English Language and Literature paper, a ‘bridge paper’ taken in the second year and examined by extended essay, and an interdisciplinary dissertation in the final year.

Oxford possesses unmatched library provision for both subjects in the Bodleian Library, the History Faculty and English Faculty libraries, other faculty libraries and the college libraries.

A typical weekly timetable

Most students have up to two tutorials a week and are often, but not always, working on two papers simultaneously. Most students attend three to four lecture courses a week. In the first and second years, students will also attend interdisciplinary classes with both English and History tutors present, in preparation for the interdisciplinary bridge paper. For the final year dissertation they will have an adviser from each discipline.

1st year

Courses

Four papers are taken:

- Introduction to English Language and Literature
- One period paper from single honours English Language and Literature

Assessment

Three written papers form the First University Examination, together with a submitted portfolio of two exam essays of 2,000 words for ‘Introduction to English Language and Literature’.
- One British history paper from single honours History
- One of: Approaches to history; Historiography; optional subject (from single honours History)

All exams must be passed, but marks do not count towards the final degree

2nd and 3rd years

Courses

Seven papers are taken:

- One interdisciplinary bridge essay (6,000 words)
- Two of papers 1–6 from single honours English Language and Literature
- One British period paper from single honours History
- Either:
  - One History Special Subject (counts as two papers)
- Or two from:
  1. General history paper from single honours History
  2. Further subject from single honours History
  3. British History period paper from single honours History
  4. One of papers 1–6 from single honours English Language and Literature
- Interdisciplinary dissertation (10,000 words)

Assessment

Up to four papers for the Final Honour school can be examined as coursework (extended essays and dissertation). Between three and five papers will then be examined by final written examinations at the end of the third year.

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 2016.
## Fee Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fee Status</th>
<th>Tuition fee</th>
<th>College fee</th>
<th>Total annual fees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Home/EU</td>
<td>£9,000</td>
<td>£0</td>
<td>£9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islands (Channel Islands &amp; Isle of Man)</td>
<td>£9,000</td>
<td>£0</td>
<td>£9,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overseas</td>
<td>£15,295</td>
<td>£7,135</td>
<td>£22,430</td>
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</tbody>
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Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University’s Terms and Conditions.

## Living Costs

Your living costs will vary significantly dependent on your lifestyle. These are estimated to be between £970 and £1,433 per month in 2016-17. Undergraduate courses usually consist of three terms of eight weeks each, but 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.

### Living costs breakdown

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Per month</th>
<th>Total for 9 months</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lower range</td>
<td>Upper range</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>£265</td>
<td>£298</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation (including utilities)</td>
<td>£469</td>
<td>£667</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personal items</td>
<td>£119</td>
<td>£244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social activities</td>
<td>£60</td>
<td>£107</td>
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<tr>
<td>Study costs</td>
<td>£36</td>
<td>£73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>£19</td>
<td>£44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>£970</td>
<td>£1,433</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

30 October 2015