

History of Art Information Sheet for entry in 2016



Anything designed by human beings exhibits visual qualities that are specific to the place and period in which it originates. History of Art concentrates on objects generally described as 'art', though in Oxford this definition is framed broadly to embrace items beyond 'Fine art' or 'Western art'. History of Art aims to arrive at an historical understanding of the origins of artefacts within specific world cultures, asking about the circumstances of their making, their makers, the media used, the functions of the images and objects, their critical reception and – not least – their subsequent history. As well as educating students in the historical interpretation of artefacts in their cultural contexts, a degree in History of Art provides skills in the critical analysis of objects through the cultivation of 'visual literacy'. The acquired skills have broad applicability in a wide range of professional settings, as well as serving the needs of enduring personal enlightenment.

History of Art at Oxford

The University collections, including the world-famous Ashmolean Museum, provide subjects for first-hand study under the supervision of those entrusted with their care. The historic architecture of the city and its environs supplies a rich source of study in its own right. The Oxford degree is designed to provide innovative insights into a wider range of world art than is available elsewhere in Britain in a single course, drawing its expertise from various faculties and the staff of University collections, as well as from the department itself. There is a strong emphasis upon how the primary visual and written sources from various periods and places can be analysed in different ways, as well as encouraging students to enquire about the nature of reactions to what we call 'art'.

A typical weekly timetable

1st year	
Courses Four elements are taken: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Core course: Introduction to the History of Art• Core course: European Art 1400–1900: Meaning and Interpretation• Core course: Antiquity after Antiquity• Supervised extended essay on a building, object or image in Oxford	Assessment First University examinations: Three written papers and one extended essay
2nd and 3rd years	

Courses

Seven elements are taken: Core Course:

Approaches to the History of Art

Further subject in Art History – choices currently include:

- Anglo-Saxon archaeology
- The Carolingian Renaissance
- Culture and society in Early Renaissance Italy
- Northern European portraiture 1400–1800
- Flanders and Italy in the Quattrocento
- Court culture and art in Early Modern Europe
- Intellect and culture in Victorian Britain

Two 2nd-year options – choices currently include:

- Egyptian art and architecture
- Greek art and archaeology
- Byzantine art: The transition from Antiquity to the Middle Ages
- Art under the Roman Empire
- Hellenistic art and archaeology
- Gothic art through medieval eyes
- Art in China since 1911
- Understanding museums and collections
- Literature and the visual arts in France
- German Expressionism in literature and visual arts
- European cinema
- Modernism and after
- The Experience of modernity: visual culture, 1880–1925

‘Special’ subject and extended essay in Art History –

Assessment

Final University examinations:
Four or five written papers; one or two extended essay(s), one thesis

choices currently include:

- Art and culture in Renaissance Florence and Venice
- The Dutch Golden Age: 1618–72
- Painting and culture in Ming China
- English architecture
- Art and its public in France, 1815–67

Undergraduate thesis

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	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees
Home/EU	£9,000	£0	£9,000
Islands (Channel Islands & Isle of Man)	£9,000	£0	£9,000
Overseas	£15,295	£7,135	£22,430

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

	Per month		Total for 9 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range

Food	£265	£298	£2,384	£2,673
Accommodation (including utilities)	£469	£667	£4,221	£6,002
Personal items	£119	£244	£1,073	£2,187
Social activities	£60	£107	£539	£960
Study costs	£36	£73	£314	£661
Other	£19	£44	£197	£410
Total	£970	£1,433	£8,727	£12,894

30 October 2015