

Law (Jurisprudence) Information Sheet for entry in 2020

Studying law will not only give you the opportunity to qualify as a solicitor or barrister: it will also help you develop a diverse set of skills which you will be able to apply in many different situations. You will learn to assimilate and analyse complex information, construct arguments, write with precision and clarity and think on your feet.

The Oxford Law degree aims to develop all these skills, but its particular strength is in teaching you to think for yourself. Students are expected to read a good deal, mostly from primary sources, and to develop views not simply about what the law is, but also about why it is so, whether it should be so, and how it might be different.

There are two Law courses at Oxford: Course I is a three-year course; Course II is a four-year course which follows the same syllabus, but with a third year abroad at a university in France, Germany, Italy, or Spain (studying French, German, Italian, or Spanish law), or the Netherlands (studying European and International law). Students on Course II (Law with Law Studies in Europe) gain additional skills through exposure to different legal systems and the different approaches to teaching practised by our European partner institutions. There is a risk that the UK's departure from the European Union may impact on the year abroad in Course II, as explained in more detail below.

Students who have graduated in other subjects may undertake the accelerated 'Senior Status' version of Course I. For further information about the courses, please refer to the [Law Faculty website](#).

A typical week

You will be studying between one and two subjects at any one time (or up to three subjects in your third year) so in any given week you are likely to have one to two tutorials of an hour each (in a group of two to four students) and be asked to write an essay for each tutorial. Lectures are often regarded as an optional extra, with the tutorial system being our core form of teaching. On average, most students will go to two to three hours of lectures (or seminars for third year options) each week. Most of your working time (we anticipate the workload is 45 hours per week) will be devoted to reading, thinking, and writing your essays in preparation for the tutorials.

Tutorials are usually 2-4 students and a tutor. Classes, which are generally organised by individual colleges, are usually 6-10 students. Seminars for second-year Jurisprudence mini-options and third-year optional courses generally involve groups of no more than 30 students but may on occasion exceed that number if the seminar covers more than one option. 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 structure¹

YEAR 1 (TERMS 1 AND 2)	
<p>COURSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Criminal law • Constitutional law • A Roman introduction to private law • Research skills and mootng programme <p>For those on Course II, there are also French/German/Italian/Spanish law and language classes during the first six terms, or, for those going to the Netherlands, introductory Dutch language courses in the second year</p>	<p>ASSESSMENT</p> <p>First University examinations: three written papers, one each in Criminal law, Constitutional law and a Roman introduction to private law</p>
YEAR 1 (TERM 3), YEARS 2 AND 3 (AND 4)	
<p>COURSES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tort law • Contract law • Trusts • Land law • Administrative law • European Union law • Jurisprudence • Two optional subjects, chosen from a very wide range of options <p>Course II: Year 3 is spent abroad</p>	<p>ASSESSMENT</p> <p>Final University examinations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tort law, Contract law, Trusts, Land law, Administrative law, European law: one written paper each at the end of the final year • Jurisprudence: one shorter written paper at the end of the final year, plus an essay written in the summer vacation at the end of the second year • Two optional subjects: normally written papers but methods of assessment may vary <p>Course II students will also be assessed during their year abroad by the university they attend.</p>
<p><i>A full list of current options is available on the Law website.</i></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.

¹ There is a risk that the UK's departure from the European Union may impact on the year abroad in Course II, as explained in more detail on page 3.

Fees

These annual fees are for full-time students who begin this undergraduate course here in 2020.

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home/EU	£9,250
Islands (Channel Islands & Isle of Man)	£9,250
Overseas	£27,285

Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions.

Please note that the course fees you pay include your fees for both University and college services and are divided between the University (including your department or faculty) and your college on a formula basis. More information is provided in your Terms and Conditions.

Additional Fees and Charges Information for Students on Course II

Students taking Law with Law Studies in Europe are currently expected to spend the third year of this course abroad studying at a host university.

During the year abroad, students currently pay significantly reduced fees to the University. For example, for students going on their year abroad in 2019, who started an undergraduate course in 2017, the course fees are:

- Home/EU/Islands students: £1,385 for the year.
- International students: £8,415 for the year.

The year abroad is currently arranged and partially funded through the Erasmus+ programme and at present students do not pay tuition fees to host institutions, though for some destinations, additional charges which apply to all students at that institution, may be payable. Following the UK's departure from the EU, the University's participation in the Erasmus+ programme or equivalent framework is not guaranteed. However, the Law Faculty has separate agreements with its partner universities across Europe which it is hoped should enable exchanges to continue on the same basis.

At present, an Erasmus+ grant for living costs is available to students on their year abroad. In the event that agency funding is not made available for Erasmus+ activity, the University has committed to providing living costs grants on a similar basis to current Erasmus+ grants. Some costs related to year abroad activity may be subject to some variation as arrangements relating to the UK's decision to leave the EU are progressed. The Law Faculty will ensure that all Course II students are informed of developments relating to their year abroad arrangements. In the unlikely event that factors arising from the UK's departure

from the EU would substantially alter the costs, availability, duration or scope of exchanges available, students would be transferred to Course I.

For the latest information about the Erasmus+ programme at Oxford, please visit ox.ac.uk/erasmus.

As you will be studying a full year of courses in your host university, we do not recommend that you plan to do any regular paid work while you are away.

For information about living costs on your year abroad, please see the website below for the relevant country:

- [France](#)
- [Germany](#)
- [Italy](#)
- [The Netherlands](#)
- [Spain](#)

Currently, eligible UK students can continue to access living costs funding from the UK government (Student Finance agencies) during their year abroad. However, the level of government funding available to UK students on a year abroad may vary as a result of the UK's departure from the EU. UK students from a lower-income households with means-tested assessments will remain eligible for Oxford's generous bursary provision. For UK students with a shortfall in their finances, the University's Student Support Fund can provide additional assistance. Travel or hardship grants may also be available through your college. For the latest information on funding arrangements visit www.ox.ac.uk/students/oxford-and-the-eu.

For students going to France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands or Spain, there is currently a one-off grant of £500 from London law firm Clifford Chance.* Students in Paris may be able to apply for housing benefit, which in 2018/19 was about €165 a month (this may change following the UK's departure from the EU).

***Please note that unfortunately this additional funding is no longer available for students commencing their course in October 2020.**

Living costs

Your living costs will vary significantly dependent on your lifestyle. These are estimated to be between £1,135 and £1,650 per month in 2020-2021. 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.

Living costs breakdown

	Per month		Total for 9 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£270	£385	£2,430	£3,465
Accommodation (including utilities)	£630	£760	£5,670	£6,840
Personal items	£130	£245	£1,170	£2,205
Social activities	£45	£110	£405	£990
Study costs	£40	£95	£360	£855
Other	£20	£55	£180	£495
Total	£1,135	£1,650	£10,215	£14,850

In order to provide these likely living costs, the University and the Oxford 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 2020-21, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 3% each year.