

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

MPhil in Archaeology

About the course

The MPhil in Archaeology provides an opportunity for students to build on their knowledge from undergraduate studies, while also offering an excellent foundation for those wishing to continue towards research at doctoral level.

The MPhil in Archaeology adds a student-led research project onto the MSt year. It is ideal if you are thinking of carrying on to doctoral research and wish to acquire higher levels of research skills and/or complete a medium-sized individual research project before embarking on doctoral study. Flexibility is built into the degree to allow you to create your own unique courses that reflect your chosen area of study.

In your first year, you take one of a range of core papers plus an option paper, with a third subject to be taken from either set of options in a combination specific to your interests during the academic year. Most students choose to follow one of a number of streams, although this is not a formal requirement, including the archaeology of Asia, and environmental, European, maritime or Palaeolithic archaeology.

If you are seeking a broader course then you may, if you wish, select one subject from among those offered in a number of cognate disciplines. In the second year, you take a fourth taught subject from within archaeology and work on your theses.

You will have a supervisor in your main area of interest, who will usually supervise your dissertation and may provide some other teaching, and will advise on option choices and monitor overall progress. Each member of the academic staff in archaeology offers at least one different subject in his or her areas of specialism over the year, but not all courses listed will be available every year.

Teaching is mainly through small-group tutorials or classes of one to five students, for which you will prepare short essays on a weekly basis. Tutorials are supplemented by a wide range of lecture courses and graduate seminars.

The options are examined by pairs of pre-set essays, while the core paper is assessed by a written three-hour examination at the end of the final term of the first year. The thesis subject is decided by the end of the first year, with any fieldwork taking place in the long vacation. Research and writing occupy most of the second year. There may be a viva voce examination for the whole course.

Changes to courses

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.

Expected length of course



21 months

Annual fees for entry in 2016-2017

Fee Status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees
Home/EU (including islands)	£7,185	£2,933	£10,118
Overseas	£16,280	£2,933	£19,213

The fees shown above are the annual tuition and college fees for this course for entry in the 2016-17 academic year; for courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. For details, please see our guidance on likely increases to fees and charges.

Tuition and college fees are payable each year for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay tuition and college fees).

Additional cost information

If you decide to undertake fieldwork as part of your studies, you will need to cover all expenses, eg travel, accommodation and living expenses, visa and medical fees (such as vaccinations), etc. The location and duration of fieldwork will vary for each student, which means that the cost of the fieldwork requirement will vary depending on your area of study. You may be eligible to apply for grants to help with these costs from the School of Archaeology, the Faculty of Classics, and/or your college. In the past the costs of fieldwork have ranged from between £0 to £10,000, but to a considerable extent the fieldwork element in a project may be tailored to take account of the funding available.

If you choose a laboratory-based project, you may incur additional costs, such as analytical costs, travel expenses for sample collection, etc. With the approval of your supervisor, these will usually be met from Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art funds, or, if the costs are substantial, you may be eligible to apply for grants to help with these costs from the School of Archaeology, your college, and/or external sources. Your supervisor will help you with such funding applications

The department's website provides further information in the Notes for Guidance documents, which are available to download from the Graduate Resources page.

Living costs

In addition to your fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for 2016-17 are published below. These costs are based on a single, full-time graduate student, with no dependants, living in Oxford. We provide the cost per month so you can multiply up by the number of months you expect to live in Oxford.

	Likely living costs for 1 month		Likely living costs for 9 months		Likely living costs for 12 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£265	£298	£2,384	£2,673	£3,177	£3,565
Accommodation	£469	£667	£4,221	£6,002	£5,627	£8,006
Personal items	£119	£244	£1,073	£2,187	£1,429	£2,915
Social activities	£60	£107	£539	£960	£718	£1,280
Study costs	£36	£73	£314	£661	£418	£880
Other	£19	£44	£197	£410	£265	£547
Total	£970	£1,433	£8,727	£12,894	£11,636	£17,191

When planning your finances for any future years of study in Oxford beyond 2016-17, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 2% each year.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/living-costs.

21 October 2015