

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2017-18

MPhil in Medical Anthropology

About the course

The two-year MPhil course offers coordinated training in both social and biological anthropological approaches to health and illness, with special emphasis on methods. It provides the necessary basis for future anthropological research and an excellent cross-cultural grounding for those aiming to pursue a career in anthropology, global health or other health-related fields.

The MPhil is similar in topical scope and breadth to the MSc, but it allows for a deeper engagement with the theory and practice of anthropological research.

During the first year of the MPhil you would follow the same course of instruction as MSc students through to the June examinations, which serve as qualifying (rather than final) exams for MPhil students to progress to the second year.

In the first year there is one option paper and three core papers, as follows:

- Paper 1: Concepts of disease, illness, health and medicine in global perspective
- Paper 2: Theory and practice of bio-medicine and of other medical systems
- Paper 3: Critical medical anthropology

At the end of the first year, you then use the summer vacation to acquire a firm grounding in medical anthropological literature and develop your dissertation outline based on this background reading. Fieldwork is not a necessary component of the MPhil degree, although you can undertake it over the vacation.

Coursework in the second year has three components: classes, seminars and dissertation writing.

The classes cover critical reading and a choice of two of the following options:

- Ethnographic Fieldwork Methods in Anthropology
- Statistical Fieldwork Methods for the Analysis of Quantitative Social Science Data
- Language-focused Methods of Data Collection and their Interpretation.

Together, these components comprise one examined paper, Methods of Fieldwork and Social Research, which is assessed by a dossier of written work completed over the course of the year rather than by a final written examination.

MPhil students are expected to actively participate in the rich seminar culture of the Institute for Social and Cultural Anthropology (ISCA) and in particular to attend two core seminar series in medical anthropology - Fertility and Reproduction seminars in Michaelmas Term, and the Medical Anthropology Research Seminars in Hilary Term.

The research component of the MPhil is principally comprised of a 30,000-word dissertation submitted in May of the second year of the course and you will receive individual tuition on your dissertation writing with your supervisor throughout the second year. You will also attend MPhil classes in Hilary Term of the second year, during which MPhil dissertation projects from across the School of Anthropology are presented and discussed among students and faculty.

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 2017-2018

Fee Status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees
Home/EU (including islands)	£12,300	£3,021	£15,321
Overseas	£19,335	£3,021	£22,356

The fees shown above are the annual tuition and college fees for this course for entry in the stated academic year; for courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions.

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

There are no compulsory elements of this course that entail additional costs beyond fees and living costs. However, as part of your course requirements, you may need to choose a dissertation, a project or a thesis topic. Please note that, depending on your choice of topic and the research required to complete it, you may incur additional expenses, such as travel expenses, research expenses, and field trips. You will need to meet these additional costs, although you may be able to apply for small grants from your department and/or college to help you cover some of these expenses.

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 2017-18 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	£250	£350	£2,250	£3,150	£3,000	£4,000
Accommodation	£538	£619	£4,844	£5,569	£6,459	£7,425
Personal items	£115	£255	£1,035	£2,295	£1,380	£3,060
Social activities	£40	£119	£358	£1,073	£477	£1,431
Study costs	£38	£83	£338	£743	£451	£991
Other	£22	£45	£196	£407	£261	£543
Total	£1,002	£1,471	£9,021	£13,237	£12,028	£17,649

When planning your finances for any future years of study in Oxford beyond 2017-18, 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.

20 October 2016