

## Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

### MPHil in Modern Middle Eastern Studies

#### About the course

The MPHil in Modern Middle Eastern Studies is a two-year course intended for students from all social science and humanities backgrounds. The course provides intensive training in a Middle Eastern language, training in research methods and topics relevant to the study of the Middle East.

The MPHil Modern Middle Eastern Studies accepts students who are complete beginners in a Middle Eastern language (Arabic, Hebrew, Persian or Turkish). The course also accommodates students in any of these languages at an advanced level. If you already have research-level proficiency in one of these languages you will be required to take a different language.

You are evaluated in five areas: a language, three written examinations on course options (taught through tutorials and lectures) and a 30,000 word thesis.

In the first two terms, you will receive intensive language training to cover the fundamentals of grammar in your chosen Middle Eastern language. This training takes place in classes or language laboratories. You are expected to attend the weekly MPHil seminar, 'The Modern Middle East', held in the first (Michaelmas) term, the seminar is an interactive forum in which you are asked to present arguments and to respond to each other's work. In addition to this seminar, you will be encouraged to attend lectures and seminars offered by the teaching staff during the first term.

In the second (Hilary) term, in consultation with your supervisor, you will arrange a series of tutorials for one of three options to be offered for the Final Examination. Tutorials typically involve eight weekly meetings and between four and six essays, arranged between you and your tutor. Most options have an associated lecture series which you are expected to attend.

You will sit the Qualifying Exam at the end of the second term. Language training continues in the third term, and you will have tutorials for the second of their three options. You will at this stage begin your thesis preparations, meeting with staff members to identify a thesis supervisor.

During the Long Vacation (end of June to early October), you are urged to pursue intensive language training in an appropriate course in the region, political circumstances permitting. Information on the different courses can be obtained from the relevant language instructors, in consultation with supervisors. You are encouraged to take the opportunity provided by study abroad to conduct research for your theses in the region.

In the first term of the second year, you will continue language training, and have tutorials for your third option. Over the Christmas vacation research and writing of the thesis should continue. In the second term, you will have further language training and attend an MPHil research seminar where you will present your research findings to your peers and faculty. A complete draft of your thesis should be ready for the supervisor to assess by the end of the second term. By the second week of the final term, you will be ready to submit your theses. The final examination is held at the end of the final term.



For further information on the course and the examinations involved, applicants should consult the Course Handbook, which can be accessed via the faculty's course webpage.

### **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)	£6,550	£2,933	£9,483
Overseas	£17,555	£2,933	£20,488

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**

You will normally be expected to spend the summer after your first year attending an intensive language course in the Middle East. The faculty estimates the cost of attendance to be between £1,400 and £3,000, depending on the country and the fees charged by the various institutes that provide such courses. This estimate includes tuition fees, living expenses (both housing and food) and airfare. The faculty currently provides some funding toward these costs.

## 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
<b>Food</b>	£265	£298	£2,384	£2,673	£3,177	£3,565
<b>Accommodation</b>	£469	£667	£4,221	£6,002	£5,627	£8,006
<b>Personal items</b>	£119	£244	£1,073	£2,187	£1,429	£2,915
<b>Social activities</b>	£60	£107	£539	£960	£718	£1,280
<b>Study costs</b>	£36	£73	£314	£661	£418	£880
<b>Other</b>	£19	£44	£197	£410	£265	£547
<b>Total</b>	£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](http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/fees-and-funding/living-costs).

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