Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

MSc in Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology

About the course

The University of Oxford's Institute for Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology offers a one-year MSc in Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology. The degree programme explores human thought, behaviour and culture from the perspectives of the evolutionary and cognitive sciences.



Homo sapiens possess remarkable capacities for language, culture, and religion. We are distinguished by our communication, beliefs, rituals, and performance, as well as our intelligence. What are the evolutionary foundations for these characteristics? Are they really as unique to us as we might believe? What is it about our evolution and our resulting cognitive equipment that makes us human?

The MSc in Cognitive and Evolutionary Anthropology explores human thought, behaviour, and culture from the perspectives of the evolutionary and cognitive sciences. During your first term, you will follow a course on the investigation of biological evolution and cognition and a course on quantitative methods (including statistics and research design).

In your second term you will take a course on the evolution of human behaviour, including biological, cognitive, psychological and comparative perspectives, as well as the mind and culture course, which examines how human conceptual structures inform and constrain cultural expression. You will be assessed by coursework and three three-hour written examinations in the third term.

The MSc concludes with a 15,000-word research dissertation to be completed over the summer months, which is submitted and examined at the end of August. The degree constitutes a programme of study in its own right, as well as serving as a research training degree for those wishing to go on to doctoral research.

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

12 months

Annual fees for entry in 2016-2017

Fee Status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees	
Home/EU	£11,940	£2,933	£14,873	
(including islands)				
Overseas	£18,770	£2,933	£21,703	

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

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 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	Upper range	Lower	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