

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

MSc in Evidence-Based Social Intervention and Policy Evaluation

About the course

The main aim of the MSc in Evidence-based Social Intervention and Policy Evaluation is to develop critical analysis, problem solving and research skills in the field of evidence-based interventions and policies for social problems, which will allow you to be both a critical consumer of research and to carry out evaluations and other research designs.

The core element of the programme comprises courses on research design, statistics, qualitative analysis and critical appraisal. There is a particular emphasis on appraisal and design of randomised controlled trials, quasi-random experimentation and systematic reviews, and their application to social interventions and policy evaluation.

You will then select one of two available pathways, the evidence-based social intervention pathway or the policy evaluation pathway.

The evidence-based social intervention pathway covers theories underlying intervention (eg cognitive behavioural, ecological); ethical issues; major applications of evidence-based approaches; and challenges in applying and disseminating research into practice and policy. A specialist systematic reviewing course is also on offer, which will help you to develop your own review, as part of your degree.

The policy evaluation pathway will introduce you to social policy analysis and to advanced methods of policy evaluation. Policy analysis examines the process of policy making, the setting of objectives, the choice and design of policy and the mechanisms of implementation, while the advanced methods component provides you with the methodological tools to determine how effective policies are in practice or prospect.

In addition, you will take a specialist course from a list of options focusing on a particular social policy area or the application of evidence-based intervention with specific client groups, including children and families, prevention of HIV and AIDS, community analysis and intervention, and options offered by the Comparative Social Policy course.

Whichever pathway you take, you will be required to write a 10,000 word thesis on a topic agreed with your supervisor. Assessment will be based on project work and two three-hour written examination papers.

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 (including islands)	£11,940	£2,933	£14,873
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 stated 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

Students may need additional funds available to cover the cost of carrying out fieldwork. The department has a fund available to which students can apply for support for both fieldwork 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
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.

15 August 2016