

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

MSc in Migration Studies

About the course

This nine-month interdisciplinary master's degree analyses migration from a global perspective and as an integral part of development and social change. Taught by world-class researchers, it will introduce you to key migration concepts, methods and theories across the social sciences, and prepare you for further research or for a career in policy and international development.

Aims

The course provides a broad, theoretical understanding of human mobility and the role of both internal and international migration in the wider processes of development, social change and globalisation, as well as an overview of the major debates and literature on contemporary migration from different disciplinary perspectives. You will gain skills in critical analysis and research, and should develop an ability to contribute new perspectives to the study of migration. You should also gain an understanding of the dilemmas facing policy-makers at both national and international level and the ability to help transfer theoretical knowledge to policy-oriented research.

Structure

In the first and second terms you will follow three core courses:

- International Migration in the Social Sciences
- Migration, Globalisation and Social Transformation
- Methods in Social Research

These will be supplemented by a fortnightly discussion class, *Keywords: a Key to Migration Debates and Social Thought*.

In the second term, you will choose two option courses from a list which changes from year to year, and in the final term, you will write a dissertation of up to 15,000 words.

Teaching

Staff are mainly drawn from Oxford's internationally renowned centres researching voluntary and economic migration: the International Migration Institute (IMI) and the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS). Teaching on the degree is problem-focused and delivered through a combination of lecture courses, classes and tutorials, seminars, student-led presentations, essays and library work. You will be expected to prepare for each lecture, class or tutorial by reading a selection of recommended book chapters, articles and working papers. The MSc is a demanding course and, as is typical at Oxford, you will be expected to keep up with a considerable reading workload. Class sizes are small – generally between 5 and 26 students – encouraging active participation and enabling students to learn from each other.



A general supervisor will support your academic development throughout the course, with regular one-to-one term-time meetings to oversee progress. The general supervisor guides work on the dissertation in the first term; and depending on your choice of dissertation subject, you may also be allocated a dissertation supervisor with greater expertise in the chosen field, to guide the dissertation-writing process in the second and third terms. In addition, you will have a college advisor whom you may consult on issues concerning your personal wellbeing.

Assessment

On-course assessment, which will not count towards your final degree, will take the form of regular presentations and short essays. The degree is formally assessed by a 5,000-word core-course essay at the start of the second term, a research methods portfolio of 6,000 words and two written examinations on one core and two options courses at the start of the third term, and a dissertation of up to 15,000 words at the end of the third term.

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

9 months

Annual fees for entry in 2016-2017

Fee Status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees
Home/EU (including islands)	£16,280	£2,933	£19,213
Overseas	£21,500	£2,933	£24,433

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

Each academic year, as part of the course, the department runs an optional study visit. In previous years, this has been to Istanbul – a focal point for many key issues in migration studies – but the venue may vary in future. This is an opportunity to meet representatives from international and local NGOs, as well as local scholars and their students. If you choose to take part in this study visit, you will need to cover any related travel, accommodation and living expenses. The department estimates that these costs are likely to range from £150 to £300.

You may be eligible to apply to the department's Dissertation Support Fund and/or to your college to assist with 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
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.

11 March 2016