Course Information Sheet for entry in 2017-18

MSt in History of Art and Visual Culture

About the course

This nine-month programme offers a unique combination of methodological depth and access to magnificent primary sources for students who wish to develop and extend their understanding of how visual styles at different times and in different places can be understood in relation to the aesthetic, intellectual and social facets of various cultures.



This course draws on the established strengths of the discipline of art history in formal, iconographic and contextual analysis in the Faculty of History's History of Art Department and links them to a rigorous approach to questions of theory and method.

The course will expose you to the ways in which the subjects of visual history are being redefined on a broad base to include a much wider range of artefacts and visual media, including images and objects produced in contexts ranging from the scientific to the popular.

Teaching and examination comprise:

- a compulsory methodology paper in theories and methods in the history of art, which is taught in class and lecture series during Michaelmas and Hilary terms. It is assessed through three short examination essays at the end of Trinity term;
- one option paper, normally taught in small classes during Michaelmas and Hilary terms.
 Assessment is through two extended essays of between 4,000 and 5,000 words each. Some of the option papers will not be available every year, and new ones may be added.
 Prospective students should check on the availability of specific courses during the application process; and
- a dissertation of up to 15,000 words completed independently, under the guidance of an expert supervisor, on an topic of your choice and approved by the supervisor and the chair of examiners for the programme. The dissertation is submitted in Trinity term.

Please note that not every optional subject listed may be on offer every year, depending in part on levels of student demand. Full details of core and optional papers available are available on the course webpage.

If you wish to apply for the DPhil you will be encouraged to develop your master's and doctoral proposals in tandem during the first few months, so that you will be well placed to make doctoral applications in the spring.

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 2017-2018

Fee Status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees	
Home/EU	£7,400	£3,021	£10,421	
(including islands)				
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	Upper range	Lower	Upper range	Lower	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