

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

MSt in Medieval History

About the course

This eleven-month programme is the standard entry route for all students who want to study medieval history at Oxford. You will follow core and optional courses, but will spend at least a third of your time doing independent research.

This course can be taken as a free-standing degree course or as the first step to a DPhil.

The course balances taught courses and independent research. The aim of the course is to enable you to understand the way your work fits in to the wider developments of the subject in the last fifty years; to be critical of those developments; to understand in depth one major research field; to learn or improve a non-English language (usually Latin); and to write a developed piece of original work. You will construct the contents and work pattern of the research element of the degree in close and regular discussion with their supervisor.

All medievalists will be offered Latin language training and are invited to attend a faculty-sponsored pre-sessional Latin class, which will then be supplemented by term-time teaching. If you are not registering for the pre-sessional classes you will be assessed for your basic competence in reading Latin texts at the start of Michaelmas term, and in appropriate cases again in early March. These tests are not part of the assessment for the degree; they serve to indicate how far you need to make further progress in the study of the language in order to undertake competent research in the field of medieval history. Weekly classes for those who need to improve their Latin will be available throughout the three academic terms of the year. Teaching is also available for a wide variety of medieval and modern languages, including medieval Celtic and Germanic languages.

Teaching and examination comprises:

a core seminar, meeting weekly in Michaelmas term, which will concentrate on the various approaches to medieval history of historians in the last fifty years

a daily class for the first four weeks of Michaelmas term on the history of script in the middle ages and reading medieval documents

an optional paper, meeting weekly during Hilary term, which will allow the exploration of a specific period and/or theme of medieval history of the student's choice - you will be expected to submit one essay of between 8,000 and 10,000 words based on this course

a weekly seminar in Trinity term to which you will be expected to make a presentation.

submission of a dissertation of up to 15,000 words on your own research topic

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

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

11 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

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 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.

21 October 2015