

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2016-17

PGCert in Diplomatic Studies

About the course

The University of Oxford offers a graduate course in diplomatic studies at the Department for Continuing Education. For more than 40 years, the Oxford University Foreign Service Programme (FSP) has brought together diplomats in early-to-mid career for a course lasting a full academic year, from early October to late June.

Most FSP members are established diplomats proposed for the course by their governments and return to their diplomatic work after the course is over. You should have a good honours degree and specific experience of working in the international field which will enable you to contribute to as well as benefit from the programme. It is sometimes possible to include a few non-diplomats with suitable background, personal qualities and working experience.

The course content is designed to give you the opportunity to derive maximum benefit from a year studying diplomacy in its contemporary context, giving special attention to the changes associated with globalisation and the diplomatic skills required in the modern world. There is a very wide geographical spread of membership on the course. Substantial benefit is derived from the exchange of experience among participants.

If you successfully complete the curriculum and the year-end examinations, you will receive the Oxford University Certificate in Diplomatic Studies. During the first term you may apply to transfer to the PGDip in Diplomatic Studies, which will require you to also complete a substantial research project.

If you successfully complete the PGDip, you will be eligible to apply to the part-time MSt in Diplomatic Studies.

Content of the year and methods of study

The core curriculum focuses on the academic study of international politics, international trade and finance, and public international law, and a range of talks and practical exercises on aspects of current diplomatic practice. Emphasis is placed on national and regional issues relevant to countries and regions from which the participants come.

Instruction is carried out through lectures, seminars, classes and tutorials. Contact hours would typically amount to 64 lectures/seminars, 14 classes and 35 tutorials. Preparation for these is self-directed work.

As part of the diplomatic practice element, study visits are made in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in Europe. Occasional guest speakers, guest dinners and simulation exercises are offered throughout the academic year. You are also encouraged to attend the numerous lectures, seminars and other events relevant to your interests held elsewhere in the University in addition to the obligatory FSP curriculum.



More information on the ground covered by the curriculum included in a normal year's programme is given in the FSP Course Outline together with an outline programme.

Languages

The working language of the course is English. You will be accepted only if you can demonstrate that you possess the necessary English language skills.

One of the gains from membership of Oxford University Foreign Service Programme, even for those who come from English-speaking countries, is the opportunity it provides to build up and polish to a very high and sustained standard of effectiveness and fluency your command of the English language, the major international and diplomatic language in today's world. FSP therefore provides, as a central part of the certificate course, advanced English language training alongside media techniques.

The resources of the University Language Centre are fully available to FSP members interested in learning or improving their knowledge of other languages.

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)	£17,555	£2,933	£20,488
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

Please note that this course requires that you attend in Oxford for teaching, and you may incur additional travel and accommodation expenses for this.

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.

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