

Philosophy and Modern Languages Information Sheet for entry in 2016

Philosophy and Modern Languages brings together some of the most important approaches to understanding language, literature and ideas.

The study of philosophy develops analytical rigour and the ability to criticise and reason logically. It allows you to apply these skills to questions ranging from how we acquire knowledge and form moral judgements to the nature of language, art and literature. Since many works of literature are shaped by the dominant philosophical ideas of their epoch, study of philosophy can illuminate that intellectual background.

The study of a modern European language develops analytical and critical abilities as well as a high level of linguistic skills; the study of the literature written in that language contributes to an understanding of many aspects of European culture. It develops attention to stylistic and terminological detail and rhetorical strategies, and sensitivity to cultural and historical context, which are also of great value for the study of philosophy.

Philosophy and Modern Languages at Oxford

Studying these two disciplines in parallel has numerous advantages and affords students greater insights into each.

The Philosophy Faculty is the largest philosophy department in the UK, and one of the largest in the world, admitting more than 500 undergraduates annually to read the various degrees involving Philosophy. Many faculty members have a worldwide reputation, and our library and other facilities are acknowledged as among the best in the country.

Oxford's Modern Languages Faculty is one of the largest in the country, with a total intake of more than 250 students a year, including those reading joint degrees. The Taylor Institution is the biggest modern languages research library in the UK. The Modern Languages Faculty also has an undergraduate lending library and a modern and excellently equipped Language Centre.

A typical weekly timetable

Your work is divided between tutorials (one or two weekly), lectures (typically about six hours weekly) and classes (first-year logic, language classes throughout the course, typically about two to three hours weekly). The rest of your week will be spent in private study to prepare essays for tutorials.



1st year

Courses

Philosophy:

- General philosophy

Assessment

First University examinations:
Six written papers: two in Philosophy,
four in Modern Languages

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moral philosophy • Logic <p>Modern Languages:</p> <p>Translation into and from a European language and other exercises in the foreign language; two papers on the literature of the relevant language</p>	
2nd and 4th years	
<p>Compulsory core subjects:</p> <p>Philosophy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Either History of philosophy from Descartes to Kant • or Plato's <i>Republic</i> • or Aristotle's <i>Nicomachean Ethics</i> <p>Modern Languages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three language papers • One period of literature paper • One further paper from a list of options <p>Further options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Either four further papers in Philosophy (many options, including thesis) • or three further papers in Philosophy and one in Modern Languages (which may be an extended essay) • or two further papers in Philosophy and two in Modern Languages 	<p>Assessment</p> <p>Final University examinations: Nine papers (with a minimum of three in Philosophy and four in Modern Languages). One Philosophy paper may be replaced by a thesis. Some Modern Languages papers may be replaced by a thesis or a portfolio of essays. Modern Languages oral exam</p>

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.

Fees

These annual fees are for full-time students who begin this undergraduate course here in 2016.

Fee Status	Tuition fee	College fee	Total annual fees
Home/EU	£9,000	£0	£9,000
Islands (Channel Islands & Isle of Man)	£9,000	£0	£9,000
Overseas	£15,295	£7,135	£22,430

Information about how much fees and other costs may increase is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions.

Additional Fees and Charges Information for Philosophy and Modern Languages

During the year abroad, students pay significantly reduced fees. For students who started an undergraduate course from 2012, who are going on their year abroad in 2015, the tuition fees are:

- Home/EU/Islands students, studying their first degree: £1,350 for the year.
- International students: £7,425 for the year.

These fees are subject to annual increases, so the tuition fees for students going abroad in later years may be higher. Please note that International students do not pay a college fee during their year abroad. (Home/EU and Islands students do not pay the college fee in any year of their course.) Living costs will vary according to the destination.

We recommend that students begin to research their year abroad options – including the financial implications – as early as possible in the second year of the course. There is plenty of support, information and advice to help you. You may choose to work or study during your year abroad, or you may do both. Students undertake a range of activities while on their year abroad, some activities may receive a salary and thus - depending on individual choices - it is possible for the year abroad to be cost neutral. Actual costs (such as course fees) and living costs will vary depending on the destination and the activity undertaken.

You will need to pay for living costs during the year abroad, including accommodation and travel expenses. Students taking part in Erasmus study exchanges will not need to pay tuition fees to other institutions. However, if you decide to study outside Erasmus you will be liable to pay tuition fees to the relevant institution.

You may receive salary payments or grants to offset some or all of these costs. Also, if you receive government funding for the rest of your course, you will still be entitled to government support during your year abroad. Hardship funds are available from the Faculty of Medieval & Modern Languages for students who can demonstrate particular difficulties related to their year abroad. These are awarded through a termly application process.

Living Costs

Your living costs will vary significantly dependent on your lifestyle. These are estimated to be between £970 and £1,433 per month in 2016-17. Undergraduate courses usually consist of three

terms of eight weeks each, but as a guide you may wish to budget over a nine-month period to ensure you also have sufficient funds during the holidays to meet essential costs.

Living costs breakdown

	Per month		Total for 9 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£265	£298	£2,384	£2,673
Accommodation (including utilities)	£469	£667	£4,221	£6,002
Personal items	£119	£244	£1,073	£2,187
Social activities	£60	£107	£539	£960
Study costs	£36	£73	£314	£661
Other	£19	£44	£197	£410
Total	£970	£1,433	£8,727	£12,894

30 October 2015