

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2021-22: MSc in Latin American Studies



About the course

This is a nine-month programme which spans three academic terms and is intended to provide an interdisciplinary understanding of the main developments in Latin America from c. 1900 to the present.

While the programme emphasises the specific features of individual countries, there is also broad comparative coverage of major trends such as authoritarianism and democracy, the economic cycle, the effect of international factors, the evolution of the Left and Right, revolutionary movements and the effects of neo-liberal economic models.

The five core papers are:

- Latin America since Independence
- Introduction to the Latin American Economies
- Sociology of Latin America
- The International Relations of Latin America
- The Politics of Democracy in Latin America

The optional papers on offer vary from year to year. As a guide, the following are currently available:

- Andean Politics
- Cities and Citizenship in Latin America
- Human Rights in Latin America
- The Politics of Brazil
- State, Organised Crime and Drug Trafficking in Latin America

These topics are addressed through taught classes for a number of academic disciplines (including history, politics, sociology, international relations and economics), individual preparation for a range of exam papers, and a lively programme of seminars and conferences with visiting speakers.

A typical week during term time will involve around 40 hours of study, including two to six hours of scheduled contact hours, two hours for the weekly seminar and at least thirty hours of independent work. During peak times around exams and the deadline for the thesis/dissertation, the amount of work could be higher depending on your own study habits.

Supervision

The allocation of graduate supervision for this course is the responsibility of the Oxford School of Global and Area Studies and it is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff. Under exceptional circumstances a supervisor may be found outside the Oxford School of Global and Area Studies.

Assessment

You will be asked to submit two portfolios of essays on subjects of your choice during the first two terms. In the final term of the programme, you will be required to sit three exam papers from a list to be provided on your arrival in Oxford. The exam papers for 2021-22 are not yet confirmed, but you may view the range of papers available for the current year by visiting the course page on the Latin American Centre website (see under Further information and enquiries).

In addition to the three exams, you will be required to submit a dissertation of 10,000 words. The preparation of this dissertation will allow you to develop a critical focus by examining a particular topic in depth.

Changes to courses

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description 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. These may include significant changes made necessary by a pandemic (including Covid-19), epidemic or local health emergency. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>) and our page on changes to courses (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/coursechanges>).

Expected length of course

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| | Full Time Only |
| Expected length | 9 months |

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2021-22

| Fee status | Annual Course fees |
|---|--------------------|
| Home (UK, Republic of Ireland, Channel Islands & Isle of Man) | £15,360 |
| Overseas (including EU) | £24,450 |

Course 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 course fees). 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.

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional cost information (below), course fees do not cover your accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also don't cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information.

Additional cost information

There are no compulsory elements of this course that entail additional costs beyond fees and living costs. However, please note that, depending on your choice of research 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. Standard travel insurance can be provided by the University. However, students may be required to pay any additional insurance premiums associated with travel to areas with an increased level of risk and/or for travel of more than 12 months duration, and should factor this into their planning for fieldwork.

Living costs

In addition to your course 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 2021-22 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 2021-22

| | 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 | £280 | £400 | £2,520 | £3,600 | £3,360 | £4,800 |
| Accommodation | £655 | £790 | £5,895 | £7,110 | £7,860 | £9,480 |
| Personal items | £130 | £250 | £1,170 | £2,250 | £1,560 | £3,000 |
| Social activities | £45 | £115 | £405 | £1,035 | £540 | £1,380 |
| Study costs | £45 | £100 | £405 | £900 | £540 | £1,200 |
| Other | £20 | £55 | £180 | £495 | £240 | £660 |
| Total | £1,175 | £1,710 | £10,575 | £15,390 | £14,100 | £20,520 |

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2021-22, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 3% each year.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/livingcosts.

Document accessibility

If you require an accessible version of the document please contact Graduate Admissions and Recruitment by email (graduate.admissions@admin.ox.ac.uk) or via the online form (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/ask>).