

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



About the course

This interdisciplinary, nine-month master's degree analyses global migration and mobility, in historical context, and as part of the broader processes of development and social change.

Taught by world-class researchers, the course will introduce you to key migration and mobility-related concepts, methods and theories across the social sciences, and prepare you for further research or a professional career.

Course objectives

The course provides a broad, theoretical understanding of human mobility and the role of both internal and international migration in economic and political processes, social change and globalisation, as well as an overview of the major debates and literature on contemporary migration.

You will gain skills in critical analysis and research, and should develop an ability to contribute new perspectives to the study of migration both inside and outside academia. You will gain the ability to plan, organise and carry out research projects on migration and human mobility, as well as the skills necessary to convey theoretical knowledge of migration to a variety of different audiences.

Course structure

In the first and second terms you will follow five core courses:

- Anthropology of Migration
- Migration and the Economy
- Migration and Development
- Governance of Mobility
- Methods in Social Research

In the second term, you will choose two option courses from a list which changes from year to year, and in the final term, you will write a dissertation of up to 15,000 words.

Teaching and learning

Apart from four core faculty members from the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography (SAME) and the Department of International Development (ODID) who are dedicated to this degree, research staff from Oxford's internationally renowned Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS) and other units will provide additional teaching input. Teaching on the degree is both theory- and problem-focused and is delivered through a combination of lectures, classes, seminars, student-led presentations, essays and library work. You will be expected to prepare for each lecture or seminar by reading a selection of recommended book chapters, articles and working papers. The MSc is a demanding course and, as is typical at Oxford, you will be expected to keep up with a considerable reading workload. Class sizes are small to mid-size – generally between 6 and 26 students – encouraging active participation and enabling students to learn from each other.

Supervision

A supervisor will support your academic development throughout the course, with regular one-to-one term-time meetings to oversee progress. The supervisor also guides your work on the dissertation. After the first term you may be able to change supervisor if there is a strong case to be made that your dissertation topic demands it. In addition, you will have a college advisor whom you may consult on issues concerning your personal wellbeing.

The allocation of graduate supervision for this course is the responsibility of the Oxford Department of International Development in conjunction with the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography, 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 Department of International Development and School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography.

Assessment

Assessment consists of formative and summative assessment. Formative assessment, which does not count towards your final degree, but helps you to develop your analytical and writing skills, will be in the form of short essays (1,500 words), response papers and presentations.

Summative assessment, which will count towards your final degree, currently takes the form of short time-limited essays, research methods coursework, and a 15,000-word dissertation.

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)	£22,930
Overseas (including EU)	£29,160

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

Each academic year, as part of the course, the department runs an optional study visit. In previous years, this has been to Rabat, Athens and the Danish-Swedish Borders, but the location varies year-to-year and may also be within the United Kingdom. This is an opportunity to meet migration practitioners, other academics, and community activists working on specific migration-related issues. If you choose to take part in this study visit, you will need to cover any related travel, accommodation and living expenses. The department estimates that these costs are likely to be around £300. You may be eligible to apply to the department's Dissertation Support Fund and/or to your college to assist with these costs.

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>).