

Course Information Sheet for entry in 2022-23: MSc in Migration Studies



About the course

This interdisciplinary, nine-month master's degree analyses global migration and mobility with broader processes of development and social transformation world-wide. Taught by world-class researchers, the course offers innovative theoretical, ethnical, and methodological perspectives on migration from across the social sciences. It provides the foundation for successful careers in government, international organisations, civil society, or further academic inquiry.

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. It also gives an overview of the major debates and literatures on contemporary migration. You will have the opportunity to plan, organise and carry out independent research and to gain the skills necessary to convey theoretical knowledge of migration to a variety of different audiences.

Successful students will leave with the critical analytical and research skills needed to contribute new perspectives to the study of migration in and beyond academia. With a strong focus on migration and mobility across world regions, you will gain insight into migration's close connection to global systems of trade, labour, politics, and power. A strong focus on the politics of knowledge production will provide additional insights for your position in reshaping local and international debates over human movement.

Course structure

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

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

In the second term, you will also take two highly focused, research-led option courses that change annually to reflect contemporary debates and academic themes. In the final term, you will write a dissertation of up to 15,000 words based on original research on a topic of your choice.

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, seminars, student-led presentations, workshops, 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, encouraging active participation and enabling students to learn from each other.

Supervision

To support your academic development throughout the course, you will have regular one-to-one meetings with a dedicated supervisor. During your in-term meetings the supervisor will also guide your work on the dissertation and prove an invaluable resource for you throughout the year. You will also have a college advisor who is available to discuss 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. It is not always possible to accommodate the preferences of incoming graduate students to work with a particular member of staff. While initial supervisor allocations are made based on your stated scholarly interests, you may be able to change supervisor after the first term if there is a strong case to be made that your dissertation topic demands it. 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.

MSc Migration Studies, University of Oxford



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 2022-23

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home	£23,850
Overseas	£30,330

Further details about fee status eligibility can be found on the fee status webpage (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/feestatus>).

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 (<http://www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/terms>).

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, 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. 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 £350 or more. 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 2022-23 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

	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	£290	£410	£2,610	£3,690	£3,480	£4,920
Accommodation	£680	£810	£6,120	£7,290	£8,160	£9,720
Personal items	£135	£260	£1,215	£2,340	£1,620	£3,120
Social activities	£45	£120	£405	£1,080	£540	£1,440
Study costs	£45	£100	£405	£900	£540	£1,200
Other	£20	£55	£180	£495	£240	£660
Total	£1,215	£1,755	£10,935	£15,795	£14,580	£21,060

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2022-23, 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>).