Course Information Sheet for entry in 2020-21 MSt in International Human Rights Law



About the course

This is a part-time degree offered over two academic years, involving both distance learning and summer schools. It is designed for lawyers and other human rights professionals who wish to pursue advanced studies in international human rights law.

This course is offered jointly by the Department for Continuing Education and the Faculty of Law. It is conducted on a part-time basis over two years and includes two periods of distance learning via the internet as well as two summer sessions held at New College, Oxford.

The course is designed in particular for lawyers and other human rights advocates who wish to pursue advanced studies in international human rights law, but may need to do so alongside work responsibilities. A central objective of the course is to ensure that you not only know but can also use human rights law. The curriculum places roughly equal emphasis on the substance of human rights law, its implementation and research.

Students come from all over the world and from a variety of advocacy settings: in private and corporate practice, with various international and non-governmental organisations, the armed forces, universities, foundations, the media, medicine and other fields. The faculty is also diverse and includes internationally recognised human rights scholars and advocates. The department seeks the widest possible cultural, belief, identity and socio-economic diversity among both students and tutors.

The first period of distance learning comprises six units of guided online study each of four weeks duration. Each unit includes a reading period, tutor-guided online discussions and submission of a 2,000-word assignment. For the second period of distance learning students work independently on researching and writing their dissertation with one-to-one support from an online supervisor. Summer sessions in Oxford comprise three weeks of tutor-led small group seminars plus a week for independent revision and two examinations. In addition, the first summer session includes a further week of dissertation—related exercises to prepare students for the independent dissertation work they will undertake in their second year.

The degree is assessed by coursework (20%), examinations (50%) and a dissertation (30%).

This course is taught partly online and you will need to have reliable email and internet facilities plus access to a conventional computer (either a PC or a Mac) to submit coursework assignments. The computing facilities required to take this course are set out at the Department for Continuing Education online support website. Advice about using mobile devices can also found on the site.

Supervision

The allocation of graduate supervision for this course is the responsibility of the Department for Continuing Education 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 Department for Continuing Education.

Students are likely to have different supervisors for each part of the course depending on class allocation/choices and of course it may be necessary to assign a new academic supervisor during the course of study or before registration for reasons which might include sabbatical leave, maternity leave or change in employment.

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. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions.

Expected length of course

Mode of study	Part Time Only	
Expected length	2 years	

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2020-21

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home/EU (including Islands)	£14,020
Overseas	£14,020

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.

Deposits

If your application is successful, you will be asked to pay a deposit against your course fees at the application stage as a condition of your offer. The deposit amount and date by which payment must be made are shown below.

Fee status	Amount of deposit	Date by which deposit must be paid
Home/EU (including Islands)	£1,000	15 May 2020
Overseas	£1,000	

The department's website provides further information about deposits for this course.

Additional cost information

This course has two summer residential sessions in Oxford. The course fee includes the cost of board and lodging at these sessions plus all compulsory reading materials. Students who do not stay in the accommodation provided at New College during the residential periods receive a reduction or refund of fees (please see the fees information on the course website for further details). You will need to meet any travel costs you may incur in attending these residential sessions. Further, as part of your course requirements, you will need to choose a dissertation topic. 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.

Living costs

In addition to your tuition and college 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 2020-21 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	£270	£385	£2,430	£3,465	£3,240	£4,620
Accommodation	£630	£760	£5,670	£6,840	£7,560	£9,120
Personal items	£130	£245	£1,170	£2,205	£1,560	£2,940
Social activities	£45	£110	£405	£990	£540	£1,320
Study costs	£40	£95	£360	£855	£480	£1,140
Other	£20	£55	£180	£495	£240	£660
Total	£1,135	£1,650	£10,215	£14,850	£13,620	£19,800

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2020-21, 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.