



**St Anne's  
College**  
University of Oxford

# Oxford Explained - Students, Parents and Carers

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# Online Guidelines

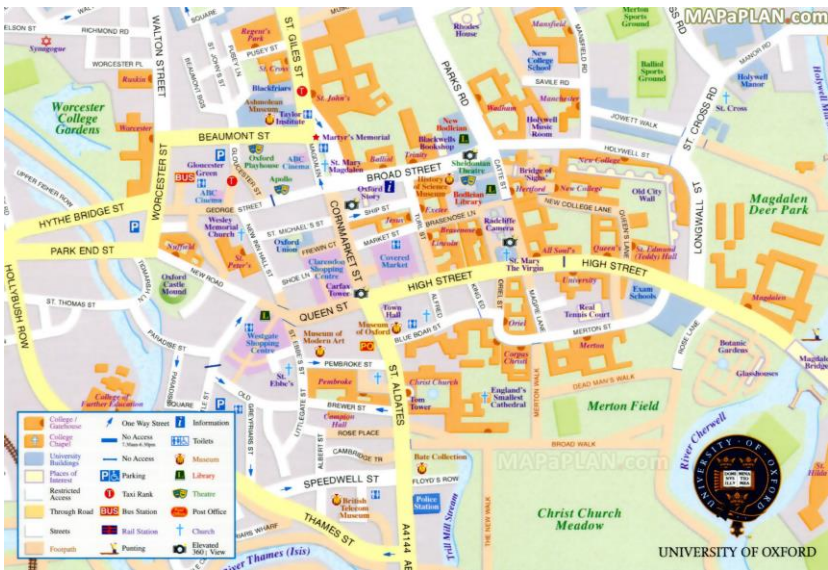
- Please be aware if you have your video/mic on during the call – you're welcome to keep these off until you have a question.
- Please ask questions – either in the chat or by unmuting – there will be a few breaks for questions.
- If there's anything you want to follow up on afterwards:

**[outreach@st-annes.ox.ac.uk](mailto:outreach@st-annes.ox.ac.uk)**

# Session Outline

- Oxford University and what makes it different
- The Oxbridge application process
- Support – financial, welfare, academic
- Useful resources
- Q&A (and you can use the chat at any time)

# Where are we?







X 100!



# Oxford University

X  
23,000!



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- Sets content and structure of courses;
- Organises lectures, seminars and lab work
- Sets and marks exams
- Awards degrees
- Provides student services such as counselling and careers

**University**

**College**



**Academic  
Department  
(Faculty)**

- Provide accommodation, meals, common rooms, sports and social facilities
- Provide pastoral care
- Organise tutorial teaching
- Offer students support of personal tutor

- Select undergraduate students for admission







# Colleges





# Colleges



# Tutorial System

- Small group teaching environments
- Personal approach to learning – individual feedback
- Explore, exchange and challenge ideas
- Essays, problem sheets, presentations



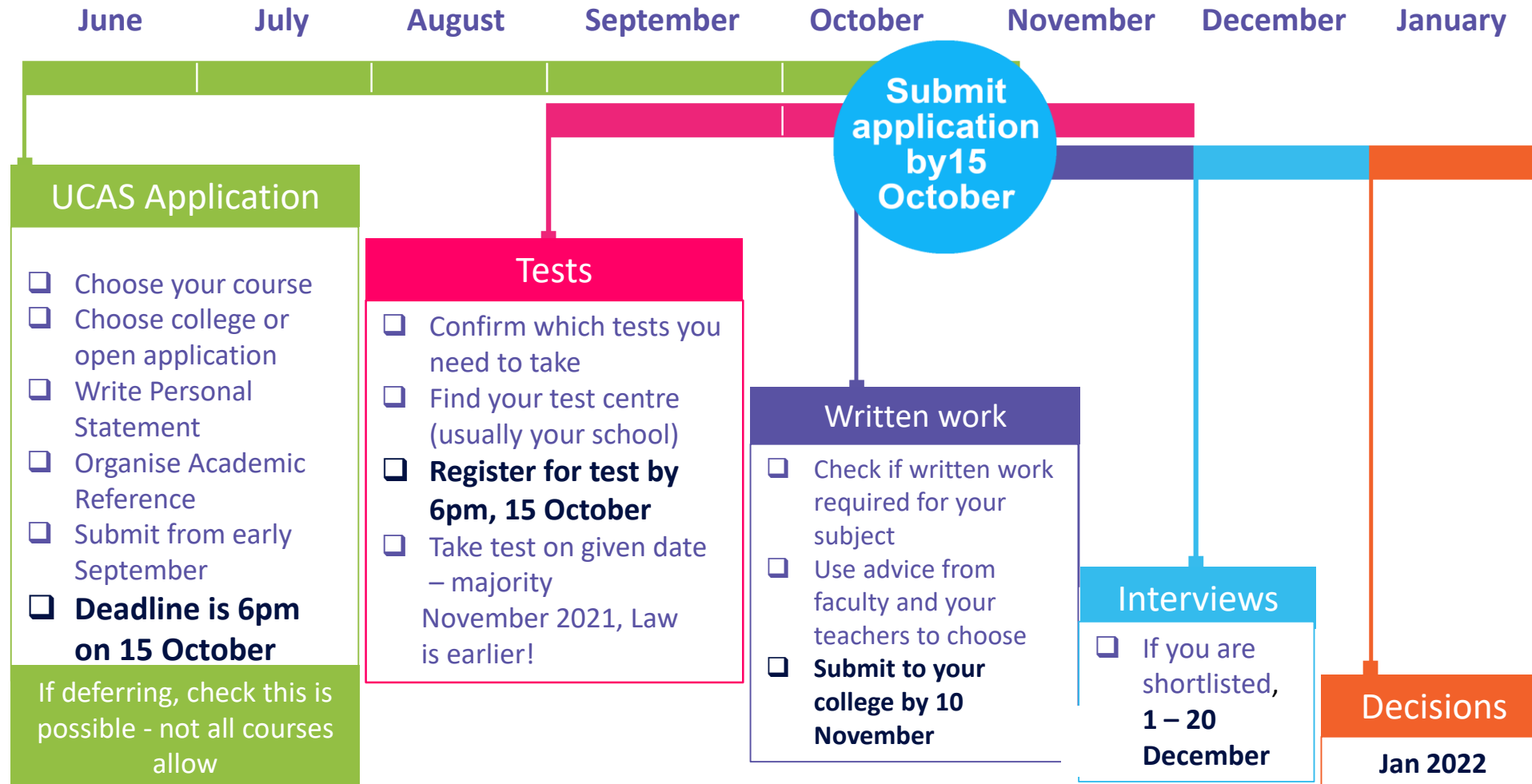




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# Applying to Oxford

# Applying to Oxford





# North East Applications

state school NE Offer Holders 2021 and the local authorities where they live



■ Darlington      ■ Durham      ■ Gateshead  
■ Middlesbrough      ■ Newcastle upon Tyne      ■ North Tyneside  
■ Northumberland      ■ Redcar & Cleveland      ■ South Tyneside  
■ Stockton-on-Tees      ■ Sunderland

## 2018-20 Figures

- 2.0% of applicants
- 2.1% of students admitted
- 67 students in 2020
- 9 offers in 2021 made to students on our Aim for Oxford outreach programme (37% success rate vs 24% average)
- 2.6% of students in the region achieve AAA+

# Choosing a degree - Oxford



Archaeology and Anthropology  
Biochemistry  
Biology  
Biomedical Sciences  
Chemistry  
Classics  
Classical Archaeology & Ancient History  
Computer Science  
Earth Sciences  
Economics and Management  
Engineering Science  
English Language & Literature  
Experimental Psychology  
Fine Art  
Geography

History  
History of Art  
Human Sciences  
Law  
Materials Science  
Mathematics  
Medicine  
Modern Languages  
Music  
Oriental Studies  
Philosophy, Politics & Economics  
Philosophy & Theology  
Psychology, Philosophy & Linguistics  
Physics  
Theology & Religion



# Course Choice – Does it Matter?

- 2020 – around than 22,000 applicants for 3,300 undergraduate places
- **Average** of 6 applicants per place
- Some courses have more applicants per place than others ...
- All statistics online:  
<http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/courses/course-listing>
- Annual Admissions Statistics Report

Course	Average Number of Applicants per Place 2014-2018
Economics and Management	15.3
Computer Science	14.2
Medicine	10.7
Biomedical Sciences	9.8
Maths and Computer Science	8.4
History and Politics	8.2
Philosophy, Politics and Economics	8.2
Mathematics	7.8
Law	7.7
Physics	6.7

UCAS Application	Oxbridge - additional
Previous grades (GCSE or equivalent)	Admissions Tests
Predicted grades (A level or equivalent)	Written Work
Personal Statement	Interviews
Teacher Reference	<b>Contextual data</b>

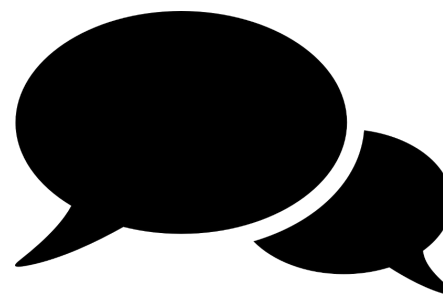


Are YOU predicted the right grades?

Would YOU find our teaching style engaging?

Do we offer a course YOU would enjoy?

Are YOU ready for the academic challenge?



# Personal Statement – 80%

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## WHY do you want to study this subject?

Why were you first drawn to the subject?

What questions do you have?

What particularly interests/excites you?

Relate this to your current studies



## What EVIDENCE do you have?

Reading

Relevant work experience

TV/Radio/Podcasts

Lectures

Summer schools

Taster days

Essay competitions

## What OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS do you have? (20%)

Not so important for Oxford and Cambridge, but can be for other universities

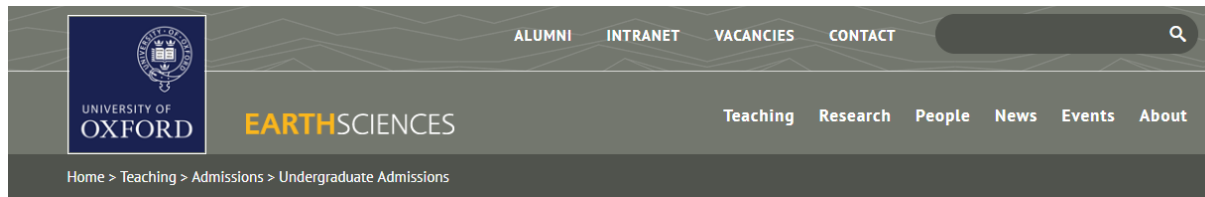
Use these things to demonstrate suitability for university study – focus on **transferable skills**





# Selection Criteria

Look at course descriptions and selection criteria



## PERSONAL QUALITIES

Students are selected on the basis of ability and potential in the following areas:

- Reasoning ability; aptitude for analysing and solving problems using logical and critical approaches
- Mathematical ability and potential
- Independence and creativity of thought, lateral thinking and hypothesis generation
- Capacity to absorb and use new ideas; ability to apply familiar ideas to unfamiliar situations
- Spirit of enquiry; keenness to understand the reasons for observations; depth; tendency to look for meaning; enthusiasm and curiosity in science
- Observation: accurate, critical, quantitative
- Appreciation of the field-based, laboratory and theoretical nature of the Earth Sciences



## Criteria

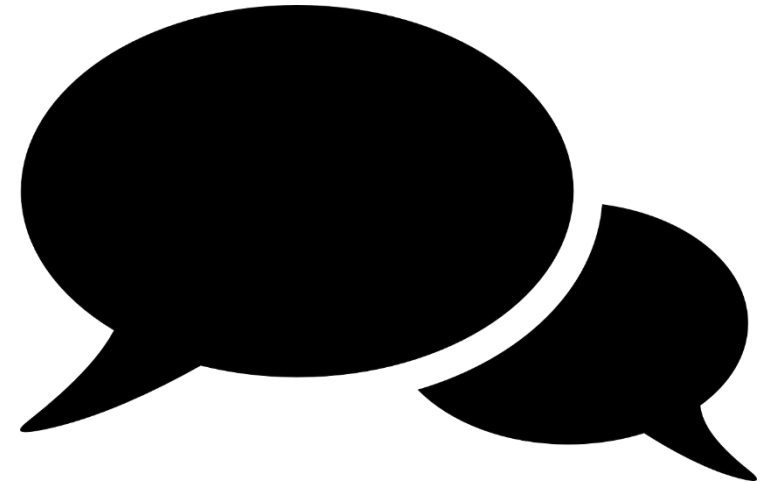
The following criteria are to be applied in the assessment of candidates for History. In the case of candidates for the Joint Schools with History, these criteria are to be applied in assessment for the History side of each school.

- Intellectual curiosity
- Conceptual clarity
- Flexibility - the capacity to engage with alternative perspectives and/or new information
- Accuracy and attention to detail
- Critical engagement
- Capacity for hard work
- Enthusiasm for History
- Evidence of historical imagination and understanding, in particular, the ability to speculate and compare, alongside the possession of appropriate historical knowledge and the capacity to deploy it.

# Interview

- Early-mid December
- Invited late November, outcome early-mid January
- Usually more than 1 interview
- Oxford – 2-3 days
- Tutorial-like environment
- 2020 and 2021 – All Interviews Online

## Oxbridge Interview Workshops



**Desire to be  
stretched  
academically**

**Willingness/ability to manage  
a heavy workload**

**Ability to absorb and  
use new ideas**



**Academic  
Potential**

**Enthusiasm for  
learning**

**Independent  
thought**

**Passion for  
subject**

**Capacity for critical and  
analytical thought**





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**Support Provided**



# Financial Support

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- Same tuition fees as any other UK university
- Shorter terms
- Subsidised meals
- Bursaries, scholarships
- Travel grants

ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME	YOUR NON-REPAYABLE CRANKSTART BURSARY (PER YEAR)
£5,000 or less	£5,000
£5,001-£27,500	£4,200

ANNUAL HOUSEHOLD INCOME	YOUR NON-REPAYABLE OXFORD BURSARY (PER YEAR)
£6,000 or less	£3,200
£6,001 - £20,000	£3,000
£20,001 - £22,500	£2,750
£22,501 - £25,000	£2,500
£25,001 - £30,000	£2,000
£30,001 - £35,000	£1,500
£35,001 - £40,000	£800
£40,001 - c.£42,875	£500

# Welfare Support

- Disability Advisory Service
- University Counselling Service
- Peer Supporters and Welfare Reps
- Deans of Welfare, Personal Tutors, College Staff, College Nurse
- Care Leavers









# Bridging Support

- Standard offer, welcome events, online activities and a residential before starting at Oxford.
- Reduced offer – state school and personal disadvantage/disrupted education. Pass the year-long course and progress onto undergraduate study.





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# Useful Resources



# Oxford Resources

- Oxford for North East <https://www.ox.ac.uk/oxfordforNE>  
[oxfordfornortheast@admin.ox.ac.uk](mailto:oxfordfornortheast@admin.ox.ac.uk)
- **AIM FOR OXFORD (Year 12)**
- (Virtual) Open Days <https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/virtual-open-day> and linked North East Residential
- Explore <https://explore.org/>
- Applying to Oxford <https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/apply>
- Advice for Families <https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/familysupporters>
- Admissions Tests: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/guide/admissions-tests>



# UNIQ 2021

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- Free online programme run by the wider University
- Prepare for University, explore interesting subjects
- Begins in April
- Work with current students and academics at Oxford
- Connect with other students in your region and across the UK through social and academic activities
- State school only – students selected based on grades, socio economic and educational background
- 2500 places
- **Deadline: 15<sup>th</sup> March**



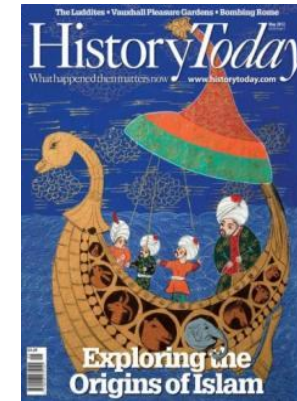
**Apply now**

**[www.uniq.ox.ac.uk/](http://www.uniq.ox.ac.uk/)**

# Explore your interests

**TED** Ideas worth spreading

**Future  
Learn**



Home of Big Questions

**OX?LORE**





# Meet our Students!



<https://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/study-here/undergraduate/working-with-schools/meet-our-students-and-alumnae/>

Chat with our Students:  
<https://www.st-annes.ox.ac.uk/chat-with-our-students/>





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Keep in Touch:

Email: [outreach@st-annes.ox.ac.uk](mailto:outreach@st-annes.ox.ac.uk)

Twitter: [@StAnnesOutreach](https://twitter.com/StAnnesOutreach)



[@StAnnesCollege](https://twitter.com/StAnnesCollege)



[St Anne's College Outreach](https://www.youtube.com/StAnneCollegeOutreach)



**Before you go ...**

<https://oxford.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/parentcarer-feedback>