

The Oxford Summer Academy



July 2010

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Introduction

The Oxford Summer Academy is a program designed for high-school students, aged 16-19. Participants are introduced to the unique academic and cultural environment of Oxford, England, and experience at first-hand what it is like to study at Oxford University.

The Oxford Summer Academy is a comprehensive package. The program includes academic tuition during the mornings, participation in electives during the afternoons, and a wide range of cultural activities and excursions.

The teaching staff at Oxford Summer Academy are tutors and graduates of the university itself. Academic tuition gives students the opportunity to consolidate their high-school studies, as well as the chance to explore new subjects. The afternoon electives are designed to broaden students' experience and lead to achievements that can enhance university applications.

The Oxford Summer Academy program aims to improve students' performance, help them realize their potential, and achieve a place at the university of their choice. For those students considering Oxford, there will be the opportunity to talk informally with university teaching staff and recent graduates.

The program has an academic mission. This is balanced by the wide range of activities and excursions included, starting with a welcome reception, and finishing with a gala -dinner and prize-giving.

Every student is treated as an individual. We aim to provide the best possible academic tuition and pastoral care. As a result, the number of places at The Oxford Summer Academy is restricted to 50 this year.

We hope that you will share our passion and enthusiasm for Oxford and education. We look forward to hearing from you!

Program Dates 2010

4 - Week Course:

Sunday July 4th - Saturday July 31st

2 - Week Courses:

Sunday July 4th - Saturday July 17th

Sunday July 18th - Saturday July 31st

Book on-line at:

<http://www.theoxfordsummeracademy.com>

Or return application by mail/fax to:

The Oxford Summer Academy
College House
39-42 Hythe Bridge Street
Oxford, OX1 2EP
United Kingdom
Fax: +44 - 1865 - 598 998



The Old Dining Hall
at St Edmund Hall.

**We offer a
flexible
inclusive
package**



A view of The Radcliffe Camera.

An Inclusive Package

The Oxford Summer Academy includes academic tuition, afternoon electives, a full social program, and excursions in Oxford, the surrounding countryside, and London.

We want students to feel comfortable and at-home as quickly as possible. On arrival, students, and parents if they have travelled too, meet tutors and staff in a welcome reception. After dinner, students have the opportunity to get to know each other in an informal gathering.

In a 2-week course, 27 hours of academic tuition are delivered during mornings. In addition, Students spend 15 hours on their electives

during the afternoons. There are two full-day excursions and two theatre trips; travel and admission charges are included in the course fee. The social program, again included in the course fee, offers students the chance to relax and explore Oxford and its activities. During the evenings, students will also have the opportunity to meet Oxford academics and learn about applying to Oxford

To mark the end of the course, there is an exhibition of students' work, a performance by the drama students, and a public debate - an old Oxford tradition. The end-of-course gala dinner and prize-giving is held in the Old Dining Hall at St Edmund Hall.

Optional extras

We recognise that students are individuals, and have individual needs.

Based on this, we offer a range of additional, one-to-one classes.

We are aware that many students are focused on achieving the highest possible SATS score. Individual SATS coaching is therefore available.

The ability to read, and think, critically, is vital in most academic subjects. Tuition is therefore available in Critical Thinking.

Some students feel they need extra tuition in math. One-to-one coaching, tailored to the

student's particular needs is available for this.

Individual language coaching, at all levels, is available for the following:

- French
- Spanish
- German
- Russian
- Latin
- Ancient Greek

Individual tuition in other subjects is available on demand. Please ask!

Further Information

On arrival, each student receives a welcome pack - a conference bag containing a folder, stationery and a t-shirt!

Breakfast and dinner are provided each day, together with refreshments in morning and afternoon breaks.

Lunch is not included in the course fee. There are many inexpensive and healthy cafes in central Oxford where students can choose to eat. Dinner is not provided on excursion days, but students will be taken to inexpensive cafes and restaurants where different dietary requirements are catered for.

Text-books are provided for classes.

Travel and medical insurance is included in the course fee. Transport to and from airports can be provided (at additional cost.)

Students will need "pocket money" to pay for souvenirs, lunches, dinners on excursion-days, any shopping they wish to do, laundry, outgoing phone calls and an internet cable, if they wish to access the internet from their study-bedroom. A figure of £150 each week should be more than sufficient to cover expenses.

Where

The Oxford Summer Academy is held at St Edmund Hall, which dating from the thirteenth century is “the oldest academical society for the education of undergraduates” (A.B. Emden) in any University.

St Edmund Hall is located in the centre of Oxford and is ideally placed for exploring and enjoying the medieval city.

Accommodation is in twin or single rooms within the college precincts.

The main quad at St Edmund Hall, pictured right.



Facilities

Each room has hot and cold running water and a shaving socket. As is usual in UK university accommodation, there are shared bathrooms on each floor.

Breakfast and dinner are taken in the college dining hall. Dinner each day is a “formal” - an Oxford university term. Students are waited-on at refectory-style tables; dress should be smart!

There are laundry facilities within the college.

Internet access is available in rooms on purchase of an Ethernet cable from the St Edmund Hall porters’ lodge.

Each study-bedroom has a phone which can directly receive incoming calls. Outgoing calls can be made on a card system.

Students may study in the college library, the converted Norman church of St-Peter-in-the-East in the college grounds.



Students have the opportunity to explore the medieval city of Oxford during their stay and to visit Oxford’s many colleges.

Security and Safety

St Edmund Hall is surrounded by medieval walls, areas of which are the ancient city walls, complete with stone staircases and slits through which arrows were fired to repel intruders!

The porters’ lodge is at the entrance of the college where there are staff on duty 24 hours a day.

In addition, Oxford Summer Academy staff are in residence with the students.

The Library, the converted church of Norman St-Peter-in-the-east, pictured right.



Academic Options - Overview, Delivery, Assessment and Credits



An English tutorial in progress.

In each fortnight of their stay, students choose one major and one minor option. Majors are studied for 2 hours each morning; minors for one hour.

Students have the opportunity to consolidate their current high-school studies, or, try something new, perhaps a subject they are considering at university. In university applications they can therefore demonstrate that they are making an informed choice of subject.

There is a wide range of options available in math, sciences, social sciences, humanities, English and drama, and languages.

Tutors are drawn from the university's staff and Oxford graduates. Following the Oxford tutorial system, teaching takes place in small groups.

The Oxford Summer Academy aims to give students a taste of life at Oxford University and so, like Oxford undergraduates, students do a weekly paper in their chosen subjects. These papers are formally assessed, and can contribute to high-school credits where appropriate.

All textbooks and other course materials are provided.

**A Wide Variety
of Topical and
Challenging
Options are
Available**

Options Available

Math:

Probability and Statistics
Geometry and Trigonometry
Algebra
Advanced Algebra
Calculus
Advanced Calculus

Sciences:

An Introduction to Particle Physics
Earth Sciences
An Introduction to Medical Biology
Advanced Medical Biology

Evolutionary Theory and the History of Life

Social Sciences:

Psychology
Sociology - Crime and Deviance
Anthropology
Archaeology
Macroeconomic Issues
Introduction to Microeconomics
Oddities in economics



The Radcliffe Camera - home to the Bodleian's history, theology and English collections.

Humanities:

History - The Victorian Age
History - World Wars I and II
Classical Mythology
An Introduction to Philosophy

English and Drama:

Themes in Drama through the Ages
Contemporary Playwrights
The Development of the English Language
Shakespeare
Perspectives on Poetry
Aspects of Irish Literature

Languages:

French - beginners
French - intermediate
German - beginners
German - intermediate
Spanish - beginners
Spanish - intermediate
Introduction to Latin
Introduction to Ancient Greek

Electives - Overview

Students choose one elective each fortnight. Electives lead to a recognizable achievement - an achievement that students can use in university applications to show that they have extensive and broad abilities and interests.

With the support of the academic staff, electives take place during the afternoons and are designed to lead to recognizable, tangible outcomes.

Electives, more than anything, are designed to be fun, and to allow students to let off steam!

Tennis coaching at Esporta in Oxford's Summertown - pictured right.



Options and Outcomes

Drama - "Making a Play": Students write, direct, produce and perform their own play, with the assistance of a professional playwright and actors.

Creative Writing - The skills of writing prose, poetry and journalism are developed as students design, write and create The Oxford Summer Academy Magazine. This will be distributed to all students at the course end, as well as published on-line.

Photography - The unique architecture, city-

scapes and landscapes of Oxford will be used in this elective. An exhibition of students' work will be mounted. Images will also contribute to the Academy Magazine.

Debate and Public Speaking - Oxford has a long tradition of debate - many UK and US politicians learnt their public speaking skills in the Oxford Union. Students will gain confidence and competence in the art of argument and will lead a debate amongst all students.

*Electives are
Designed to
Lead to
Achievements
that Students
can Highlight
in their
University
Applications*

Elective Options in Sport

Rowing: There is fierce competition between Oxford colleges, and in no place is this competition greater than in of rowing! Students can elect to receive expert tuition in rowing as their elective.

Tennis: Students may alternatively elect to attend a tennis academy.

Orienteering: For the more adventurous, map-reading, navigation and hill-walking may be tackled in the countryside surrounding Oxford.





Bourton-on-the-Water - pictured above..

Excursions

The following full-day excursions are included in the program:

Saturday July 10th: "A trip back in time".

Students travel by coach into the beautiful Cotswold countryside and visit the prehistoric barrow at Minster Lovell - a burial place of ancient Britons, Chedworth Roman Villa, the 13th century Cistercian abbey at Hailes and finally, Bourton-on-the-Water - where they can relax with a traditional English cream tea!



The Houses of Parliament - pictured right.

The Water Gardens at Blenheim Palace - pictured left.



Saturday July 17th: "Blenheim Palace" - 4 week course only. A World Heritage Site and the birthplace of Sir Winston Churchill, Blenheim Palace is famed for its baroque architecture and 2100 acres of gardens, designed by Capability Brown.

The Tower of London - pictured right.



Saturday July 24th: "London, Harrods and the Tower of London". Students travel by coach to London and start by visiting the famous Tower of London. Later in the day, they have the opportunity to explore Harrods department store, and the neighboring shopping district of Knightsbridge.

Wednesday July 28th: "Warwick Castle and Shakespeare's Country". The day starts with a visit to Warwick Castle - a historic building nearly 1100 years old. Following this, students visit Ann Hathaway's cottage, home of Shakespeare's wife. Students then go on to Stratford-on-Avon, where the Royal Shakespeare Company is based, and after exploring the town, attend a theatre performance.

Ann Hathaway's Cottage - pictured right.



Evenings and Weekends - Social Life in Oxford

As well as attending theatre performances in London and Stratford, the English and drama tutors accompany students to the local Creation Theatre Company to see productions of Shakespeare.

The Oxford Summer Academy Entz team are a group of Oxford graduates, dedicated to ensuring that students enjoy their stay in Oxford! Their role is partly pastoral, and also to co-ordinate a variety of Oxford-based activities during free-time.



A scene from a Midsummer Nights Dream—pictured above.



Punting in Oxford - pictured left.

No visit to Oxford is complete without a punting trip! On Sunday July 11th and Sunday July 25th, expeditions to explore Oxford by punt take place - complete with picnic and if necessary, umbrellas!

Café-life in Oxford - pictured right.



Students will also have the opportunity to visit the many other attractions of Oxford - the museums, botanical gardens, colleges, cafes, shops and markets.

Blackwell's Bookshop - pictured left.

Evening and Weekends - Adding Value

Many of The Oxford Summer Academy's majors and minors are supported by visits, with the academic staff, to Oxford's museums. The courses in French, for example, introduce students to French culture through a study of the French paintings held at the Ashmolean Museum.

The courses in Evolutionary Theory and Earth Sciences use the excellent resources of the Pitt Rivers Museum.

The Ashmolean Museum - pictured below.



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Course Costs:

2 Week Course: £2,995

4 Week Course: £5,795

Additional One-to-One Coaching over a 2-Week Period: £350

Booking Information:

Book on-line at:

<http://www.theoxfordsummeracademy.com/>

Or download application from <http://www.theoxfordsummeracademy.com/downloads>

And return application by mail, or fax, to:

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