# VISITING STUDENT PROGRAMME APPLICATIONS GUIDANCE NOTES



#### Supporting materials:

In addition to the completion of the online application form, we also require supporting materials as listed below; your application will not be processed until these materials have been submitted:

Academic transcript – this can be submitted by you, or by your home institution.

**Two letters of recommendation** - these can be submitted by you, or directly by the referees themselves and should be written by academic tutors or study abroad advisors at your home institution who are familiar with your work. It would be helpful if you ask your referees to comment on your academic ability, actual and predicted educational qualifications relative to your peers; your motivation and suitability for intensive study; your ability and suitability for working in a tutorial/small group context system; and your resilience and adaptability for coping with the new cultural context.

**Supporting statement form** completed by a representative from your home institution (e.g. your Academic Adviser, Study Abroad Co-ordinator or other suitable person).

**Two pieces of recent academic work** which are relevant to the subject/s for which you are applying – with the exception of Economics, see below.

I. For Classics, English, History, Management, Modern Languages, Music, Philosophy, Politics and International Relations, Psychology and Theology, it is expected these pieces of work will be two essays. Essays should be a maximum of 2000 words in length. It is possible to include an extract from a longer piece of work.

II. For other subjects, it is possible to submit two essays or pieces of coursework, a problem sheet or tests as best demonstrates your ability in your proposed subject.

III. For candidates who do not have written work in English, it will be necessary to organise a Skype interview.

**Economics exercise** (Economics applicants only) - please see the <u>Economics subject page</u> for further information on the exercise, and on course selection.

**Proof of English language competency (where relevant)** - if your first language is not English, you must fulfil the <u>University of Oxford English language requirements</u>. You will fulfil this if you have been studying full-time in English for two years BEFORE APPLYING to LMH. The UK Home Office requires the University to confirm that all applicants who need a Tier 4 student visa and who are not nationals of a majority English-speaking country, as defined by the Home Office, meet the minimum Common European Framework of References for Languages (CEFR) level B2. Unless you have been educated full-time in English during the last two years you will need to provide us with results of another acceptable English language test such as IELTS, as detailed on the <u>Oxford University website</u>.

These documents should be emailed to <u>visiting.students@lmh.ox.ac.uk</u>. However please ensure, for your security, to password protect documents sent via email. Please use your date of birth as your password, in the format DD-MM-YYYY. For example, if your date of birth is 8th April 1998, your password should be 08-04-1998. You do not need to send us this password as we will already have your date of birth on file once you have completed this online form. Please also ensure you can be identified from the file names by naming your files as follows: Surname, First name – document title. To password-protect a Word or other Microsoft Office document, go to File > Info > Protect Document > Encrypt with Password. Type a password, then type it again to confirm it. Save the file to ensure the password takes effect. For PDF files, the method for password encryption will differ depending on the program you are using, but there are instructions for a range of free programs here: https://www.lifewire.com/password-protect-pdf-4149687.

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#### Modes of attendance:

We are pleased to receive applications for either the full academic year, <u>extended Michaelmas term</u> (<u>MT+</u>) or for both Hilary and Trinity terms (HT-TT). The very enthusiastic also have the option of the extended Michaelmas term continuing on to the full academic year.

### **Tutorial selection:**

The LMH website has information on the available courses to help you complete the tutorial choices section; please go to <u>https://www.lmh.ox.ac.uk/prospective-students/visiting-students/subjects</u>. If necessary, please seek approval from your academic advisor before returning this section. Please contact us if you need to know the content of specific courses, e.g. for transfer of credit.

As far as possible, we like visiting students to follow the same courses as our home undergraduates, this means that for some subjects there will be small classes rather than tutorials available.

You can select tutorials from a maximum of 3 subject areas; however, in order to achieve the greatest benefit from the Oxford tutorial system, we recommend that you select tutorials from only one or two subject areas. The majority of our home students will be taking one subject, with a few taking two or rarely three. Given the depth of study at Oxford, even those students taking course such as Philosophy, Politics & Economics will only study two of these beyond the first year. The courses offered are typically those which will be studied by our home students who have completed the first year of study in that subject. Please ensure that you have the pre-requisite background knowledge for the courses you wish to pursue, and ask us if you are not clear about this. Please note that if you are accepted for a programme of study, it may be possible to make minor variations, but you would be unlikely to be able to make a complete change of programme.

Most visiting students take 1 major (8 tutorials) and 1 minor (4 tutorials) per term. Please select a minimum of 3 major, and 3 minor choices, listed in order of preference. Students on the extended Michaelmas term will normally take two majors, with one starting in September and one starting in October. If a course is only available in one term, we will allocate your courses to the correct term in which they are available.

Please indicate, by ticking the relevant boxes, whether you wish to take each course as a major or minor option; if you would be happy either way, please tick both boxes. If the course you have selected is in either of Computer Science, Economics or Physics, you should only tick the CS/Phys./Econ. Box - do not tick major or minor as this will be determined in consultation with the Director of Visiting Students. It is possible to mix other disciplines with Computer Science, Economics or Physics. For example, you may wish to study courses in Physics and Mathematics, or Economics and Politics. In these cases, you should indicate whether you wish the subject from the other discipline to be a major or a minor option.

Applicants should be aware that the courses offered in Computer Science and Physics are shorter courses of approximately 4 tutorial hours, therefore, if you wish to take options solely in these subject areas, you would be taking 3 minor courses, rather than a major and a minor option. You will need to select a minimum of 3 courses per term to have a full programme of study, so a full-year candidate should list at least 9 courses.

It is NOT possible to start courses in Biological Sciences, Computer Science, Economics, Mathematics, or Physics in September. Candidates for the Extended Michaelmas term should therefore include at least one option from other subject areas on their list.

Any questions? Please email visiting.students@lmh.ox.ac.uk