



UNIVERSITY OF  
CAMBRIDGE



UNIVERSITY OF  
OXFORD

# Applying to Oxford and Cambridge

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# Why Oxford or Cambridge



- Broad range of academic courses
- World-class teaching – lectures, seminars/classes, practicals
- Small-group teaching – tutorials/supervisions
- Excellent facilities and resources
- Academic, pastoral and financial support
- Wide range of extra-curricular options
- Excellent graduate opportunities, irrespective of degree discipline

# Universities and departments

As a student, you're a member of the University, a department AND a College.

- Course content
- Lectures, seminars, practicals and projects
- Assessments and exams
- Award degrees
- Careers advice



# Colleges

A College is like a mini campus, providing a base for students. When considering Colleges, think about where you'd like to live – open application if you don't mind.

- Admit students
- Academic and pastoral care
- Accommodation, dining and recreation
- Organise small-group teaching
- Facilities for academic study





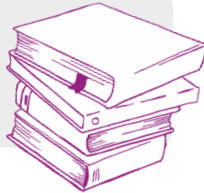
# What are we looking for?



- Academic ability and potential
- Satisfy any subject requirements
- Genuine subject interest – motivation and enthusiasm
- Good ‘fit’ between applicant and course
- Vocational commitment (where appropriate)
- Assess applications holistically

# The application process

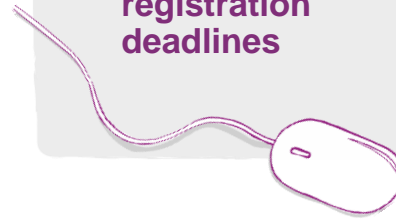
- 1** Choose your course



- 2** Choose a College or open application



- 3** Check admission assessment/ test registration deadlines



- 4** UCAS application



- 5** SAQ – Cambridge only (22 October)



- 6** Submit written work and/or take admission assessment/ test



- 7** Interview (December)



- 8** Decision (January)



# What information do we use to assess applications?

No part of an application is considered in isolation – all available information is looked at together before decisions are made. We consider every application individually, taking all aspects into account:

- Academic record
- Personal statement
- Teacher's reference
- Performance in any admission test / assessment (where required)
- Written work (where required)
- Contextual information and data
- Interview (if interviewed)



# Preparing to apply

## Do your research

- Course choice is the most important decision –research thoroughly, personal interest(s)

## Engage and explore

- Be proactive in your learning – current studies and interests relevant to your intended degree

## Results

- Work hard to do as well as you can

## Practise

- Discussing your academic interest(s)
- Past/example admission test/assessment papers
- Time management – generally and for exams



# Frequently asked questions



- Can I apply to both Oxford and Cambridge?
- Is there a minimum GCSE requirement?
- Are some Colleges easier to get into than others?
- What extra-curricular activities will help my chances of admission?
- Do you offer a club, society or sport that I am interested in?

# Finding out more

For the most up-to-date information and advice about anything covered in the presentation, please refer to our websites.

## University of Oxford

Web: [www.ox.ac.uk/study](http://www.ox.ac.uk/study)  
Email: [ox.ac.uk/ask](mailto:ox.ac.uk/ask)

## University of Cambridge

Web: [www.study.cam.ac.uk](http://www.study.cam.ac.uk)  
Email: [admissions@cam.ac.uk](mailto:admissions@cam.ac.uk)



Thank you  
for listening

