# 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**. 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, using the password LMHVSAPP2024-25. Please also ensure you can be identified from the file names by naming your files as follows: Surname, First name – document title.

**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).

A total of 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, History of Art, Law, Management, Music, Philosophy, Politics and International Relations, Psychology and Theology, it is expected these pieces of work will be 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 essays or pieces of coursework, a problem sheet or tests that 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 an online 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 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>.

### Modes of attendance:

We are pleased to receive applications for either the full academic year, <u>extended Michaelmas term (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.

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#### **Tutorial selection advice:**

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

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 courses 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. If you are offered a place, the Director of Visiting Students will use the courses you have listed in your application as the basis for your programme of study at LMH, so please think carefully about your course choices.

LMH does not award credits; this the responsibility of each student's home institution and you should discuss this with your study abroad advisor/academic advisor before applying. LMH provides a transcript on completion of the programme, which lists the courses taken, the number of tutorials or classes attended for each course, and the grades awarded.

Most visiting students take a total of 12 tutorials per term, usually organised as 1 major (8 tutorials) and 1 minor (4 tutorials) per term. Oxford runs on an annual cycle of lectures, and if a course is only available in one term, we will allocate your courses to the term in which they are available.

#### Completing the tutorial choices section of the application form

As noted above, you can select tutorial topics from a maximum of 3 subject areas. Therefore, in this section of the application form, there are 3 sections in which to list your tutorial choices. You should first select a subject from the drop-down list, then list in the box below the tutorial topics in that subject area that you are interested in studying, in order of preference. Please indicate in brackets whether you wish each topic to be either a major or a minor course (if you'd be happy either way, please state 'either' in brackets).

If you are only wishing to study tutorials from one (or two) subject areas, you can leave the remaining sections blank.

You should ideally list at least 6 tutorial topics overall (preferably 8 or 9 if you are applying for the full academic year) in case your first preference is not available.

#### **Extended Michaelmas term tutorial selection**

Students on the extended Michaelmas term will normally take two majors, with one starting in September and one starting in October.

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Applicants wishing to study courses in Biology, Economics, Mathematics and Physics should include at least one topic from another subject area on their application form since it is NOT possible to start these courses in September (they are only available from October onwards).

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