

Pre-University Preparation Programme

Undergraduate-level subjects taught at University of Oxford • *Ages 15-18*

Key Facts:



Age range:
15-18



Location:
St Hilda's College



Class size:
12 (Max), 8 (Average)



Certificate:
Personalised report card, certificate and letter of recommendation (on request)



Minimum language level:
B2 (Upper Intermediate)



Tuition content
University-level subject tuition delivered by expert tutors



Weekly excursions:
2 full-day, 1 half-day



Hours per week:
23



Dates:
8 July - 5 August



Duration:
2 or 4 weeks



Price:
£3,195 per week

This programme prepares students to excel in their chosen subjects within the highly competitive higher education environment. Students choose one university-level subject taught at a first-year undergraduate level.

Who is this course for?

- Students with an advanced or native level of English
- Students who want to study at a UK university and gain an insight into undergraduate life
- Motivated students with a keen interest in their chosen subjects
- Students who want to support their applications into the top UK universities

Learning outcomes

- Live and learn like a university undergraduate at one of the top universities in the UK
- Receive academically relevant and challenging subject tuition from expert tutors
- Develop key skills for success in future education and careers via workshops and masterclasses
- Greater clarity for students wanting to apply to top UK universities, including Oxford and Cambridge





Guest Lectures and Workshops

Each week, students will attend a Guest Lecture by a renowned scholar who shares their expertise and insight. These lectures are tailored to students' interests and academic levels. Lecture topics often include sharing cutting-edge research, a discussion of current events, or exploring the future of one area of academic study.



Small group tutorials

Teaching on the Pre-University Programme mirrors Oxbridge university learning in many ways, including small group tutorials. The tutorials are a key educational strategy that reflects the active, student-centered learning model of Bucksmore Education. This method encourages active exploration and autonomous learning whilst facilitating peer collaboration and team building.



Debate Society

Debate Societies are an integral part of University life. The debate sessions will give students the chance to explore and discuss a range of topics they are passionate about, outside of the subjects they are studying. They encourage students to develop strong critical thinking and analytical skills, plus building teamwork, leadership and communication skills.



Immersive University Experience

Students will get to experience life as an Oxford University student throughout their stay with us, whether they are attending guest lectures from inspiring speakers, in aspirational lecture halls and auditoriums, or graduating with a formal hall, to waking up in their University accommodation. The Pre-University Preparation programme provides an immersive and broad University experience.



University Preparation Masterclasses

These sessions help build essential skills for successful entrance to universities. Students will participate in masterclasses designed to connect their skills, strengths, and interests to potential careers. They will gain insights into the various types of universities and acquire a comprehensive understanding of the full application cycle for UK universities, including detailed guidance on structuring a personal statement.



Formal Hall and Graduation

Students will receive their graduation certificates and experience a traditional formal dinner at the University.

Find the available subjects on the next page.

	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON
AM	Arrivals	Tutorials	Tutorials	Tutorials	Excursion: Cambridge University Colleges tour and shopping	Excursion: Royal & Politics Walking tour and Buckingham Palace	Tutorials
PM	Arrivals	Activity: Oxford Walking tour	Masterclass: UK University applications	Tutorials			Debate Society
EVE	Welcome Games	Guest Lecture: Justin Ray on AI vs Original Thought	Activity: Sports at University Parks	Activity: 'Best of British' Quiz	Activity: Movie Night	Activity: Games Night	Formal Hall and Graduation Ceremony

**based on 2024 timetable*

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Subjects available at St Hilda's College, Oxford

Architecture, Engineering and Design (Built Environment)
Business and Finance
Computer Science
Economics
History
Mathematics
Medicine
Law
Physics
Psychology

Law

Delivered at first year Undergraduate level, our Law course introduces law from a theory-based perspective, including jurisprudence, legal institutions, and the limits of legal recourse. Students will explore domestic and international law, including reflecting on recent international events from different legal perspectives. This course will build foundational knowledge in criminal law, international law, humanitarian law, and other areas whilst building key skills such as negotiating and litigating. Students will have opportunities to apply their legal knowledge in practical and moot trial exercises with a global perspective, understanding how law is interpreted differently from historical and cultural contexts.

Psychology

During this two-week intensive course, students will explore a variety of academic disciplines related to psychology whilst building foundational knowledge of psychology and contemporary psychological research. Students will develop knowledge and understanding of the history of psychology and psychological research and learn how they can apply their knowledge in a range of contexts. Students will also be able to interpret and provide their personal evaluation to psychological theories, including treatments, therapies, ethics, and more. This course is designed for students interested in understanding of the mind, trauma, childhood development, social behaviour, and social influence, among other topics.





Economics

Delivered at first year undergraduate level, our Economics course introduces essential frameworks of economics in a global context. The course introduces economics through the application of economic theory in the modern world, emphasising recent trends and developments and putting them in a historical perspective. Lessons will include theoretical analysis and study into core aspects of micro and macroeconomics in addition to theoretical study of economic theory, including studying works from Smith, Marx, Keynes, Friedman, and others. This course takes a global perspective on economics, including analysing international economic policy and case studies of specific countries and their use of Universal Basic Incomes, austerity policies, and tax policies.

*Discover our
Pre-University
Preparation
Programme*



Medicine

Our course combines pre-clinical and clinical learning to provide students with a broad range of experiences and knowledge in this diverse field of study. The course aims to provide a more in-depth understanding of the underlying scientific knowledge that forms the basis of medical sciences, in addition to introducing concepts of patient care, clinical research, and biomedical sciences. Students will apply their knowledge in unique research and project work opportunities that reflect the challenging and evidence-based nature of medicine in a global context.



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Mathematics

Our Mathematics course introduces university-level mathematics in a variety of theoretical and applied modelling. The course covers essential foundations of the advanced study of mathematics, physics and analysis of data via topics such as algebra and calculus, as well as probability and statistics. Students will explore real-life phenomena through logical reason and learn how to analyse problems, propose hypotheses, and test solutions. Students will gain key transferable skills which will support further studies in engineering, physics, computer science, and more.

History

This course is tailored for international students aiming to study History at a UK university. This immersive experience combines interactive lectures with practical workshops, covering typical first-year undergraduate themes such as historiography, the impact of the industrial revolution, and imperial history. Students enhance their skills in critical analysis and academic English, crucial for interpreting complex historical texts and thriving in UK universities. The program emphasizes essential skills for success as a History undergraduate, including research methodologies, crafting well-structured arguments, and advanced essay writing, preparing students for the rigorous demands of university-level history studies.

Business and Finance

Our course offers a unique approach to Business and Finance studies by incorporating a global perspective into lessons and case studies. This course draws upon historical examples of business to build a stronger understanding of 21st century business practice, including trade, commerce, currencies, and emerging markets. Lessons will also encourage the development of soft skills and provide hands-on exercises to build leadership, management, teamwork, empathy, and innovation. Students will also explore strategies for growth in the face of unique challenges, all while building foundational academic knowledge and hands-on experience through case-studies and practical learning.





Architecture, Engineering and Design (Built Environment)

Participants on this course will explore foundational topics such as design principles, engineering mechanics, architectural history, and sustainable building and engineering practices. The curriculum includes workshops on technical drawing, 3D modeling, spatial analysis, and basic engineering problem-solving to build essential skills. Interactive seminars led by experienced academics will cover the integration of technology in design and engineering. Students will also develop critical thinking and collaboration through group projects, simulating first-year university experiences while understanding the UK's academic expectations and culture.



Physics

Our Physics course allows students to dive deeper into the relationship between the physical laws of the universe and how they apply across different scales of space and time. Lessons will introduce various fields of physics and explore theoretical and practical theories. Students will learn about real-life physics research and existing limits of human knowledge through interactive classes that encourage creativity and innovation. Through lessons, essays, and group projects, students will develop strong problem-solving skills and critical reasoning and deductive reasoning skills, in addition to building communication and teamworking skills. This challenging yet rewarding course is ideal for students with a strong background in mathematics and physics, as well as those who are interested in exploring this field.



Computer Science

Our Computer Science course introduces key concepts in the field of computer science and data science. This course provides students with an opportunity to explore beyond the basics of programming and coding to develop strong theoretical knowledge in computer science. In addition to programming, students will explore the use of computers and their interactions with humans, including artificial intelligence and data organisation. Lessons will encourage students to develop both a procedural and object-orientated approach to problem solving. Students will develop strong analytical skills whilst exploring the foundations of computer science and its practical applications.