

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY



To: Oxford Applicants

From: Sarah Mournighan, Senior Global Education Advisor

Subject: 2020-2021 Oxford Application

One of the first steps you should take in researching the University of Oxford is to attend an Oxbridge Information Session in the fall 2019 term. At this meeting, I will go over program details and the application procedures to assist you in discerning whether this program would be appropriate for you.

REQUIREMENTS

Minimum 3.7 GPA at the time of application; 500-750 word essay detailing the specific academic theme you wish to follow while at Oxford; two faculty recommendations; strong writing sample; study proposal; GU application, and transcript copy.

COMPETITION

There are no guaranteed spaces for the University of Oxford program, and students' applications are looked at individually and NOT as a competitive applicant pool. Students are strongly encouraged to have a second choice. **Students may not appeal their application decision for Oxford. All committee decisions are considered final.**

DEADLINES

The final deadline for 2020-21 Oxford applications is **December 2nd, 2019**. Please note: the deadline for the first draft of your essay is **November 4, 2019** so you must begin the process in September. Upon submission of an application on December 2nd there will be a selection of applicants by a panel of OGE advisors and Georgetown deans. Students will then be notified as to whether their applications will be forwarded to an Oxford college. The colleges at Oxford will then review the completed files and make decisions for visiting-student admission. Notification of the final placements will be sent directly to the student between February and April.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please include two letters of recommendation with your Oxford application. The recommendation form can be found online, and your professors should follow the guidelines on the form and submit a written letter addressing your candidacy. Please do not have your professors fill out the recommendation form on the OGE website.

ESSAY - ** November 4, 2019 is the deadline for submission of the mandatory draft of your essay.

Please Note: Only one draft may be submitted to OGE for review.

The essay should be 500-750 words in length and should be a thoughtful discussion of your proposed field of study. In addition to listing the titles of the tutorials that you would like to take each term, you should describe the over-arching intellectual theme that links these separate topics. For example, as an American Studies major, you might propose to concentrate on the changing sense of identity in the American political consciousness. Therefore, during your first term at Oxford, you might choose to read *Foundations of Modern Social and Political Thought* and *Philosophy of Social Science* to increase your understanding of the fundamental principles on which America was established. During the second term, you would read *Government and Politics of the United States* and *British History Since 1685*, focusing on the historical context and philosophical issues in Britain that influenced the creation of the first colonies in America. During the last term, you might refocus on global politics, examining the changing role of America in world affairs and its effects upon the American political consciousness. You would read *International Politics Since 1945* and *International Politics in the Era of the Two World Wars*.

Keep in mind, academic work at Oxford takes place within a tutorial system. As the name implies, students work with professors on an individual basis or, more commonly, in groups of two or three. While this allows a great amount of individual flexibility for the students, it requires a great deal of work for the professors. Occasionally, professors will be open to building unique tutorials for Visiting Students, but it is more likely that they will include you in existing tutorials. Certainly, Tutors for Admission will be looking to see if the tutorials that you propose to take are ones that are already being offered in their colleges. Many tutorials are given repetitively because they serve to prepare students for their very important third-year leaving exams. The titles of these tutorials can be found on the specific Oxford department website, as that has the most up to date information on the tutorials being offered.

The ability to write is of key importance to your acceptance to Oxford. For this reason, your advisor will not substantially change the essay and your writing sample. Do not expect your advisor to point out incorrect spelling or grammar structures. It is key that the committees reviewing your application get a sense of your own writing ability. Your advisor is, however, happy to review your essay for structure, content and appropriateness of topic.

STUDY PROPOSAL

Your study proposal should be a direct reflection of your essay. The Study Proposal should list two tutorials per trimester, for a total of six for the academic year. Students should select the majority of their courses within one discipline. As in your essay, your choice of courses needs to logically follow a theme.

OXFORD APPLICATION TIMETABLE FOR 2019-20 TERM

(Applications can be found on the OGE website: <http://studyabroad.georgetown.edu>)

September, 2019:	Oxford Information Sessions
November 4, 2019:	MANDATORY DRAFT ESSAY DUE to OGE (<i>**Please Note: Only one draft may be submitted for review.**</i>)
December 2, 2019:	Oxford application deadline (including 2 recommendations, a 5-10 page writing sample, study proposal, Oxford essay and application form.)
December 9-13, 2019:	Notification of GU's nominations to Oxford (<i>**Please Note: Students may not appeal their application decision for Oxford. All committee decisions are considered final.**</i>)
February – April, 2020:	Notification of final acceptances by Oxford

OXFORD CHECKLIST

- ___ Georgetown online application
- ___ Study Proposal form with appropriate signatures
- ___ 2 faculty letters of recommendation (please include the Oxford recommendation form waiver with each letter)
- ___ Final Copy of Essay of 500-750 words
- ___ Writing sample of at least 5-10 pages
- ___ Unofficial transcript (copy from MyAccess)