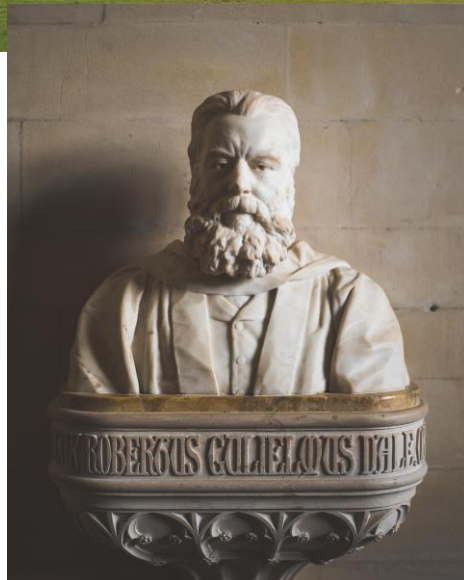

Visiting Student Programme at Mansfield College

University of Oxford

Oxford Prospects Programmes



About Oxford

The University of Oxford is one of the most prestigious universities in the world, founded in 1250 with some colleges' histories stretching back even further. It is also member of the prestigious Russell Group of major research universities in the United Kingdom (similar to the Ivy League). The University of Oxford enjoys a well-deserved reputation for world-class teaching, research and facilities. Our students benefit from centrally-organised lectures, seminars and lab time, and from the collegiate system of small-group teaching (called a tutorial) that takes place in the colleges. This approach supports individual support and guidance, enabling students to thrive academically whilst offering countless opportunities to get involved with extra-curricular activities. Your College will be your home during term-time and will be the focus of both your academic progress and your social life, so it's important that you choose the right college for you.

About Mansfield College

Mansfield College was founded in 1838 as Spring Hill College, to offer higher education to those who could not gain admittance to Oxford University because they were not members of the Anglican Church. In 1886 the College moved to its present site, and was renamed in honour of the generous benefaction of its founders, George and Elisabeth Mansfield, and their sister Sarah Glover.



Throughout its history Mansfield has worked hard to make an Oxford education available to previously excluded groups. In 1913, some sixty years before most Oxford Colleges opened their doors to women, Mansfield admitted its first female student, Constance Todd. Amongst Oxford colleges Mansfield also has the

highest proportion of state sector undergraduate students.

Mansfield's beautiful Victorian buildings were designed by Basil Champneys. While Oxford colleges typically consist of enclosed quadrangles hidden behind high walls and gates, the buildings at Mansfield – like the College itself – face out to the world, welcoming people in. The small size of the College, approximately 400 students, makes for a friendly community, and close links are formed between undergraduates, graduates and tutors. Though Mansfield is not a large college by Oxford standards, it is made up of a cosmopolitan mix of students, staff and faculty from all over the world, and Visiting Students are assured of a warm welcome.

Mansfield occupies a very central location in Oxford, close to the libraries and shops, but in a quiet setting near the University Parks and the river Cherwell. The College's main library is a wonderful wood-panelled room which contains core texts for all courses, and there are separate libraries devoted to Law and Theology. The college site also includes tutors' rooms, offices, the chapel, the dining hall, a laundry room, common rooms, and a new cafeteria/bar and terrace, which were completed in 2014. Mansfield also shares excellent sports facilities with Merton College, including tennis and squash courts.



About The Programme

The Visiting Student Programme offers suitably qualified students the opportunity to come to Oxford as members of Mansfield College and Registered Visiting Students of the University of Oxford. We normally admit 35-40 Visiting Students per year, from Ivy League and other top US institutions and from other non-EU countries. The academic year runs from early October to mid-June, and though we prioritise full year applications for study, we do consider applications for two terms of study (January – June) on a case by case basis.

Our aim is to give Visiting Students the chance to experience the unique opportunities provided by study at Oxford while earning credit for their home institutions. Visiting Students have access to all college facilities and are members of the Junior Common Room. As Registered Visiting Students of the University, they also have access to a wide range of University facilities, including the Bodleian Library, faculty (subject) libraries, the Oxford University Computing Services, and the great wealth of lectures organized by the University throughout the academic year.

Eligibility

Our Visiting Students come from a wide range of backgrounds and we value the diverse contributions and skills they bring to our college community during their time at Mansfield. All students must meet our academic requirement of a GPA of at least 3.7, and should also ensure that the range of courses we offer fits with their interests.

The Tutorial System

Oxford is famous for its tutorial system of teaching. Students are taught by a leading academic, either individually or with one or two other students. Each term a Visiting Student studies both a 'primary' and a 'secondary' tutorial topic, and will typically write



one essay a week for the primary tutorial and one every other week for the secondary tutorial.

During the tutorial, students have the opportunity to discuss the work that they have prepared in great depth with their tutors. Students are asked to really think through their arguments and the topics they have

researched, and will be challenged and pushed to the limits of their abilities. Tutors know that students won't always have the answer, but the tutorial allows students to really test the boundaries of their understanding. This level of individual attention allows students

to hone their skills in their chosen area, and though some initially find the thought of tutorials daunting, we only pick students who we are confident will flourish.

In addition to tutorials, students will also be able to attend a range of lectures given by academics based at the University, and by guest speakers who are invited because of their status as world-leading researchers. Students are expected to organise their own time, and to make use of the wealth of research facilities in Oxford. We advise our students that they should expect to complete a full 9-5 working day on their studies, in tutorials, lectures and using the libraries.

Student Life

Visiting Students receive membership of the Junior Common Room, and have access to all the same facilities and resources as other Mansfield undergraduates. Students are encouraged to contribute to the life of the College and University through drama, music, volunteering, journalism, and sport. In addition, the College organises a wide variety of social events, such as formal dinners, 'Champagne and Chocolates' receptions, bops (parties), open mic nights and field trips.

Accommodation

In order that Visiting Students may have a fuller experience of living in the UK, the College aims to integrate their housing with that of other Mansfield students as far as possible. Visiting Students live a short walk or bike ride from the main College site, and are ideally placed for exploring the Cowley area and its numerous restaurants, cafes and shops. All students have their own study-bedroom, and share kitchen and bathroom facilities as well as a common room. Students also have access to the College Dining Hall for meals during term time, along with all other College facilities.

Oxford can provide an excellent base for exploring the rest of the UK and Europe during the Christmas and Easter vacations. Oxford is only an hour from London by train, and there are 24 hour bus services. Bus services also run from Oxford direct to the major international airports of Heathrow and Gatwick.

Student Profile

David Friedman (Northwestern University) Visiting Student 2014-15

When I first arrived in Oxford, I never could have imagined the experiences I would have in the next year. From my first night to the last day, Mansfield proved to be an exceptionally welcoming environment. Although I was 5500 miles away from home, Mansfield and Oxford's amazing students, tutors, and staff made me feel as if I had never really left.

Beba Cibralic (Wellesley College) Visiting Student, 2014-15

I viewed studying at Oxford as my opportunity to immerse myself in philosophy. The history, the learning environment, and the resources... not many places can compare! The most striking difference between a college in the US and Oxford is that the Oxford education is based on the tutorial system. Although I have a prescribed reading list, tutorials are very much student-driven. There is a serious expectation that the student will come to tutorials not only having read the material, but having formed well-developed opinions which must be defended over the course of the tutorial. Tutorials are intense and somewhat scary at first, but incredibly rewarding.

I volunteered at the Gatehouse, a non-for-profit that runs a drop-in centre for homeless and poorly-housed people. I also sang in the Mansfield College Choir, which I absolutely loved because of the great people involved.

Most of my weekends and holidays were spent exploring London or visiting neighbouring countries with friends. I had an amazing time visiting the Netherlands with a friend currently studying abroad in London.

I chose Mansfield specifically because it is known for its inclusiveness and egalitarianism. Mansfield places a lot of emphasis on making the Oxford education available to anyone with academic potential, regardless of socio-economic background. I knew that if I went to Mansfield, I'd feel at home.

Costs (2016-17)

Full Year (Michaelmas term + Hillary term + Trinity term)

Tuition: £23,768 Accommodation: £5,007 Total: £28,775

Two-term (Hillary term + Trinity term)

Tuition: £17,553 Accommodation: £3,697 Total: £21,250

	Term	From	To
2016-17	Michaelmas 2016	Sunday, 9 October	Saturday, 3 December
	Hilary 2017	Sunday, 15 January	Saturday, 11 March
	Trinity 2017	Sunday, 23 April	Saturday, 17 June

Thanks to the wealth of resources that the University has to offer, including world-leading libraries, computing facilities and sports facilities, Visiting Students at Mansfield generally find that they don't have significant expenses beyond their tuition fee and living costs to cover while they are in Oxford. The accommodation that we provide is self-catering, but students also have the option of eating in the College Dining Hall, where meal costs are subsidised.

Mansfield's Partner Institutions

Mansfield is delighted to count several overseas universities among its partner institutions, including Barnard College, Boston College, Georgetown University, Wheaton College, George Mason University, and – our first and longest association – the College of the Holy Cross.

In 2016-17, our Visiting Students Programme applications will be open to students from Chinese universities, including Tsinghua University, Fudan University, Zhejiang University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Nanjing University, Nankai University, Xiamen University, Jilin University and South University of Science and Technology. The application process is taken care by Oxford Prospects Programmes (OPP). *If you are interested, please contact OPP Senior Recruiting Officer: Dr Yuchen Lu, exchange@oxford-prospects.org. If you have any further questions, please contact the OPP Director, Dr Shidong Wang, wangs@maths.ox.ac.uk.*