

What to consider now if you *might* apply to a competitive university later



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

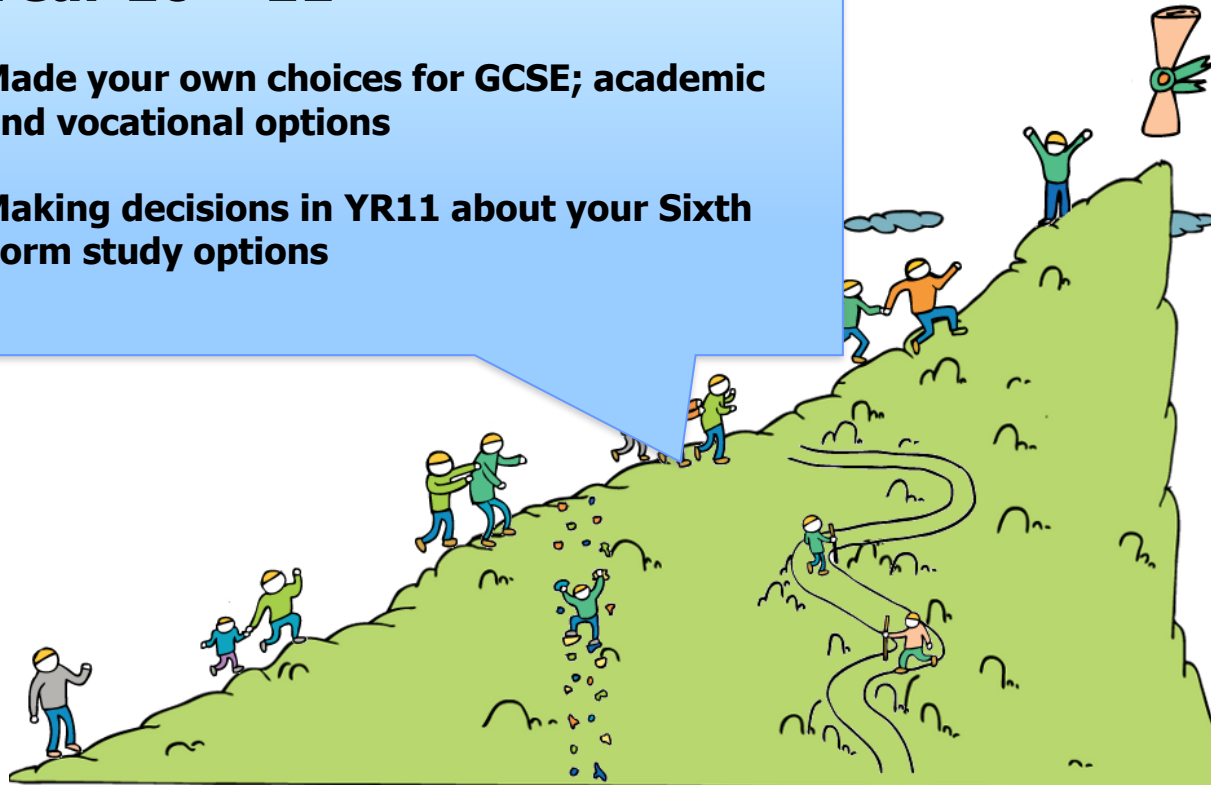
Richard Petty, Trinity College Oxford
Year 9-11 Bishop Barrington Academy 13 December 2022



Year 10 – 11

Made your own choices for GCSE; academic and vocational options

Making decisions in YR11 about your Sixth Form study options



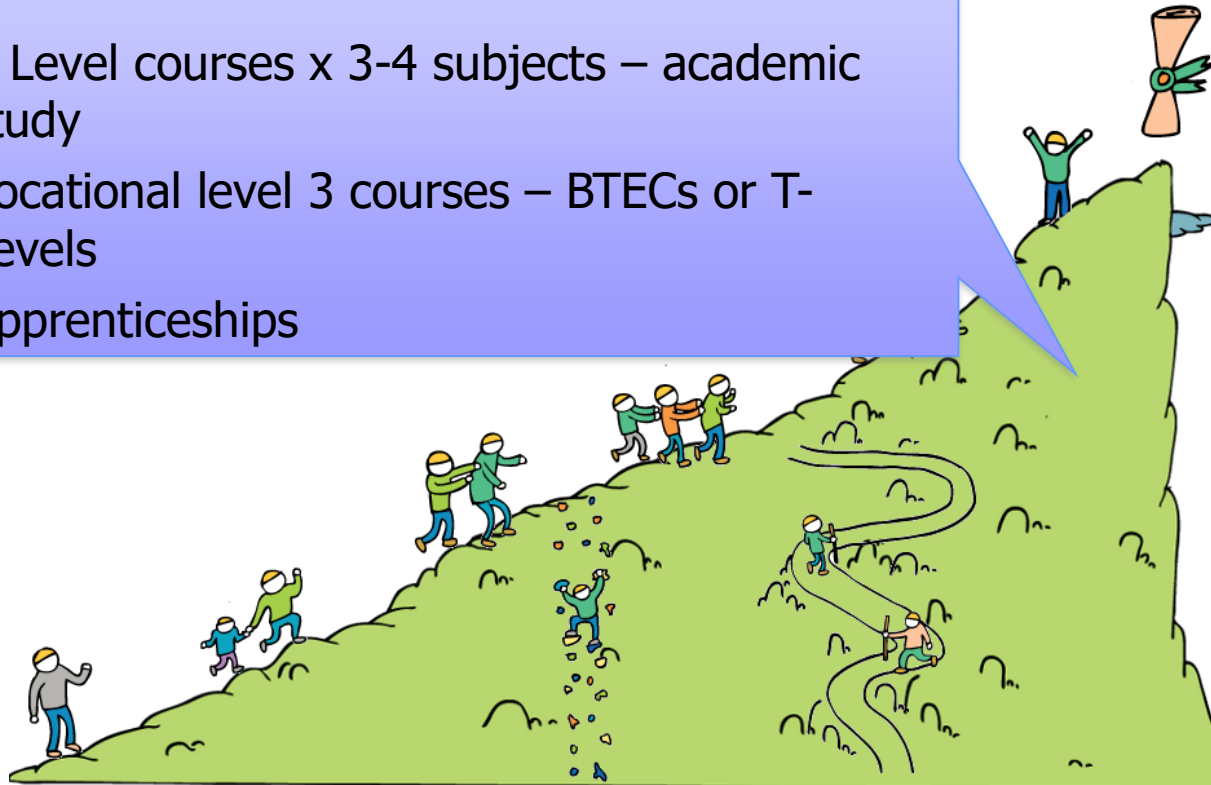
UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

After GCSEs (16-18)

A Level courses x 3-4 subjects – academic study

Vocational level 3 courses – BTECs or T-Levels

Apprenticeships

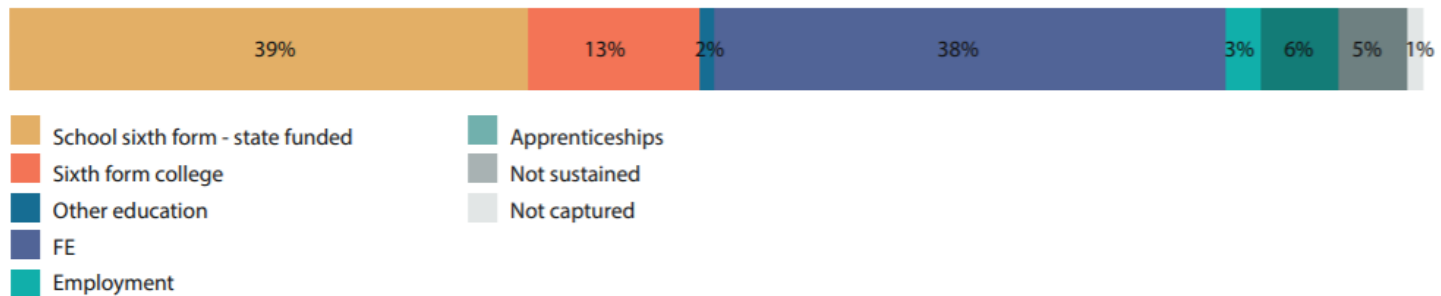


UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

After GCSEs (16-18)

This chart shows the destinations of people in the UK at aged 16 to 18.

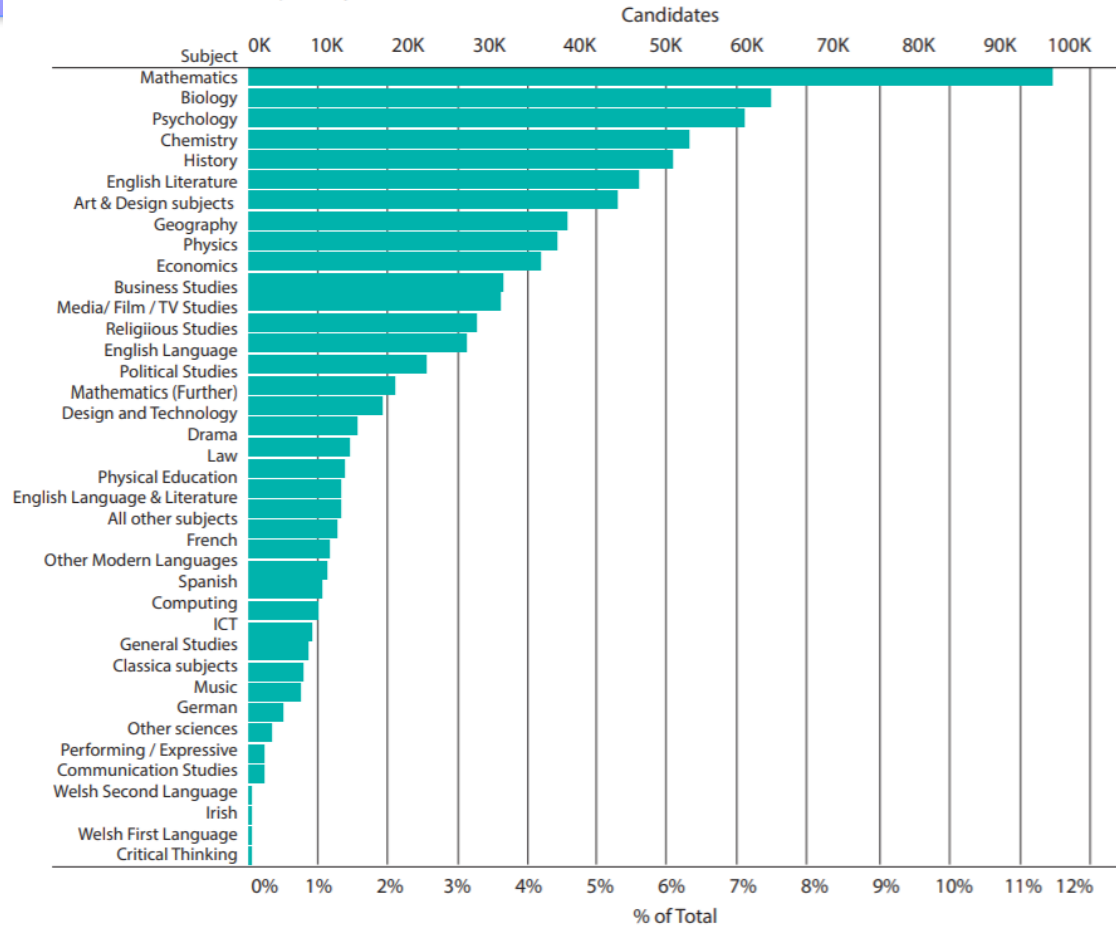
Post 16 (KS4) destinations:



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

After GCSEs (16-18)

Some students choose to study A-Levels at 16-18.



After GCSEs (16-18)

Some students choose to study BTECs or T-Levels at 16-18.
Here are some of the most popular BTECs.

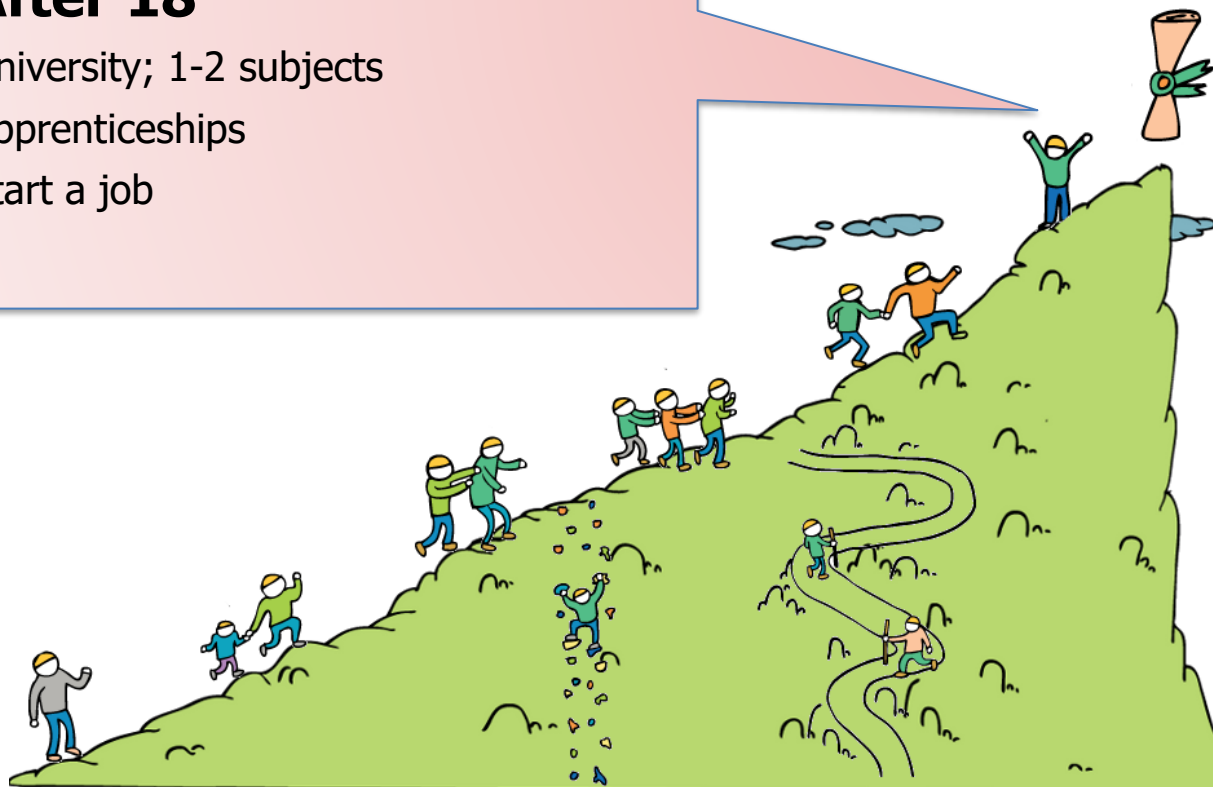
Applied Law	Applied Science	Art and Design	Business
Childcare	Construction	Creative Arts and Media	Engineering
Health and Social Care	Hospitality and Catering	IT and Computing	Land-based
Music and Music Technology	Performing Arts	Sport	Travel and Tourism

After 18

University; 1-2 subjects

Apprenticeships

Start a job



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

After 18

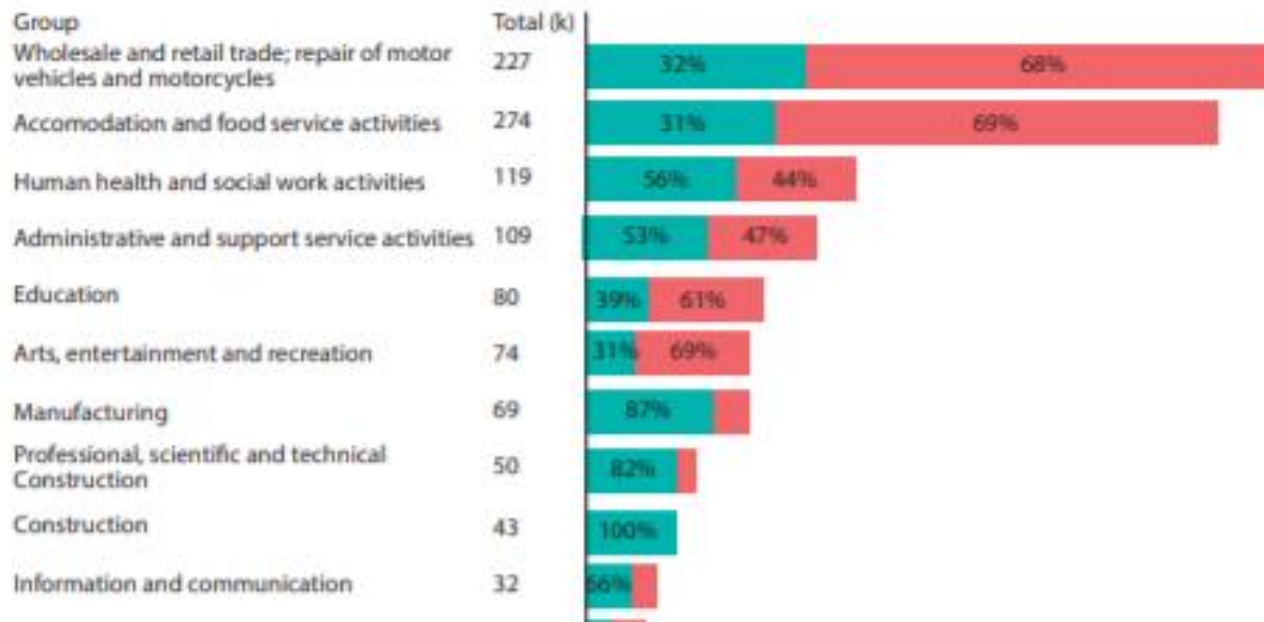
This chart shows the destinations of people in the UK at the age of 18.



After 18: jobs

Destinations of those who enter employment at 18.

(Employment of 18-21 year-olds by sector)



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

After 18: apprenticeships

Intermediate

Advanced

Higher Level

Of those 19-24 year-olds entering apprenticeships in the UK, 84% of people work in these four sectors:

Business, administration & law	28% of total
Health, public services & care	24%
Engineering & manufacturing	16%
Retail & commercial	16%

After 18: Higher Education

chosen by around 51% of people in the UK

165 universities or Higher Education institutions

2.38 million students

undergraduates	1.80m.
postgraduates	0.59m.
full time	1.88m.
part time	0.50m.
from UK	1.9m.
from overseas	0.48m.



Notwithstanding all measures taken to ensure that the information is collected and used in a confidential manner, the authors cannot accept any responsibility for any breach of confidentiality.

What are universities?

Research

Teaching

Oxford University's research in **Artificial Intelligence** is seeking ways to make healthcare smarter and to understand the future of work.

Oxford University has been at the forefront of research in creating, testing and delivering a **Covid vaccine**

ox.ac.uk/research

Oxford University is at the forefront of efforts to build **quantum computers** with the potential to transform healthcare, finance and security.





Russell Group Universities



The University
Of
Sheffield.



University of
BRISTOL



KING'S
College
LONDON



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



University
of Glasgow



UNIVERSITY OF
BIRMINGHAM



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE



Durham
University



UNIVERSITY OF
LIVERPOOL



Newcastle
University



Imperial College
London

UNIVERSITY OF
Southampton



The University of
Nottingham

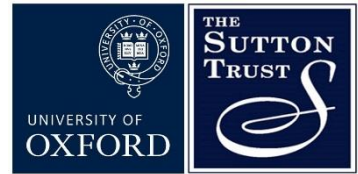


Queen Mary
University of London

THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK



TRINITY COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD



What comes to mind
when you think
about Oxford...???



WORLD LEADING

Oxford University has ranked number 1 in the world for seven years running.

(Times Higher Education World Rankings 2023)

For centuries, it has been a leading centre of learning and research with great impact and influence.

“Oxford: a great group of interesting people who come from all over the world, yet can relate to each other so easily.” **Mathew**

“I was so excited by the idea of studying with experts in the field, and at Oxford, you have the opportunity to learn from the very best.” **Lily**

ox.ac.uk/study



WORLD LEADING

Ranked #1 in the UK's latest Research Excellence Framework for the quality of its research

Amongst the most generous in providing funding for lower income students – additional funding. Around one in four UK undergraduate students at Oxford currently receive a non-repayable annual bursary. These can be worth up to £5,000 per year.

Highest proportion of students achieving firsts in the UK

68% of UK students are from state schools
— (2021 entry)

ox.ac.uk/study



WORLD CHANGING

At the heart of Oxford University is ground-breaking research.

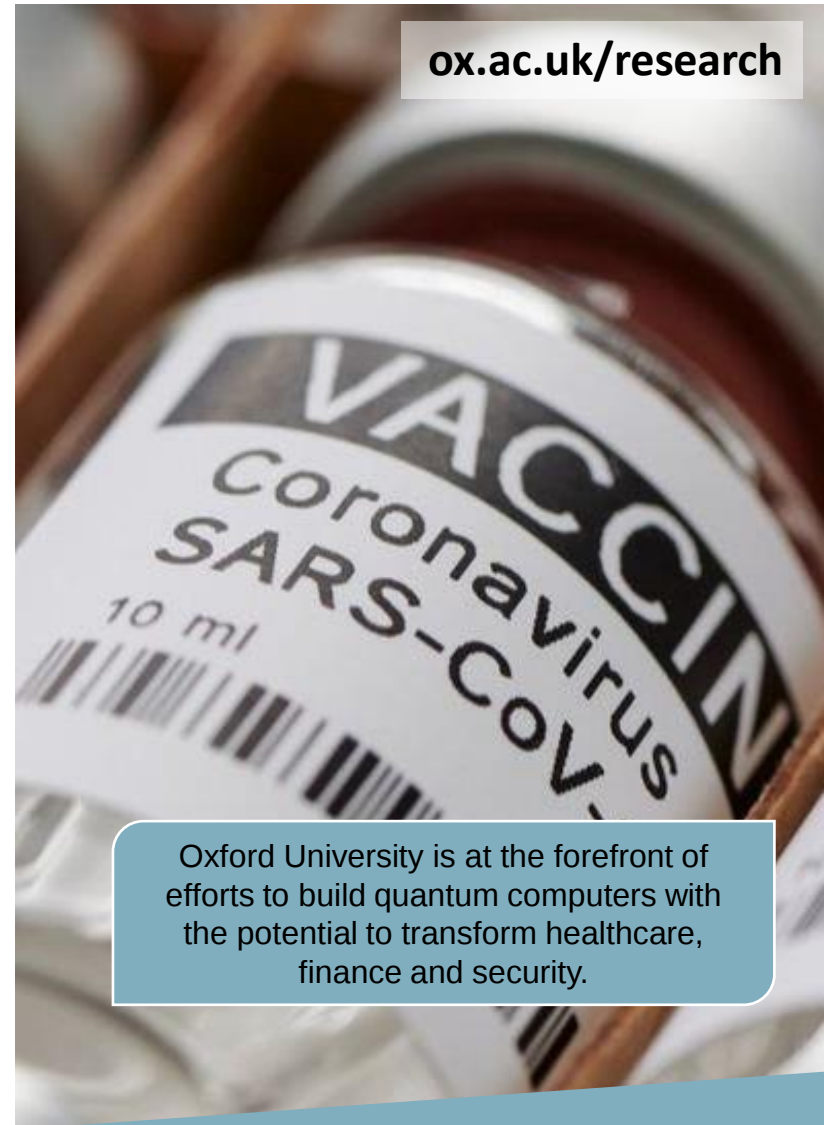
Research by our staff, students and graduates helps the lives of millions, and solves real-world problems.

Oxford researchers are at the forefront of global research on climate change, energy, food, water, waste and biodiversity.

Oxford University's research in Artificial Intelligence is seeking ways to make healthcare smarter and to understand the future of work.

Oxford University is at the forefront of efforts to build quantum computers with the potential to transform healthcare, finance and security.

ox.ac.uk/research



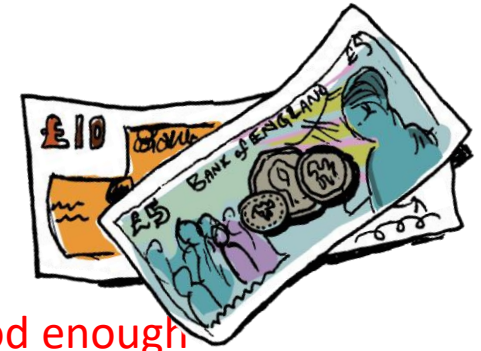
Positives:

- Because I love my subject
- Earn more money
- Life experience
- Meet new people



Negatives:

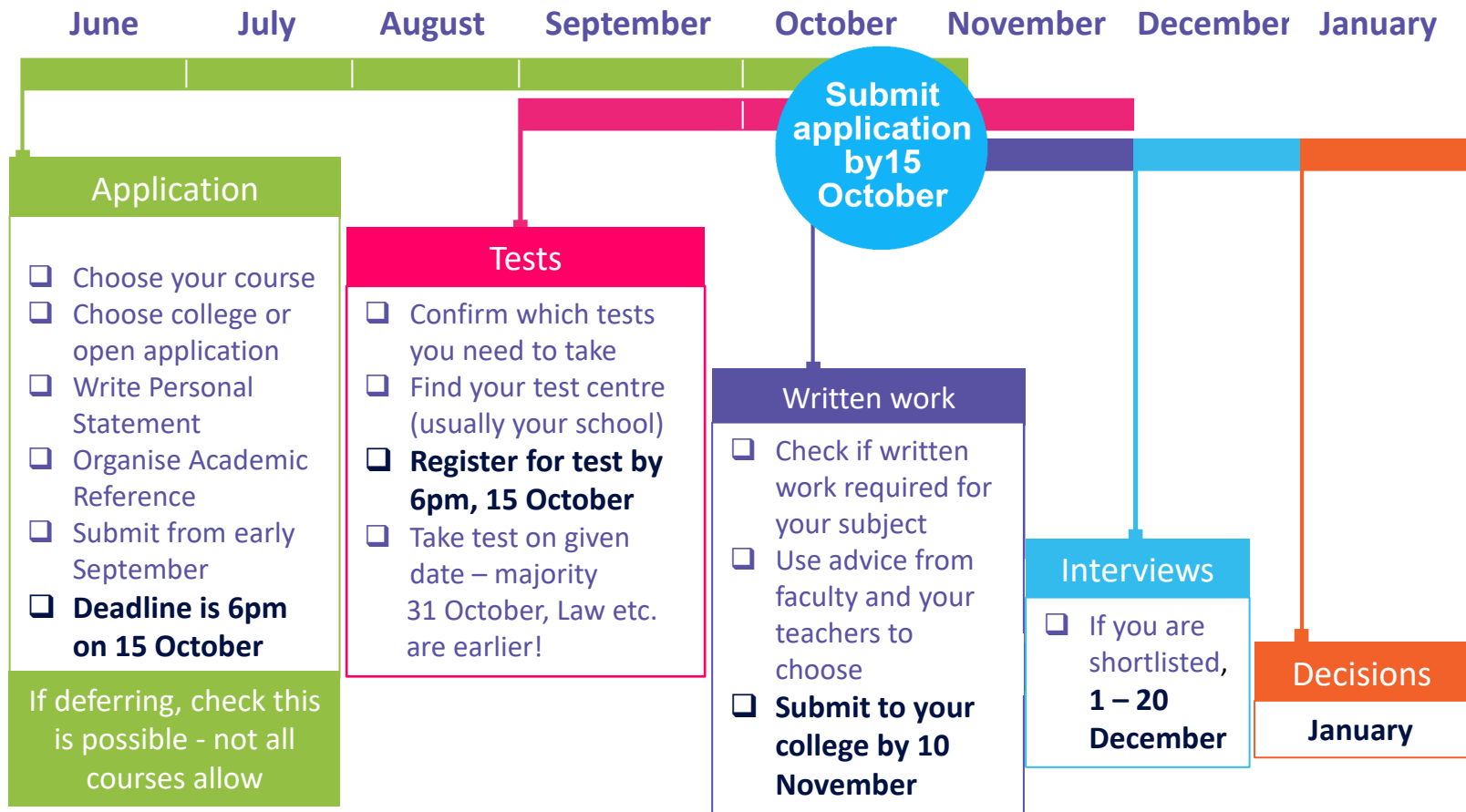
- Too expensive
- I won't fit in / I'm not good enough
- Don't know what job I want to do



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

... from a survey of our own first-year
undergraduates at the University of Oxford

Application timeline



Do we offer a **course** you would enjoy?

Would you find our **teaching style** engaging?

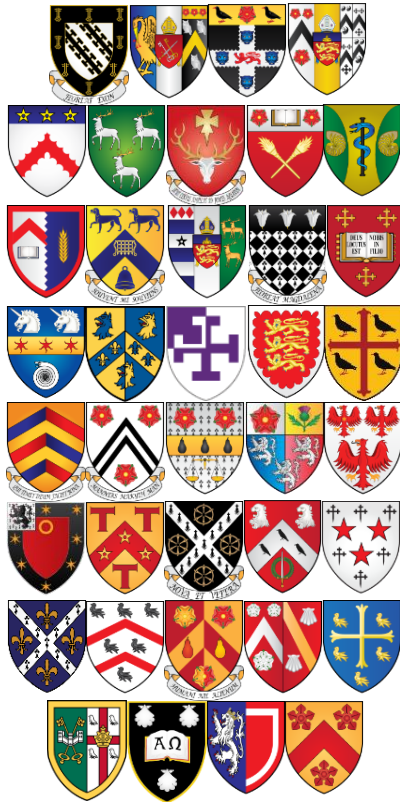
Are you predicted the right **grades**?

Could Oxford be for you?

These are questions we ask about Oxford, but they could apply to any university... 'could Birmingham be for you?' 'could Newcastle be for you?' etc



Like most universities, a *range* of subjects...



Humanities

Mathematical Physical and
Life Sciences

Medical Sciences

Social Sciences

Some specialise...



THE LONDON SCHOOL
OF ECONOMICS AND
POLITICAL SCIENCE ■

Imperial College
London



OXFORD IS...

Archaeology & Anthropology	Computer Science	History	Modern Languages
Biochemistry	Earth Sciences	History of Art	Music
Biological Sciences	Economics and Management	Human Sciences	Oriental Studies
Biomedical Sciences	Engineering Science	Law	Philosophy, Politics & Economics (PPE)
Chemistry	English Language & Literature	Materials Science	Physics
Classical Archaeology & Ancient History	Fine Art	Mathematics	Psychology
Classics	Geography	Medicine	Theology and Religion

- Course choice is the **most** important decision –research thoroughly
<https://www.ucas.com>





Most popular course choices in UK universities, 2020:

1. Nursing
2. Psychology
3. Law
4. Computer Science
5. Design Studies
6. Medicine
7. Sports & Exercise Science
8. Subjects related to medicine, e.g. dentistry, optometry
9. Business
10. Management Studies



Do we offer a **course** you would enjoy?

Would you find our **teaching style** engaging?

Are you predicted the right **grades**?

Could Oxford be for you?

Could [insert your choice of] university be for you?

OXFORD IS... about learning

Lectures –
up to 200 students

Seminars and Classes –
5-20 students

Laboratory work and fieldwork –
typically small groups

Tutorials –
usually 1-4 students and a tutor
(in college)



LEGENDARY LIBRARIES

Oxford's Bodleian Libraries house over 13 million printed items on over 400km of shelving. It may even be possible to complete your degree without having to buy any books.

You will be able to work in some of the best-resourced and most inspiring places in the world.

ox.ac.uk/learningresources

“

Sitting in the Bodleian Library at the same desk that might have once been occupied by John Locke and Robert Hooke, I feel **part of the University's rich history**. OLINGA

“

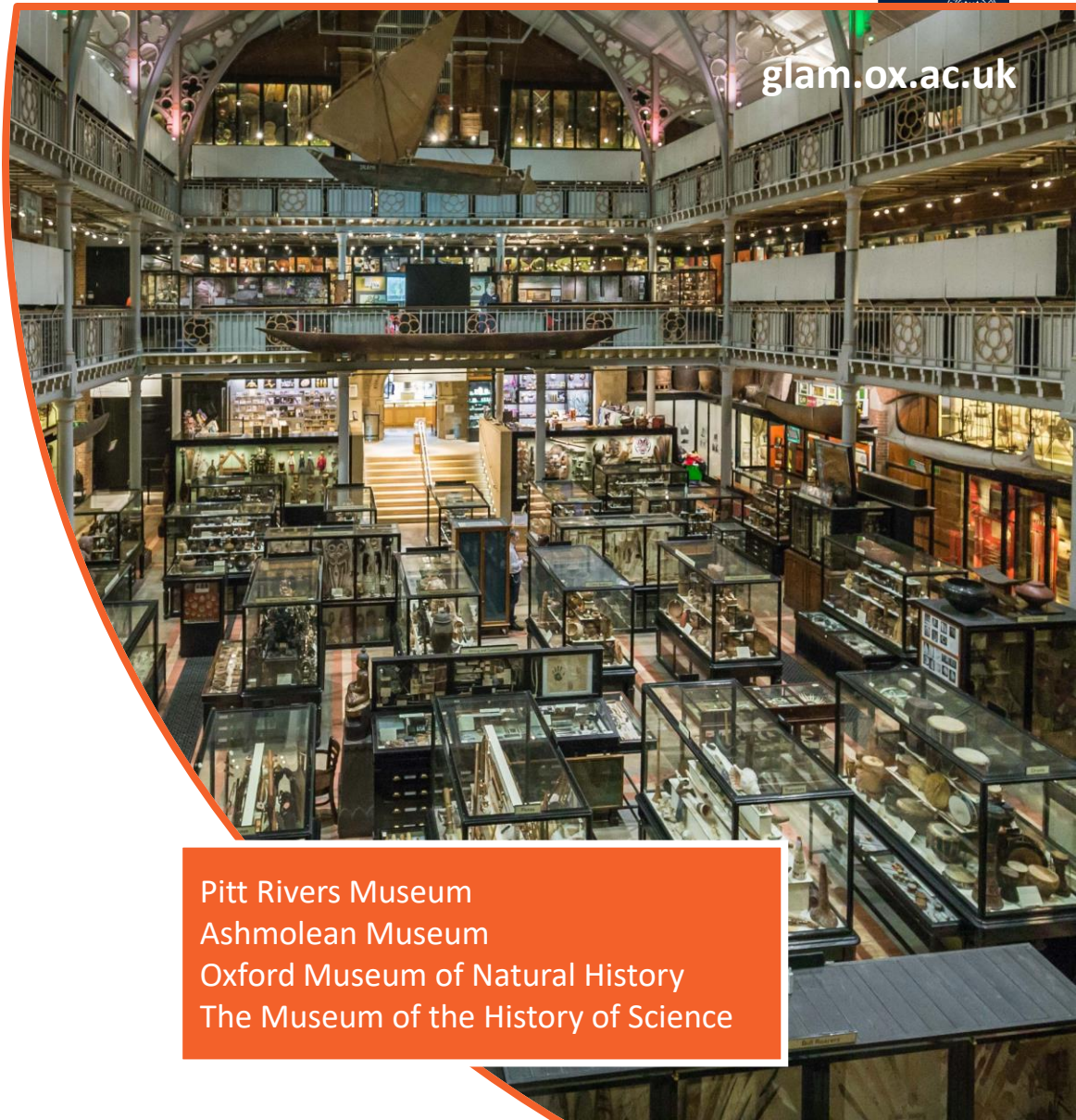
I love working in my college library... it has a **beautiful painted ceiling and huge wooden desks** in bay windows. It feels very Harry Potter-esque. SIAN



INCREDIBLE ARTEFACTS

Together, the University's four famous museums hold over 8.5 million objects and specimens amid spectacular and award-winning architecture.

They are used extensively by students of Archaeology, Anthropology, Ancient History, Biological Sciences, Classics, Earth Sciences, History and History of Art as well as others.



Pitt Rivers Museum
Ashmolean Museum
Oxford Museum of Natural History
The Museum of the History of Science

Do we offer a **course** you would enjoy?

Would you find our **teaching style** engaging?

Are you predicted the right **grades**?

Could Oxford be for you?

Could [insert your choice of] university be for you?

Universities make offers to students based on 3 A-Levels, or A-Level equivalents

GCSE

**5 good grades 6,7,8,9
(old grades C-A*)**

**You need good grades to get
onto your chosen 6th Form
courses, apprenticeships or
employment**

A level

AAA / A*AA / A*A*A to apply to Oxford
& Cambridge



OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIFE

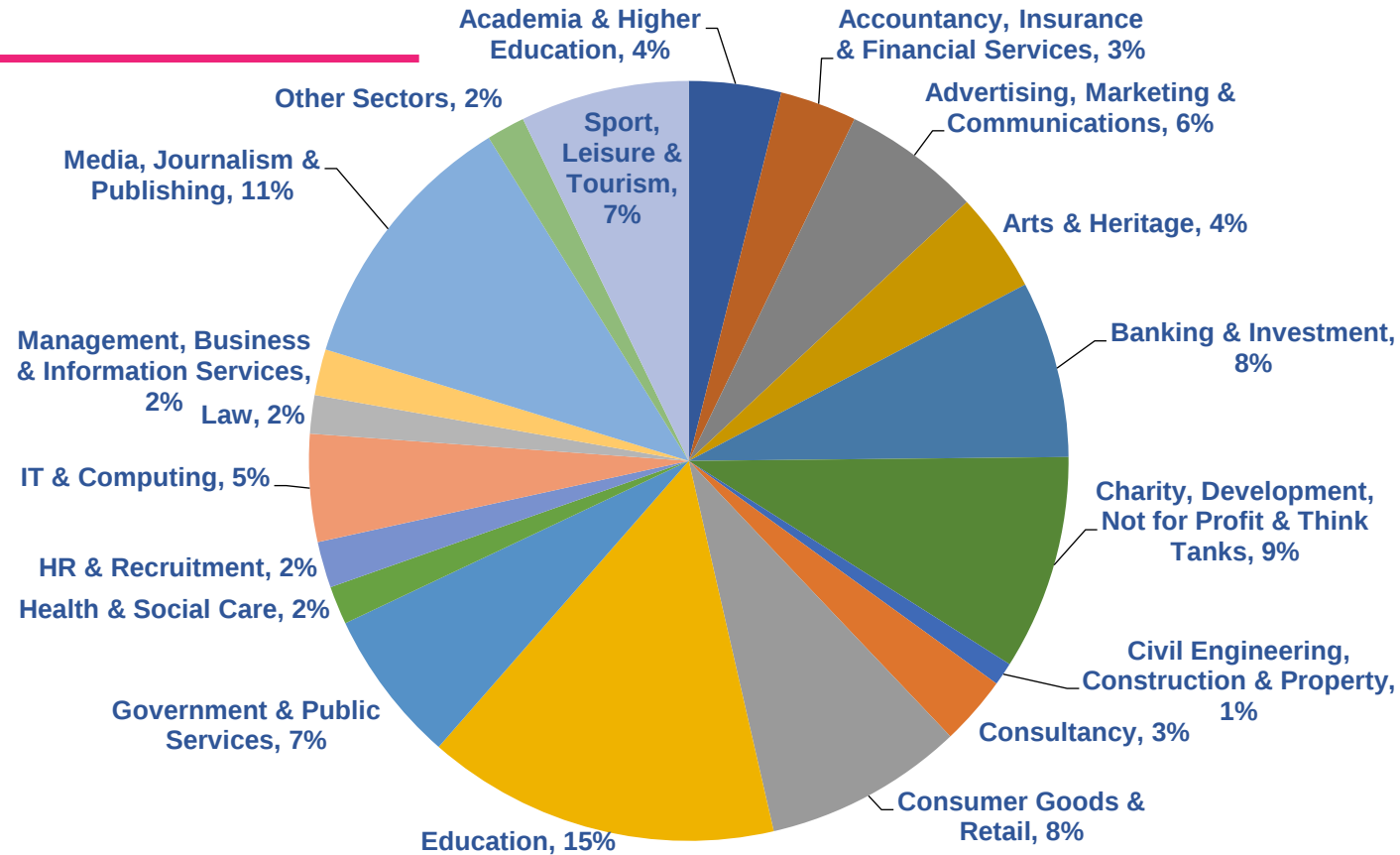


Students can develop employability skills with the **'Octane' programme**

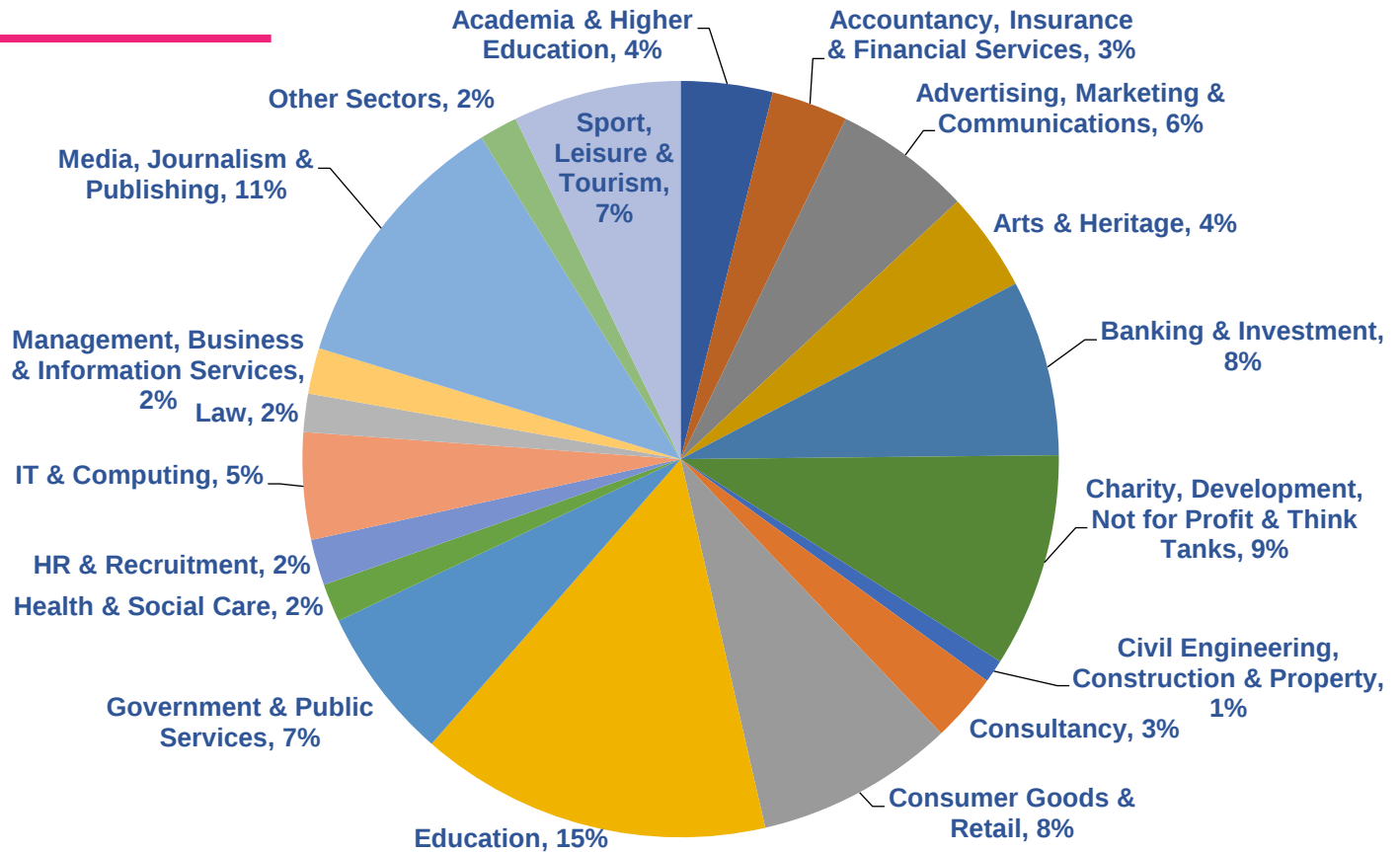
careers.ox.ac.uk/octane



Destinations / Subject?



History Graduates



Subject choices at 16 if you might apply to university later

Certain courses at university require certain subjects to be taken at A-Level or equivalent.

So: Do your research! (ucas.ac.uk; unistats.ac.uk)

...But what if I don't know what I want to study yet?

What do you enjoy?

What are you good at?

Do you have a university course in mind?

Do you have career aims?

Will your chosen courses help you reach your goals?



Thinking about degree subjects and careers.....



***Lloyds Bank
Commercial
Banking Grad
Scheme***



***BBC Journalism
Management
Trainee***



***Met Office
Weather
Forecaster***



***Rolls Royce Project
Managing Trainee***



***Allen and Overy Law
Graduate Trainee***



NHS Physiotherapist



***L'Oreal Marketing
Grad Scheme***



***Accenture
Technology IT
Consultant***

Thinking degree subjects and careers.....



Any Degree



Any Degree



***Meteorology,
Physical
science or
maths***



Any Degree



Any Degree



***NHS
Degree in
physiotherapy***



Any Degree



***IT, CompSci,
maths, physics
or engineering***



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

Subject choices at 16 if you might apply to university later - eg. Maths at Oxford

[Home](#) > [Admissions](#) > [Undergraduate](#) > [Mathematics](#)

Mathematics

OVERVIEW

STRUCTURE

ADMISSIONS REQUIREMENTS

CAREERS

FEES AND FUI

STUDYING AT OXFORD

	UCAS code	G100		Duration	3 years (BA)
					4 years (MMath)
	Entrance requirements	A*A*A with the A*s in Maths and Further Maths if taken		Subject requirements	 Maths
					 Further Maths



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

Subject choices at 16 if you might apply to university later

- eg. Geography at Nottingham Trent University

Entry requirements

UK

International

What are we looking for?

- A-levels – BBB, including Geography or a relevant Science subject
- BTEC Extended Diploma – DDM including relevant modules; or
- 120 UCAS Tariff points from three A-levels or equivalent qualifications, including an A-level equivalent in Geography or a relevant Science subject; and
- GCSEs – English and Maths grade C / 4.

Relevant science subjects include: Environmental Studies, Environmental Science, Geology, Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Mathematics. We will also accept History.

Applicants without A-levels will have their applications assessed for subject compatibility.

“What can I do now?”

✓ Engage and explore

✓ Super-curricular

✓ Results – work hard!



An aerial photograph of Oxford University buildings, featuring a large domed structure on the left and a long, ornate building with many windows on the right. The sky is blue with some clouds.

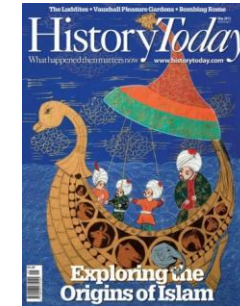
**What do we
mean by
'super curricular
activity'?**



UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD



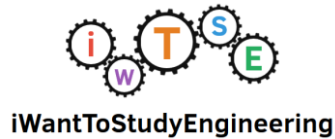
92-95 FM



The *context* of super-curricular activity: why do it?

- Utilitarian reasons, eg. personal statement, entrance tests
- Confirming your interest in a subject – or otherwise!
- Broadening your understanding
- Becoming *more independent* as a learner, which will be useful if you choose to go to university or continue learning in later life in other ways
- Going deeper in a selected field
- For the love of learning; it's enjoyable

Super-curricular ideas: Online resources



And... news stories, competitions
and essay prizes.



Super-curricular ideas: *directed* reading



Reading must be critical and analytical:

- What is the argument in the book/article?
- What is the supporting evidence? Flaws?
- What do YOU think?



Super-curricular hubs

[Library Quad | Trinity College Oxford](#)

A selection of enrichment resources chosen by current Trinity College students.

[Digital Resources | University of Oxford](#)

Enrichment and informative resources from Oxford and elsewhere.

[Digital Resources | University of Cambridge](#)

A PDF of super-curricular suggestions, sorted by subject.



Super-curricular ideas: project work

Working towards a piece of work such as the Extended Project Qualification (EPQ) helps students to focus their super-curricular learning in an area they are particularly interested in.



- The EPQ wouldn't form part of an offer for an applicant, but completing one is encouraged.



Super-curricular ideas: project work

Particularly if you are not undertaking an EPQ, consider taking a MOOC (Massive Open Online Course).



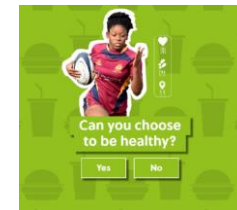
- They suit your needs – timing, inexpensive, your choice of course
- Consider a MOOC which gives you the chance to go *deeply* into a *narrow* field ... testing your skills of enquiry and thinking skills



What makes a question **BIG**?

- They have no simple or 'right' answer.
- Different people might have different opinions or views.
- They touch upon a range of subjects and topics.
- You might need to learn more to answer them.
- They might be confusing and lead to lots of other sub-questions.

EXPLORE



EXPLORE

What makes a question **BIG?**

Is the Internet bad? Yes No Can time travel ever be possible? Yes No	Do video games cause violence? Yes No Is it OK to ban certain books? Yes No	Does music matter? Yes No Can money buy happiness? Yes No
--	---	---

What does it cost to go to university? **HOW DOES IT WORK?**



A word about tuition fees & living expenses

Tuition Fees Loan - You pay nothing up front

You only start paying it back when you earn **over £25,000** a year

You pay back a small percentage at a time, for example, if you earn £25k a year – Just £30 repayment

Written off after 40 years

“I won’t be able to afford to live!”

Maintenance Loans:

- Tied to household income on a sliding scale
 - Paid in termly instalments
- Paid back together with the Tuition Fees Loan

University bursaries & grants:

- Tied to household income on a sliding scale
 - Paid in termly instalments
 - **You never have to pay it back!**
- All sorts of other small funds available to students to help with buying books, sports equipment, travel for work abroad

OXFORD FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR 2023



Your household income	Your non-repayable Crankstart Scholarship (per year)
£5,000 or less	£5,500
£5,001 - £27,500	£4,700

Finance **myth-busting fact:**
1 in 4 of our UK undergraduates receives an annual, non-repayable bursary from the university
Example: Oxford Bursary

Annual household income	Oxford Bursary
£27,501 - £30,000	£2,500
£30,001 - £35,000	£1,900
£35,001 - £37,500	£1,400
£37,501 - £40,000	£1,100
£40,001 - c. £42,875	£800

If students have been in care in the UK for +3 months or they are a UK estranged student without family support, they may receive a non-repayable additional annual bursary of £3000

Other highlights of Crankstart scholarships



Careers and internships

Access to internship bursaries of up to £2,500 as well as exclusive internships



Crankstart community

A community of scholars with a wide range of events held every year



Scholar stories

Hear more about the scholarship from scholars past and present



Volunteering

Learn more about the volunteering carried out by our scholars and how to get involved

See <https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/fees-and-funding/crankstart> for more details

Q&A

THANK YOU!

For the most recent information and advice about anything in this presentation, please refer to the university website at ox.ac.uk/study

Questions? ox.ac.uk/ask

You can reach the Trinity College Access & Outreach team at access.officer@trinity.ox.ac.uk and me at richard.petty@trinity.ox.ac.uk

**Follow us ... on Twitter @TrinityOxford
on Instagram trinitycollegeox**