YEAR 11

EMMANUEL COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

HERTFORD COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
SESSION OUTLINE

Part 1: All about us
• Colleges
• Courses, learning
• Student life, support & finance

Part 2: All about you
• What Oxbridge look for
• Subject choice at A-Level
• Super-curriculars
• Opportunities to look out for
PART 1: Studying at Oxbridge
COLLEGES

29 undergraduate colleges

33 undergraduate colleges

Community
Accommodation & food
Library
Welfare & social
Small group teaching
COLLEGES

Emmanuel College  
Cambridge

Fitzwilliam College  
Cambridge

King’s College  
Cambridge

St John’s College  
Cambridge

Hertford College  
Oxford

Lady Margaret Hall  
Oxford

St Catherine’s College  
Oxford

The Queen’s College  
Oxford
WHAT CAN I STUDY?

30 undergraduate courses

48 undergraduate courses

Academic focus

From school or scratch

1 subject or a combination

“Full time job”
TEACHING & LEARNING

Libraries

1-1 or small group

Expert teaching

Independent study

‘Supervisions’

‘Tutorials’
TRUE OR FALSE?

Some colleges are better than others.
Some colleges are better than others.

**False:** Colleges are ‘homes’ – what might be right for you might not be for someone else. Students receive the same teaching & exams across the University.
CLUBS, TEAMS AND SOCIETIES

Sports  Music  Drama
Journalism  Debating  Politics & activism  Business & enterprise
Subject societies  Cultural & faith societies  Identity-based societies  Charity & volunteering
SOURCES OF SUPPORT

Personal tutor  Students’ Union  College welfare

Advocacy societies  Counselling service  Careers service
TRUE OR FALSE?

The majority of students at Oxford and Cambridge pay for their degree with their own money.
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The majority of students at Oxford and Cambridge pay for their degree with their own money.

False: the majority of students receive a student loan from the government and other forms of financial support.
FINANCE & FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Loans: from the government, pay back once you earn more than £27k

Bursaries & grants: from the university or college, don’t have to pay back

Work: in the holidays or during term time, depending on your university
## Repaying Your Loan

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Salary</th>
<th>Amount of salary from which 9% will be deducted</th>
<th>Annual repayment</th>
<th>Monthly repayment</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>£27,2950</td>
<td>£27,295 - £27,295 = £0</td>
<td>£0</td>
<td>£0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£30,000</td>
<td>£30,000 - £27,295 = £2,705</td>
<td>£2,705 x 9%     = £243.45</td>
<td>£20.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£35,000</td>
<td>£35,000 - £27,295 = £7,705</td>
<td>£7,705 x 9%     = £693.45</td>
<td>£57.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>£50,000</td>
<td>£50,000 - £27,295 = £22,705</td>
<td>£22,705 x 9%    = £2,043.45</td>
<td>£170.29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• Students at Cambridge & Oxford study for around 60-70 hours a week

• ‘Tutorials’ are where you get whole class feedback.

• You don’t need to decide on a career path before you choose your degree.

• You do not have to pay back a ‘bursary’.
• Students at Cambridge & Oxford study for around 60-70 hours a week \textbf{False} – ‘full time job’ = 35-45 hrs/week

• ‘Tutorials’ are where you get whole class feedback. \textbf{False} – tutorials at Oxford are 1-1 or small-group teaching, and at Cambridge this teaching is called a ‘supervision’

• You don’t need to decide on a career path before you choose your degree. \textbf{True} – you are supported at University through the Careers Service & tutors to work out & develop your career aspirations

• You do not have to pay back a ‘bursary’. \textbf{True} – this money is given by the University/college, and you do not have to pay it back
PART 2: SUBJECT CHOICE
WHAT ARE OXBRIDGE LOOKING FOR?

- Course requirements (grades and any required subjects)
- Academic ability & potential to succeed on the course
- Genuine subject interest, enthusiasm & motivation
FINDING YOUR SUBJECT

What are you interested in?

How do you find out more?

How do you build on that?
TRUE OR FALSE?

You must already have an A-Level in the subject to study it at Cambridge or Oxford.
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You must already have an A-Level in the subject to study it at Cambridge or Oxford.

False: while some courses may require this, you can pick up many subjects from scratch e.g. a second language in Cambridge’s MML course; Archaeology at either university.
WHAT CAN I STUDY?

30 undergraduate courses

48 undergraduate courses

- Academic focus
- From school or scratch
- 1 subject or a combination
- “Full time job”
I KNOW I WANT TO STUDY HUMANITIES

Try to take at least one of: English Literature, History, Maths or a Language.

Supplement with other written, academic subjects such as Geography, Psychology, Economics, Sociology.

Or take other academic subjects, like Sciences & Further Maths, or arts related to your degree, such as Art or Music.
I KNOW I WANT TO STUDY SCIENCE

Two, ideally three, of: Biology, Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics.

If Maths is a course requirement, then Further Maths is a useful addition.

There are often specific requirements for Science courses e.g. Chemistry for Medicine.
QUIZ: WHAT IS A SUPER-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY?

• Something you’re the best at
• The things you do well at within the curriculum
• Academic things you do outside of the curriculum
• Non-academic things you do outside of the curriculum
QUIZ: WHAT IS A SUPER-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY?

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EXAMPLES

Start building your super-curricular activity portfolio in the summer after Y11
AND WHERE CAN I FIND THEM?

These sites are great starting points, and can be used to help you navigate – take notes, follow your own interests, and don’t see these as reading lists to be ‘ticked off’!

HE+  
www.myheplus.com

InsideUni: Subject Guides  
www.insideuni.org

Cambridge’s Super-Curricular Suggestions

Oxford’s Digital Resources Hub

Hertford Super-Curricular Challenge  
www.hertford.ox.ac.uk/challenge
OPPORTUNITIES TO LOOK OUT FOR…

- Mentoring
- Residentials
- Work experience/internships

- Target Oxbridge – Y12/13s from African/Caribbean backgrounds
- UNIQ Summer School (Oxford) - Y12 - deadline 23 Jan
- Sutton Trust Summer Schools (Cambridge) – Y12
- Sutton Trust Pathways to Engineering / Medicine / Law – Y12
- Headstart Engineering – Y12

- Opportunities in Essex beyond school - www.makehappen.org
END OF PART 2 QUIZ – TRUE OR FALSE?

• Oxbridge only really care about grades.

• You should take Chemistry if you are interested in studying Medicine.

• You need to make up your mind now about studying a Humanities or a Science subject.
• You should use the website we suggested for super-curriculars as reading lists.
END OF PART 2 QUIZ – TRUE OR FALSE?

• Oxbridge only really care about grades. **False** - grade requirements are just one part of what Oxbridge are looking for.

• You should take Chemistry if you are interested in studying Medicine. **True** - Chemistry required at Oxbridge and many other universities.

• You need to make up your mind now about studying a Humanities or a Science subject. **False**. Consider your A-Level choices and pick subjects that give you options but you enjoy.

• You should use the website we suggested for super-curriculars as reading lists. **False** - these are just starting points!