It is not possible to invite all applicants for an interview. The decision to invite an applicant takes into account all aspects of the application.

The Pre-Admissions Test

Given the very strong competition for places, all applicants who apply for Psychology, Philosophy and Linguistics must register for and sit the Thinking Skills Assessment (TSA). For students who are applying to take Psychology, Philosophy and Linguistics as part of their degree, they must also register for and sit the Linguistics Test part of the Modern Language Admissions Test (MLAT).

Registration for all tests is separate to the UCAS application.

Please see www.psy.ox.ac.uk for more information on each test.

What qualifications will I need?

Candidates will need to have a very good track record of academic achievement, excellent A-Level grade predictions (or equivalent) and a very strong UCAS reference. We normally expect students who have taken GCSEs to have at least A*/A grades, including at least an A in grade in GCSE Mathematics.

Our standard offer is A*AA at A2 level. For IB students we require 7,6,6 at Higher level with an overall score of 39. For other qualifications please see www.psy.ox.ac.uk

What can I do after I finish my degree?

Many of our students go on to do a postgraduate masters on economics after Har, or at Oxford, or at other institutions within the United Kingdom or overseas. Our degree will also enable you to enter a wide range of careers including commerce, government, industry, media and other professions.

Students who take Psychology as part of their degree, and have covered all the core areas of Psychology as defined by the British Psychological Society (BPS), will be eligible for Graduate Basis of Chartered Membership. This is the first step towards becoming a chartered psychologist. Please see the BPS website for more information: www.bps.org.uk

What is the role of the college?

All undergraduate students at Oxford become members of one of the 39 colleges. Colleges all provide excellent academic teaching standards and each college has its own history, ethos and architecture. Oxford colleges also provide students with affordable accommodation for at least two (and often for all three) years of the course and act as social hubs.

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Is this course for me?

If you are considering visiting us as a prospective student or are currently applying, specimen admissions tests and suggested reading are available online. Please see www.psy.ox.ac.uk for more information.

What are the tutors looking for?

In addition to looking for a very good track record of academic achievement, tutors are also interested in whether you can evaluate evidence, are able to consider issues from different perspectives, have a capacity for logical and creative thinking, appreciate the importance of empirical evidence in supporting arguments, and can cope with the demands of the course.

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Is this course for me?

If you are a highly motivated student who is passionate about studying any pairing of psychology, philosophy and linguistics (or, exceptionally, all three), the University of Oxford offers an outstanding environment in which to study. The course will introduce topics that may be completely new to you but is sufficiently flexible so that you do not need to decide immediately the areas in which you will ultimately specialise.

• For Psychology students we strongly recommend that you study one or more Science or Mathematics subjects to a full A-Level or equivalent.

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Psychology has been defined as the science of mental life. It looks at perception, memory, emotion and so forth in adults and children.

The study of Philosophy develops analytical rigor and the ability to criticize and reason logically.

Linguistics is the study of language in all its aspects – the nature of language, that is, not simply learning foreign languages. Unlike other subjects, it is the only one where you can maximise your full potential.

The BA in Psychology, Philosophy and Linguistics draws on the strengths of all three disciplines in a diverse and inter-connected nature where students can explore different aspects of each subject.

Why study PPL at Oxford?

The Philosophy Faculty is the largest philosophy department in the UK and one of the largest in the world. The large number of undergraduates and a variety of other disciplines affords the opportunity to participate in a diverse and lively philosophical community.

The Faculty of Linguistics, Philology and Phonetics is the largest in the University of Oxford. It brings together internationally-renowned scholars working in the newest fields in Oxford. Linguistics at Oxford provides a foundation in the basic components of phonetics and phonology (speech and sound patterns), morphology and syntax (word structure and grammar), and semantics (meaning). Linguistics is the study of language in all its aspects – the nature of language, that is, not simply learning foreign languages. Unlike other subjects, it is the only one where you can maximise your full potential.

The Philosophy Faculty is the largest philosophy department in the UK and one of the largest in the world. The large number of undergraduates and a variety of other disciplines affords the opportunity to participate in a diverse and lively philosophical community.

“PPL is a very varied and dynamic course. I have found a perfect match for my interests. I have made some of the best friends of my life here. As an English major, I am always looking for new ways to engage with different ideas and perspectives through reading, discussion, and writing. I have found that PPL provides an excellent opportunity to explore these interests in depth. The interdisciplinary nature of the course allows me to explore different aspects of philosophy, linguistics, and psychology in a way that is both challenging and fulfilling.”

Jan Firth, MA Trinity College, Year 3 MA PPL (Psychology & Linguistics)

“Since studying at University College (2009-2012), I have been training as a Chartered Accountant in London and I am due to qualify in September 2015. The numerical, analytical and logical reasoning skills that I developed through my degree are invaluable to me, working in such a fast-paced environment. The strong work discipline and time management skills that come hand in hand with studying in Oxford help me to stay afloat.”

How is the course structured?

Core Options in Experimental Psychology

PPL students choosing Psychology will be required to take core option examinations in their second year.

Students studying Psychology must sit the examinations in Probability Theory and Statistics either at A or B level.

Options in Philosophy

Unlike Experimental Psychology, students who are taking Philosophy as part of their degree are not required to take ‘core’ option examinations. The examinations given above are from the recommended reading lists within the syllabus. How many are taken depends on the student's喜好.

Options in Linguistics

Unlike Experimental Psychology, students who are taking Linguistics as part of their degree choose from 3 to 5 special subjects from: Phonetics and Phonology, Syntax, Semantics, Sociolinguistics, Psycholinguistics, Historical Linguistics, a project, a thesis, or an essay in the context of a subject or a language.

Teaching at Oxford

Oxford's most distinctive asset is the 'Tutorial System'. This means you are likely to receive much individual tuition and greater pastoral support than many other universities can offer. The tutorial seminars of a given meeting, once a week, between the tutor and students, are lectures designed to tell you about the important issues, theories and empirical research in your subject.

Practical Learning

Those taking Psychology as part of their degree, will be required to complete practical classes in the Department of Experimental Psychology, involving students in the design and running of Psychology experiments. Students will be required to take core option examinations in their second year.

Project Research and Library Dissertation

You will have the option of completing a Research Project or Library Dissertation, supervised by a senior member of staff. This provides you with an exciting opportunity to carry out a piece of original research. Alternatively, students studying Philosophy or Linguistics can opt to undertake a thesis in one of these respects.