



Course Information Sheet for entry in 2019-20

MPhil in Modern Chinese Studies

About the course

The MPhil Modern Chinese Studies is a two-year master's degree programme offered jointly by the Faculty of Oriental Studies and the Oxford School of Global and Area Studies which combines intensive study of the Chinese language with thorough training in the study of modern China.

The course is suitable for graduates who have developed an interest in China and now want to take that to a level where it could be useful for their future careers. It can be taken either as a terminal degree in preparation for professional work in which knowledge of China and Chinese is an advantage, or in preparation for further research as part of a doctoral degree in either the humanities or social sciences.

The aims of the MPhil in Modern Chinese Studies are to provide a strong grounding in modern Chinese language, both written and spoken, a strong foundation in understanding modern Chinese society and culture, and advanced training in conducting and reporting on independent and original research.

You will spend the first year of the course in Oxford, studying Chinese language alongside core classes in Chinese society and culture. You will choose from a range of options, shared with the MSc in Contemporary Chinese Studies, which allow you opportunities to acquire advanced knowledge of the society, politics, economics, history, literature and art of modern China.

Knowing the Chinese language is essential for anyone who wants to understand China and the course is designed to provide this at both elementary and intermediate levels. You will be allocated to the appropriate level by a placement test on arrival.

Elementary level will be for students who are complete beginners or are false beginners, but not up to the next level. Students are taught reading, writing and translation skills as well as speaking and listening. Intermediate level will be for students who have excelled at the beginner level, are confident in daily communication and able to recognise and write about

500 to 550 Chinese characters. Students must have learnt most of the main grammar points to enter the intermediate level. Due to the intensive language teaching element of the course, this degree is not appropriate for applicants with fluent or native Chinese language ability. Instead they are encouraged to apply for the MSc in Contemporary Chinese Studies degree.

The first part of the second year consists of a period of at least three months on an approved course of language study in China. In addition, the second year consists of continued coursework as well as independent research that culminates in a thesis.

Changes to courses

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after registration. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions.

Expected length of course

21 months

Costs

Annual fees for entry in 2019-20

Fee status	Annual Course fees
Home/EU (including Islands)	£20,115
Overseas	£23,950

The fees shown above are the annual course fees for this course, for entry in the stated academic year.

Course fees cover your teaching as well as other academic services and facilities provided to support your studies. Unless specified in the additional information section below, course fees do not cover your accommodation, residential costs or other living costs. They also don't cover any additional costs and charges that are outlined in the additional cost information below.

Course fees are payable each year, for the duration of your fee liability (your fee liability is the length of time for which you are required to pay course fees). For courses lasting longer than one year, please be aware that fees will usually increase annually. For details, please see our guidance on likely increases to fees and charges.

Additional cost information

The period between September and December of the second year (covering Michaelmas term) will be spent on full-time language study at Peking University. You will continue to pay tuition fees to the University of Oxford and college fees to your college in Oxford. The Faculty of Oriental Studies will meet the cost of the fees charged by Peking University. You will be expected to cover your own travel costs and living expenses in China. The faculty estimates that the cost of return airfare to Beijing from the UK to be approximately £900. You may be eligible to apply for modest financial assistance from your college. You may also need to choose a dissertation, a project or a thesis topic. Please note that, depending on your choice of topic and the research required to complete it, you may incur additional expenses, such as travel expenses, research expenses, and field trips. You will need to meet these additional costs, although you may be able to apply for small grants from your department and/or college to help you cover some of these expenses. Standard travel insurance can be provided by the University. However, students may be required to pay any additional insurance premiums associated with travel to areas with an increased level of risk, and should factor this into their planning for fieldwork.

Living costs

In addition to your course fees, you will need to ensure that you have adequate funds to support your living costs for the duration of your course.

The likely living costs for 2019-20 are published below. These costs are based on a single, full-time graduate student, with no dependants, living in Oxford. We provide the cost per month so you can multiply up by the number of months you expect to live in Oxford.

	Likely living costs for 1 month		Likely living costs for 9 months		Likely living costs for 12 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£265	£371	£2,387	£3,342	£3,183	£4,456
Accommodation	£566	£739	£5,093	£6,655	£6,790	£8,874
Personal items	£122	£271	£1,098	£2,435	£1,464	£3,246
Social activities	£42	£126	£380	£1,138	£506	£1,518
Study costs	£40	£88	£359	£788	£478	£1,051
Other	£23	£48	£208	£432	£277	£576
Total	£1,058	£1,643	£9,525	£14,790	£12,698	£19,721

When planning your finances for any future years of study at Oxford beyond 2019-20, you should allow for an estimated increase in living expenses of 3% each year.

More information about how these figures have been calculated is available at www.graduate.ox.ac.uk/livingcosts.