St Anne’s College Physics for Visiting Students

Why study Physics at St Anne’s?

Physics is concerned with the study of the Universe from the smallest to the largest scale, why it is the way it is, and how it works. Physics principles underpin all of the other scientific disciplines, from chemistry through material science to biology. Oxford has one of the largest physics departments in the world and hosts an outstanding and broad teaching and research programme.

At St. Anne’s you will benefit from being taught by experts who are leaders in their respective fields. We have a vibrant and friendly student community who will welcome you into the fold. You will join with physics students at St. Anne’s and also mix with the whole Oxford student physics cohort in lectures, classes and labs. St. Anne’s hosts the largest college library in the university, it is very well stocked, with multiple copies of the mainstream textbooks for students to borrow.

What you will study

Visiting students would typically study the second or the third year Oxford physics course, depending on the student’s level, and join in lectures and tutorials with current St. Anne’s undergraduates. Mixing courses between the two years cannot often be accommodated due to timetable clashes, however in exceptional circumstances this might be possible.

Second year Oxford physics courses are core classical physics topics: mathematical physics, quantum mechanics, thermal physics, electromagnetism and optics. Third year courses are more cutting-edge topics: subatomic physics, symmetries, special and general relativity, fluids, condensed matter and atomic physics (all of which require a background in the second year courses as a pre-requisite). Visiting students cannot study any of the fourth year (MMathPhys or MPhys) courses.

Participation in practical labs is also possible during Michaelmas and Hilary terms. Oxford students sit exams in Trinity term and generally intensive revision tutorials are only available in that term. However, if availability exists, a mini-project may be possible as a substitution.

How you will be taught

Students will typically spend the following lengths of time engaged in different academic activities in Physics:

- Lectures. Typically 10-12 per week.
- Tutorials. Typically 16 per term.
- Labs. Typically 1 day per week (if desired).

You can apply to study physics for

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<th>Extended academic year or Oxford Academic year</th>
<th>Yes – this is the preferred study duration, you can choose between the September course offerings and then study Physics throughout the academic year</th>
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<td>Fall Term (September + Michaelmas)</td>
<td>Yes – you can choose between the September course offerings and then study Physics through Michaelmas</td>
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<td>Hilary and Trinity terms only (January –June)</td>
<td>Possible, please enquire</td>
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You can apply to study physics with philosophy or maths if applying for the extended academic year or academic year.

Please email visiting.students@st-annes.ox.ac.uk if you have any enquiries.