St Anne’s College University of Oxford

Studying Law as a visiting student

If you’re academically ambitious, like to draw ideas together and critically analyse them, then studying law at St Anne’s and Oxford may be for you. You will need to feel ready to be in an environment where you will learn independently, reading and researching to enable you to argue and debate your interpretation of legal ideas, processing large amounts of material as well as enhancing your skills for writing, questioning and analysis.

Visiting Students with an interest in Law can study up to two Law courses during each term of their visit if studying Law as a single subject, or fewer if studying Law as a joint subject. Course preferences are expected to fit with the standard Oxford and College teaching patterns outlined below.

All visiting students studying Law will study core law courses, and it is also possible to state a preference for optional law courses.

We recommend studying for the Extended academic year or academic year if you wish to undertake law as a single or joint subject. You can also apply for Fall term or Hilary and Trinity terms but please note that optional law course choice is limited during Hilary and Trinity term.

Core academic law courses

Core academic law courses are mandatory courses for all undergraduate law students and are taught by the different Oxford colleges which accept undergraduate law students. Most of the teaching for these courses will take place in tutorials and classes held in your College. In addition, students taking these courses also attend lectures relevant to these courses at the Law Faculty.

A course will typically comprise eight tutorials/classes (indicated by ‘full’ in the schedule below). If a particular course is taught across two terms, only half of the course will be taught in each term, typically comprising four tutorials/classes and covering only half of the syllabus (indicated by ‘1st half’ or ‘2nd half’ in the schedule below). For specialist subjects, lectures are offered primarily in Michaelmas although tutorials may be in another term.

At St. Anne’s College, core academic law courses can usually be studied in the following terms:

**Michaelmas (October-December)**
- Criminal Law (full)
- Tort Law (2nd half)
- European Union Law (1st half)
- Land Law (full)

**Hilary (January-March)**
- Constitutional Law (full)
- Jurisprudence (1st half)
- European Union Law (2nd half)

**Trinity (April-June)**
- Tort Law (1st half)
- Administrative Law (full)
- Jurisprudence (2nd half) – dependent on tutor and Law faculty availability which cannot be confirmed until late Hilary term
A dissertation option is also available in any term as a full or half course and you would need to indicate on your application the area of Law you are interested in. Dissertation supervision can be offered in Administrative, Constitutional, Environmental, International, Medical, Property or Tort law subject to tutor availability.

Course descriptions for core law courses can be found on the Law Faculty website here.

The St. Anne’s College law tutors teach many of these courses and in some cases you may be taught by tutors from other Oxford colleges.

When applying to study law as a visiting student we require you to indicate four core law course preferences (if applying for the academic year) or three core law course preferences (if applying for Fall Term, Michaelmas or Hilary and Trinity terms) on your application form from the core law courses listed above.

Optional law courses

Once Oxford undergraduate Law students have completed their core course requirements they are able to select from a list of optional law courses during the final year of their studies. Therefore having a background in law, or completing some of the core law courses while studying at Oxford, are a pre-requisite to consider optional law courses.

Optional law courses are taught entirely by the Law Faculty, starting in Michaelmas and continuing into Hilary terms, and therefore you can only access these courses if you are studying with us in Michaelmas. Each optional law course will consist of a combination of lectures, seminars, classes, and tutorials arranged by the Law Faculty. In some cases courses may have specific pre-requisites which will need to have been met.

You can find an up-to-date list of the optional law courses offered by the Law Faculty here.

St. Anne’s College is not responsible for the list of optional law courses offered by the Law Faculty and we cannot guarantee that you will be able to study any of these courses.

If you wish to study an optional law course during your time at Oxford, you can indicate up to four optional law course preferences (if applying for the extended academic year or academic year) or three optional law course preferences (if applying for Fall Term, Michaelmas or Hilary and Trinity terms) on your application form. All optional law courses are contingent on securing the agreement of the relevant course convenor and the Law Faculty as well as securing a tutor.

Course combinations

As a visiting student, you can choose either of the following combinations of courses taught during the term(s) of your visit, as per the standard teaching patterns outlined above:

- One full course + one half course
- Two full courses

You can also combine studying law with other social science or humanities subjects.

Please feel free to email the Visiting Students Team (visiting.students@st-anne.ox.ac.uk) if you have any questions.