



An Oxford College Experience at Brasenose For Ages 14 – 17

The Oxford College for Teenagers offers ambitious and motivated 14-17 year olds the opportunity to prepare for an aspirational, professional future environment through skill-based workshops, field trips and case study analyses.

OISE's philosophy of total language immersion plays an important role, meaning the whole learning experience is structured to teach relevant vocabulary and expressions, and to provide constant opportunities for students to reinforce what is learned in by applying it to natural, real-world situations, both in the classroom and outside of it.

With over 40 years of experience, the OISE method has been proven to teach valuable and relevant communication skills promoting rapid progress, resulting in the learner gaining confidence and having an excellent command of the English language.

Structure

The structure of the tuition offered at the Oxford College for Teenagers is the following timetable. Lessons in the morning are common to all courses and focus mainly on improving students' Academic English and developing the skills needed to study at an English-speaking university. The afternoon lessons are specific to each course, but share a common framework and are subject specific. All lessons take place at Brasenose College, part of the University of Oxford.

Weekly Programme Format					
	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
09:00 - 09:30	Text of the Day				
09:30 - 10:30	Current Affairs Workshop				
	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
11:00 - 11:45	Language Focus				
11:45 - 12:30	Writing Skills				
	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
13:30 - 14:30	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture	Lecture
14:30 - 15:30	Case Study				
	Break	Break	Break	Break	Break
16:00 - 17:00	Project	Project	Project	Project	Project
17:00 - 18:00	Self Study				



Morning Lessons

Text of the Day

Students work alone to read and analyse a text, assigned by their tutor, which leads into the topic discussed in the Current Affairs Workshop. The text is followed by a number of critical reading questions, as well as essay and debate topics linked to the text, which students can investigate later in the day.

Current Affairs Workshop

Students work in small groups to research information and stories related to the text of the day. This is done by analysing contemporary texts taken from various different media sources. Students then work together on a particular task which has a link to the issues raised in the earlier text.

Language Focus

Students work on language areas with which they have problems. This may be vocabulary fields related to the text of the day, grammar points which become obvious from their writing, issues with accent or pronunciation, or any other areas which the tutors notice need extra attention.

Writing Skills

Students develop their written fluency focusing both on formats needed to apply to university, such as a personal statement and a CV, and those essential whilst at university, including essays, summaries, reviews and synthesis. They also work on specific skills (e.g. developing arguments, paraphrasing, being coherent), and technical issues (e.g. proofreading, referencing, avoiding plagiarism).

Afternoon Lessons

The afternoon lessons are subject specific. Students will choose a different subject each week from the following four options:

- International Relations
- Journalism and Digital Media
- Entrepreneurship
- Politics, Philosophy and Economics

For the duration of the week, each student's lectures, case studies and project will relate to their chosen subject, culminating in a subject-related excursion on Saturdays.



Lecture

Theoretical input on the course of their choice. Teachers specialised in different areas explain in detail concepts that will be seen in the Case Studies and applied to the Project; for example:

International Relations: Global Governance / Intercultural Communication .

Philosophy, Politics and Economics: Parties and Ideologies / The Macro Economy

Entrepreneurship: Managing Projects / Risk Assessment

Journalism and Digital Media: Digital Skills / Perspective and Bias

Case Study

Having learnt key concepts in different areas, students are exposed to real-life examples of this theory in practice. Examples include prominent individuals or key historical events such as:

International Relations: Aung San Suu Kyi / Arab Spring

Philosophy, Politics and Economics: US Hedge Funds / Barack Obama

Entrepreneurship: Warren Buffett / Tesco's international expansion

Journalism and Digital Media: Watergate / Robert Fisk

Project

Students have the opportunity to apply the concepts seen in the other sessions to develop a practical project, in groups, throughout the week. Example projects include:

International Relations: Presenting a current crisis at a UN meeting

Philosophy, Politics and Economics: Designing a Presidential campaign

Entrepreneurship: Pitching a startup company

Journalism and Digital Media: Presenting a news programme

Measuring Progress

Each student has a learner e-portfolio which helps students become more autonomous in their learning and encourages self-assessment and reflection. It contains advice on study skills, an area to record vocabulary studied, and a checklist of 'can-do' statements, which are used by the language learners to assess what they can do with the language. They keep a written or video recording showing evidence of their ability to communicate in English.

Availability

The Oxford College for Teenagers offers two-week courses in July

Accommodation is residential and within Brasenose itself - single rooms, with a washbasin in each, and a shower room shared between a maximum of 4 students. Meals are served in the college dining hall.

Full details and suitability criteria will shortly be available in the 2017 brochure; please contact info@oise.com with queries in the meantime.