

TEMPLATE FOR RESEARCH STUDENTS: DPHIL IN ECONOMICS

1. What arrangements will be put in place for supervising the graduate's work?

Each student registered for a higher degree will have one or more University *supervisors*, appointed by the Department. Your supervisor will offer guidance on your DPhil thesis and provide more general advice on your studies. Supervisors are obliged to report on your progress at the end of each term, and their advice will always be sought by the Graduate Studies Committee before recommending any change in status, extension to terms of study, and so on. You should expect to meet with your supervisor at least four times a term.

In addition to the supervisor, you will also have an *interviewer*, typically a member of the Graduate Studies Committee. You can also turn to the interviewer for advice, especially on matters for which advice from your supervisor may be inappropriate (for example, if you have an issue involving your supervisor).

2. What induction arrangements will be made?

There is a Departmental induction just before the beginning of term. You will also have a group meeting with the Director of Graduate Studies, at which issues relating to your research and studies will be discussed. There will also be recreational activities at which you will meet other doctoral students in an informal setting.

During induction, you will receive a copy each of the *Pink Book* and the *Green Book*. The Pink Book gives a summary of the requirements at each stage of the DPhil degree. The Green Book gives information on the lectures available.

3. What workspace will be provided?

Every year the Department offers a limited number of desk spaces in the open plan area of the building (fully equipped with computing and printing facilities). These desks are allocated by the Graduate Joint Consultative Committee. You will be sent a form to apply for a desk with your induction pack.

4. What IT support/library facilities/experimental facilities will be available?

You will have access to the Economics IT computer system, with a guaranteed amount of centralized storage suitable to your needs. You will also have access to most of the libraries in Oxford, including the Social Science Library (conveniently located in the same building as the Department).

5. Which research seminars will be available?

In a typical week in Oxford during term time, there will be around ten seminars/workshops on economic topics, with regular seminars in all the main branches of the discipline. Students typically choose to attend one, two, or three seminar series covering research areas that interest them. There is also a student research workshop in which graduate students present their work to other students and members of the faculty.

6. What access to research funds will be available?

The Department has a number of ESRC Quota Awards, which provides full funding to graduate students for up to four years. It also has a number of doctoral studentships and graduate teaching assistantships. There is a fund that provides grants for attendance at conferences and similar one-off events. For more information on student funding, visit <http://www.economics.ox.ac.uk/Graduate/graduate.htm>

7. What formal graduate skills training will be provided?

You will have access to all the lectures and seminars organised by the Department. In most cases, you will also be able to attend lectures organised by other parts of the University. These should be sufficient to help you acquire the specialist knowledge you need to write a good thesis.

The Social Sciences Division organises a Professional Training for Social Scientists (PTSS) programme covering a range of relevant generic skills and which research students are encouraged to attend. Details of the programme are emailed to students via their departments. Information about training and other courses offered across the University is available through the University SkillsPortal at <http://www.skillsportal.ox.ac.uk>

8. What opportunities will be available for developing teaching skills?

You will be able to attend a course on *Undergraduate Tutorial and Class Teaching in Economics*, organized jointly by the Economics Department and the Oxford Learning Institute. This takes place at the beginning of each academic year.

9. What arrangements for accommodation, meals and social facilities, will be made, on a year round basis?

The Department is located in the Manor Road Building, which it shares with a few other departments in the Social Science Division. The building has a cafeteria, which is popular with students and faculty and is open throughout the year. Many seminars/workshops in the Department are held around lunchtime, and it is quite common to have sandwiches and drinks provided to those who attend them.

Once a week during term time, research students and faculty gather for afternoon tea and cakes. Poster sessions are also held at that time, which gives another opportunity for graduate students to receive feedback on their doctoral research.

You may also become a member of the University Club in Mansfield Road, and participate in the sporting and cultural activities provided there.

Accommodation: Many colleges will be able to provide you with at least one year's accommodation. Generally speaking your college will also provide meals throughout the year, but provision will vary from college to college, especially during vacations, and you will need to familiarise yourself with your college's detailed arrangements. In addition there are usually self-catering facilities available in graduate accommodation.

You will be a member of the Middle Common Room (MCR), or equivalent, of your college. The MCR provides a common room and organises a programme of social events throughout the year. Colleges will have computing and recreational facilities and a library, and often have dedicated funds for research (conference and field grants). The details will vary from college to college; please see individual college websites for more.

10. What arrangements are in place for pastoral and welfare support?

In the Department your supervisor, your interviewer, the Director of Graduate Studies, and the Graduate Administrative Officer are all available to offer support.

The University provides a Student Counselling Service (<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/shw/counserv.shtml>) and Careers Service (<http://www.careers.ox.ac.uk/>).

There is also an extensive framework of support for graduates within each college. Your college will allocate to you a College Advisor from among its Senior Members, usually in a cognate subject, who will arrange to see you from time to time and whom you may contact for additional advice and support on academic and other matters. In college you may also approach the Tutor for Graduates and/or the Senior Tutor for advice. The Tutor for Graduates is a fellow of the college with particular responsibility for the interests and welfare of graduate students. Colleges may also have other named individuals who can offer individual advice.

11. What arrangements are in place for gaining the views of research students?

Teaching in all lectures and classes are evaluated through student surveys. Research students also fill in an annual questionnaire in which they report on the quality of their experience. The Graduate Joint Consultative Committee provides a forum through which students and faculty may offer feedback to each other.

The views of research students are also sought by means of a centrally administered questionnaire