



# Interdisciplinary Education at Oxford

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## Universities in the UK

- Over 100 Universities
- 30% to 40% attendance
- Departmental System
- Undergraduate degrees – 3 to 4 years
  - Joint Honours programmes
- Master's programmes – 1 to 2 years
  - Some interdisciplinary
- Doctoral Programmes – 3 years
  - 1 + 3 year model





## What's Special about Oxford?

- Undergraduate Tutorials
- College System
- Undergraduate Joint Honours Degrees
- Graduate Inter-disciplinary Degrees



## Joint Honours Degrees

- Papers from each discipline taught “as if” single honours
  - Taught with students from other joint or single honours
  - Examined as single honours
  - Taught by specialist tutors – often world leaders
- Eight papers assessed by end of degree
  - Six written exams
  - Research Project
  - Dissertation





## Master's Programmes

- Often taught jointly by two or more Departments
- Taught Courses
  - Usually one-year course
  - Preparation for doctorate (DPhil)
- By Research
  - Usually two-year course



## Doctoral Programmes

- 1 + 3 Model
  - 3 years research after Master's Degree
- Taught Courses
  - Usually limited to first year of doctorate
- Often Two supervisors
  - Can be from different faculties
- College advisor





## The College System

- Thirty Nine Colleges in Oxford
  - Mostly mixed graduate and undergraduate
  - Five Graduate Colleges
- Each College is a mini-University
  - At least one Fellow in each discipline
  - Financially autonomous
  - Responsibility for admission of students
  - But examined by the University
- The College Lunch



## The Tutorial System

- One Tutor – One to Three Students
- One hour
  - Longer if more than one student
- Two or three tutorials per week
  - One tutorial per subject
- Essays
  - 1500 words assessed ahead of tutorial
- Presentations
  - Twenty minute presentation often with PPT
- Problem Sheets





