



Hauser Global Law School Program

# Oxford University Oxford, England

Exchange Program Information Package  
2009-2010



Hauser Global Law School Program  
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<http://www.law.nyu.edu/global/intlprograms/studyabroadprograms/index.htm>

We are pleased you are interested in New York University School of Law's overseas exchange program with Oxford University, England. This package gives a general description of the program as well as details about some of its more important aspects. The information in this pack was taken from a variety of sources made available by Oxford University, such as their website, handbooks, and other informational guides. Carefully review this information before deciding whether to apply.

Please plan to attend an information session. If you can't, or if you have additional questions about the program, please feel free to stop by the Hauser Global Law School Program Office (FH 340) to speak with Christine Jensch, Coordinator for Global Fellows and Exchange Programs.

## **Important Application Dates**

<b>November 14 and 15</b>	Information Meetings
<b>January 21</b>	NYU Application deadline
<b>Mid-January to Mid-Feb</b>	Applicants screened
<b>Mid to late February</b>	Selections made
<b>March 16</b>	Fall application deadline

## **I. Program Description and Information**

### **A. About the Program**

Up to two NYU Law students may study at Oxford University per academic year. The program is open to second- and third-year students only who have spent at least one full-year at NYU School of Law. First-year students cannot participate.

The exchange program with Oxford is designed to offer a serious study of law in an international setting. This is definitely not the same thing as a college semester abroad. If you are looking for a semester abroad with a light course load and plenty of time to sightsee, this is not the program for you. This is not to say that you will have no time to sightsee and familiarize yourself with British culture. You will. But we do want to emphasize that this program is much more academically rigorous than many overseas programs at the undergraduate level.

### **B. Oxford University**

Oxford University is one of the oldest and most respected institutions of higher learning in the world. Although there is no clear foundation date, teaching and learning has been going on at Oxford since 1096, and it rapidly developed in 1167 when Henry II banned English students from studying at the University of Paris. Oxford has since grown into a university of almost 20,000 students, including 12,106 undergraduates and 7,380 postgraduates in 39 colleges and 7 private halls. The structure of Oxford varies widely from US universities in that its colleges are independent and self-governing while under the umbrella institution of Oxford. Each college sets its own admissions standards, schedules classes, operates residence halls, funds its libraries and develops its own community. The relatively small size of colleges allows close and supportive personal attention to be given to the induction, academic development and welfare of individual students.

Learning at Oxford also differs from what you may be accustomed to in the US. The tutorial is at the core of undergraduate teaching and learning at Oxford and offers students a unique learning experience, in which they meet regularly with their tutor, either on a one-to-one basis or with one or two other students, to discuss and debate written work or a set of problems prepared in advance.

Oxford's university community is truly international: 28 per cent of teaching and research staff and 43 per cent of research-only staff are from overseas. A third of the total student body – over 6,500 students – are citizens of foreign countries, including 14 per cent of full-time undergraduates and 63 per cent of full-time graduate students. Students come to Oxford from 139 countries and territories, creating a vibrant and diverse student community.

### **C. The City of Oxford**

Oxford is affectionately known as The City of Dreaming Spires and with just cause: its skyline is dominated by the university's gothic buildings. The sheer beauty of the city's colleges and riverside setting, national and international treasures, literary links and stunning film and TV locations, shops with real character; music, and drama makes Oxford a popular day trip from London. These mixed with Oxford's lively restaurants, cafés, pubs, and theatres give this historic city its alluring vibrant and cosmopolitan buzz.

### **D. Program Dates**

Below are the term dates for the Fall and Spring semesters. Exam dates are not included.

#### Fall 2009 Semester "Michaelmas"\*

**Early October** Orientation

**October 12 – 6 December**      Fall semester dates

Spring 2010 Semester "Hilary"\*

**Early January**      Orientation

**January 18 – 14 March**      Spring semester dates

\* Dates to be confirmed

### **E. Course Offerings and Selections**

The Oxford University Faculty of Law offers a wide variety of degree programs at the undergraduate and postgraduate level. As an exchange student, you will participate in the undergraduate program. Courses available include:

Criminal Law	European Community Law	European Human Rights Law
Constitutional Law	Commercial Leases	Family Law
A Roman Introduction to Private Law	Company Law	History of English Law
Legal Research Skills	Comparative Law: Contract	International Trade
Tort	Copyright, Patents & Allied Rights	Labor Law
Contract	Copyright, Trademarks & Allied Rights	Personal Property
Land Law	Criminal Justice and Penology	Principles of Commercial Law
Trusts	EC Competition Law and Policy	Public International Law
Administrative Law	Environmental Law	Roman Law (Delict)
Jurisprudence	Ethics	Taxation Law

Further details about the above courses can be found at <http://denning.law.ox.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses.shtml>.

### **F. Exams and Grades**

Your exams will be graded in the first instance by Oxford faculty in accordance with the Oxford grading system. Because grading standards between NYU and Oxford may differ, a direct translation to NYU's letter grading system is extremely difficult. Therefore, participating NYU students will, upon successfully completing a course, receive a designation of "pass/fail" for the course on their transcripts. **All students must receive the equivalent of a letter grade C in order to receive credit for the class.**

**ACCEPTANCE OF ANY CREDIT OR GRADE FOR ANY COURSE TAKEN IN THE PROGRAM IS SUBJECT TO DETERMINATION BY NEW YORK UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF LAW.** We expect, however, that all credits earned at Palermo will count towards New York University School of Law credits.

### **G. Program Cancellation Policies**

We expect the program to go forward as planned and anticipate no obstacles to implementation. However, in the highly unlikely event that the entire program has to be canceled, students selected for the program will be informed immediately by telephone, email, or in person, and notices of cancellation will be posted on the Hauser Global Law School Program website. In addition, individual meetings will be arranged with any student who wishes one. If in the even more unlikely event that the Program is canceled after students have arrived in Buenos Aires, Director of Global Faculty, Fellows and Communications, Diane Elliott will contact all participating students by telephone, if possible, or by email. Should particular courses be canceled or rescheduled, students selected for the program will be informed by email, telephone, or in person to the extent that we are made aware of these changes.

## **II. Facilities**

### **Library**

Oxford is rich in library facilities, and those available for research and study in law (and related disciplines) are among the very best in the UK. The physical collections are augmented by a numerous electronic resources accessible on the university ethernet, which extends to colleges and other university sites as well as library buildings.

The Bodleian Law Library is a major research library, one of the UK's two or three most important, based in the St Cross Building with the Law Faculty offices.

Other law libraries include the college libraries - notably the Codrington Library at All Souls College, open to law students from all over the University.

Those working in law and related disciplines in Oxford also benefit from extensive academic computing facilities, and dedicated staff to provide training and support.

### **Computer Lab**

Both the Law Faculty and the Bodleian Law Library have IT Training and Development Officers who develop and lead training programmes for students and faculty members in electronic legal research and database use.

Oxford University Library Service networks many legal databases. The network can be accessed from computer rooms and network points in throughout the St Cross Building; from college libraries and rooms; and from anywhere in the world via our Web Terminal Service.

The PC Training Room in the St Cross Building has PCs with network connection, plus printing and scanning facilities. PCs are also provided in the Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer IT Training Room in the Bodleian Law Library. Other public access PCs are provided on all three floors of the Library. Many readers' desks have data points for network access.

There is dedicated computing support staff in the Law Faculty, and in the Bodleian Law Library, as well as in many colleges. In addition, the Oxford University Computing Service provides central services such as PC use and printing, hardware and software purchase, email and webspace, dial-in and VPN access, clinics and helplines, etc.

### **III. Preparing for Your Trip**

#### **A. Anticipated Tuition, Fees and Living Costs**

##### **Tuition**

Because this is a revenue-neutral exchange program, participating NYU Law students will pay New York University the normal tuition for a 12 credit-hour semester at NYU Law.

##### **Cost of Living**

Below is a table that gives you some idea of how much you might spend personally and on every day items in Oxford. The cost of living is relative high in the UK. Combined with a strong British pound, you may find living in the UK much more expensive than in New York. Fortunately, there is a wealth of discounts for students at both the university and throughout the UK. £1 is approximately US\$2

Personal spending	£300
Bus ticket	£1.50
CD	£10
Haircut	£30
International newspaper	£2
Night club entry	£10-£20
Cup of coffee	£3
Burger meal	£5

We estimate that you should budget at least US\$1,200 per month for living expenses, taking into account the fact that you are abroad and will therefore potentially spend more money than during a typical semester at NYU. If you are planning to travel around the country and Europe, you will need to budget more for additional expenses.

#### **B. Student Housing and Living Arrangements**

Students will be offered a place in the university halls of residence. Oxford's housing is decentralized and your hall of residence will be based on the college in which you are enrolled. Accommodation assignment will be made after acceptance into the program.

#### **C. Visa Information**

Determine whether you need a visa to study in the UK by going to <http://www.ukvisas.gov.uk/en/howtoapply/infs/inf5students> US students studying in the UK for less than 6 months can enter as a "student visitor". When arriving, you will need to declare your intentions to the immigration officer. More details can be found at <http://www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk/policyandlaw/immigrationlaw/immigrationrules/part2/>

If you plan to work while in the UK, you will need to obtain a visa. You can apply online at <http://www.visa4uk.fco.gov.uk/ApplyNow.aspx>

#### **D. Health Insurance**

Students must prove that they have health insurance which covers you in the UK. If you are insured through NYU's Student Health Insurance, you are covered for emergencies when traveling more than 100 miles from your campus address through Assist America. Do carry your Assist America card with you when traveling. In case you do get into an emergency, you are to contact Assist America to arrange all medical services. You will not be reimbursed for any services that are not arranged through Assist America. Reimbursement is the same as the NYU-sponsored Basic plan of 80%/20% co-insurance. For more information, visit

[http://www.chickering.com/stu\\_conn/travel\\_assistance.aspx](http://www.chickering.com/stu_conn/travel_assistance.aspx).

It is possible to waive your NYU Student Health Insurance. In order to do this, you must have an insurance policy that is comparable to NYU's Basic plan. For more information, visit [http://www.nyu.edu/shc/about/waiving\\_plans.htm](http://www.nyu.edu/shc/about/waiving_plans.htm) or contact NYU Student Health Insurance Services at 212-443-1020. **Your waiver will not be processed until Student Health Insurance Services confirms that your insurance plan meets the University's criteria.** To avoid being obligated to pay for two health insurance plans, please do not purchase another health insurance plan before it is approved by Student Health Insurance Services.

While in the UK, short-term students are entitled to limited free National Health Service (NHS) treatment. This specifically includes hospital treatment in an NHS Accident and Emergency department. Doctors may treat you for free, but this is usually limited to urgent treatment that cannot be delayed until you return home. Otherwise, you should expect to pay private rates for doctor visits. While you may be able to access healthcare through the NHS, it is by no means a substitute for health insurance coverage.

## E. Provisions for Students with Disabilities

Information about Oxford's policy and services for students with disabilities can be found at <http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/eop/disab/>. If you are interested in the program and will need some special assistance due to a disability, please speak Ms. Christine Jensch, Coordinator for Global Fellows and Exchange Programs who will contact Oxford to obtain information about the availability of needed services.

## F. Program Cancellation Policy

We expect the program to go forward as planned and anticipate no obstacles to implementation. However, in the highly unlikely event that the entire program has to be canceled, students selected for the program will be informed immediately by telephone, email, or in person, and notices of cancellation will be posted on the Hauser Global Law School Program website. In addition, individual meetings will be arranged with any student who wishes one. If in the even more unlikely event that the Program is canceled after students have arrived in Oxford, Christine Jensch, Coordinator for Global Visitors and Exchange Programs will contact all participating students by telephone, if possible, or by email. Should particular courses be canceled or rescheduled, students selected for the program will be informed by email, telephone, or in person to the extent that we are made aware of these changes.

## G. Resources for Living, Studying, and Traveling in the UK

Below are websites you can get more information about living, studying and traveling in the UK:

<http://www.ousu.org/> This is the Oxford University student union website. The Student Union is similar to student government and also provides advocacy and welfare services to students.

<http://www.ukstudentlife.com/>

[www.ukcosa.org.uk](http://www.ukcosa.org.uk) UKCOSA is an organization that provides advice and information to international students. It is a good resource for questions regarding visas and your status in the UK.

[www.visitbritain.com](http://www.visitbritain.com)

[www.enjoyengland.com](http://www.enjoyengland.com)

### Student Travel Agencies

When buying your flight, you should consider using a student travel agent. Not only might you get a better price, you may also get a more flexible ticket that allows cancellation or date changes. The fees for these are often less than other agents or the airline itself.

*STA Travel.* There are branches around the city and all over the world. Also online at [www.statravel.com](http://www.statravel.com)

*Travel CUTS.* There is an office on MacDougal Street. Also online at [www.travelcuts.com](http://www.travelcuts.com).

*www.studentuniverse.com.* Online only. You do not need an ISIC card to purchase products from this site. You must have an active university email address.

### Getting Around

#### Budget Airlines

[www.ryanair.com](http://www.ryanair.com)

[www.easyjet.com](http://www.easyjet.com)

[www.airberlin.com](http://www.airberlin.com)

#### By Rail

[www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk) For travel around the UK

[www.eurail.com](http://www.eurail.com) For rail pass information

[www.eurostar.co.uk](http://www.eurostar.co.uk) To travel to Paris or Brussels by train

#### By Bus

[www.nationalexpress.com](http://www.nationalexpress.com) For travel around the UK

[www.eurolines.com](http://www.eurolines.com) For travel to and around Europe including Ireland

[www.stagecoachbus.com/oxfordshire](http://www.stagecoachbus.com/oxfordshire) Bus information around the area and to London

[www.theairline.info](http://www.theairline.info) Bus information to Heathrow and Gatwick airports

### Student Discounts

*International Student Identity Card.* This is the only internationally recognized student identity card. It is available at student travel agencies. An ISIC card costs \$22 and is valid for a calendar year. ISIC cards purchased in September are valid through the following calendar year. With an ISIC card, you can get discounts on flights, tour packages, entry to attractions, and more. Visit [www.isic.org](http://www.isic.org) to find out what discounts are available in the country you are going to.

*National Union of Students (NUS) Card.* This card is available through the university's student union. With it, you can get discounts around the UK in shops, bars, restaurants. You can find out more about it at <http://www.nusonline.co.uk/>

*Young Persons Rail Card.* If you plan to travel around the UK, this card will get you 1/3 off rail travel. It costs £20 and can pay for itself with your first trip. Visit <http://www.youngpersons-railcard.co.uk/>

## IV. Semester Follow-Up

Please note that all NYU School of Law students selected to participate in a study abroad program will be requested to submit to the Hauser Global Law School Program upon completion of their studies abroad:

1. A one or two-page report evaluating their experiences in the program
2. A Student Questionnaire Form at the end of their studies to be used to provide a resource for future students interested in the program with the University of Palermo, Faculty of Law.

## V. How to Apply

If you decide to apply to the Exchange Program at Oxford, you must complete a written NYU application available from the Hauser Global Law School Program website: <http://www.law.nyu.edu/global/intlprograms/studyabroadprograms/index.htm>

In screening applicants, we will look for such things as a strong academic record, serious interest in international and comparative law, and experience with different cultures and overseas travel. The timetable for the application process is as follows:

<b>January 21</b>	NYU Application deadline
<b>Mid-January to Mid-February</b>	Applicants screened
<b>Mid-late February</b>	Selections made and applicants notified
<b>March 16</b>	Oxford application deadline

If you are nominated by NYU to participate in the exchange program with Oxford, you will be given their application to complete and submit to the Hauser Office by **March 16, 2009**. We will then forward your application to Oxford where it will be considered for admission. Should you be accepted by Oxford, you will receive an acceptance letter and instructions for obtaining your visa.