



THE TUTORIAL SYSTEM

For the independent learner.

The teaching in Oxford is based on the Tutorial System. It consists of eight weekly tutorials for a Major Tutorial, and four tutorials fortnightly (every other week) for a Minor Tutorial. At the start of the term in '0'th week you will have an Introductory Meeting with each of your two tutors. During this meeting the whole term's work will be discussed and a syllabus will be set with an essay topic for each tutorial, and an extensive reading list. The tutorials are one-to-one, and last an hour, during which you will read aloud your essay, which is then commented on by your tutor and followed by a discussion arising from your essay and the reading you have done. These tutorials are demanding but extremely rewarding as you are able to study topics in depth. By the end of each term you will have written twelve essays.

The tutorial system works well because of the individual attention your tutor devotes to you. The tutors are approachable and eager to help you. They understand that you will be new to Oxford and new to the system. The tutors want you to excel, and they enjoy sharing their love of their particular subject with you.

When you choose your tutorial topics you need to make sure you cover your degree requirements; but do try to choose subjects that enhance your stay in the UK. Studying various periods of history can also involve visits to historic sites; studying English Literature may involve additional visits to the theatre, and the locations from which an author came. Art History may include visits to Art Galleries around the country but especially London; Music History may involve visits to concerts and recitals. These are examples of how you may enrich your tutorial experience. It is important to bear this in mind when choosing your subjects.