UNDERGRADUATE ADMISSIONS AND OUTREACH
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Mathematics and Computer Science (BA) (three-year course); (MMathCompSci) (four-year-course) Course Information Sheet for entry in 2026

Entry requirements

Visit Admission requirements for 2026 entry to view a summary table of each undergraduate course's entry requirements.

If English is not your first language you may also need to meet our English language requirements.

About the course

This joint degree offers the opportunity to combine an appreciation of mathematical reasoning with an understanding of computing.

Mathematics is a fundamental intellectual tool in computing, but computing is increasingly used as a key component in mathematical problem-solving.

The course concentrates on areas where mathematics and computing are most relevant to each other, emphasising the bridges between theory and practice.

It offers opportunities for students to develop a deeper understanding of the mathematical foundations of their subject. The course helps students to acquire a familiarity with the mathematics of application areas where computers can solve otherwise intractable problems. It also gives mathematicians access to both a practical understanding of the use of computers and a deeper understanding of the limits on the use of computers in their own subject.

A typical week

The typical weekly timetable for a student in Mathematics and Computer Science is similar to that for Computer Science or Mathematics.

Tutorials are usually 2-4 students with a tutor. Class sizes may vary depending on the options you choose. There would usually be around 8-15 students though classes for some of the more popular papers may be larger. Lectures may be up to 120 students.

As the course progresses there will be opportunity to undertake project work. There will be a group project in year two and, for those that choose to continue to year four, a large individual project or dissertation.

Most tutorials, classes, and lectures are delivered by staff who are tutors in their subject. Many are world-leading experts with years of experience in teaching and research. Some teaching may also be delivered by postgraduate students who are studying at doctoral level.

To find out more about how our teaching year is structured, visit our Academic Year page.

Significant self-study is expected of all students – for further details see workload and independent study information. Undergraduate courses at Oxford are full-time during term time. Students typically spend approximately 40 hours per week on academic work.

Course structure

YEAR 1	
COURSES	**ASSESSMENT**
Core Mathematics (50%) • Analysis • Continuous maths • Groups and group actions • Introduction to complex numbers • Introduction to university maths • Linear algebra • Probability Core Computer Science (50%) • Design and analysis of algorithms • Functional programming • Introduction to proof systems • Imperative programming	Five exam papers

YEAR 2	
COURSES	**ASSESSMENT**
Core Computer Science (25%) • Algorithms and data structures • Group design practical • Models of computation **Core Mathematics (30%)** • Complex analysis • Linear algebra • Metric spaces **Options in Mathematics (20%)** • Numerical analysis • Quantum theory	Eight exam papers (four Computer Science and four Mathematics)

YEAR 2	
• Topology **Options in Computer Science (25%)** • Artificial Intelligence • Computer architecture • Computer graphics • Databases • Logic and proof • Quantum information	

YEAR 3	
COURSES **Mathematics** Options including: • Commutative algebra • Galois theory • Graph theory • Information theory • Set theory • Topology and groups **Computer Science** Options including: • Artificial Intelligence • Computational complexity • Computer-aided formal verification • Computer graphics • Computer security • Geometric modelling • Lambda calculus and types • Machine learning • Quantum information	**ASSESSMENT** Up to eight exam papers

YEAR 4

COURSES	ASSESSMENT
Mathematics Advanced options including: • Algebraic geometry • Analytic number theory • Category theory • Elliptic curves • Lie groups • Model theory • Probabilistic combinatorics **Computer Science** Advanced options including: • Advanced security • Automata, logic and games • Categories, proofs and processes • Concurrent algorithms and data structures • Computational biology • Computational game theory • Computational learning theory • Database systems implementation • Foundation of self-programming agents • Geometric deep learning • Graph representational learning • Probabilistic model checking • Quantum software (Not all options may be available every year – these are subject to change, as explained in the Terms & Conditions and for reasons of staff availability and student demand. The department may add extra options.)	Written or take-home exams plus a dissertation or project report.

The courses listed above are illustrative and may change. A full list of current options is available on the Computer Science website.

Most Oxford courses are assessed by examinations. These are typically at the end of the first and last years but you may have assessments at other times and some courses have exams in the second year also. First year examinations are often called Prelims or Moderations, and you need to pass these exams to progress to the second year. You must pass your final year exams, or 'finals', to pass your degree. For more information on assessment for your course, please see the Course Structure.

Finals also determine the classification of your degree. For some courses you may also be assessed on your practical work, or you may be required to submit a dissertation. Please check the assessment details for your course.

The University will seek to deliver this course in accordance with the description set out above. However, there may be situations in which it is desirable or necessary for the University to make changes in course provision, either before or after registration. For further information, please see the University's Terms and Conditions and information about potential course changes.

You are also referred to the Student Handbook (which is updated every September).

Fees

These annual fees in 2026/27 are for full-time students who begin this undergraduate course here in 2026. Information about how much fees and other costs usually increase each year is set out in the University's Terms and Conditions.

For details of annual increases, please see our guidance on likely increases to fees and charges.

Fee status	Annual Course fees in 2026/27
Home	£9,790
Overseas	£62,820

In the 2027-28 academic year course fees for Home fee status students will rise to £10,050 (in line with the government fee cap.)

Further details about fee status eligibility can be found on the fee status webpage.

Living costs

Living costs for the academic year starting in 2026 are estimated to be between £1,405 and £2,105 for each month you are in Oxford. Students at Oxford can benefit from our world class resources and college provision, which may help to keep costs down. Entitlement to certain types of support may depend on your personal financial circumstances.

Our academic year is made up of three eight-week terms, so you would not usually need to be in Oxford for much more than six months of the year but may wish to budget over a nine-month period to ensure you also have sufficient funds during the holidays to meet essential costs. For further details please visit our living costs webpage.

Living costs breakdown

	Per month		Total for 9 months	
	Lower range	Upper range	Lower range	Upper range
Food	£315	£545	£2,835	£4,905
Accommodation (including utilities)	£825	£990	£7,425	£8,910
Personal items	£160	£310	£1,440	£2,790
Social activities	£50	£130	£450	£1,170
Study costs	£35	£90	£315	£810
Other	£20	£40	£180	£360

	Per month		Total for 9 months	
Total	**£1,405**	**£2,105**	**£12,645**	**£18,945**

In order to provide these estimated likely living costs (which are rounded to the nearest £5), the University in collaboration with the Oxford SU conducted a living costs survey in May 2025 to complement existing student expenditure data from a variety of sources, including the UK government's Student Income and Expenditure Survey and the National Union of Students (NUS).

The current economic climate and periods of high national inflation in recent years make it harder to estimate potential changes to the cost of living over the next few years. When planning your finances for any future years of study in Oxford beyond 2026-27, it is suggested that you allow for potential increases in living expenses of around 4% each year – although this rate may vary depending on the national economic situation.

Additional Fees and Charges Information for Mathematics and Computer Science

There are no compulsory costs for this course beyond the fees shown above and your living costs.

Regulation - The University of Oxford is regulated by the Office for Students and subscribes to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education student complaints scheme.