Welcome

Cambridge has welcomed and nurtured students for hundreds of years. The collegiate University is bound together by a deep-rooted sense of community and shared purpose. Our commitment to excellence in education, learning and research is uncompromising.

My student days at Cambridge offered me the precious opportunity to challenge and deepen my knowledge. They also provided the space and the time to broaden my intellectual horizons.

Today Cambridge continues to reach outwards, welcoming an ever more diverse group of students who have the desire and ability to learn and produce new insights that shift and deepen our understanding of the world around us.

Professor Stephen Toope
Vice-Chancellor

Visit our website and follow us on social media:

- www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk
- @cambridge.university
- @Cambridge_Uni
- @cambridgeuniversity
- www.youtube.com/CambridgeUniversity

In this Guide

1 Why Cambridge?
2 A globally-respected education
4 An 800-year history
6 Working to improve the future
8 Applying to Cambridge
10 Courses
14 Colleges
18 Applying
20 Entrance requirements
24 Arrival and settling in
26 Student life
30 Fees and finance
34 Careers
36 Finding out more
38 Map
40 About this Guide

Important note

This Guide represents life at the University and Colleges prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, as it is assumed that by 2022 admissions this will have resumed. Please note that the photos used in this publication were taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. Please see the About this Guide text on p40 and check our website for updates prior to making an application or accepting an offer.

Take a Virtual Tour of Cambridge

Visit our Virtual Tour to access information about the University and to hear directly from our staff and students. Find out more on p36 and visit

www.virtualtour.study.cam.ac.uk
Why Cambridge?

An international community
The University of Cambridge is a diverse international community and welcomes talented students from around the world. While you’re at Cambridge, you’ll be welcomed and supported by a range of University and College support services, as well as numerous international societies, and when you graduate, you’ll join one of the widest reaching alumni networks of any university in the world.

More than 40% of our students are from outside of the UK, including around 3,200 undergraduate students.

Over 120,000 overseas alumni in more than 200 countries.

140+ countries represented among our undergraduates and postgraduates.

“Cambridge has certainly lived up to my expectations, but seeing it in brochures versus living here is very different. I really enjoy being around the historical atmosphere and architecture – which I didn’t really expect! While there’s academic prestige to consider, there’re also lots of other things to do – I’ve found lots of stuff to get involved in!”

Cheryl, Hong Kong
Studying at Cambridge offers you the chance to engage with academics at the forefront of cutting-edge research, and the opportunity to participate in a vibrant and varied student experience. Here you can develop your knowledge and transferable skills to prepare you for your future, whichever direction you wish to take.
Our courses

More than 65 subjects are offered within our undergraduate courses – see p12-3 for the course list, and a subject search facility can be found on our Undergraduate Study website (www.cam.ac.uk/courses). Most courses cover the subject broadly to start with before allowing you to choose from a range of specialisms. This can offer you a high level of flexibility, allowing you to explore subjects widely, develop your interests and discover your strengths.

You’re taught by experts in their field through a combination of lectures, practicals (where relevant), seminars, and regular small-group tuition known as ‘supervision’. These sessions allow you to explore course material in much greater depth, investigate new approaches, receive regular feedback and clarify anything you’re unsure about. See p11 for more about our teaching and assessment methods.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Michaelmas Term</th>
<th>Lent Term</th>
<th>Easter Term</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 4 October – Friday 2 December 2022</td>
<td>Tuesday 17 January – Friday 17 March 2023</td>
<td>Tuesday 25 April – Friday 16 June 2023</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each academic year consists of three eight-week terms, with similar dates to those above. See online for exact term dates in later years. All students must ordinarily be available to study in Cambridge for the full duration of their course (with the exception of a year abroad, where part of the course).

Student life

Cambridge has a diverse and vibrant student community, and this diversity is valued and celebrated. There’s plenty for you to get involved with across the University, Colleges and around the city itself. We encourage our students to get involved socially and they certainly do – we have hundreds of student-run clubs and societies, so whatever your interests, you’ll be in good company here.

Our extensive welfare and support systems also ensure your individual needs can be recognised and met. There are various University and student-run services, and within your College you have a number of people looking out for your academic and personal welfare. You can find out more about student life and support on p24-9.
An 800-year history

Cambridge is one of the oldest universities in the world, and during our 800-year history, we’ve welcomed thousands of students, many of whom have achieved incredible things.

Find out more about the history of the University on our website: [www.cam.ac.uk/about-the-university/history](http://www.cam.ac.uk/about-the-university/history)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1284</td>
<td>Peterhouse, the first College at Cambridge is founded.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1446</td>
<td>Henry VI, founder of Eton and King's College Cambridge, lays the first stone at King's College Chapel.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1687</td>
<td>Isaac Newton publishes ‘Principia Mathematica’, establishing the fundamental principles of modern physics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1812</td>
<td>While an undergraduate at the University, Charles Babbage has his first ideas for a calculating machine and later starts work on his ‘difference engine’, which he never completed but which heralds later inventions leading to the invention of the modern computer.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>Dorothy Garrod is elected to the Disney Professorship in Archaeology, the first woman Professor at Cambridge.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>The first aeroplane to be powered by one of Frank Whittle’s revolutionary new jet engines takes to the air.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1947</td>
<td>David Attenborough graduates having studied Natural Sciences.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953</td>
<td>Rosalind Franklin, Francis Crick and James Watson discover the structure of DNA. Their discovery opens the door to the study of an entirely new science – genetics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Anthony Hewish and Jocelyn Bell discover pulsating stars or ‘pulsars’ using Cambridge’s Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory. Their work alters the course of modern cosmology.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968</td>
<td>Professor Stephen Hawking, Lucasian Professor of Mathematics, publishes his book, ‘A Brief History of Time’, one of the best-selling scientific books of all time. He is already eminent for his work on black holes and the Big Bang theory of the origin of the universe.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Cambridge scientists identify the gene causing diabetes and high blood pressure.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1831
Charles Darwin is recommended by Botany Professor John Stevens Henslow to join HMS Beagle as the naturalist on its scientific survey of South American waters.

1869
Emily Davies, suffragist, and others found Girton College, the first residential university-level institution of higher learning for women.

1897
J.J. Thomson, Cavendish Professor of Physics, discovers the electron. In following years, inventors use his work to develop new devices such as the telephone, radio and television.

1912
Lawrence Bragg discovers the mechanism of X-ray diffraction. Three years later, he shares his Nobel Prize for Physics with his father, W.H. Bragg.

1928
Xu Zhimo composes his influential poem ‘On Leaving Cambridge’ whilst studying at the University as a visiting scholar.

1932
The atom is split for the first time, creating the study of nuclear physics, by John Crockcroft and Ernest Walton under the direction of Ernest Rutherford. Their Nobel Prize for physics is awarded in 1951.

2000
Alumna Zadie Smith releases her debut novel, ‘White Teeth’, which becomes a best seller and wins a number of awards.

2009
The University of Cambridge celebrates its 800th anniversary.

2019
Her Majesty the Queen opens the Papworth hospital on the Cambridge Biomedical Campus.

Her Majesty is the Patroness of Queens’ College and visited for lunch with more than 80 Fellows, students and staff.

Credit: Queens’ College
Why Cambridge?

Working to improve the future

At Cambridge, we are committed to achieving excellence in research, and to ensuring that our research contributes to the wellbeing of society. Many of our academic staff are at the forefront of their fields and they lead on a diverse range of research projects.

Here are a few examples of recent research topics at Cambridge:

1. **Working to tackle the global pandemic**
   Researchers and experts at the University are rapidly responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. From a Cambridge-developed vaccine candidate to studying the effect of lockdown on wellbeing, University staff are exploring ways to combat the virus and improve the lives of those affected by it. Find out more at [www.cam.ac.uk/topics/covid-19](http://www.cam.ac.uk/topics/covid-19).

2. **Investigating the role of DNA structures in breast cancer**
   A team have found that four-stranded DNA structures play a role in certain types of breast cancer, providing a potential new target for personalised medicine.

3. **Paving the way for detection of habitable planets**
   The rediscovery of a lost planet could pave the way for the detection of a world within the habitable ‘Goldilocks zone’ in a distant solar system. The planet is among hundreds of ‘lost’ worlds that astronomers are using new techniques to track down and characterise, in the hope of finding cooler planets like those in our solar system, and even potentially habitable planets.

4. **Tackling vitamin deficiency**
   Cambridge scientists have developed a new way to fortify shellfish to tackle human nutrient deficiencies which cause severe health problems across the world. The team is now working with major seafood manufacturers to further test their microencapsulation technology, or ‘Vitamin Bullets’.
Detecting signs of dementia
Research led by the University suggests that apathy offers an important early warning sign of dementia in individuals with cerebrovascular disease, but depression does not.

Using AI to avert ‘environmental catastrophe’
A new Centre at the University of Cambridge will develop artificial intelligence techniques to help address some of the biggest threats facing the planet.

Rapid melting of the world’s largest ice shelf linked to solar heat in the ocean
An international team of scientists has found part of the world’s largest ice shelf is melting 10 times faster than the overall ice shelf average due to solar heating of the surrounding ocean surface.

Discovering how multilingualism could benefit India’s poorest school children
Multilingualism is the norm in India. But rather than enjoying the cognitive and learning advantages seen in multilingual children in the Global North, Indian children show low levels of learning basic school skills. Professor Ianthi Tsimili is trying to disentangle the causes of this paradox.

110 affiliates of the University have been awarded the Nobel Prize since 1904.

Read more about these projects and other research news on our website.
Applying to Cambridge

To apply to the University of Cambridge, you must submit an online application through the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS). You may also need to complete some additional application forms that are specific to Cambridge. This section guides you through the process.

1. **Choose a course**
   You're going to be studying to a very high level for several years so make sure you choose a course you're personally interested in and will really enjoy studying! See p10-3 and www.cam.ac.uk/courses.

2. **Decide on your College**
   Where would you like to live when you're here? In your application, indicate if you have a preference College or if you're making an open application. See p14-7 for guidance on choosing.

3. **Submit your application**
   Submit your UCAS application and any additional questionnaires by the relevant deadlines – see table opposite.³
   We'll send you links to any additional questionnaires by email. You can find further details on our website: www.cam.ac.uk/apply.

4. **Written assessment**
   Most applicants are required to take a written assessment, either pre-interview or at interview, should you be invited to attend. You must be registered in advance at a certified assessment centre for any pre-interview assessment. See p21 and www.cam.ac.uk/assessment.

5. **Interview**
   Everyone with a realistic chance of being offered a place is invited to attend an interview. If you decide to apply, you can find films and full information about interviews online.
   Most interviews take place in Cambridge but we usually conduct a number of interviews overseas – see table opposite and p19.
   www.cam.ac.uk/overseasinterviews

6. **Our decision**
   All undergraduate admissions decisions are the responsibility of the Cambridge Colleges – you’ll be notified of the outcome of your application before the end of January 2022.

---

¹ It is anticipated that interviews will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.
² It is anticipated that interviews will be held in Toronto, Canada; Shanghai, China; Mumbai, India; and New York, USA.
³ There’s an earlier deadline for those applying for an Organ Scholarship (www.cam.ac.uk/musicawards).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Submit UCAS application by</th>
<th>Submit transcript by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia, Singapore</td>
<td>20 September 2021</td>
<td>20 September 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge, Canada, China, Hong Kong, India, USA (Remote Interview Scheme)</td>
<td>15 October 2021</td>
<td>22 October 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Courses

Many of our courses (also called Triposes at Cambridge) encompass several subjects (as indicated on the following pages), with some options available in a number of courses.

Our courses cover the subject area very broadly in the initial years, and then offer an increasingly wide range of options in the later years, of which you will typically choose just a few in which to specialise. If you already know what you want to focus on, you can start to specialise early on at Cambridge. However if you’re not sure just yet, you have the flexibility to delay specialising until you’ve explored the subject and confirmed your interests.

Changing courses

Most students stay on the same degree course. However, it may be possible to change (with agreement from your College). The course details on our website (www.cam.ac.uk/courses) give information about more common changes and you should contact a College for further advice.
How you’re taught and assessed

The University faculty or department arranges lectures, seminars and practicals that students from all Colleges attend together. Your College also arranges supervisions (see right) for you.

During term time, you’re expected to spend an average of 42-46 hours a week on your academic studies (including teaching/contact time and independent study), and you also need to undertake some work during the vacations (eg further reading, research, revision, assignments).

Most students are assessed at the end of every year. This is usually through traditional written examinations, but in some courses/years there are opportunities for coursework (in the form of long essays, dissertations or projects) to be submitted for assessment.

See online for full information about our courses, teaching and assessment (www.cam.ac.uk/courses).

Lectures

Lectures typically last around 50 minutes. Many lecturers are leading academics working at the forefront of their field.

Seminars and classes

These usually last between one and two hours. For groups of 10-30 students, they’re led by academics but you’re expected to actively contribute.

Practicals

Some courses include practicals, such as laboratory classes or ‘labs’. Practical work may be assessed on some courses.

Supervisions

Supervisions are small-group sessions (most often for between one and three students) during which you discuss your work and ideas in depth, and receive regular feedback. This more personal tuition is one of our greatest strengths.

Typically, you have one or two hour-long supervisions each week (depending on your course). You do some appropriate preparation for each supervision (eg reading, writing an essay, working on some problems), and in the session get feedback on your work and explore ideas further.

Supervisors are specialists in particular subject areas (they may be one of the country’s or world’s leading authorities). Throughout your time at Cambridge, you see different supervisors (who may be based at different Colleges) according to the topics you’re covering.

Independent research

There’s considerable emphasis on independent and self-directed study at Cambridge – all students are expected to undertake wider reading and exploration beyond what’s required for lectures, classes etc. All courses also include dissertations and/or research projects (usually in the later years), in which you can test out theories and put forward ideas.

Field trips, visits, study abroad, language courses

Several courses offer such opportunities – where you go, for how long and what you do varies depending on your course (see course information online).

Work experience

Some courses include a period of work experience, giving you the chance to explore potential career paths and develop vocational skills. As well as or instead of this, many students (regardless of course) organise work experience during the long vacations.

Further information
www.cam.ac.uk/courses
# Cambridge courses

For information about our courses and links to faculties and departments, please see the Undergraduate Study website at: [www.cam.ac.uk/courses](http://www.cam.ac.uk/courses).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Degree award</th>
<th>Course duration (years)</th>
<th>Location (map ref, see p38-9)</th>
<th>Key subjects for admission (see p20-3)</th>
<th>Admission assessment (see p21)</th>
<th>Colleges accepting applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Anglo-Saxon, Norse, and Celtic</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeology</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Mathematics or Physics</td>
<td>At-interview</td>
<td>All except Queens’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeology, Assyriology, Biological</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthropology, Egyptology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Architecture</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>Mathematics or Physics</td>
<td>At-interview</td>
<td>All except Hughes Hall, St Catharine’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian and Middle Eastern Studies</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>4 (Year 3 abroad)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>A language</td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arabic, Chinese, Hebrew, Japanese, Persian</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chemical Engineering</td>
<td>MEng</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Mathematics, Chemistry, Mathematics (Physics, depending on the route)</td>
<td>Pre-interview</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classics</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3 or 4</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Latin (for the three-year course)</td>
<td>At-interview</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>BA (Hons) or MEng</td>
<td>3 or 4</td>
<td>W</td>
<td>Mathematics, science subjects³</td>
<td>Pre-interview</td>
<td>All except Newnham, Wolfson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>Pre-interview</td>
<td>All except Newnham, Wolfson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>N</td>
<td></td>
<td>At-interview³</td>
<td>All except Corpus Christ, Girton, King’s, Murray Edwards, Newnham, Peterhouse, St Catharine’s, Sidney Sussex, Trinity, Trinity Hall (Education, Drama and the Arts track not available at Emmanuel)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>MEng</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>E</td>
<td>Mathematics, Physics</td>
<td>Pre-interview</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aerospace and Aerothermal; Bioengineering;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civil, Structural and Environmental; Electrical and Electronic; Electrical and Information Sciences; Energy, Sustainability and the Environment; General; Information and Computer; Instrumentation and Control; Mechanical</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>English Literature, Geography</td>
<td>Pre-interview</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>Geography</td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All except Peterhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History and Modern Languages</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>4 (Year 3 abroad)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>History, a language</td>
<td>At-interview</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History and French, German, Italian,</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portuguese, Russian or Spanish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History and Politics</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History of Art</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>At-interview</td>
<td>All except Girton, Robinson, St Catharine’s</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ All undergraduate degrees are full-time, and all students must ordinarily be available to study in Cambridge for the full duration of their course (with the exception of a year abroad, where part of the course).

² Some Colleges require applicants to take a written assessment at interview (see p21).

³ ‘Science/mathematics subjects’ refers to Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and Further Mathematics. It does not include Psychology.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Degree award</th>
<th>Course duration (years)</th>
<th>Location (map ref, see p38-9)</th>
<th>Key subjects for admission (see p20-3)</th>
<th>Admission assessment (see p21)</th>
<th>Colleges accepting applications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Human, Social, and Political Sciences</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>M S</td>
<td></td>
<td>At-interview¹</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Politics and International Relations; Social Anthropology; Sociology; Politics and Sociology; Social Anthropology and Politics; Social Anthropology and Religious Studies; Sociology and Criminology; Sociology and Social Anthropology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Land Economy</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>F</td>
<td></td>
<td>Pre-interview</td>
<td>All except Churchill, Corpus Christi, Emmanuel, King's, Peterhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environment, Law and Economics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linguistics</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All except St Catharine's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>BA (Hons) or MMath</td>
<td>3 or 4</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>Mathematics, Sixth Term Examination Paper in Mathematics (STEP), sciences³</td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All except Wolfson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Including Mathematics with Physics</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine</td>
<td>MB, BChir</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>D M</td>
<td>Chemistry and at least one other science/mathematics subject³</td>
<td>BMAT pre-interview</td>
<td>All except Hughes Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Modern and Medieval Languages</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>4 (Year 3 abroad)</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>At least one of the languages to be studied</td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Music</td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Sciences</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>J</td>
<td>At least two science/mathematics subjects³</td>
<td>Pre-interview</td>
<td>All</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Astrophysics; Biochemistry; Biological and Biomedical Sciences; Chemistry; Earth Sciences; Genetics; History and Philosophy of Science; Materials Science; Neuroscience; Pathology; Pharmacology; Physical Sciences; Physics; Physiology; Development and Neuroscience; Plant Sciences; Psychology; Zoology</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BA (Hons) or MSci</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>M W</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philosophy</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All except Murray Edwards, Queens', Peterhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psycological and Behavioural Sciences</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>D M</td>
<td>Science/mathematics subjects³</td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All except Peterhouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of Religion</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>S</td>
<td></td>
<td>At-interview²</td>
<td>All except Churchill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td>VetMB</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>D M W</td>
<td>Chemistry and at least one other science/mathematics subject³</td>
<td>Pre-interview</td>
<td>All except Christ's, Corpus Christi, Hughes Hall, King's, Peterhouse, Trinity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Colleges

At Cambridge, as well as being a member of the University, you’re also a member of a College. Once you’ve decided on a course you’d like to study, you can start to consider your College choice.

Accommodation

The majority of students are guaranteed accommodation in College-owned property for three years, and many Colleges provide for fourth-year students too.¹ This means that you don’t have to worry about finding private rented accommodation during that time.

Some Colleges have all their accommodation on their main site. Others have some on their main site plus College-owned flats and houses around the city. Either way, most accommodation is within easy walking or cycling distance of the University departments and facilities, and the city centre. See the map on p38-9 for locations.

Colleges have a variety of accommodation available, and you often have a choice of en suite or shared bathroom facilities. Whatever the style, you have a room of your own and access to a shared kitchen and laundry room. All Colleges have their own library and computer suite too.

Annual contracts for College accommodation are normally in the range of 27 to 39 weeks, so you don’t have to pay rent for a full calendar year, and you won’t be charged for some vacations unless you choose to stay in Cambridge.² If you want to stay in Cambridge throughout the year, you should discuss this with your College.

See p31-2 for information about accommodation costs, and visit the Undergraduate Study website (www.cam.ac.uk/accommodation) and individual College websites (p16-7) for full details.

What’s a College?

Your College is your base for the time you’re at Cambridge (see p2). It’s where you live, eat, socialise, receive academic and pastoral support, and where you often (though not always) have your supervisions (see p11).
Food
All students have access to basic self-catering facilities (these vary between Colleges), and all Colleges provide dining facilities where you can buy cafeteria-style meals as well as three-course dinners (known as ‘formal halls’) at a reasonable price (see p31-2).

The Colleges encourage communal dining – it’s a chance to catch up with friends and meet new people. A small number of Colleges require you to have a certain number of meals in the dining hall each term (see College websites for details).

Recreational facilities
The main social hub of every College is its common room and/or bar (also known as a JCR, or Junior Common/Combination Room). Many offer TVs, newspapers, pool tables or computer games.

Colleges have a wide range of sports and music facilities too, such as playing fields, gyms, music practice rooms and performance venues. See p24-9 for more information about student life at the University.

How do I choose a College?
In your application, you can either choose a particular College or, if you don’t have a preference, you can make an ‘open’ application (see p16) and accept the allocation made by a computer program. In both cases, your application is sent to a College and that College assesses it.

Everyone’s reasons for choosing their College differ. Some Colleges don’t take students in all subjects so check availability for your course first (see p12-3 and p16-7). Otherwise, we suggest that you think of choosing a College in terms of where you’d like to live; you may want to consider the following points:

- **your age**
  - three Colleges are exclusively for students aged 21 or older (mature students)

- **your gender**
  - two Colleges consider applications from female students only

- **size**
  - number of students

- **appearance and type of accommodation**
  - eg on-site or College-owned houses

- **particular facilities**
  - eg for certain sports, performing arts etc

- **personal instinct**
  - it just ‘feels right’

---

¹ Accommodation guarantee applies to single undergraduates without children at all Colleges, except St Edmund’s. All single undergraduates without children are usually expected to live in College-owned accommodation where possible.

² Colleges can usually offer storage facilities for overseas students’ belongings during vacations.

³ Whether you select a preference College or an open application, you must choose the same option in your UCAS application and any additional questionnaires; and once you’ve submitted your application, this choice can’t be changed.
### Open applications

If you don’t have a preference for a particular College, you don’t have to choose – you can make an open application instead.

After the closing date, each open application is allocated to a College by a computer program. Once allocated, open applications are treated exactly the same as any other application received by that College – interviewers aren’t told whether an open application or preference College was stated, and candidates won’t be asked about their choice at interview.

---

#### Courses available

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>College</th>
<th>Location (map ref, see p38-9)</th>
<th>Undergraduates admitted each year</th>
<th>Undergraduate/postgraduate numbers</th>
<th>Courses available</th>
<th>Information</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christ’s</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>c125</td>
<td>420/200</td>
<td>All except Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td><a href="http://www.christs.cam.ac.uk">www.christs.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Churchill</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>c140</td>
<td>485/375</td>
<td>All except Land Economy and Theology, Religion, and Philosophy of Religion</td>
<td><a href="http://www.chu.cam.ac.uk">www.chu.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clare</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>c140</td>
<td>519/297</td>
<td>All</td>
<td><a href="http://www.clare.cam.ac.uk">www.clare.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corpus Christi</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>c95</td>
<td>290/220</td>
<td>All except Education, Land Economy and Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td><a href="http://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk">www.corpus.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downing</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>c130</td>
<td>425/220</td>
<td>All</td>
<td><a href="http://www.dow.ac.uk">www.dow.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emmanuel</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>c145</td>
<td>470/220</td>
<td>All except Land Economy and the Education track Education, English, Drama and the Arts</td>
<td><a href="http://www.emma.cam.ac.uk">www.emma.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fitzwilliam</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>c140</td>
<td>463/411</td>
<td>All</td>
<td><a href="http://www.fitz.cam.ac.uk">www.fitz.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Girton</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>c140</td>
<td>500/280</td>
<td>All except Education and History of Art</td>
<td><a href="http://www.girton.cam.ac.uk">www.girton.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gonville &amp; Caius</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>c160</td>
<td>537/326</td>
<td>All</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cai.cam.ac.uk">www.cai.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homerton</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>c185</td>
<td>550/500</td>
<td>All</td>
<td><a href="http://www.homerton.cam.ac.uk">www.homerton.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hughes Hall</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>c55</td>
<td>150/600</td>
<td>All except Architecture, Medicine and Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hughes.cam.ac.uk">www.hughes.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jesus</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>c145</td>
<td>500/380</td>
<td>All</td>
<td><a href="http://www.jesus.cam.ac.uk">www.jesus.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>King’s</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>c135</td>
<td>430/280</td>
<td>All except Education, Land Economy and Veterinary Medicine</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kings.cam.ac.uk">www.kings.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy Cavendish</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>c130</td>
<td>350/350</td>
<td>All</td>
<td><a href="http://www.lucy.cam.ac.uk">www.lucy.cam.ac.uk</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

If I make an open application, will it increase or decrease my chances?

For equally well-qualified applicants, indicating a preference College or selecting the open application option makes no difference to the chance of being made an offer.

If you have unusual qualifications (eg a non-standard combination of subjects for the course) or have particular requirements (eg a disability or other considerations that require specific guidance or support), then it’s advisable to apply to a specific College having sought advice about your circumstances at an early stage.

Before submitting an open application, you should be sure that you’ll be content whatever the outcome of the allocation – preferences can’t be stated and the application can’t be changed once submitted.
The pool

At Cambridge, we operate a ‘pool’ system to ensure the best applicants are offered places, no matter which College they applied/were allocated to. If a College is over-subscribed in a particular course, strong applicants are put into the pool for other Colleges to consider.

Normally, around one in four applicants is pooled and, of these, around one in five receives an offer of a place from a College other than the one they applied/were allocated to. More information about the pool system is available online (www.cam.ac.uk/apply).
Applying

UCAS application
All applicants must complete and submit a UCAS application online by the relevant deadline (see table on p9).

You can include up to five UK university courses on your UCAS application (please note that it’s not possible to apply to both the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford in the same year). You must provide information about your education to date, and include a personal statement and an academic reference. Further details about the UCAS application are available from our website (www.cam.ac.uk/apply) and the UCAS website (www.ucas.com).

Additional questionnaires
We’ll send you links to any additional questionnaires by email. These usually collect information that isn’t on the UCAS application but which we find useful when assessing your application to Cambridge. You’ll also have the opportunity to complete an optional Cambridge specific personal statement. You can find out more on our website: www.cam.ac.uk/apply.

Should I refer to extra-curricular activities in my personal statement?
Our admissions decisions are based on academic criteria (ability and potential) and we expect to see evidence in your application of your wider engagement with areas of academic interest, such as reading and other explorations relevant to the course for which you have applied. Extra-curricular activities which are of no relevance to the course will not increase your chances of receiving an offer.

If, however, particular extra-curricular activities have enabled you to develop transferable skills, such as organisation or time management, then do include them in your personal statement. Such activities might include significant caring responsibilities or paid employment, which can help us fully contextualise your application, as well as sport, physical activity, music, drama and volunteering.
Interviews

On average, each year we invite around 75 per cent of applicants to attend an interview (though the percentage varies between courses and interview locations). Most of these take place in Cambridge in early December, but the University usually conducts a number of interviews overseas – for 2022 entry, it’s anticipated that these will take place in Canada, USA (Remote Interview Scheme), China, Hong Kong, India, Malaysia and Singapore (see p9).

There are some restrictions on who can be considered for interview overseas. For those who are interviewed overseas there’s an interview fee.

Information about interviews, including films about preparing and what to expect, can be found on our website at: www.cam.ac.uk/overseasinterviews.

Visas and immigration

The University’s International Student Office provides a visa advice service to assist students sponsored by the University in applying for a student visa. The primary source of information on all matters concerning immigration is the Home Office.

It’s your responsibility to ensure that you understand and fulfil the immigration requirements for your student visa application and comply with the conditions of your visa during your studies.

Further information

www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk

What’s the most important part of my application?

Every application is assessed individually and Admissions Tutors consider all of the information available in each element of your application before making any decisions. While the most recent academic performance carries the greatest weight, the relative importance of each element varies because each student is different. No part of an application is considered in isolation; for example, a student’s performance at interview alone doesn’t determine the outcome of their application.
Entrance requirements

What are we looking for?

Admissions decisions at the University are based solely on academic criteria – your ability and your potential. We assess everyone individually, which means we look at – and for – different things in different people for different courses. Consequently, there’s no magic formula that will guarantee you’re offered a place. However, all Admissions Tutors are looking for the students who they believe:

- have the most academic ability and potential for the course at Cambridge – successful candidates are in the top one or two per cent of their year group, and doing very well in the subjects most relevant to the course applied for
- will benefit from and flourish in the Cambridge learning environment – that they have the ability to think critically and independently, are willing to argue logically while remaining open to new ideas, and have the potential to go beyond what they’ve learned so far
- are best suited to the course they applied for – that they’re self-motivated, self-disciplined and academically committed to the subject

Information used to assess applications

There’s no blueprint for an ideal Cambridge student and we want to give applicants as many opportunities as possible to demonstrate their strengths and potential. Therefore, each application is considered individually, and all elements of the application are carefully reviewed before a decision is made. Admissions staff consider all of the following elements when assessing applications:

- academic record
- school/college reference
- personal statement
- any written work submitted
- performance in any written assessment
- performance at interview

English language requirements

If English isn’t your first language, it’s essential that your English language skills are good enough for you to undertake a challenging course that’s taught and examined in English. Your language ability will be assessed throughout the admissions process – a good standard is expected at interview, should you be invited to attend, and in some cases you may be required to achieve one of the following formal qualifications as part of the conditions of your offer (if made an offer):

- IELTS Academic – normally a minimum overall grade of 7.5, usually with 7.0 or above in each element (achieved in one sitting)
- TOEFL Internet Based Test (IBT) – normally a minimum overall score of 110, with 25 or above in each element.

See the website for more details and other acceptable English language qualifications (www.cam.ac.uk/uginternational).
Course requirements
For many Cambridge courses qualifications in certain subjects are required and all Colleges expect such subjects to be passed, normally with the highest grade available. Key subjects required for admission by all or some Colleges are indicated in the table on p12-3.

For courses without particular subject requirements, the Colleges will expect high grades in the subjects most relevant to the course you're applying for.

All undergraduate admissions decisions are the responsibility of the Cambridge Colleges and entry requirements may differ slightly between Colleges. College-specific requirements and preferences can be found on the course pages of our website. Please contact the College(s) you’re considering to check any queries you have about your specific qualifications.¹

Admission assessments
Most applicants are required to take a subject-specific written admission assessment, either pre-interview or at interview, should you be invited to attend.

Pre-interview assessments will be taken on 3 November 2021 at an authorised centre local to you. Some schools/colleges are authorised centres (or can register to become one) or you can find out where your nearest ‘open’ centre is at: www.admissionstesting.org/find-a-centre. You must be registered in advance for any pre-interview assessment – if your assessment centre doesn’t register you (you can’t register yourself) by the appropriate deadline you won’t be able to take the relevant pre-interview assessment, which will mean your application to the University won’t be valid. Visit the Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing website for more information about pre-interview assessment registration deadlines: www.admissionstesting.org/administering-our-tests.

With the exception of the BMAT for Medicine, there’s no entry fee set by the University for the pre-interview assessments, but some assessment centres may charge candidates an administration fee.

At-interview assessments will be taken as part of the interview process. There are no charges associated with taking any at-interview assessments, and you don’t need to register or be registered in advance for them – the Colleges provide details of arrangements in the letters inviting applicants to interview.

See online for more information about admission assessments, examples of specimen papers and to find an assessment centre at: www.cam.ac.uk/assessment.

Typical offers and requirements
We accept a wide variety of qualifications from all over the world and expect students to be achieving the highest grades – most successful applicants ultimately exceed the conditions of their offer.

On the pages that follow you’ll find information about typical offers and requirements for a range of qualifications accepted for admission to Cambridge for 2022 entry (see also Course requirements, left). Information about other qualifications we accept can be found online at: www.cam.ac.uk/entrancerequirements.

One of the strengths of the Cambridge admissions system is its ability to assess all applicants individually, and all Colleges may modify offers to take account of individual circumstances. This means that some applicants may be set less or more challenging offers than those listed on the following page, and some offers may specify grades to be achieved in particular subjects.

¹Although you may be considering a number of Colleges, you can only make one application to the University in a year – either indicating one preference College or selecting the open application option in your UCAS application. Once your application is submitted, your choice can’t be changed.
### Qualifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Qualification</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>A Levels/International A Levels</strong></td>
<td>Typically A<em>AA or A**A, depending on the course (<a href="http://www.cam.ac.uk/courses">www.cam.ac.uk/courses</a>). Applicants may be required to achieve A</em> in a particular subject(s), depending on individual circumstances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR)</strong></td>
<td>A rank of 98.5-99.5 overall, together with documentation of similar performance in individual subjects relevant to the course applied for. Offers for many courses include a top result in mathematics at the highest academic level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Canadian High School/Secondary School Diploma</strong></td>
<td>A minimum of 90 per cent overall in the final diploma year (based on grade 12 English and the best five other grade 12 scores). In addition, five or more College Board AP tests with scores of 5 or at least 776 in three IB Higher Level subjects appropriate for the course.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Chinese University Entrance Examination (Gaokao)</strong></td>
<td>Offers are made on an individual basis, but students typically need to achieve within the top 0.1 per cent of the gathered field. This can vary by province.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>College Board Advanced Placement (AP) Tests</strong></td>
<td>Five or more APs at grade 5 in appropriate subjects for the intended course. In addition, high passes in the High School Diploma and high scores in the SAT (a combined score of at least 1,460-1,500 depending on the course) are expected. An ACT score of at least 32-33 out of 36 is accepted instead of the SAT.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>European Baccalaureate</strong></td>
<td>Successful applicants are typically asked for 85-90 per cent overall, with scores of 9 or more in subjects most relevant to the course they want to study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>French Baccalaureate</strong></td>
<td>16 or 17 (mention très bien) out of 20, with 16 or 17 usually required in individual subjects.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>German Abitur</strong></td>
<td>Between 1.0 and 1.2 overall, with 14 or 15 in subjects most closely related to the course you want to study.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Hong Kong Diploma of Secondary Education (HKDSE)</strong></td>
<td>Grade 5 in all core subjects, and grade 5* in one or two relevant core subjects. Arts courses (except Economics), Psychological and Behavioural Sciences (PBS) and Veterinary Medicine expect applicants to achieve 5<strong>5 in their electives, and science courses (excluding PBS and Veterinary Medicine) and Economics expect applicants to achieve 5</strong>5 in their electives. Demanding conditions are usually set in the other compulsory subjects in the Diploma core (particularly Mathematics and English) as well.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indian Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) or Indian School Certificate (ISC) Class XII</strong></td>
<td>Class XII at 90-95 per cent depending on the Board (A1 for CBSE). Additional qualifications are expected – usually AP Tests, IIT JEE or STEP, depending on the course. Please see the website for full details.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme (IB)</strong></td>
<td>Offers usually require 40-42 points out of 45, with 776 in Higher Level subjects. Applicants may be required to achieve 7 in a particular subject(s), depending on individual circumstances.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sijil Tinggi Persekolahan Malaysia (STPM)</strong></td>
<td>Typical offers are based on AAA in the Malaysia Higher School Certificate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Singapore/Cambridge A Level</strong></td>
<td>Applicants are usually required to achieve AAAA at H2 Level. Applicants should take relevant H3 subjects where available. Where H3 subjects are being taken, the typical offer level is AAA at H2 Level, plus at least Merit or Distinction in one H3 Level.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sixth Term Examination Paper in Mathematics (STEP)</strong></td>
<td>Used to assess aptitude for university study in mathematical subjects. It’s used as part of almost all conditional offers from Cambridge for Mathematics. Some Colleges require/may require STEP for other courses needing strong mathematical ability. Offers typically require grade 1 in two STEP papers. More information is available online at: <a href="http://www.cam.ac.uk/step">www.cam.ac.uk/step</a>.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All qualifications taken and scores achieved must be disclosed. For full details check our website: [www.cam.ac.uk/entrancererequisites](http://www.cam.ac.uk/entrancererequisites).
Other qualifications
If the qualification you’re taking isn’t listed here, please look online (www.cam.ac.uk/entrancerequirements) as early as possible to check if it provides an appropriate preparation for the course you hope to study.

Applicants studying a mix of qualifications from different examination systems are considered providing the individual qualifications are acceptable and any subject requirements are met. Conditional offers are made on a case-by-case basis but are normally in line with the typical offers made when the qualifications are taken on their own.

Transcripts
Most overseas applicants are required to submit a High School Transcript (record of academic achievement in the most recent years of schooling).

However, if you take IGCSEs/GCSEs and modular AS/A Levels or Cambridge International A Levels in which you receive a Percentage Uniform Mark (PUM), you won’t be required to submit a transcript.

Is there a GCSE (or equivalent) requirement?
There are no GCSE (or equivalent) requirements for entry to Cambridge. Results achieved at that stage are looked at as a performance indicator, but within the context of the performance of the school/college where they were achieved.

If you haven’t taken six or more GCSEs/IGCSEs in the last three years, or you have taken different qualifications in Grade 10/Year 11, you’re required to submit a transcript outlining details of your qualifications as part of your application.
Arrival and settling in

Once offer-holders meet their offer conditions, their College will start to contact them about arrangements for coming to Cambridge.

Before you arrive

The International Student Office website – [www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk/arriving](http://www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk/arriving) – offers a wide range of information and advice on pre-arrival, arrival and orientation matters for new overseas students. In addition, some University alumni groups offer pre-arrival freshers’ events for undergraduates and postgraduates in various places around the world each August and September ([www.cam.ac.uk/freshers](http://www.cam.ac.uk/freshers)) to help you to meet other new students before arriving at Cambridge.
When you get to Cambridge

The first few weeks
It’s common for undergraduates to feel a little nervous about moving somewhere new – if you experience this, there are plenty of people around who can offer some advice and support while you find your feet (see opposite). The best way to lose any initial nerves and get settled in at Cambridge is to throw yourself into student life and make the most of all the different opportunities to get to know the city, University and your fellow students.

Cambridge SU offers information for new undergraduates, and runs programmes of events and activities to help you settle in (www.cambridgesu.co.uk).

Colleges and faculties/departments usually offer an induction or orientation programme in the first few days of your arrival to cover key information (eg finding your way around, facilities/resources etc).

Ongoing support
Throughout your time at Cambridge, you’ll have access to a wide range of support and help when you need it. There’s an extensive welfare network in place at Cambridge, within your College, at a University level and through the Cambridge SU.

College welfare
Within your College, you have a Director of Studies (DoS) looking after your academic welfare, who advises you on course options and monitors your academic progress. As well as a DoS, you have access to a Tutor who can provide pastoral support and offer advice on personal or financial matters. Most Colleges have a number of others you can turn to for medical or personal support, such as a nurse, counsellor and/or chaplain.

University services
As well as department lecturers and staff, University support services include the Counselling Service, the Childcare Office for student parents, and the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) for disabled applicants, offer holders and students, including those with a specific learning difficulty, mental health conditions or long-term health conditions.

www.cam.ac.uk/support

Students supporting students
Every College has its own students’ union, to which undergraduates are elected to represent students at a College level, and each has a welfare officer or team that can provide support and advice. Many Colleges also assign ‘College parents’ (students in other years) to new students to help them settle in and find their feet.

The Cambridge SU represents all students at the University and runs campaigns and initiatives about issues that matter to the student community. It also provides an independent, professional and confidential Advice Service, providing advice to students about personal and academic issues, and helping students access the support they need while at the University. The International Students’ Campaign represents, campaigns for and runs events for international students.

www.cambridgesu.co.uk
We have a great social scene here. There’s loads going on in the University, Colleges and city, and with students accounting for about a fifth of the city’s overall population, Cambridge is a great place to be a student.

In and around Cambridge

Cambridge is a vibrant city that embraces the old and the new. It combines the welcoming feel of a small town with the variety and energy of a larger city.
Entertainment, music and festivals

However you like to spend your time, there’s always something to keep you entertained. Cambridge has theatres, cinemas and entertainment venues offering varied programmes that include comedy, drama, dance, concerts and club nights.

Live music is a big part of life in both the city and University, from buskers and pub gigs, to classical concerts and big name acts. The city hosts a growing number of music festivals too.

There are usually lots of other events, fairs and festivals throughout the year, including the University-run Cambridge Festival (www.festivalofideas.cam.ac.uk).

Pubs, clubs and restaurants

Cambridge has a great range of pubs, bars and cafés, from traditional pubs with open fires perfect for a winter evening to modern bars overlooking the river, ideal for a spot of people watching. The city has a mix of clubs offering everything you’d expect – a variety of music nights alongside cheap entry and offers for students.

There’s a great selection of places to eat too, with options for any taste and price range. You’ll find a vast range of international cuisines available in Cambridge, and most dietary requirements (e.g. vegan, halal) are catered for. Better still, there are lots of discounts and special deals for students at various restaurants and cafés.

Shopping

Cambridge’s three shopping centres and the city’s central streets house well-known stores alongside independent shops and boutiques. The stalls in Market Square sell handmade jewellery, vintage clothes, books and much more. You can pick up artisan breads and local produce as well as a delicious range of street food.

Just outside the centre, you can find an eclectic mix of international food shops, cafés and restaurants, offering a wide variety of cuisines from around the world.

Outside the city

If you want to explore further afield, Cambridge has direct rail connections to London, Brighton, Birmingham and a range of other local attractions in the surrounding area, including:

- Ely (historic city and Norman cathedral)
- Shepreth Wildlife Park
- Thetford Forest
- Audley End (English Heritage property)

And you don’t have to go far to feel like you’ve escaped the city – you can walk, cycle or punt up the river to nearby Grantchester, a traditional village that has inspired songs, novels and television dramas.

Well connected

Cambridge is only 60 miles from London and is well connected to most of the UK from its main station located about a mile from the city centre. There are direct train connections to Stansted and Gatwick, and Heathrow is also easily accessible (via London Kings Cross/London St Pancras).
Student societies and groups

Cambridge isn’t just about academic work – it’s important that you have time out from your studies and get involved socially too. University is about trying new things, and the more you take part, the more you’ll get from your time here.

At Cambridge, there are hundreds of student groups, clubs and societies relating to:
- academic subjects
- particular cultures and nationalities
- community, charity and volunteering projects
- the environment
- faiths and religions
- food and drink
- games, hobbies and outdoor pursuits
- media (eg journalism, TV, radio, film-making, photography)
- performing arts (eg comedy, dance, drama, music)
- politics and debating
- science and technology

See the Societies Directory for the full range at: [www.cambridgesu.co.uk/opportunities/societies](http://www.cambridgesu.co.uk/opportunities/societies).

Sport

Cambridge offers a diverse range of competitive and recreational sporting opportunities to help you lead a healthy and active lifestyle alongside your academic studies. Whether you want to continue playing a sport you love or try something new, the University and Colleges offer a variety of facilities and support services for everyone from beginners to elite athletes.

More than 80 sports and activities are offered here, including team games, water sports, martial arts, racket sports and extreme sports.

Facilities for sport
- a gym (plus flexible student gym memberships and personal training)
- a strength and conditioning room
- a multi-purpose room for fitness classes, martial arts and dance
- a sports hall
- team training room
- squash courts
- a physiotherapy and sports injury clinic

In addition, we offer facilities for athletics, hockey pitches, a cricket pitch and indoor cricket school, and tennis courts. The individual Colleges also provide facilities for traditional team games and sports such as tennis and rowing, and many have their own gym and other sports facilities.

In the 1800s, a group of students drew up a definitive set of football rules which were adopted by the Football Association when it was established in 1863. The first game to be played to these rules took place on Parker’s Piece, at the heart of the city.
Study facilities

It's not just our teaching that's world class – we provide extensive resources and facilities to support your learning too.

Libraries

The collegiate University has more than 100 libraries across the Colleges, faculties and departments, and the University Library. As well as books, journals and other hard copy documents, our libraries offer vast online collections and practical sessions to help you make the most of their resources.

Computing and IT

All Colleges and many departments and libraries have computer suites offering a range of general and specialist software. Most student rooms are connected to the University network and internet, and there are wireless hotspots throughout the departments and Colleges. An IT service desk and free training courses are available to all students.

Language Centre

The Language Centre offers an academic English support programme for overseas students, as well as taught and self-study courses in more than 180 languages, and a dedicated Advising Team.

Museums and collections

The University has nine specialist museums and collections open to students and the public alike.

Highlights from our museums and collections include snow goggles used by Ernest Shackleton, 140 million year old fossil ferns, pieces by Rembrandt and Monet, and a 21 metre fin whale skeleton!
Fees and finance

International students’ costs at Cambridge include tuition fees, separate College fees and living costs. There is support available to help eligible students manage the cost of University study (see p33).
Tuition fees
Tuition fees for overseas students depend on the course you’re studying. For information on international/overseas tuition fees for 2022 entry, please see the website where fee details will be published as soon as they are available: www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalfees.

For more details about the fee status of EU nationals for 2022 entry, please check our website: www.cam.ac.uk/eu.

If you’re unsure whether you’re classed as Home or international/overseas for fee purposes, you can find information at: www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalfees.

Visa applications require you to prove in advance that you can finance all of the costs, as we do not advise students to undertake paid employment during the academic term. Colleges also ask offer holders for guarantees that they can finance all of the costs for the full duration of their course.

College fees
International/overseas fee status students normally have to pay College fees in addition to tuition fees. These cover the cost of educational, domestic and pastoral services and support that you receive through your College.

Annual College fees may vary between Colleges and in many cases are fixed for the duration of your course. Net College fees in 2021-22 range between £9,300 and £10,470. See individual College websites for fees for 2022-23 onwards.

Living costs
Living costs cover whatever you need to pay for, excluding tuition and College fees, while you’re at university; for example accommodation, food, additional course costs/study materials, personal expenses and transport.

In 2021-22, the minimum resources for living costs needed in Cambridge for the year are estimated to be approximately £11,480,¹ depending on lifestyle. You should allow for increases in future years and if you stay in Cambridge during the vacations.

Living costs 2020-21

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College accommodation</td>
<td>£120-£200 per week²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£140-£200 en suite per week²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>£4-£7 per College meal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>£9-£15 per College formal hall meal (typical cost at most Colleges)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional course costs</td>
<td>Dependent on course – see course information online (<a href="http://www.cam.ac.uk/courses">www.cam.ac.uk/courses</a>)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport in Cambridge</td>
<td>Most students walk or cycle to get around</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Figure rounded up to the nearest £10.
² Figures are based on the median room costs for first year undergraduate students in 2020-21. Students should allow for price increases in subsequent years of study. A choice of shared bathroom and en suite rooms is not available at all Colleges and figures do not include any deposits that may apply. Costs have been rounded up to the nearest £10. Please see individual College websites for further details.
Accommodation

The majority of students are guaranteed accommodation in College-owned property for three years, and many Colleges provide for fourth-year students too (see also p14-7).¹

The rent varies from College to College, and usually depends on the type and style of your room (size, en suite etc), but the cost generally covers utilities (water, electricity, heating), internet access and basic self-catering facilities. Some Colleges may charge a deposit in addition to your rent. Please check individual College websites for details.

Food

At Cambridge, basic self-catering facilities are available, and all Colleges provide dining facilities where you can buy cafeteria-style meals as well as three-course dinners (known as ‘formal halls’) at a reasonable price (see also p15 and p31). Some levy a separate charge towards the running costs of the College kitchens – a Kitchen Fixed Charge which ranges from £195 to £575 per year in those Colleges that make such a charge – while others include this within their accommodation costs. Some Colleges also have a minimum meal charge, which is paid in advance and provides credit for meals bought in College. Please see individual College websites for details.

Additional course costs

Additional course costs are costs in addition to your tuition fees and living costs that you may need to meet. These costs will vary depending on your course but may include you having to pay for your own personally-owned equipment (eg calculator, lab coat), photocopying, and/or travel costs (eg field or dissertation research trips), in addition to basic study materials (eg paper, pens, books).

Specific additional course costs can be found online (www.cam.ac.uk/courses). The University’s numerous libraries and IT facilities help to keep study costs down and some department/College grants may be available.

Personal expenses

What you spend on food, clothing, social activities, transport etc depends on your lifestyle. However, there are lots of free recreational facilities plus loads of College-based and student-run activities that don’t cost very much.

¹ Accommodation guarantee applies to single undergraduates without children at all Colleges, except St Edmund’s. All single undergraduates without children are usually expected to live in College-owned accommodation where possible.
Financial support

At Cambridge there is financial support available (mostly means-tested) to help overseas students with costs. This includes:

- Cambridge Commonwealth, European and International Trust awards
- College awards – such as book and equipment grants, scholarships and prizes for academic and other achievements, and travel grants for academic work
- country-specific scholarships
- International Disabled Students’ Fund

See individual College websites and www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalfees for details. Please pay particular attention to eligibility, application requirements and deadlines.

Part-time work

The University takes the view that students shouldn’t undertake paid employment during term time, as it’s important that you have an appropriate work-life balance. There may be a few opportunities available within the University and Colleges that are exceptions to this, such as working in the College bar, College library or as a student helper during open days. However, you must ensure that any such work wouldn’t breach the conditions of your visa.
Careers

Whether you’re sure of the career you want to pursue when you graduate or you’re looking to explore your options, we’ll help you to prepare for your future.

- **89%**
  of our students who responded to the Graduate Outcomes Survey were in work or further study within 15 months of graduating¹

- **Top 10**
  Top 10 in the world for graduate employability²

---

**Transferable skills**

The majority of graduate employers recruit students with any degree discipline. It’s the flexibility of your degree, as well as the range of transferable skills that you develop, that are of interest to employers.

Cambridge students are typically ambitious, intelligent, motivated, hard-working, passionate, committed, curious, intellectually creative, independent thinkers, and able to manage their time effectively. Employers know this and look for the same attributes in potential new employees, which is why our graduates are so sought after.

**Dedicated support and guidance**

Once you’re at Cambridge, you can work with our dedicated Careers Service from day one to explore your career options. The team of experienced and impartial careers advisers can help you connect with employers and navigate the complex job market, saving you time and maximising your employability prospects. The Careers Service run a range of workshops on topics including choosing a career, cover letters, applications and getting ready for interviews. They also organise more than 200 careers events and briefing and skills sessions, and typically around 15 major careers fairs each year.

---

¹ Within 15 months of graduating. Based on responses to the Graduate Outcomes survey. This records the outcomes of students who completed their studies between August 2017 and July 2018. 62.4 per cent of graduates responded to the survey.

² QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2020.
Internships and work experience

Our industry connections provide a range of opportunities for you to undertake work experience, enhancing your CV ready for graduation. Thousands of opportunities are publicised across all sectors on the Careers Service’s Handshake site, with bursaries offered to support unpaid opportunities with charities.

Networking opportunities

The Careers Service’s alumni database, GradLink, will give you access to contact details for over 1,200 Cambridge alumni working in a huge range of industries who can offer first-hand advice. The Service also runs more than 50 employment-related skills training sessions and can offer information on occupations, further study courses and funding.

Graduate employment destinations

Our graduates go on to work in a wide range of industries, from social work and education to legal activities and finance. The list below shows the top ten occupations of respondents to the Graduate Outcomes survey (15 months after graduation).¹

1. Medical practitioner
2. Programmer/software development professional
3. Management consultants and business analysts
4. Finance and investment analysts and advisers
5. Marketing associate professionals
6. Business and related associate professionals
7. Secondary education teaching professionals
8. Primary and nursery teaching professionals
9. University researchers
10. Higher education teaching professionals

Further information
www.information-hub.admin.cam.ac.uk/university-profile/graduate-outcomes

Afsara
Chemical Engineering Graduate

Afsara came to the UK from Bangladesh to study Chemical Engineering. She graduated in 2018 and is now working as a Technical Development Process Engineer after completing the National Grid graduate scheme.

“The grad scheme consists of three six-month rotations, which is fantastic because it allows you to experience different parts of the energy business, not necessarily only related to engineering. The placements have been great for increasing my commercial awareness and honing my process engineering skills. If you want to maximise and diversify your on-the-job learning, graduate schemes with rotations are ideal!”

Find out more about the opportunities available after graduation on the Careers Service website.

www.careers.cam.ac.uk
We organise a range of on campus and virtual events each year. We’ve detailed some of these below. Please check the University website, or relevant College or department website for event updates and details before planning your visit.

Please sign up to our mailing list to be notified about upcoming events and opportunities at the University that may be of interest.

Cambridge Open Days
Our University-wide Open Days are aimed at prospective applicants in Year 12/Grade 11 or equivalent, and feature a range of activities, tours and presentations from academic and admissions office staff.

Please check the Undergraduate Study website for the 2021 Open Day dates, regular updates, and booking instructions.

College and department open days
Many of the Cambridge Colleges and academic departments also run open days and events throughout the year, some of which may be online. Check the Undergraduate Study website (above), as well as individual College websites and relevant department and faculty websites for dates and details.

Overseas events
The University makes various visits and usually attends a number of events outside the UK throughout the year. Details of these and contacts to request further information can be found on the international events page of our website at: www.cam.ac.uk/uginternationalevents.

Explore the University on our Virtual Tour
You can access a range of information, 360 degree photography, articles and films from our Colleges and departments on our Virtual Tour.

A great way to hear directly from our staff and students, the Virtual Tour gives you a sense of the collegiate University and what it’s like to study here. Alongside information about our Colleges and departments, you’ll find details about general University facilities and life in Cambridge.

Visit www.virtualtour.study.cam.ac.uk to start exploring.
Typical direct flight times to London airports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Flight Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amsterdam</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beijing</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buenos Aires</td>
<td>13.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dubai</td>
<td>7 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frankfurt</td>
<td>1.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>12 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lagos</td>
<td>6.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Los Angeles</td>
<td>11.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbai</td>
<td>9 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York</td>
<td>8 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paris</td>
<td>1 hour</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shanghai</td>
<td>11.5 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>13 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toronto</td>
<td>8 hours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vancouver</td>
<td>10 hours</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Travelling to Cambridge

Cambridge is a small and busy city that wasn’t built with modern traffic flows in mind, so it’s best to visit the centre – where many of the University buildings and Colleges are situated – on foot.

By air
Cambridge has excellent transport connections to five of the country’s major international airports, making it very easy for our international students to travel to the city from anywhere in the world.

Stansted, Heathrow, Gatwick and London City (not marked) are all easily accessible by train, and buses run regularly from Stansted, Luton, Heathrow and Gatwick to the city centre.

By bus
National bus services (eg from/to airports and other cities around the UK) stop on Parkside, Parker’s Piece in the city centre.

In Cambridge, the Universal bus service links some departments and Colleges with the city centre and central train station, and offers discounted fares to students. For information about the Universal and other local bus services, see: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/buses.

By train
Cambridge is well-connected by train and the main station is located about a mile from the city centre (around 20 minutes on foot). Buses run frequently between the station and city centre, and there’s a taxi rank outside the station.

For further travel advice, see the University’s pre-arrival information (www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk/arriving) or the Tourist Information Centre website at: www.visitcambridge.org.
Map

Example journeys

5 minutes

Downing Site

15 minutes

Sidgwick Site

10 minutes

New Museums

35 minutes

West Cambridge Site

Colleges

1. Christ’s College
2. Churchill College
3. Clare College
4. Corpus Christi College
5. Downing College
6. Emmanuel College
7. Fitzwilliam College
8. Girton College
9. Gonville & Caius College
10. Homerton College
11. Hughes Hall
12. Jesus College
13. King’s College
14. Lucy Cavendish College
15. Magdalene College
16. Murray Edwards College
17. Newnham College
18. Pembroke College
19. Peterhouse
20. Queens’ College
21. Robinson College
22. St Catharine’s College
23. St Edmund’s College
24. St John’s College
25. Selwyn College
26. Sidney Sussex College
27. Trinity College
28. Trinity Hall
29. Wolfson College

Please note: map correct as of Summer 2019. Some buildings may be closed to the public or operating differently due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Map for Prospective Students Visiting the University
Details of open days and booking instructions can be found on the Undergraduate Study website (www.cam.ac.uk/opendays).
The Colleges and some departments are open to prospective applicants at other times of the year but there are restrictions so you should check with the relevant College/department in advance (www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk).
If you're an applicant with a disability, specific learning difficulty or long-term health condition, the Building Access Guide (www.cam.ac.uk/accessguide) provides information about facilities and accessibility. If you require further guidance, please contact the Disability Resource Centre (G5, telephone: 01223 332301; email: disability@admin.cam.ac.uk).

Travelling to Cambridge
Cambridge is a small and busy city – the roads in and around the city centre often get congested and parking is very limited. Therefore, it’s best to travel into the city by public transport.

By car:
We advise that visitors arriving by car use the Park and Ride services (www.cambridgeparkandride.info). Visitors from the north can also use the Guided Busway P&R – follow the signs for Longstanton P&R from Junction 29 of the A14 (www.thebusway.info).
Disabled parking is available in the city’s car parks and on some streets. Please check details in advance with the Tourist Information Centre (G5, www.visitcambridge.org) and visit www.cambridge.gov.uk/parking.

By train:
Cambridge (CBG) railway station (J7) is approximately a mile/20 minutes’ walk from the city centre. There are bus stops and a taxi rank in front of the main entrance – buses run every 10–20 minutes to St Andrew’s Street (returning to the station from Emmanuel Street (H5) or Silver Street (G5), see below).
Cambridge North (CMB) railway station (not on map) is approximately three miles north-east of the city centre. Buses run from Cambridge North to the centre every 10–20 minutes.

By bus:
National bus services stop on Parkside, Parker’s Piece (I5).

Getting around Cambridge
The University’s faculties/departments and the Colleges are situated across Cambridge, though most are within walking distance of the city centre.
As Cambridge is fairly compact and better suited to pedestrians and cyclists than vehicles, wherever practical and possible we recommend getting around the city on foot or by bike – these are often the quickest means of transport and also are best for getting a sense of the city.
The ‘U’ Universal bus service runs from Eddington, next to the Madingley Road P&R site (B2), through to our Biomedical Campus from Monday to Saturday, and from Eddington to Cambridge Railway Station on Sundays. For information about the Universal and other local bus services, see: www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/buses.
About this Guide

This Guide represents life at the University and Colleges prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, as it is assumed that by 2022 admissions this will have resumed. Please note that the photos used in this publication were taken prior to the COVID-19 pandemic.

However, it is possible that we may need to make changes to the information in this publication due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and/or UK Government restrictions or guidance.

While we have made every effort to ensure that the information contained in this Guide is accurate at the time of going to press (except for current Covid-19 related changes), changes are also likely to occur given the lengthy interval between publication and commencement of the course.

It is therefore very important that you check the University and College websites for the most up-to-date information and for any changes before you apply for a course by visiting www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk and again before accepting any offer to study at the University. Where there is a difference between the contents of this Guide and these websites, the contents of the websites take precedence and represent the basis on which we intend to deliver our educational services to you.

Any offer of a place to study at the University is subject to terms and conditions which can be found at www.cam.ac.uk/termsofadmission. The terms and conditions set out your key obligations as a student and when we might make changes which include to your course, the fees payable and the student regulations with which all students are required to comply. Again, it is important that you do read these before making an application.

If you are unable to access our website for any reason, please contact us on +44 (0) 1223 333308.

© University of Cambridge, 2021.

Editorial
Undergraduate Admissions Committee, Cambridge Admissions Office and contributors

Design
Olie&Co

Cover and illustrations
Olie&Co

Cover photography
James Appleton, Sir Cam, Dave Green, Matt Moon, Stills Photography.

Other photography
Alice the Camera, Sir Cam, Seb Camm, Department of Chemical Engineering, Victoria Chong, Cassius Clark, Maeve Devitt-Tremblay, Faculty of Economics, Department of Engineering, Filmworks, Fitzwilliam College, Jovia Gao, Perry Hastings, King’s College, Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages and Linguistics, Fin Moorhouse, Faculty of Music, Pallavi Panda, Queens’ College, Natalie Rose, St Catharine’s College, Rosie Stevenson, Carolyn Tan, Vice-Chancellor’s Office, S. Vis.
Useful contacts

University
Undergraduate study (Cambridge Admissions Office)
☎️ +44 (0) 1223 333308
✉️ internationaladmissions@admin.cam.ac.uk
🌐 www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk

Postgraduate study
(Postgraduate Admissions Office)
🌐 www.postgraduate.study.cam.ac.uk

International Student Team
(including visa advice service)
☎️ +44 (0) 1223 761806
🌐 www.internationalstudents.cam.ac.uk

Disability Resource Centre (DRC)
☎️ +44 (0) 1223 332301
✉️ disability@admin.cam.ac.uk
🌐 www.cam.ac.uk/disability

Other

Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS, undergraduate applications)
☎️ +44 (0) 330 3330 230
🌐 www.ucas.com

British Council (guidance on living and studying in the UK)
🌐 www.educationuk.org

Home Office (visa and immigration matters)
🌐 www.ukba.homeoffice.gov.uk

UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA, advisory body for overseas students)
🌐 www.ukcisa.org.uk

Join our mailing list
Sign up to our mailing list for regular emails with details about applying to and studying at the University.
For more information contact one of the College admissions offices or:

**Cambridge Admissions Office**
01223 333308
admissions@cam.ac.uk
www.undergraduate.study.cam.ac.uk