

ST CATHERINE'S COLLEGE OXFORD

UNDERGRADUATE PROSPECTUS



“Catz differs from other colleges in that it balances the perfect level of exciting Oxford traditions with being refreshingly down to earth. We don’t miss out on enjoying the history and prestige of Oxford, but it isn’t overwhelming or alienating; the supportive community of Catz means there is a place for everyone.”

Florence, English Language & Literature



INTRODUCTION TO CATZ...

St Catherine's College (known as "Catz") is Oxford's youngest undergraduate college and also one of its largest and most diverse communities. We treasure the traditional values of Oxford college life, but pursue a modern agenda, as reflected by our college motto, "Nova et Vetera" (the new and the old).

Catz is located close to the City Centre, the Science Area, and University Faculties and Libraries.

St Catherine's is situated in an ideal location, very close to the City Centre, the Science Area, and University Faculties and Libraries, yet surrounded by meadows, parks and rivers. The College grounds are extensive and include an amphitheatre and water garden. As a distinguished example of the very best of architecture in the tradition of European Modernism (designed by award-winning architects Arne Jacobsen and Stephen Hodder), our buildings and gardens are both Grade I listed.

We are particularly committed to attracting the most gifted students, whatever their background.

The origins of the College are in a Society, which was founded in 1868 with the aim of encouraging students from less privileged backgrounds to study at Oxford. This Society eventually became St Catherine's College in 1962. Because of our origins, we are particularly committed to attracting the most gifted students, whatever their background.

St Catherine's is a cosmopolitan society, with students drawn from over 50 nations. We offer a wide range of subjects at undergraduate level, with a roughly even split between science and arts. We also have a large postgraduate community and host a number of visiting

students, who spend time in Oxford as part of their course at an overseas university.

The College has an incredible atmosphere of openness and friendliness in which everyone is quickly made to feel at home.



"Ever since arriving at Catz I've felt at home. It's an incredibly welcoming and sociable College with lots going on."

Amie, Maths and Statistics



STUDYING AT CATZ...

“At St Catherine’s we’re all about students fulfilling their potential: whether that be in the tutorial, at the Catz Exchange Conference, in the lively reading groups, or among the student-run societies. While all Catz students join a long Oxford tradition, they are very much part of the wider society of today.”

Professor Marc Mulholland,
Tutor in History

Tutorials

The primary feature of undergraduate study in Oxford is the tutorial system. Although students at St Catherine’s also attend lectures, classes and practicals in their department, tutorials are organised by the College and allow students to discuss their subject with leading academics in the field. Tutorials are given to students individually, in pairs, or in small groups, and ensure that tutors know undergraduates well and are able to help them both academically and in any other area in which they face difficulties.

Tutors and Academic Staff

Our tutors have an international reputation for research in their field, covering topics ranging from engineering drug delivery systems to contemporary literature and film in Latin America. The breadth of research carried out at the College makes for a stimulating intellectual environment and the College is proud of its place at the forefront of innovation, research and contemporary culture.

The Library

The College library has 60,000 books in its collection and operates a generous loans policy.

The College Library aims to stock all core material on undergraduate reading lists, alongside a wealth of other more specialist texts. With over 60,000 books in its working collection, the Library has a generous loans policy and a large number of study spaces, which are particularly useful during exam periods, when pressure on library resources increases. A separate Law Library houses law reports and journals. Students also make use of department and research libraries, most notably the Bodleian, which is entitled to a copy of any book or periodical published in the UK or Ireland.



Student Finance and Scholarships

The College offers many scholarships, book prizes and travel awards each year.

The College is pleased to be able to award scholarships and book prizes to undergraduates for outstanding academic work, in addition to offering several prizes each year for academic, social and cultural contributions to College life. As a result of generous donations from alumni and friends of the College, we are also able to make a number of travel awards to undergraduates for enterprising and interesting travel abroad during the summer vacation. The College also offers financial support to students if, for example, their financial circumstances have changed. The funds available under this scheme are open to all students. More information about funding available from the University can be found here:

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/fees-and-funding>

“I was worried coming to Oxford that the tutors would all fit the austere, uncompromising and institutionalised stereotype, but that has not been the case at Catz at all!”

George, Geography



LIVING & SOCIALISING AT CATZ...

Facilities

St Catherine's offers excellent undergraduate facilities, including a spacious and comfortable Junior Common Room (JCR) with a large bar, television, pool tables, games machines, newspapers and vending machines. There is Wi-Fi available throughout the College, with full coverage in all student study bedrooms and other workspaces. St Catherine's also has its own on-site gym with squash courts, as well as rugby and football pitches, tennis courts and a rowing boathouse. The College's music house provides students with a dedicated rehearsal space, while the outdoor amphitheatre provides a unique performance space. With three large lecture theatres on-site, the College is able to host public lectures on a variety of subjects throughout the academic year, to which students are invited to attend. Students can also hire punts from our on-site punt house for trips down the river!



Accommodation

One of the great benefits of being a student at St Catherine's is the availability of on-site accommodation. With over 470 study bedrooms on-site, the vast majority of undergraduates live in College for three years and enjoy the advantage of living in close proximity to facilities such as the library, dining hall, Junior Common Room (JCR) and gym. We have specially adapted rooms for students with disabilities.

The vast majority of undergraduates live in college.

“First, second and third year students can live in college accommodation, which is very convenient as tutorials are held in College and you are so close to the Library, IT room and other study resources.”

Daniya, Chemistry

Food

Breakfast, lunch, cafeteria-style dinner (known as “Scaf”), and a three-course served evening meal are provided in the dining hall on a pay-as-you-eat basis. In addition, the “Buttery” is open on weekdays for mid-morning or afternoon snacks. Those who prefer to cater for themselves can do so by using the small kitchens provided on each floor of the accommodation, normally shared between 8-10 students.

All meals are provided on a pay-as-you-eat basis.

“Catz is so supportive and understanding, with generous cooperation of College staff on both academic and pastoral matters.”

Alex, Geography



Student Community

The JCR (a term, which also refers to the undergraduate student body) elects a committee of current students who represent undergraduates both within College and also to the wider Oxford University Student Union (Oxford SU). The Committee organises regular student-run social events throughout term such as pub quizzes, open-mic nights and charity fundraisers, alongside a wide variety of other activities to help students settle into university life.



Welfare and Support

St Catherine's prides itself on being a close-knit community with a strong atmosphere of openness and friendliness. Once students are accepted for study at St Catherine's, there is an enormous commitment from the tutors to support them through to the end of their studies, and many graduates keep in touch with their tutors long after leaving College. There are many sources of pastoral support within College, including the Dean, Junior Deans (postgraduate students who are qualified advisors), harassment advisors, the College Doctor, and the College Nurse, who holds a daily surgery on-site. The student body appoints both male and female Welfare Reps alongside a team of trained peer supporters.





“Because our origins stem from a Royal Commission designed to open up Oxford to all, our mission has always been designed to give access for the most talented students to the very best education, regardless of social background or financial need.”

Dr Jim Thomson, Tutor for Admissions







“Catz boasts a fantastic rehearsal space; a real hidden gem! A lot of music-making happens in the music house, such as rehearsals for chamber music, Catz choir and orchestra, plays, and bands formed by JCR members. It also hosts regular recitals and is a great room for personal practice. I, for one, have spent a lot of hours in there and made many happy memories in that space.”

Amy, Music

DRAMA, MUSIC & SPORT AT CATZ...

Drama

Each year a major theatrical figure is appointed as a visiting professor.

Each year a major theatrical figure is appointed as the Cameron Mackintosh Chair of Contemporary Theatre and gives a series of lectures and workshops at the College. Past holders of the Professorship have included Diana Rigg, Tim Rice, Patrick Stewart and Meera Syal. Thanks to this, the College has exceptional links with contemporary theatre; many of our students take part in acting, writing and directing in Oxford and beyond.

Music

The College has a flourishing Music Society, which provides opportunities for students to get involved no matter what their taste or interest. All students have access to the College's music house: a small purpose-built recital room with two grand pianos and a harpsichord, which doubles as a practice-room. The College offers a Répétiteur Scholarship in conjunction with New Chamber Opera, designed for pianists interested in accompanying and conducting. Leask Scholarships, offering financial assistance in music tuition, are open to students in any subject and are also awarded each year.



Sport

The large size of the College is a major advantage when it comes to sport, with teams suitable for everyone from novice to expert. Current teams range from football to ultimate frisbee and everything in between! The College has excellent sports facilities including an on-site gym and squash courts with no membership fee, rugby and football pitches, tennis courts and a boathouse.

Our on-site gym and squash courts have no membership fee.



Other Clubs and Societies

In addition to lots of drama, music and sport, St Catherine's College has a huge range of other clubs and societies that you can join! With over 50 clubs and societies to get involved in, from the Stargazing Society to the Pottery Club, there is something for everyone.

The College also has an active LGBTQ+ society and celebrates Pride month every year.

“Being a student at Catz has allowed me not only to work towards my studies but to also build on my personal interests and discover new and exciting activities. I have had so many wonderful opportunities to meet and work with both students and faculty on a whole host of things, be it charity work, environmental campaigns, sport, drama and music – Catz has it all!”

Harry, Law

SUBJECTS AT CATZ...

St Catherine's offers a wide range of subjects at undergraduate level, and values greatly the study of the sciences and arts in equal measure.

Below is a list of the subjects that are offered at the College, along with the course duration and number of places usually available each year. For more information about entry requirements and admissions processes for these subjects, please visit the course pages on the University website:

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/courses-listing>



Biochemistry	4	4
Biology	4	7
Biomedical Sciences	3	3
Chemistry	4	10
Computer Science	3 4	8
Computer Science & Philosophy	3 4	
Economics & Management	3	4
Engineering Science	4	8
English	3	10
English & Modern Languages	4	
Experimental Psychology	3	4
Psychology, Philosophy & Linguistics	3	
Fine Art	3	2
Geography	3	10
History	3	
History & Economics	3	
History & English	3	10
History & Modern Languages	4	
History & Politics	3	

History of Art	3	3
Human Sciences	3	4
Law	3	10
Law with Law studies in Europe	4	
Materials Science	4	5
Mathematics	3 4	
Mathematics & Computer Science	3 4	8
Mathematics & Philosophy	3 4	
Mathematics & Statistics	3 4	
Medicine	3 4	6
Modern Languages	4	
Modern Languages & Linguistics	4	10
Philosophy & Modern Languages	4	
Music	3	4
Philosophy, Politics & Economics	3	8
Physics	4	8
Physics & Philosophy	4	

- Course duration (years)
- Number of places usually available per year*

**There is usually some flexibility in the total number of students for joint degrees*

APPLYING TO CATZ...

St Catherine's College is committed to the admission of students solely on the basis of academic criteria. The College is looking for students who show academic potential and a genuine interest in their chosen subject.

Applications to the University of Oxford are made via UCAS. You must apply by 15 October, at the latest, for entry the following autumn. On your UCAS form you can also enter a campus code in order to specify a college of choice. The campus code for St Catherine's College is 'L'. Further details about applying to Oxford can be found here:

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate>

Some courses will require you to submit written work or sit additional tests as part of your application. Details of the courses that require these, and guidelines of what is required of you can be found here:

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/tests>

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/written-work>

Further information for International students, including English Language Requirements, can be found here:

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/international-students>

St Catherine's welcomes applications from all students, and further information for students with disabilities can be found here:

<http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/disabled-students>

Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions about applying to St Catherine's:

Admissions Office, St Catherine's College, Manor Road, Oxford, OX1 3UJ

Email: admissions@stcatz.ox.ac.uk





VISITING CATZ...

Catz is approximately 10 minutes' walk from the City Centre.

St Catherine's College is situated at the end of Manor Road, approximately 10 minutes' walk from the City Centre and in close proximity to the Science Area and many University Faculties and Libraries.

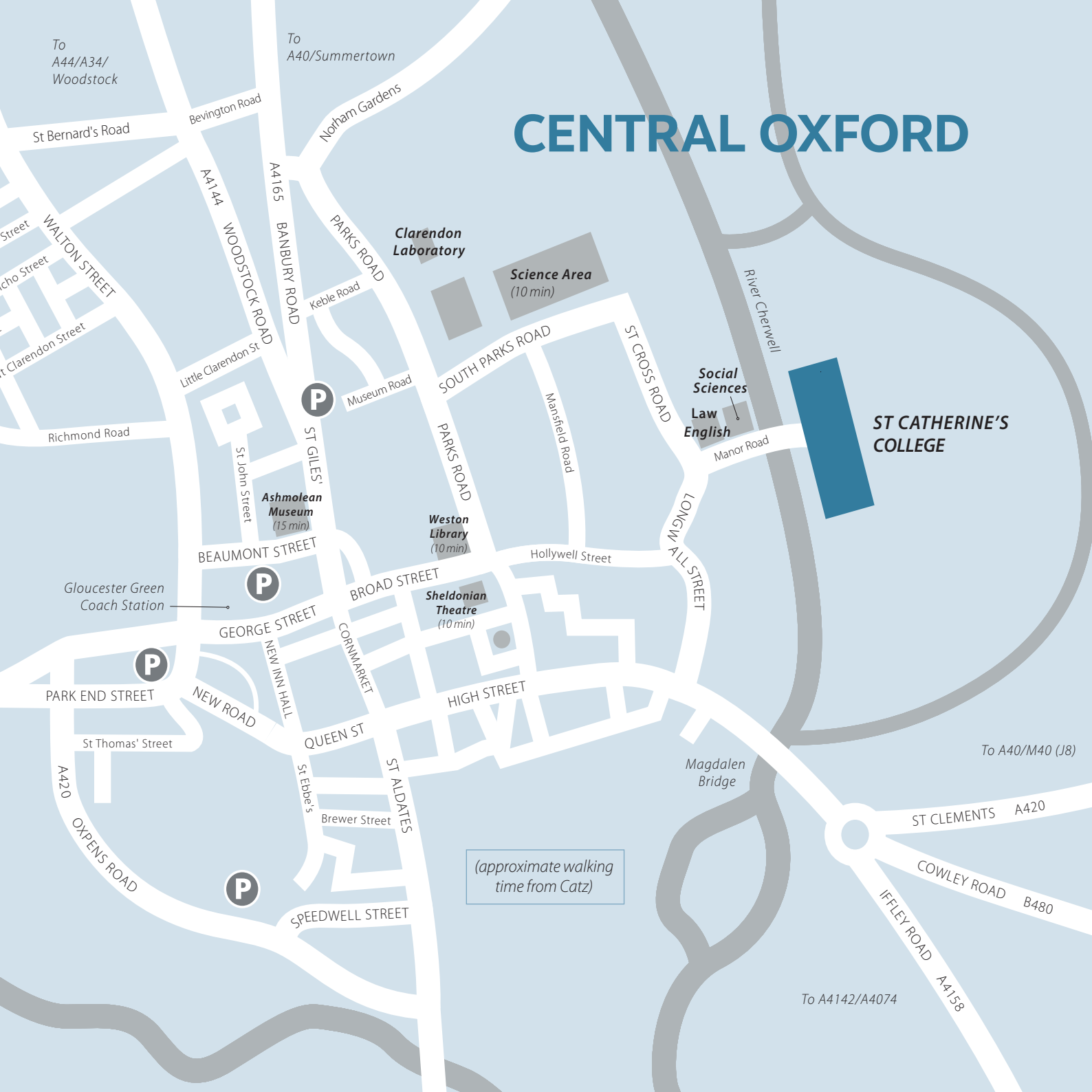
Prospective applicants are always very welcome to visit the College. We would encourage you to attend one of our Open Days if possible, as these are a good opportunity to meet tutors, staff and students. We are often able to show prospective applicants and school groups round

the College at other times, so please contact us (admissions@stcatz.ox.ac.uk) if you would like to arrange a visit.

More information about St Catherine's College, including details of Open Days and other events, may be found on our website:

www.stcatz.ox.ac.uk

CENTRAL OXFORD



To
A44/A34/
Woodstock

To
A40/Summertown

St Bernard's Road

Bevington Road

Norham Gardens

A4144

WOODSTOCK ROAD

A4165

BANBURY ROAD

PARKS ROAD

Keble Road

Clarendon
Laboratory

Science Area
(10 min)

SOUTH PARKS ROAD

PARKS ROAD

Museum Road

Mansfield Road

ST CROSS ROAD

Social
Sciences
Law
English

Manor Road

ST CATHERINE'S
COLLEGE

Richmond Road

Little Clarendon St

P

ST GILES'

Ashmolean
Museum
(15 min)

BEAUMONT STREET

P

Gloucester Green
Coach Station

GEORGE STREET

BROAD STREET

Hollywell Street

Weston
Library
(10 min)

Sheldonian
Theatre
(10 min)

CORNMARKET

HIGH STREET

LONGW
ALL STREET

PARK END STREET

P

St Thomas' Street

NEW ROAD

NEW NINTH
HILL

QUEEN ST

ST ALDATES

St Ebbe's

Brewer Street

SPEEDWELL STREET

(approximate walking
time from Catz)

Magdalen
Bridge

To A40/M40 (J8)

ST CLEMENTS A420

COWLEY ROAD B480

To A4142/A4074

IFFLEY ROAD A4158

A420

OXFENS ROAD



WHY CHOOSE CATZ?

Welcoming and sociable College

The vast majority of undergraduates live in College

Diverse student body

Tranquil gardens and grounds

Located very close to the City Centre, the Science Area, and University Faculties and Libraries

All meals are provided on a pay-as-you-eat basis

On-site gym and squash courts have no membership fee



Founded in **1868**
as a Society and became
a College in **1962**



Over **500**
current undergraduates



10 min
walk to City Centre



10
Nobel Prize winning
fellows and alumni



12 Olympic medals
won by alumni



Over **60,000**
books in our library



Approximate cost of a
3 course meal in Hall
£4.40



over **50**
clubs and societies



Sum of the weights
in the gym
1973.75 kg



Admissions Office, St Catherine's College, Manor Road, Oxford, OX1 3UJ

Email: admissions@stcatz.ox.ac.uk

Web: www.stcatz.ox.ac.uk

