INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS 2021-22

SECTION A: Admissions Statistics for 2021-22

1. Number of Applicants

History (Single Honours):	861
Ancient and Modern History:	114
History and Economics:	152
History and English:	130
History and Modern Languages:	92
History and Politics:	432
TOTAL:	**1781**

(Includes 4 candidates who subsequently withdrew their applications.)

2.

a) Breakdown of Applicants by Domicile:

Home:	1421 applicants
EU:	94 applicants
Overseas:	266 applicants

b) Breakdown of Applicants by Gender

Male:	843
Female:	938

c) Breakdown of Applicants by Entry Year

Applications for 2022:	1739
Applications for 2023 (deferred):	42

d) Number of Open Applications:

There were 346 open applications for History and its associated Joint Schools in 2021.

3. Number of Applicants Shortlisted

History (Single Honours):	647
Ancient and Modern History:	74
History and Economics:	62
History and English:	65
History and Modern Languages:	74
History and Politics:	163
TOTAL:	**1085**

4. Number of Applicants Offered Places

	Number	Success Rate
History (Single Honours):	242*	28.1%
Ancient and Modern History:	29	25.4%
History and Economics:	18**	11.8%
History and English:	18***	14.6%
History and Modern Languages:	19 ****	20.7%
History and Politics:	49 *****	11.3%
TOTAL:	**375 ********	**21.1%**

* 224, plus eighteen candidates who were interviewed for a place in a Joint School with History, but were subsequently offered places for Single Honours History. Includes six deferred candidates.

** 21, but three candidates accepted for single-honours History.

*** 28, but ten HENG candidates accepted for single-honours – four for English, six for History. Includes one deferred candidate.

**** 27, but eight candidates interviewed for History and Modern Languages were offered places for single honours, one in History and seven in Modern Languages.

*****56, but seven candidates interviewed for History and Politics were offered a place for single honours History. Includes four deferred candidates.

****** 385, minus the ten candidates interviewed for History Joint Schools, who were offered single honour places in the other parent school.

SECTION B: Admissions Processes

1. Procedure for Shortlisting

1.1 Selection criteria: Candidates were assessed against criteria published on the History website here: https://www.history.ox.ac.uk/qualifications-and-entry-requirements

1.2 Selection Process

1.2.i Shortlisting: Candidates were shortlisted if their HAT score was above the cut-off point of the cohort as a whole. The cut-off point was determined by the Admissions Coordinator at a level to ensure that the University's preferred interview to place ratio (normally 3-1) was not exceeded. This year, owing to the impact of the Covid pandemic on interview arrangements and capacity, the cut-off was raised with the aim of achieving an interview to place ratio of around 2.5-1. Colleges were able to shortlist candidates whose score was below the cut-off level if they considered there were strong grounds for retaining particular

candidates on the basis of contextual data pertaining to school and/or socio-economic background and/or school performance data and/or other relevant information from the UCAS forms (e.g. Illness, difficult family circumstances). Such candidates could not be reallocated to another college.
In the case of HPOL and AMH, joint school candidates were recommended for shortlisting if they were above the cut-off for the HAT score. In the case of HENG, English written work was also included in the shortlisting algorithm (according to the formula of 60% HAT, 40% English written work). In the case of HECO, the TSA score was also included in the shortlisting algorithm (according to the formula 50% HAT, 50% TSA). Joint school candidates could become candidates for English (HENG) or Modern Languages (HML), in each case with the agreement of the tutors from the other parent school.
College tutors could also make a case not to shortlist candidates whose scores were above the HAT threshold, on specific grounds (for example, they were not predicted grades that meet our conditional offer).

1.2.ii Reallocation: In order to achieve the prescribed ratio of interviewees to places (2.5:1 in 2021) some candidates were reallocated prior to interview, from over-subscribed to under-subscribed colleges.

1.3 Weighting of Test scores

Candidates were given scores and ranks at three different stages in the application process: at the shortlisting stage, immediately before the interviews, and after the interviews at the first college. This year there were no contextualised GCSE scores so they have been removed from all the score calculations/algorithms.

The weightings of the different components used in Admissions 2021 to score the applicants at each stage are outlined below:

History (Single Honours)

Application Stage	Contextualised GCSE score	HAT	History Written Work	History Interview
Shortlisting	N/A	100%		
Pre-Interview	N/A	70%	30%	
Post-Interview	N/A	40%	20%	40%

Ancient and Modern History

Application Stage	Contextualised GCSE score	HAT	History Written Work	History Interview	Classics Interview
Shortlisting	N/A	100%			
Pre-Interview	N/A	70%	30%		
Post-Interview	N/A	40%	20%	20%	20%

History and Economics

Application Stage	Contextualised GCSE score	HAT	TSA	History Written Work	History Interview	Economics Interview
Shortlisting	N/A	50%	50%			

Pre-Interview	N/A	40%	40%	20%		
Post-Interview	N/A	25%	25%	10%	20%	20%

History and English

Application Stage	Contextualised GCSE score	HAT	English Written Work	History Written Work	History Interview	English Interview
Shortlisting	N/A	60%	40%			
Pre-Interview	N/A	40%	40%	20%		
Post-Interview	N/A	25%	25%	10%	20%	20%

History and Modern Languages

HML candidates were considered at each stage of the process through consultation between College tutors from both History and ML. All information about these candidates, for both subjects, - GCSE score, pre-interview test scores (HAT and MLAT), written work scores, interview times and scores - was entered into the Modern Languages Admissions Database (MLAD) by the College's ML Primary User (who is one of the ML tutors). This resulted in each candidate carrying a 'guide score' (school written work scores were not included in this calculation). Final admissions decisions could be informed by this score, but it was not used mechanistically as a ranking tool.

History and Politics

Application Stage	Contextualised GCSE score	HAT	History Written Work	History Interview	Politics Interview
Shortlisting	N/A	100%			
Pre-Interview	N/A	70%	30%		
Post-Interview	N/A	40%	20%	20%	20%

Although the scores, individually and combined, provided a helpful framework for assessing candidates, tutors also took into account the individual circumstances and potential abilities of each candidate.

1.4 GCSEs and the Contextualised GCSE score

Contextualised GCSE 9/8/A* scores

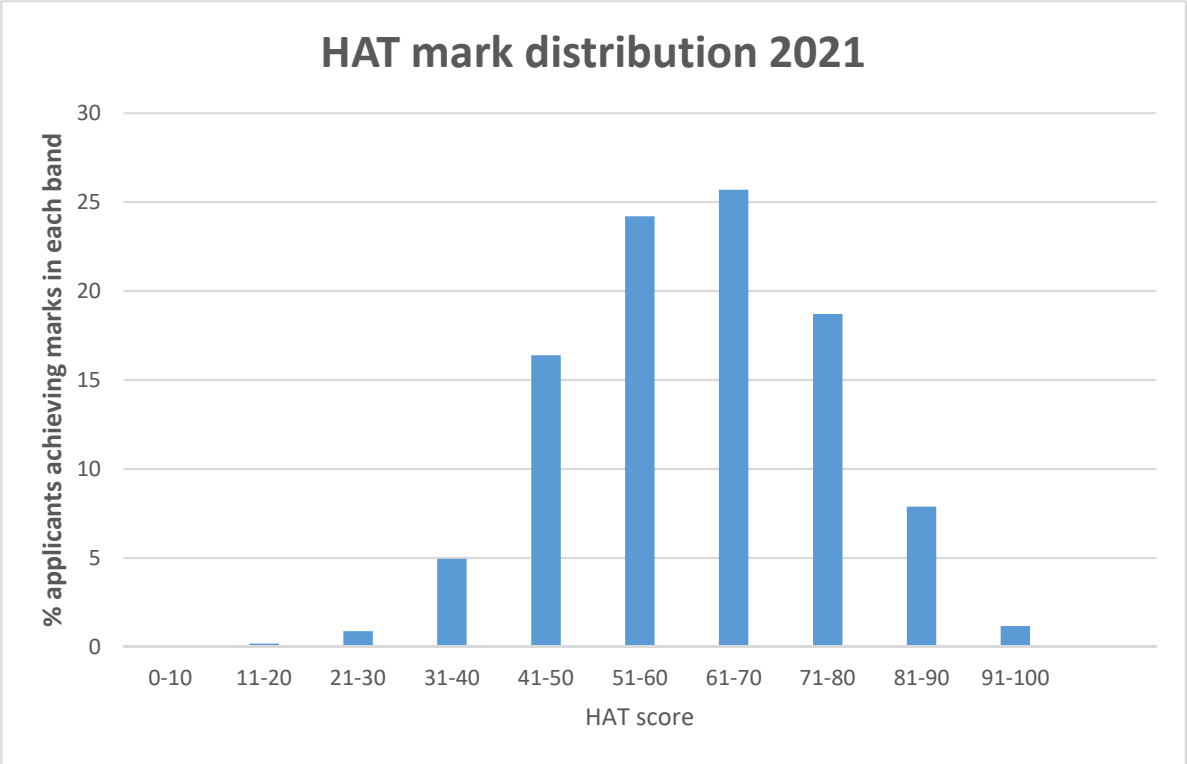
GCSE information

The most significant change to take into account when considering this 2021-22 cycle cohort related to their GCSE qualifications. When the pandemic started in March 2020, most of this group were beginning to prepare to sit their GCSEs or equivalent. These exams were cancelled, and their GCSE qualifications were based on teacher assessment. The cGCSE score, which provides information about how well an applicant has performed at GCSE, compared to other applicants at Oxford, and given the performance of the school at which they took their GCSEs, would not be reliable, due to the lack of standardisation of teacher assessment. cGCSE scores were therefore not calculated or used for this cohort, although school performance metrics continued to be used to provide context.

1.5 The History Aptitude Test

This year the History Aptitude Test scores were not contextualized.

	All Applicants	Shortlisted Applicants	Placed Applicants
Average HAT score	58.5	65.5	68.8



1.6 History Written Work

	Shortlisted Applicants	Placed Applicants
Average History Written Work Score (out of a possible 10 points)	6.47	7.01

N.B. History Written work was marked after the shortlisting stage.

1.7 Interviews

	Shortlisted Applicants	Placed Applicants
Average History Interview Score (out of a possible 10 points)	6.4	7.7

1.8 Applicants with non-GCSE and non-A Level qualifications

There were **328** applicants for History and its associated Joint Schools with pre-16 qualifications other than GCSEs. Of these applicants, **148** were shortlisted and **46** were placed (a 14.02% success rate).

There were **494** applicants taking post-16 qualifications other than A Levels (this includes **84** candidates taking a mixture of A-levels and other qualifications). Of these applicants, **259** were shortlisted and **92** were placed (an 18.6% success rate).

1.9 Opportunity Oxford

Opportunity Oxford offers were made to candidates who met particular criteria in relation to socio-economic and educational disadvantage. Out of the total offers made, 348 were standard offers – i.e. three As at A Level or an equivalent - while 28 were Opportunity Oxford offers – i.e. three As at A level or an equivalent plus attendance on a short specially designed programme of skills acquisition and learning prior to starting their degree.

SECTION C: Feedback

Candidates should contact the college at which they were first interviewed for feedback on their performance at interview and in the submitted written work. HAT scores are available on request from the Faculty of History – please email undergraduate.admissions@history.ox.ac.uk.