

St. Catherine's College · Oxford · OX1 3UJ

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Let me extend my congratulations on getting an offer of a place at St. Catherine's. I very much look forward to welcoming you at the college.

The Mathematical Institute has provided some web-based material to prepare you for studying Mathematics (and joint schools) at Oxford, including problem booklets which are available at:

<https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/study-here/undergraduate-study/practice-problems>

Over the summer, you should attempt these problems. There may be some that you cannot answer, because of gaps in your knowledge. This is nothing to be concerned about, because the content of different A-level syllabuses can vary greatly. But you will need to fill in these gaps before you arrive in Oxford. A book that is useful for this, and also for first year university work, is:

Mathematical Techniques, D.W. Jordan and P. Smith, 4th edition published by Oxford University Press in 2008 (ISBN: 9780199282012).

We will also expect you to have read the booklet "How do Undergraduates do Mathematics?" by Charles Batty and Nick Woodhouse, which is available at:

https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/system/files/attachments/study_public_0.pdf

It would certainly be beneficial to have a look at the webpage of lecture notes

<https://courses.maths.ox.ac.uk/course/index.php?categoryid=118>

and to do some work ahead of lectures. [NB: In Oxford jargon, first year courses are listed under 'Prelims'.] You might not be able to access the most recent set of lecture notes, but you will find some useful material in the section 'Archived courses':

<https://courses.maths.ox.ac.uk/course/index.php?categoryid=2>

Further information about your course can also be found here:

<https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/members/students/undergraduate-courses/teaching-and-learning/prelims-students>

I look forward to meeting and teaching you at St Catherine's.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Marc Lackenby
Senior Mathematics Tutor