

## Entry Requirements

Applicants to the MSc in Migration Studies must have at least a high upper second-class degree in a social science. However, entrance is very competitive and most successful applicants have a first-class degree or its equivalent (such as a 3.8 GPA in the USA).

It is also possible for students who have not specialised in a social science to read for the degree. Special consideration may be given to those with professional backgrounds in the migration field, such as those who have worked in relevant government departments, international agencies or civil society organisations.

## Careers

The MSc in Migration Studies seeks to prepare students for further social science research, or for a career within the increasing number of organisations – public and private, national and international – concerned with migration issues.

Our graduates have gone on to doctoral degrees, law school, research and consultancy. Many are now employed by organisations such as ILO, IOM, UNICEF, RAND, Red Cross, Red Crescent, think tanks, national governments and leading universities around the world.

*“I decided to apply for the MSc in Migration Studies to obtain a theoretical and conceptual understanding of migration. The course attracts students from a variety of academic backgrounds, which makes for very interesting debates. Being an interdisciplinary subject, migration can provide a lens into many other areas of interest, and the course not only gave us the freedom to explore other subjects, but it also equipped us with the necessary skills to do so.”*

– Sebastien Rojon, Graduated 2013

## Contact

Nicola Shepard  
Postgraduate Courses Co-ordinator  
Oxford Department of International Development  
University of Oxford  
Queen Elizabeth House  
3 Mansfield Road  
Oxford OX1 3TB, UK

Tel: +44 1865 281701  
Email: [m-sc-migrationstudies@qeh.ox.ac.uk](mailto:m-sc-migrationstudies@qeh.ox.ac.uk)

**For information on how to apply, please visit:**  
[www.qeh.ox.ac.uk/study/how-to-apply](http://www.qeh.ox.ac.uk/study/how-to-apply)

**For information on scholarships, please visit:**  
[www.qeh.ox.ac.uk/study/funding](http://www.qeh.ox.ac.uk/study/funding)

[www.qeh.ox.ac.uk](http://www.qeh.ox.ac.uk)  
[www.anthro.ox.ac.uk](http://www.anthro.ox.ac.uk)  
[www.compas.ox.ac.uk](http://www.compas.ox.ac.uk)  
[www.imi.ox.ac.uk](http://www.imi.ox.ac.uk)



Photo: Oliver Bakewell

OXFORD DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT &  
SCHOOL OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND MUSEUM ETHNOGRAPHY

# MSc in Migration Studies



Photo: James Whittaker



## The Departments

The Oxford Department of International Development (ODID) is the focus for postgraduate teaching and applied research on international development issues at the University of Oxford. It offers a DPhil in International Development, an MPhil in Development Studies and four MSc taught courses to some 200 students.

The Department is known for its frontier research on economic growth and instability, trade and investment, poverty and inequality, insecurity and conflict, the history of social and political change, migration and refugees, global governance and the environment, and children and human development. Its academic and research staff of over 70 people, including six externally funded groups, represent most social science disciplines and world regions. As part of a global epistemic community, it aims to generate ideas that set agendas for scholars, governments, international agencies and civil society.

The School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography (SAME) is renowned for its contributions to anthropological theory, its commitment to long-term ethnographic fieldwork, and its association with the Pitt Rivers Museum and the anthropology of visual and material culture. Home to over 40 academic staff, 100 doctoral students, 12 master's programmes, and two undergraduate degrees (Human Sciences; Archaeology & Anthropology), Oxford anthropology is one of the world's largest and most vibrant centres for teaching and research in the discipline.

As part of the University of Oxford, the Departments provide an exceptional academic environment. Students are taught by world-class scholars, often in small groups, and have access to the rich resources of the University's historic libraries. They also benefit academically and socially from Oxford's unique, multidisciplinary college communities.

## Overview

The interdisciplinary MSc in Migration Studies explores human mobility from a global perspective to understand how migration forms an integral part of development, social change and globalisation. It addresses the drivers and consequences of migration and how these are shaped by governments, societies, and migrants themselves. The course lasts for nine months and normally admits around 26 students a year.

The MSc in Migration Studies draws on the intellectual resources of its two parent departments (ODID and SAME), and the three world-leading migration research centres at Oxford: the Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS), the International Migration Institute (IMI) and the Refugee Studies Centre (RSC).

Teaching staff include:

Professor Bridget Anderson (COMPAS)  
Dr Oliver Bakewell (IMI)  
Dr Mette Louise Berg (COMPAS/Anthropology)  
Professor Robin Cohen (IMI)  
Dr Cathryn Costello (RSC)  
Dr Hein de Haas (IMI)  
Dr Franck Düvell (COMPAS)  
Dr Evelyn Ersanilli (IMI)  
Dr Ben Gidley (COMPAS)  
Dr Hiranthi Jayaweera (COMPAS)  
Professor Michael Keith (COMPAS)  
Dr Agnieszka Kubal (IMI/Socio-Legal Studies)  
Dr Martin Ruhs (COMPAS/Continuing Education)  
Dr Olivia Sheringham (IMI)  
Dr Sarah Spencer, CBE (COMPAS)  
Dr Sorana Toma (IMI)  
Dr Nicholas Van Hear (COMPAS)  
Dr Carlos Vargas-Silva (COMPAS)  
Dr María Villares Varela (IMI)  
Dr Xiang Biao (COMPAS)

## Course Structure & Teaching

The MSc in Migration Studies introduces students to key methods, concepts and theories in the economics, politics, sociology and anthropology of migration, helping them to understand the nature of both internal and international migration.

The degree consists of four components, plus a dissertation:

- International Migration in the Social Sciences
- Migration, Globalisation and Social Transformation
- Thematic and Regional Options
- Methods in Social Research

Teaching on the degree is provided by leading scholars in the field and combines lectures, small tutorial groups and discussion seminars. Students have individual dissertation supervision. Teaching is problem-focused and aims to give students critical analytical skills.

The course is assessed on the basis of one essay of 5,000 words; two written exams; a portfolio of three pieces of coursework; and a dissertation of no more than 15,000 words.

We run a short, optional field trip to Istanbul each year – a focal point for many key issues in migration studies. This is an opportunity to meet representatives from international and local NGOs, as well as Turkish scholars and their students.