ST PETER'S COLLEGE, OXFORD OX1 2DL, UK.

INFORMATION FOR VISITING STUDENTS

Dates of Terms:

<table>
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<th>Term</th>
<th>Students must arrive by</th>
<th>‘Full Term’ starts</th>
<th>Term ends</th>
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<td>2013 Michaelmas Term</td>
<td>Sunday 29th September</td>
<td>Sunday 6th October</td>
<td>Saturday 7th December</td>
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<td>2014 Hilary Term</td>
<td>Thursday 16th January</td>
<td>Sunday 19th January</td>
<td>Saturday 15th March</td>
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<td>2014 Trinity Term</td>
<td>Thursday 24th April</td>
<td>Sunday 27th April</td>
<td>Saturday 21st June</td>
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The period of eight weeks known as 'full term' is the time during which all teaching takes place. It is, however, always important to arrive a few days before the start of 'full term' (at the latest by the previous Thursday) so that you can settle in and find out what your time-table is going to be. During the week before the beginning of Michaelmas term St Peter's will be providing an orientation week for 'freshers'. All Visiting Students should attend this introductory week. **We therefore ask you to arrive at St Peter's on Sunday 29th September.** If there is any problem with this date please let me know as soon as possible. You will be able to stay in your room / leave things there during both the vacations between terms (December to January, March to April) but please note that you should expect to finally vacate your room on Saturday 21st June 2014.

What to bring:

England can be cold and wet! Pack plenty of warm clothes – but also be prepared for night-life. If you own evening gear, bring it! (If not – don’t worry – you can hire anything of that kind you might need). There's no need to bring bed-linen or blankets though if you want to bring your duvet, do. Pressure on storage space means it is unlikely that the College would be able to take in excess luggage ahead of time; you can double-check this with the College lodge (main reception desk: porters.lodge@spc.ox.ac.uk). Your address for all communications and mail is simply as on this letter-head.

If you think you might want to take up rowing (it's very popular here) please note that it is a college rule that no member is allowed to practice in any racing-craft (rowing or sailing) until evidence has been produced of ability to swim, so please make sure you have a certificate to this effect.

- and what to buy:

Electrical appliances: these run in England on 230 volts A.C. Adapter plugs are available in Oxford but you might want to think about buying small appliances once you get here.

You will need to have an academic gown (it looks a bit like a short, sleeveless jacket) to be worn at certain functions and formal meals. New at the moment cost about £25 or you can pick one up second-hand. Further details about where to obtain this will be sent to you later in the year.

A bicycle (and lock!) is handy but not essential: Oxford isn't a large city and St Peter's is centrally situated.

The Computer Question:

If you own a computer and want to bring it, first check whether your service contract / warranty covers its use in the UK, and check whether you will need a special adapter (if so it is likely to be quite expensive). If you decide to leave your computer at home / don't own a computer anyway, that's not a problem. St. Peter's has a computer room with a number of Windows machines for the use of undergraduates (though a number of British students still hand-write their essays!) and email facilities. Your email address will simply be your firstname.familyname@spc.ox.ac.uk
Immigration procedures:

Check what these are in plenty of time and make sure all your documentation is in order. The UK operates a 'points-based system' which will require the University to formally sponsor your application to enter the UK. We will be in touch with further information about this later in the year.

Banking:

British banks are very cautious. It can be a lengthy process to open an account. The procedure for opening an account will usually be covered in one of the induction talks at the start of term. You will need a letter of introduction from the College, which can be produced after your arrival in October.

It could be worth coming with a supply of travellers’ cheques to start you off (some Visiting Students actually never open a bank account in Oxford and use these throughout their year here). Also, investigate with your bank at home whether they have a partner bank in the UK through which you could access your US account. There are a number of cash-point machines that accept Visa/AMEX/Mastercard/Cirrus cards, but you may find you are charged for using these, and the exchange rate offered is usually poor.

Insurance:

On arrival you will need to register with the College Doctor (or with another doctor in Oxford) and you will then be entitled to the services of The National Health Service (NHS). This will cover charges for visits to the doctor's surgery and any hospital treatment. It will not cover you for optical, chiropractic or dental work. Physiotherapy is covered by the NHS but the demand on resources is very high and you might feel you wanted private treatment if the need was urgent. If you have health insurance at home it may be worth extending it to cover you for expenses incurred while in Oxford.

Insurance of personal effects and clothing is the personal responsibility of each student. The College cannot accept any liability in this respect. However, some cover is provided for those living in College accommodation, under the Endsleigh ‘Block Halls Insurance’ programme. Details will follow later / be available at the start of term, together with other important pieces of information in the ‘Student Administrative Handbook’.

Cost of Living:

Our fee covers all tuition fees, academic costs, and accommodation for the academic year. You will be housed on the college campus or in one of our new blocks (all within five minutes walk) and you can keep this room throughout your time here including vacations at no extra cost. If for medical or religious reasons you need cooking facilities please contact Jemima Mann (who deals with all accommodation-related queries) – his e-mail address is Jemima.Mann@spc.ox.ac.uk

And once you reach England.....

There are frequent buses to Oxford from Heathrow, Gatwick and London. A copy of the timetable and a map of Oxford will be included in our summer mailing to you. The train station is also relatively close to the College (a five to ten minute walk). As soon as you arrive at St. Peter's check in at the Lodge. The porters there will know where your room is and give you your keys... and you'll be all set!

We will email you later in the year with more information to help you to get sorted for arriving here in October, but if there is anything else you need to know don't hesitate to get in touch by mail, fax or email (admissions@spc.ox.ac.uk).

If you haven’t heard from any tutor about your academic programme for the year, don't worry. It is usual to sort out many of the details of this during your orientation week. But if you are asked about your course choices for Philosophy, Politics, Economics, English, History or any other subject please let us know your decisions promptly.