



St. Clare's, Oxford

— An International Education —

English Language and Academic Year Courses

English Language
University Foundation Course
English plus Academic Studies
Liberal Arts



The city of Oxford

***‘ancient seat
of learning’***

The beautiful city of Oxford is famous all over the world as a centre for academic excellence.

- It has magnificent college and residential buildings, fascinating museums, large parks and a rich cultural life.
- It is located just 1½ hours from London and close to many other interesting places: Stratford upon Avon, Windsor, Stonehenge and Blenheim Palace the birthplace of Winston Churchill.
- Oxford is a mix of ancient and modern with excellent shops, cinemas, theatres, restaurants, sports centres and night clubs.
- It's a small, safe, cosmopolitan city – a great place to live and study!



English Language and Academic Year Courses at a glance

Course type	Age	Level	Course Descriptions
English for Everyday Use improving your English Page 8	17+	elementary +	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Everyday English: 21 hours of language tuition per week with up to 12 students Morning lessons: focus on accuracy and fluency in the use of English Afternoon classes: offer a range of options for practising English in context ● Combination English: 20 hours per week (15 in class and 5 in one-to-one tutorials) Group lessons focus on accuracy and fluency activities with other class members One-to-one lessons concentrate on the needs and interests of the individual ● Individual English: 15, 20 or 25 one-to-one lessons per week as required One-to-one lessons concentrate on the own specific needs of the individual Lessons build confidence in the use of language for everyday use
English for Examinations getting the right qualifications Page 9	17+	intermediate +	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● English for Examinations: 21 hours of language development per week with up to 12 students Morning lessons: focus on accuracy and fluency for examinations Afternoon lessons: examination skills for IELTS and Cambridge Examinations ● Exam Combination: 20 hours per week (15 in class and 5 in one-to-one tutorials) Group lessons focus on accuracy and fluency activities for examinations One-to-one lessons concentrate on specific examination tips for the individual ● Individual English for Examinations: Select 15, 20 or 25 one-to-one lessons per week as required One-to-one lessons concentrate on your own specific examination needs Individual lessons build confidence in the use of language for exam success
University Foundation Course preparing for university Page 10	17+	intermediate +	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● English Language component September-October: 21 hours English language preparation for IELTS per week November-June: 10 hours advanced English language skills per week ● Academic subject pathways November-June: 12 hours of academic subjects per week from either Pathway 1: Business Studies – Economics, Business and Mathematics Pathway 2: International Affairs – Politics, History, Philosophy
English plus Academic Studies making the most of your 'gap year' Page 12	17+	upper intermediate +	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● English Language component 10 hours of advanced language development per week focus on contemporary themes and academic study skills for Cambridge exams ● Academic subject component 6-9 hours of academic subject study from the wide selection available
Liberal Arts Study Abroad Semester gaining university credits Page 14	18+	advanced/ native speaker	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Core Courses select three courses of academic study from the wide range of courses available ● Tutorial Courses select one course per semester in your preferred field of study

The St. Clare's experience

'a mission to advance international education and understanding'

When you join the St. Clare's community:

- You are respected as an individual
- You join a thriving international family
- You enjoy a first class educational experience
- You make an investment in your future

Living in an international community

Living in college

- Live with other students as part of the St. Clare's international community
- Meet students from around the world, exchange views and learn to live together
- Choose a shared room or a single room
- Choose a shared or a private bathroom and kitchen
- Meet together for meals in the dining room or cater for yourself
- Become more independent as you make the transition from living at home to living in college



Living with a host family

- Mix with native speakers and practise your language skills in everyday social situations
- Immerse yourself in the English culture and learn about the country from people who live there
- Interact with local people as you travel to and from college every day by bus, by bike or on foot
- Get a taste of home cooking and sit together in the evenings to chat about the events of the day
- Enjoy the benefits of a single room with your own individual space
- Meet your friends for lunch in the college dining room or for drinks and snacks during the day



'a truly international atmosphere'



A contemporary learning environment

‘guidance from experienced teachers in the classroom’

- Data-projectors with internet access link classrooms to the world outside.
- Wi-fi access in the residences & common rooms, together with the facilities in the computer room, encourage independent study and make ‘blended learning’ a reality.
- The St. Clare’s intranet gives exclusive access to a wide range of on-line resources and provides links to many useful sites, Careers & Higher Education, web projects, IELTS practice tests, recent class podcasts.
- The ‘Open Learning & Homework Club’ with scheduled teacher support provides focused help with homework exercises and other research projects.
- A collection of ‘graded readers’ offers a stimulating way to build confidence in reading & listening for elementary to intermediate learners.
- The St. Clare’s Library is an excellent additional resource for motivated learners at all levels with over 35,000 books plus magazines and DVD film library.

Enjoying your free time

A stimulating programme

The following activities are included in the price of your course:

- **Membership of a fitness club in the city centre:** gym, sauna, swimming and aerobics classes.
- **Weekly sports activities:** squash, indoor football and table-tennis.
- **Cultural excursions to places of interest:** for example, the beautiful city of Bath, the ancient stone circles at Stonehenge & Avebury, Shakespeare country.
- **Formal dinner in an Oxford College:** twice per year as an international introduction to Oxford.
- **Seminar Series at Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford:** lectures exploring a stimulating range of topics – past themes include ‘Creation & Inspiration’ and ‘Diversity & Culture’.
- **Study visits with your teacher:** regular visits by minibus or on foot, in and around Oxford, form an integral part of each academic course.

A great many other opportunities

Many other events are organised at additional cost:

- **Evening events:** include ice-skating, theatre and cinema visits, restaurant nights-out, guided tours of the University of Oxford and occasional trips to a premiership football or rugby match.
- **Day excursions:** for example, Windsor Castle, London museums, an amusement park, London musicals.
- **Activity weekends:** for example, surfing in Cornwall or mountain-biking in the New Forest.
- **Long-weekends in Europe:** for example, Barcelona, Prague, Valencia.
- **Interests & hobbies:** for example, photography course, hockey training, music lessons.



**‘explore
Great Britain
with your
friends’**



Improving your English

English for Everyday Use

Age: 17+
Level: Elementary +

There's an English language programme at St. Clare's for you – whatever your level.

Making progress

The focus is always on the individual. Experienced teachers adapt their teaching to the needs of the students – but expectations are high.

The following systems support you as you learn:

Learner Assessment: you take a number of tests when you arrive to assess your level.

Learner Contract: you decide your language goals with your teacher.

After-class assignments: you complete homework tasks which extend your classroom learning.

Regular tests: you take internal tests and complete coursework assignments to help measure your progress.

Learner Independence Certificate: you complete tasks and activities independently outside the classroom to extend your learning further.

Certificate: you receive a report and a Certificate of Attendance if you complete your course successfully.



Nassar Alwadi

Saudi Arabia
English for Everyday Use

‘St. Clare’s was recommended by a friend. Everybody is really friendly and the teachers are very helpful.’

Everyday English

This programme consists of 21 hours per week in small groups (maximum 12).

Classes in the mornings focus on developing greater accuracy and greater fluency in the use of English. They incorporate the four skills, reading, writing, listening and speaking, as well as the building-blocks of the language, grammar and vocabulary.

Classes in the afternoons are based on student choice. A wide range of ‘English in Context’ options is available each week. Popular examples include:

- Speaking, listening and pronunciation
- Grammar, vocabulary and collocation
- English ‘out and about’ in Oxford
- IELTS preparation
- Popular music and film

Sample Timetable: Everyday English

Lesson 1	Focus on Accuracy	Teacher 1
Lesson 2	Language development	
Lesson 3	Focus on Fluency	Teacher 2
Lunch	Meet friends in College dining room	
Lesson 4	English in Context (Monday - Thursday)	Teacher 3
Lesson 5	Self-study Consolidation activities	Adviser
Activities	Join in the regular events	

Combination English

This programme consists of 20 hours per week: 15 in small groups and 5 in private lessons (one-to-one).

Classes in the mornings focus on developing greater accuracy and greater fluency in the use of English. They incorporate the four skills, reading, writing, listening and speaking, as well as the building-blocks of the language, grammar and vocabulary.

Classes in the afternoons are one-to-one with your own teacher. This is an excellent way to focus specifically on your needs and interests. It is highly recommended for boosting your confidence in speaking in the shortest possible time! It's also the best way of achieving success in examinations.

Sample Timetable: Combination English

Lesson 1	Focus on Accuracy	Teacher 1
Lesson 2	Language development	
Lesson 3	Focus on Fluency	Teacher 2
Lunch	Meet friends in College dining room	
Individual Tutorials	One-to-one lessons for 5 hours per week	Private tutor
Self-study	Consolidation activities	Adviser
Activities	Join in the regular events	

Individual English

One-to-one lessons allow you to study with your own teacher and focus exclusively on you. It's an opportunity to build your confidence in private in preparation for facing the ‘real’ world:

- improve your pronunciation
- extend your vocabulary
- develop learning strategies
- practise presentations
- prepare for an examination

25 lessons per week as a separate programme.
5 lessons per week as part of Combination English.

Success means:

- increased overall confidence
- wider range of vocabulary
- greater accuracy in grammar
- better pronunciation and greater fluency in speaking
- more accurate writing

Getting the right qualifications

English for Examinations

Age: 17+
Level: Intermediate +

Oxford is the perfect place for study and St. Clare's has long **experience of preparing for examination success.**

IELTS is the most popular exam for St. Clare's students. It is the best way of testing your level in English and is widely used by universities in the UK and other countries as an entrance requirement. The test can be taken in Oxford every month and the results are available within three weeks.

The **Cambridge Examinations** are also highly regarded. St. Clare's prepares students for the following levels:

PET – Preliminary English Test

FCE – First Certificate in English

CAE – Certificate in Advanced English

TOEFL and **TOEIC** examinations may be prepared in one-to-one lessons.

Monitoring progress

The following systems monitor and support your progress:

Setting goals: you choose the examination which is most appropriate for your level and your future career with the help of your teacher.

After-class assignments: you complete homework tasks which extend your classroom learning.

Regular tests: you take internal tests and coursework assignments to help decide on the date of your external examination.

Careers advice: you meet our specialist Careers & Higher Education Adviser for independent advice on the best university for you.

The English for Examinations Course

This programme consists of 21 hours per week in small groups (maximum 12).



Paula Buffagni
Argentina

English for Examinations

‘My first experience at St. Clare’s was so good that I wanted to come back and get a higher IELTS score.’

Classes in the mornings focus on the background skills required for exam success. As a result, you develop greater accuracy and greater fluency in the use of English. Lessons incorporate the four skills, reading, writing, listening and speaking, as well as the building-blocks of the language, grammar and vocabulary.

Classes in the afternoons are based on practising the skills required for success in your chosen examination and include:

- examination strategies
- practice tests
- speaking and listening tasks
- ‘against the clock’ activities
- tips from the examiners

Sample Timetable: English for Examinations

Lesson 1	Focus on Accuracy	Teacher 1
Lesson 2	Language development	
Lesson 3	Focus on Fluency	Teacher 2
Lunch	Mingle with friends in College dining room	
Lesson 4	IELTS practice (Monday – Thursday)	Teacher 3
Lesson 5	Strategies for examinations	
Self-study	Consolidation activities	Adviser
Activities	Join in the programme of regular events	

Exam Combination

This programme consists of 20 hours per week: 15 in small groups (max. 12) and 5 in private lessons (one-to-one).

Classes in the mornings focus on the background skills required for exam success. As a result, you develop greater accuracy and greater fluency in the use of English. Lessons incorporate the four skills, reading, writing, listening and speaking, as well as the building-blocks of the language, grammar and vocabulary.

Classes in the afternoons are one-to-one with your own teacher. This is an excellent way to focus specifically on making that extra progress – it may just make the difference! There's no better way to prepare for IELTS, or the Cambridge examinations (PET, FCE and CAE), or even the more specialist examinations like TOEIC and TOEFL.

Sample Timetable: Exam Combination

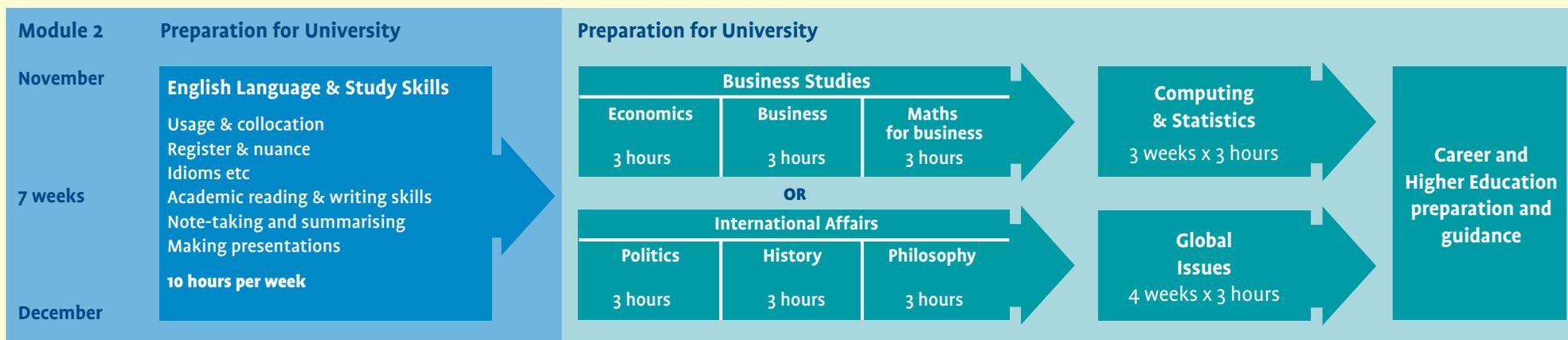
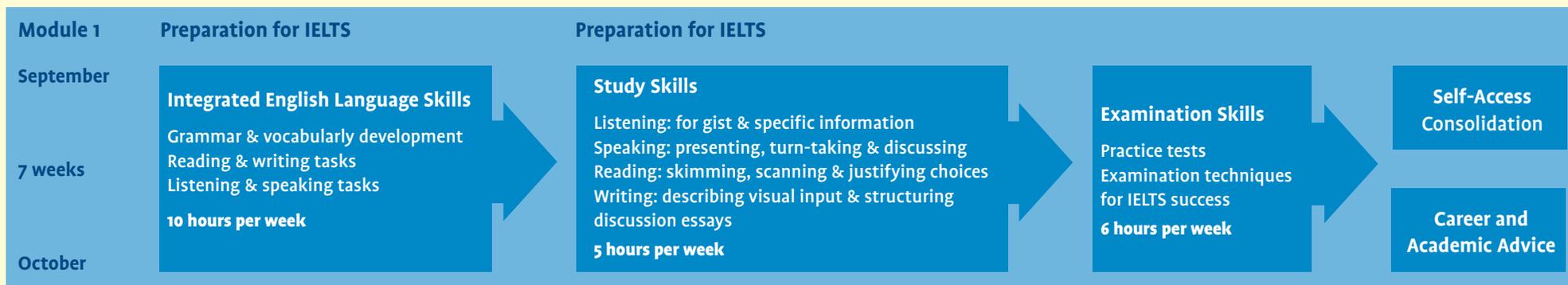
Lesson 1	Focus on Accuracy	Teacher 1
Lesson 2	Language development	
Lesson 3	Focus on Fluency	Teacher 2
Lunch	Mingle with friends in College dining room	
Individual Tutorials	One-to-one tutorials for 5 hours: special exam skills	Private tutor
Self-study	Consolidation activities	Adviser
Activities	Join in the programme of regular events	

Success means:

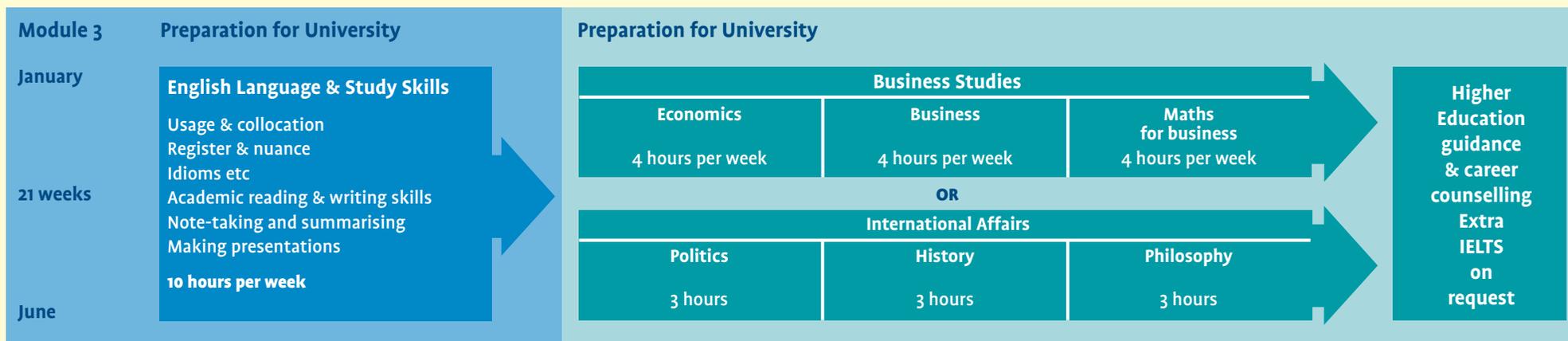
- increased overall confidence in an international community
- success in IELTS and entry to a university
- success in PET/FCE/CAE and a boost to your future career

University Foundation Course overview

First Semester



Second Semester



Preparing for university

University Foundation Course

Age: 17+
Level: Intermediate +

We strongly believe that there's no better place to prepare for a UK university than St. Clare's.

When you join our University Foundation Course, you become part of our small, welcoming community and you:

- are respected as an individual learner;
- receive the very best advice from our academic advisers;
- live in a truly international community;
- improve your English language skills;
- get a solid foundation in your academic studies; and
- move on to university at the end of the course.

Entry requirements

To enrol on the course you must have successfully completed High School in your own country and be 17 years of age or over.

There are two entry points – one in September and one in October/November each year.

Please note: an overall IELTS [academic] level of 5.0 (with a minimum of 4.5 in each skill) is required in September and 5.5 (with a minimum of 5.0 in each skill) in October/November.

The Director of Studies also checks your level of English with a short telephone interview and written test before you are admitted to the course.

● IELTS preparation

You follow a programme of rigorous preparation for IELTS (the International English Language Testing System). This is recognised worldwide in more than 4,500 institutions in 120 countries, including the UK, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. It is the single most important requirement for non-native speakers who wish to enter a university in the UK or other English-speaking country.

● Academic subject pathways

You choose either the Business Studies or the International Affairs pathway to university. The academic content increases in intensity as the year progresses.

● Study Skills practice

You prepare for academic life at university by improving your study skills. Features include: note-taking, writing reports and summaries and presenting a case to a seminar group.

● Careers guidance

You select the best university for you with the help of our specialist Careers & Higher Education adviser. You receive individual support with the application process. Specialist advice is also available for students wishing to apply to a US university.

The English Language component

From September to the end of October the main focus is on preparing for IELTS through a programme of integrated language skills and examination practice. Classes take place over 21 hours per week in small groups (max 12).

From early November the focus shifts more towards the academic aspects of the programme. English classes (10 hours per week) concentrate on more advanced language skills such as vocabulary and collocation, register and nuance and idiomatic usage. The aim is to prepare for your language needs at university and to improve your IELTS score.



Jannik Stoll

Germany

University Foundation Course

‘For the first time in my life I actually enjoyed coming to school.’

Academic subject pathways

The programme consists of two broad streams:

Business Studies

Economics + Business + Mathematics for business

or

International Affairs

Politics + History + Philosophy

These subjects are taught at pre-university level by subject specialists who bring the benefits of the latest research in their own areas of expertise.

Recent students at St. Clare's have been very successful in gaining entrance to university in the UK in a wide range of subjects.

The **Business Stream** can lead to a university course in Business, Management, Economics, Travel & Tourism, Hotel Management etc.

The **International Affairs Stream** can lead to a university course in Politics, International Relations, Law, Sociology, Social Anthropology, Psychology, Philosophy etc.

Sample Timetable:

Lesson 1	Language development 'Global issues in the media'	English Teacher
Lesson 2	Discussion & report	Teacher
Lunch	Mingle with friends in College dining room	
Lesson 3	Academic Subject 'Saving & investment' or 'Parties & interest groups'	Subject Teacher
Self-study	Consolidation activities	
Activities	Join in the programme of regular events	

Success means:

- 6.5 + in IELTS by the end of your course
- entry to university in the UK or USA

English plus Academic Studies

Extending study skills in English

Module 1:
Sep – Dec
(LONG)

Advanced English Language Skills

The exploration of contemporary issues through the medium of English:

sample topics: Youth Culture, Travel & Tourism, City Life, Fairtrade, Crime & Punishment

teaching stimuli include television documentaries, study visits, newspaper articles, internet searches etc.

language development focuses on advanced skills such as register, collocation and idiomatic usage

internal assessment includes formal & informal writing, an extended essay and oral presentations

external assessment through prestigious, validated certificates eg CAE (Cambridge Advanced) or IELTS

10 hours per week

Module 2:
Jan – May
(LONG)

Preparing for academic study

Academic subject options

Select three courses from the following subject areas

English Literature	Politics Psychology	Mathematics
Philosophy Religion	Art History Studio Art	Business Studies Economics
European History	Chinese or Russian for beginners	Natural Sciences

2 or 3 hours per week for each subject option

Careers & Higher Education preparation and guidance

St. Clare's Seminar Series at Blackfriars Hall, University of Oxford

Extending study skills in English

Module 3:
May – Jun
(SHORT)

Advanced English Language Skills

The exploration of contemporary issues through the medium of English:

sample topics: Youth Culture, Travel & Tourism, City Life, Fairtrade, Crime & Punishment

teaching stimuli include television documentaries, study visits, newspaper articles, internet searches etc.

language development focuses on advanced skills such as register, collocation and idiomatic usage

internal assessment includes formal & informal writing, an extended essay and oral presentations

external assessment through IELTS (if pre-booked before arrival)

10 hours per week

Preparing for academic study

Academic subject options

Select three courses from the following subject areas

Contemporary Global Issues	Exploring English Literature
Art History Studio Art	Natural Sciences

2 or 3 hours per week for each subject option

Careers & Higher Education preparation and guidance

Extra IELTS preparation on request

Making the most of your English & 'gap year'

English plus Academic Studies

Age: 17+
Level: Upper Intermediate +

If you are a 'gap year' student waiting to go to university, a 'pre-masters' student preparing for further study, or you just want to develop your English skills - this is the best choice for you.

This stimulating alternative to the traditional English Language course plays to the strengths of St. Clare's. Our experienced language teachers combine with academic subject specialists to create a flexible and challenging programme.

The components are:

● Topic-based learning and exam preparation

You follow a rigorous, intellectually-engaging programme in preparation for an externally-validated English examination:

CAE – Certificate in Advanced English

CPE – Certificate of Proficiency in English

IELTS – International English Language Testing System

● Academic subject options

You select three subjects, each for two or three hours per week, to suit your interests and needs for the future. (See box opposite and website for latest details.)

● Study skills practice

You develop listening and note-taking skills by attending the St. Clare's Seminar Series at Blackfriars Hall during the Autumn and Spring semesters (past themes include 'Creation & Inspiration' and 'Diversity & Culture').

● Careers guidance

You plan your future with the help of our Careers & Higher Education adviser.



Evelien Witteveen
The Netherlands

English plus Academic Studies
'Coming to St. Clare's broadens your perspective of the world and the mix of cultures makes prejudice disappear.'

Entry requirements:

- a level of English equivalent to Upper Intermediate (IELTS 5.5, FCE or CEF B2).
- the Director of Studies checks your level of English with a written test and a short telephone interview before you are admitted to the course.

The English Language component

This programme consists of 10 hours per week in small groups (maximum 12).

Classes explore contemporary topics such as Youth Culture, Travel & Tourism, City Life or Country Living, Fairtrade & Charities, Crime & Punishment through the medium of English.

Teachers use a variety of teaching methods and stimuli (television documentaries, study visits, newspaper articles, internet searches as appropriate) and focus on the more advanced skills of register, collocation and idiomatic usage. Every opportunity is taken to develop the academic study skills you require for study at university.

You are assessed internally and externally:

- internal assessments include formal & informal writing activities, an extended essay based on your own research and an oral presentation;
- external examinations (CAE/CPE/IELTS) provide the focus for the end of the course.

The academic subjects component

This programme consists of three academic subjects selected from the following areas:

English Literature	Politics Psychology	Chinese or Russian for beginners
Philosophy Religion	Art History Studio Art	Mathematics
European History	Business Studies Economics	Natural Sciences

These subjects are taught at university level together with English native-speakers, usually students from the USA on 'study abroad' programmes. Tuition is provided by subject specialists who bring the benefits of the latest research in their own areas of expertise.

The programme requires background reading and research and is assessed through course work, extended essay and examination.

Sample Timetable:

Lesson 1	Language development Video 'The true costs of cheap food'	English Teacher
Lesson 2	Discussion & debate	
Lunch	Mingle with friends in college dining room	
Lesson 3	Academic Subject Choice Philosophy 'The Scientific Method'	Subject Teacher
Self-study	Consolidation activities	
Activities	Join in the programme of regular events	

Success means:

- a good qualification in English
- a flying start to university life

Gaining university credits

Liberal Arts Courses

Study Abroad Semester

Age: 18+

Level: Advanced/native speaker

For many this is a 'once-in-a-lifetime' opportunity to study abroad in one of the most celebrated academic cities in the world - Oxford.

St. Clare's is well-established as an academic institution, offering Liberal Arts courses to university undergraduates and 'gap year' students for more than 40 years. Through long-standing links to our university of record, the University of San Diego, credits are transferable and count towards your final degree at your 'home' university.

Both in the classroom and the residences you mix with undergraduates from the US as well as students from across Europe and beyond. You research, explore and share ideas that will shape your thinking for life. You can even travel at weekends and experience Paris, Madrid, Rome and Berlin at first hand. It truly is a life-changing opportunity.

Entry requirements

Applicants for the programme normally transfer for one or two semesters from their own university. The majority of students are from the USA but undergraduates from Russia, Norway and Italy have integrated well in the past. A number of 'gap year' students, with a very high level of fluency in English, have also joined the programme and made excellent contributions.

There are two entry points – in September and January each year. Both semesters are of equal length (14 weeks).

Core Courses

These represent the major concentration of study in each academic area. A wide range of courses is available each semester within the following fields of discipline:

Art History	Communications	English Literature
History	Economics & Business	Religion
Philosophy	Mathematics	Studio Art
Psychology	Social Science	

Specific details of courses for each semester are available from the website: www.stclares.ac.uk/liberalarts or by email: lib-arts@stclares.ac.uk.

Tutorial Courses

All students take one tutorial course each semester. Students are taught singly or in pairs, in keeping with the traditions of the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. These tutorials allow students to specialise further in their preferred field of study or to focus on acquiring greater fluency in a foreign language.

Other course opportunities

- **St. Clare's Seminar Series** – devised as a forum for academic reflection and offering additional credits.
- **Independent study projects** – an opportunity to pursue study, or fulfil degree requirements, in an area not offered in the core or tutorial programmes.
- **Internships** – placements in a local primary or secondary school for students pursuing a degree course in education or considering a teaching career.

Gaining credits

Each course is valued at 3 credits. You are advised to select up to 5 courses with a normal maximum of 15 credits (4 Core Course subjects plus 1 Tutorial Course).

Assessment

Generally speaking each course, whether Core or Tutorial, requires three assessed pieces of work. Although the workload will vary from course to course, you should expect to study for the equivalent of one day per week for each.

Academic meetings with the Course Director take place twice a semester. These take the form of confidential, individual meetings. Self-evaluation forms must also be completed before the end of the course.

Grades are awarded on the basis of academic performance and official transcripts are prepared for each student and a copy sent to the home university or college.

Success means:

- intellectual and cultural horizons widened
- credits transferred to the home university or college

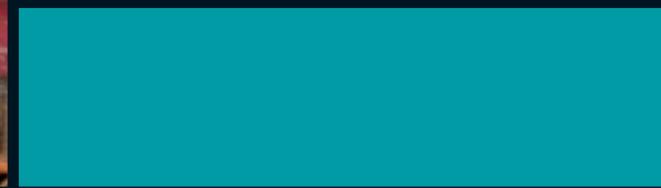


Kelsey Reedy

USA

Liberal Arts

'The teachers are incredibly clever and I enjoyed learning about different cultures and countries.'



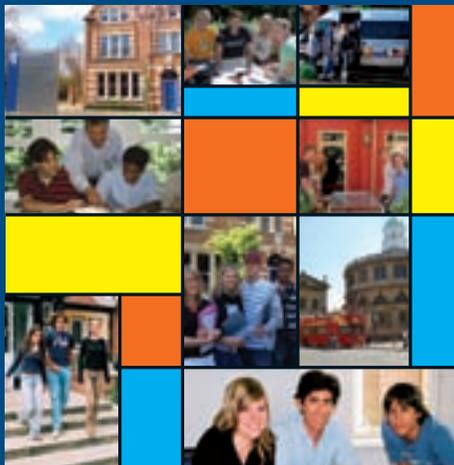
Other courses available at St. Clare's



International Baccalaureate Courses

- *International Baccalaureate Diploma*
- *Preparatory IB Course*

www.stclares.ac.uk/ib



Summer Courses in Oxford

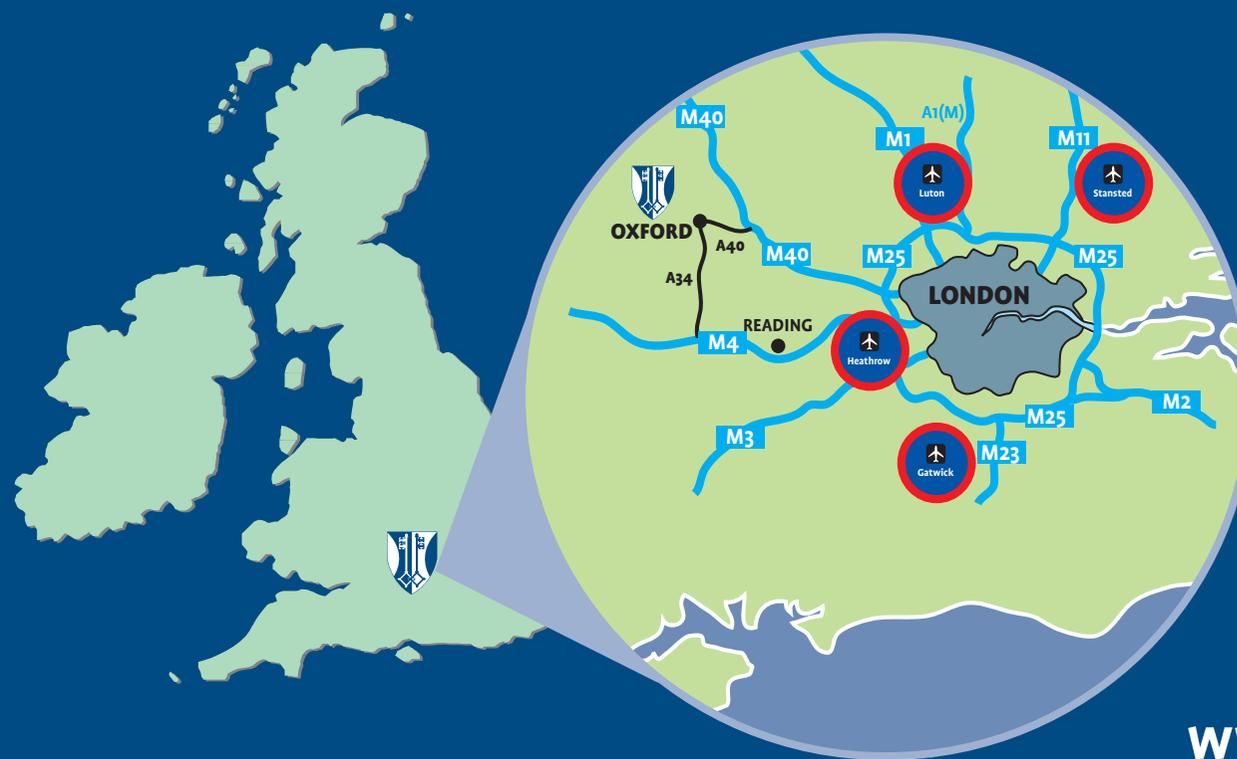
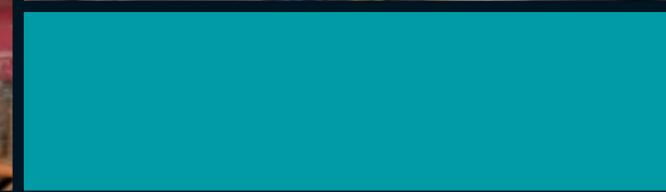
- *English Courses for Adults*
- *English and IB Courses for Teenagers*
- *English and Activity Courses for Juniors*

www.stclares.ac.uk/summer

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Accredited by the
BRITISH COUNCIL
for the teaching of English

ENGLISHUK
member

www.stclares.ac.uk