Balliol College Outreach

• Balliol College is over 750 years old.

• In the 19th Century we pioneered the selection of students on academic merit alone.

• Since 2012 we have had a full-time Outreach Officer.
Why *Floreat*?

- We want to share the best of Oxford teaching with a broader audience and engage school students with university academic material.

- We want to combat myths about Oxford University and encourage more students to consider Oxford and/or other universities.

- We recognise that sustained contact is the best way to influence students.

- ‘Floreat Domus’ (Balliol motto) means ‘May this house flourish’.
Floreat: What are we offering

- An Oxford style academic experience, delivered in Harpenden.

- We will use a lot of Oxford terminology like ‘Trinity Term’ and ‘Collections’ to give students a flavour of what being a student at Oxford might be like.

- This is a ‘super curricular’ programme designed to broaden students academic experience and give them the opportunity to discover and read outside of their school studies.
Floreat: What are we not offering

• This opportunity should not be mistaken for Oxbridge ‘coaching’.

• This programme is not a fast track or backdoor entrance to Oxford.

• Floreat will not be replicating, supporting or tutoring students in their school work, or in any way offering school exam preparation.
Programme outline

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HILARY TERM</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7 March</td>
<td>6.30-8pm</td>
<td>Roundwood</td>
<td>Launch event</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 26 March</td>
<td>5pm</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>Application deadline</td>
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<tr>
<td>Before Easter</td>
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<td>Application assessment</td>
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<td><strong>TRINITY TERM</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18 May</td>
<td>5-7pm</td>
<td>Roundwood</td>
<td>Seminar 1 – History: Class and community in the East End</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 25 May</td>
<td>5-7pm</td>
<td>Roundwood</td>
<td>Seminar 2 – English: Spy thrillers</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 8 June</td>
<td>5-7pm</td>
<td>Roundwood</td>
<td>Seminar 3 – Politics: Protest, radicalisation and continuity</td>
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<td>Thursday 15 June</td>
<td>5-7pm</td>
<td>Roundwood</td>
<td>Seminar 4 – Theology/ Philosophy: The bomb</td>
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<td>Thursday 22 June</td>
<td>5-7pm</td>
<td>Roundwood</td>
<td>Seminar 5 – History of Art: Visual and material consumption</td>
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<td>Thursday 6 July</td>
<td>5-7pm</td>
<td>Roundwood</td>
<td>Seminar 6 – Gender Studies: Feminism, femininity and masculinity</td>
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<td>Thursday 13 July</td>
<td>5-7pm</td>
<td>Roundwood</td>
<td>Aptitude Test</td>
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<td>Thursday 20 July</td>
<td>5-7pm</td>
<td>Roundwood</td>
<td>Handshaking</td>
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<td><strong>SUMMER VAC</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 14 - Friday 18 August</td>
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<td>Balliol College</td>
<td>Summer School Residential</td>
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<td>Saturday 19 August</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Balliol College</td>
<td>Graduation with families</td>
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Hilary (Spring)

• HT is about the application process, through which we will assess commitment as much as aptitude.

• Students should view this as an opportunity walk through the UCAS process.

• We aim to recruit students through an application form.
Trinity (Summer)

- Teaching will be delivered in a series of seminars.

- Students will be expected to read preparatory materials each week (around 3-4 book chapters/articles), and come to each session prepared to discuss ideas. They will not be expected to prepare an essay or any formal work each week.
Summer Vac

- We will host a summer residential from 14–18 August which will give students the chance to experience a week in the life of an Oxford student.

- Attendees will have the opportunity to use the Bodleian and Balliol College libraries to research and produce an essay on an academic topic. They will then have the opportunity to attend a tutorial-style discussion of their work.

- The programme will end with a graduation ceremony in Oxford on the 19th August.
The theme of this course is Cold War Europe, inspired by a real undergraduate course taken by second year History students.

One advantage of taking this approach is that students will have the chance to try out lots of different academic subjects, whilst building up a clearer impression of the period.

The source material will be provided from university books, journal articles and archives.
How will this be delivered?

• Weekly teaching will take place at Roundwood Park school, Hertfordshire.

• Teaching will be led by Oxford representatives.

• Support will be offered via email and over the phone.

• You will be expected to undertake independent study in advance of each seminar.
Who/ what are we looking for?

• Applications are invited from Year 12 students at state-maintained schools, who are studying essay-based subjects this year.

• We are looking to recruit those with a strong academic background, who would benefit from the experience.

• There is no need for students to be ‘Oxford hopefuls’.

• We hope to engage with students from a range of local schools.
Things to consider

• Please ensure you are able to attend all scheduled sessions.

• Make sure you are able to get to and from Roundwood Park School, Harpenden, during TT.

• Your school work should always take priority, so make sure you feel confident you can manage your time well.
Things not to worry about

• Cost – this programme is free and we can support students who need financial aid towards travel expenses.

• Whether you are clever enough to take the programme.

• Oxford ‘types’.

• The application process.
Why apply?

- The process of applying for this programme should prove useful ahead of UCAS next year.
- This presents a genuine opportunity to read outside the curriculum.
- Understand what university study is really like.
- Experience Oxford style teaching.
- Try out new subject areas and engage with new ideas/ material.
- Meet other likeminded students.
How do I apply?

• Complete and return an application form online by 5pm Sunday 26\textsuperscript{th} March.

• Application forms can be found on our website at \url{www.balliol.ox.ac.uk/schools-and-outreach/access-events}.
Questions?

• You are very welcome to get in touch to discuss the programme, either via email: outreach@balliol.ox.ac.uk or over the phone: 01865 277 752