



## **Foundations of Diplomacy 2015-2016**

### **Pre-Master's Course FAQs**

#### **1 Who is the 'typical' Foundations of Diplomacy Course student?**

Students on the Foundations of Diplomacy Course are all graduates. Many, if not most, also hold Masters degrees. They come from a wide range of backgrounds; some are young serving diplomats, others come straight from undergraduate and postgraduate studies and others are graduate professionals looking for a career change

#### **2 What is the average age of students on the course?**

The majority of our students tend to come from the 21 to 35 age range.

#### **3 Which countries do 'Foundations of Diplomacy Course' students come from?**

Most recently, we have welcomed students from Brazil, Canada, China, DR Congo, Finland, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Latvia, Pakistan, Philippines, Qatar, Russia, Sri Lanka, Ukraine, the UK and the USA.

#### **4 What is the average class size?**

For academic seminars, the maximum class size is normally 25. Please note that, in some years, this number may be lower or a little higher. For English language classes, the maximum class size is normally 8.

#### **5 I have no experience of diplomacy or international relations; can I still apply for a place on the course?**

Absolutely. Although some of our students have previously studied international relations, the Foundations of Diplomacy Course assumes no prior specialist subject knowledge of the area. In the past, our students have come from a wide range of backgrounds with degrees in engineering, law, English language and literature, art history, politics and sociology.

#### **6 What do students do after completing the Foundations of Diplomacy course?**

In the past year, our students have returned to their Ministry of Foreign Affairs, have gone on to Masters degree courses at leading universities in the UK, or have joined their country's diplomatic service. This year, we also have students who intend to work for major international organisations upon course completion.

#### **7 Will taking this course improve my chances of being accepted for a Masters degree course at the University of Oxford?**

Students should know that completion of the Foundations of Diplomacy Course does not necessarily improve chances of being accepted for a Masters degree course at Oxford.

## **8 Can you give me advice on visas?**

We regret that we are unable to provide advice on individual visas. Students are advised to consult their closest British Embassy, Consulate or High Commission for the most up-to-date advice. Students should also refer to the University's Student Information and Advisory Service at [www.ox.ac.uk/students/international\\_students/visas](http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/international_students/visas)

## **9 How many contact hours each week will I have?**

The Foundations of Diplomacy Course is highly intensive. You should expect to receive a minimum of 15 contact hours each week. Additionally, you will also receive an individual academic writing tutorial.

## **10 Who will my tutors be?**

You will be taught by former British ambassadors (diplomatic studies and practical diplomacy), subject specialist academics (politics, international relations) and specialist English language tutors.

## **11 What is included in the total fees of £13,885?**

All course tuition. Also included are all course books, study materials, UK field trips and weekday morning refreshments (tea/coffee).

## **12 What is a College attachment?**

A College attachment or associate student membership allows students to experience the entirety of University life (social and cultural). It offers students the opportunity to socialise with their British and international peers and also to benefit from the academic, sporting and recreational activities of one of the University of Oxford's graduate colleges. Please note that your college fees do not include accommodation or meals.

## **13 Is a college attachment compulsory?**

No. A non-resident college attachment is available those students that wish to have one. This will be at a graduate college and incur an additional fee of £2,848.

## **14 How do I arrange a college attachment?**

Successful applicants can request a college attachment. Please note that we are unable to consider requests for attachments to a specific college.

## **15 I speak English fluently. Do I have to take the English language module?**

If you have been educated in English, have recently completed a university degree that was taught entirely (or predominantly) in English or if you speak fluent English to a high degree of proficiency you will not be required to follow the English language module. You may take a number of academic courses in the Central University in lieu of the English language module. The courses should be related to diplomacy and international relations.

## **16 I've already completed a Master's degree. May I still apply for a place on this course?**

Yes. Many of the students on the Foundations of Diplomacy course already hold Master's degrees.

## **17 Which qualifications do you accept as proof of English language proficiency?**

We accept the following international tests:

- IELTS Academic (Minimum overall score of 6.5)
- Cambridge ESOL CAE (Minimum of B pass)
- TOEFL iBT (Minimum overall score of 76)

Please note that the above list is not exhaustive. If you have taken and passed another officially-recognised test of English (or are unsure which tests are officially-recognised for course application purposes) please contact us for further details.

## **18 Can I pay my course and college fees in instalments?**

Yes. Please contact the course administrator for details.

[ipfd@conted.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ipfd@conted.ox.ac.uk)

Please note that a non-refundable deposit of £1000 is required three weeks after acceptance of a place on the course.

## **19 How long will it take for the result of my application to be known?**

We accept applications on a rolling admissions basis, so you can apply for admission at any time. We begin processing your application as soon as we receive your completed application form, your reference form and your IELTS test results (if applicable). We then contact you to arrange an informal telephone interview. We will normally contact you within 7 days of your telephone interview with our decision.

If you have not found the answer to your question above, please contact the course administrator at [ipfd@conted.ox.ac.uk](mailto:ipfd@conted.ox.ac.uk) or call +44 1865 270451 (from outside the UK) or 01865 270451 (from inside the UK).