AN OXFORD AWARD

One of the benefits of being a student of Oxford Continuing Education is the chance for educational progression.

You might start with a dayschool or a 10 week short course, just to get the flavour of a topic – but what’s next? How far can you go? Depending on the subject and your level of commitment, you could find yourself studying for an Oxford qualification.

The Department’s part-time undergraduate and postgraduate programmes are designed for busy people who work or have duties of care. Because students are able to enter these programmes at any time of life, the courses attract a wonderful variety of people of all ages and backgrounds.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS

Simon Cornthwaite progressed from our Advanced Diploma in Environmental Conservation to our Postgraduate Certificate in Ecological Survey Techniques.

Janine Moore began with our Foundation Certificate in History and transferred directly into the second year of the Oxford BA in History.

Shaun Morley started out on our Undergraduate Advanced Diploma in Local History and went on to do his Master’s and DPhil with the Department. He now teaches on these programmes.

Most of our Oxford qualifications are accepting applications now. To learn more about the variety of programmes we offer, please visit: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/qualifications – and to read these and other student stories, please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/students/studentspotlights

ALUMNA IS CHAMPION OF CHILDREN’S RIGHTS

The rights of children worldwide stand to be vastly improved as a result of efforts by Sara Austin, alumna of our MST in International Human Rights Law. Sara was instrumental in creating new UN legislation, ratified on 14 January 2014, which gives children the power to appeal directly to the United Nations when their rights are violated.

‘As a graduate student in international human rights law at Oxford I wanted to use my studies to make a tangible difference in the lives of children,’ said Sara. To read the full story, please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/saraaustin

EVENTS

Open Evenings for our part-time Oxford Award Programmes
All events are held at Rewley House, 1 Wellington Square, in Oxford.

February
Undergraduate Diploma in Creative Writing – 12 February 6.30-9pm
Postgraduate Certificate in Historical Studies – 18 February 5-7pm

March
Undergraduate Certificate in History of Art – 19 March 6-8pm
Undergraduate Diploma in History of Art – 25 March 6-8pm

April
Foundation Certificate in English Literature – 16 April 6-8pm

May
Foundation Certificate in History – 13 May 6-8pm
Undergraduate Certificate in Archaeology and Undergraduate Diploma in British Archaeology – 22 May 6.30-8.30pm
Undergraduate Diploma in English Local History – 8 May 6-8pm
Undergraduate Certificate in Theological and Religious Studies – 22 May 6-8pm

For more information, please see the listing at: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/openevenings2014

Online Open Events
Pre-recorded, online open events are available for some of our courses that are designed for people who live at a distance from Oxford. These can be seen on the Department’s YouTube Channel, at: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/vod
EXPLORING THE ‘GREAT WAR’
Understanding one of the 20th century’s defining events through study

The First World War, the ‘Great War’, had a transformative impact on technology, diplomacy, national economies, relations between states and their citizens, and on cultural creativity. This year, marking the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of the war, the Department is offering a range of online courses, weekly classes, day schools and summer schools for those who wish to explore this pivotal event through study. For details, please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/ww1

CELEBRATING FOUNDATION ENGLISH
A programme with a proven ability to help students move into higher education celebrates 20 years of success

The Foundation Certificate in English Literature celebrates two decades of teaching this year. This two-year, part-time programme is the equivalent of the first year of full-time study at university level, and has helped many students apply for entry directly into year two of undergraduate study.

A significant proportion of students from the course have achieved considerable success: over 50 students have moved on to full-time study at Oxford colleges as a result of completing this course, while others have gained places at other universities, such as Warwick, Exeter, UCL, Oxford Brookes, Cardiff, Glasgow and Birmingham. To learn more, please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/fcel

FUNDING AWARD: ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES
Free workshops will address a critical skills gap

Funding of £116,000 has been awarded to the Department by the Natural Environment Research Council (NERC) for the provision of critical skills training in environmental sciences and management.

The award is being used to develop training workshops that will enable research scientists, doctoral students, graduates and professionals from across the country in the environmental sciences and management to attend at no cost.

‘With increasing use of digital and large data-sets to solve environmental problems it is imperative that we train the next generation of environmental scientists and managers in Geographical Information Systems (GIS) software and technology, including how to understand multivariate data analysis,’ said Dr Jocelyn Hughes, Academic Director. ‘These workshops will provide the skills needed by environmental scientists and managers to respond critically to the key environmental issues that will affect us in the 21st century.’ To learn more, please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/nerc

COURSE HIGHLIGHTS
From health sciences to architecture to English language teaching, this month’s course highlights focus on the needs of the working professional

MSc in Paediatric Infectious Diseases
The MSc in Paediatric Infectious Diseases is a new one-year part-time programme, which follows on from the two-year Postgraduate Diploma in Paediatric Infectious Diseases. Please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/B900-170

Postgraduate Certificate in Architectural History
This one-year part-time course, which consists of three taught units and a dissertation, covers English architectural history from the Anglo-Saxon period to the present day. Those who are seeking to start or further a career in a conservation related profession, or who wish to pursue further academic study in architectural history, conservation studies or a related field will find this programme particularly useful. Although it offers a qualification in its own right, the course is designed to enable successful students to progress to the Oxford Brookes MSc in Historic Conservation with exemption from the three taught units, subject to the admission requirements of Oxford Brookes University. Please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/K900-24

Modernism versus Brutalism in Twentieth-Century British Architecture
This weekend school, held in association with the Twentieth-Century Society, offers 11 sessions with leading researchers who will explore development of architecture in Britain through the period. Please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/K900-78
BOOK YOUR SUMMER STUDY
The Oxford University Summer School for Adults (OUSSA), now in its 125th year, offers week-long summer courses. A selection of courses is listed below. For details of all courses, please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/oussa

Week 1: 12-19 July
Medieval Architectural Style: Dating and Understanding Old Churches
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/K100-38
Buddhism and Indian Religions
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/V620-130
Your Genes Your Cure: Understanding Gene Therapy
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/C100-63

Week 2: 19-26 July
Monastic Architecture in England
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/K100-39
Giants of British Cinema
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/P303-30
An Introduction to Macroeconomics
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/L100-34
Operatic Milestones
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/W300-181

Week 3: 26 July-2 August
British Art of the First World War
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/V350-243
Fossils and the History of Life
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/F900-26
The String Quartet after Beethoven
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/W300-182

Week 4: 2-9 August
Sibelius: Master of the Orchestra
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/W300-184
Islam
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/V620-132
Exploring Jane Austen: from Myth to Mirth
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/Q220-104
The Meaning of Life
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/V500-220
Stanley Spencer and Art in Britain, 1908-1959
www.conted.ox.ac.uk/V350-233

STUDENT SPOTLIGHTS: ADEDEJI KING, KATIE BREACH

Adedeji King, EDF Energy: Management, Business and Presentation Skills

‘Having previously worked in Africa and Europe on various engineering projects, I was responsible for assessing pipe work on French nuclear power stations with an emphasis on the integrity of cooling water systems.

‘Prior to attending the course, I believed that technical and commercial responsibility need to be kept mutually exclusive to avoid conflicts of interest. Bearing in mind that I had very little involvement in disbursing funds and negotiating commercial contracts, meeting people who successfully took decisions on all aspects of high capital projects challenged me. Relating with course participants’ experiences has put me in a better mindset to take a more strategic view of engineering projects.’ To read Adedeji’s story, please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/students/studentspotlights/business.php

Katie Breach: Postgraduate Certificate in Ecological Survey Techniques

‘My background is in zoology and wildlife conservation, and before embarking on the Postgraduate Certificate in Ecological Survey Techniques I was working in Thailand with the Elephant Conservation Network and the Zoological Society of London, concentrating on a wild elephant conservation programme and carrying out camera trapping research.

‘After working in several far-flung places, I wanted to come back to the UK and pursue a career that focused on surveying our native wildlife. I was interested in working as an Ecological Consultant, and this course seemed an ideal opportunity to gain the skills and knowledge I would need to get into this sector.’ To read Katie’s full story, please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/students/studentspotlights/ecologicalsurvey.php

NEW YEAR HONOURS

Karen Hewitt, the Department’s long-serving tutor in English Literature, has been awarded a MBE in the 2014 New Year Honours for building academic and cultural understanding between the UK and Russia.

Professor Angus Hawkins, Director of the Department’s Public and International Programmes, said: ‘Not only has Karen contributed to the Department’s teaching over many years – she has also overseen the academic exchange programme between Oxford and Perm. The Honour is an appropriate and well-deserved recognition of all she has done.’ To read more about Karen and her achievements, please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/KarenHewittMBE
CREATIVE WRITING

MSt in Creative Writing alumna Maya Popa has won the prestigious Gregory O’Donoghue International Poetry Competition for her poem *Hummingbird*.

Maya, who was a Clarendon Scholar at Oxford, completed the Master’s in 2013. She is the 2013 winner of the Oxford Poetry Society Martin Starkie Prize.

The Gregory O’Donoghue prize includes an award of £1,000 and publication in *Southword Literary Journal*. Maya will be flown to Ireland to take part in the Cork Spring Literary Festival.

To read the full story, and to visit Maya’s website and read a selection of her poetry, please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/mayapopa

The winner of the A.M. Heath Prize for fiction this year is Mariah Whelan for her poem *City of Rivers*. Victoria Hobbs, Director of AM Heath, said, ‘I opened *City of Rivers* with some trepidation as poetry is not generally something to make an agent’s heart sing, and was so delighted by what I found here. Mariah is a writer with a tremendous ability to conjure a powerful sense of place, and she did so within the considerable constraints of the poetic form. I found this odd love story unexpectedly compelling and moving.’

The A.M. Heath Prize, offered by one of London’s most prestigious and long-established literary agencies, is awarded annually for the best piece of writing by a graduating student of the MSt in Creative Writing programme.

IN BRIEF

Dr Martin Ruhs, University Lecturer in Political Economy, had an opinion piece, ‘Migrants Don’t Need More Rights’, in *The New York Times*. Please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/migrantsrights

Dr Johanna Waters’ research was highlighted in an article, ‘Children of rich Chinese home alone in Canada face challenges’ in the *South China Morning Post*. Please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/waters

Marianne Talbot, Director of Studies in Philosophy, wrote a piece ‘Anyone for Philosophy?’ for *Oxford Philosophy Magazine*. Please see page 42 of the pdf at: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/philosophyanyone

A QUESTION OF CITIZENS’ RIGHTS

Dr Nazila Ghanea, University Lecturer on our International Human Rights Law programmes and Associate Director of the Oxford Human Rights Hub, wrote a post for the *European Journal of International Law*’s blog (EJIL: Talk!) critiquing the draft Iranian Charter of Citizens’ Rights. She argues that, on the one hand, the Charter declares rights, but on the other hand it takes them away through the use of limitations and discriminatory provisions. Read the article in full at: www.ejiltalk.org/the-iranian-charter-of-citizens-rights/

INSPIRING WOMEN

Archaeology student Tricia Marsh is featured in the current issue of *Good Housekeeping* Magazine as part of their ‘Inspiring Women’ feature. Read more about Tricia on our website at: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/inspiration

Did you know?

Some prospective students are unable to enrol on weekly classes because they can’t afford the bus fare across Oxford. £25 could pay for a student from Oxford to take the bus each week from their home to their class. Even so small a gift could have a truly beneficial impact on someone’s life. To learn more about how you can support the work of the Department, please see: www.conted.ox.ac.uk/about/support/