COME INTO YOUR OWN
Somerville is a college of the University of Oxford, which opens its doors to the world. Our students come from many different nationalities and backgrounds, and go on to succeed in every part of the world and any imaginable field of endeavour.

Somervillians who have changed the world include prime ministers and a Nobel Prize winner, doctors and scientists, business leaders and inventors, teachers, explorers, ambassadors, artists, dramatists, musicians, leaders in the media, generations of illustrious novelists, world-class philosophers and, not least, academic leaders who inspire their students to aspire to new heights.

Somerville’s distinctive character is rooted in its origins. One of the two first colleges to admit women to Oxford, it was founded by a group of progressive men and women who believed that the opportunity of an Oxford education should be open to all, regardless of national, religious or social background. They named the new institution after one of the great female figures of their time, the scientist and writer Mary Somerville (1780–1872). Part of a circle that included Laplace, Charles Darwin and John Stuart Mill, and an accomplished mathematician and astronomer in her own right, her writings made the scientific discoveries of her day accessible to a wide audience. Within its first decade the College welcomed students from around the world, and soon became a magnet for those who aspired to intellectual distinction and public service.

I came to Somerville myself in the 1960s, as one of a generation who were proud of our great traditions and ready to blaze new trails though life. With the inclusion of men in the 1990s, the College reinvented itself on the basis of its pioneering and open traditions.

Somerville students consistently rate their learning experience as one of the best among Oxford colleges. They also tell me “the College feels like home”. It is a place where you know and trust the immensely distinguished tutors who guide your studies, and the students you work with: a place to do the fullest possible justice to yourself, in your own way. It is a place to excel, and it is also a place where you can turn for support, inspiration, encouragement and simple friendship.

Somerville welcomes prospective students, teachers and families to visit the College at any time. We offer open days so you can come and meet our Fellows, staff and students, and we visit schools to tell you more about life at Somerville. We invite you to find out how the College has made a difference in the world, and how it could change your life. Please read on, and discover for yourself something of the unique qualities of Somerville, and its place at the heart of the University of Oxford.
COME INTO YOUR OWN

Somerville expects the best from its students, and in return we commit to supporting your academic performance

Oxford colleges play a major role in a student’s academic experience. Somerville is in some ways a small university in its own right, with students and academics all engaging in study, teaching and research. Successful applicants can expect their work to be enriched by the facilities and teaching provided by the College.

TUTORIALS
Tutorials centre around the discussion of an essay or problem sheet set by a College tutor. They are typically attended by no more than two or three students. Tutorials are a key part of Oxford’s teaching approach, offering a really personal learning experience in which students and academics work closely together. These are often challenging encounters but always highly productive and valuable ones.

Tutorials can be held in other colleges, but will generally take place in Somerville if the tutors teach your chosen topic.

LECTURES & SEMINARS
In addition to the numerous university-wide lectures and classes, the College organises public lectures which have been given by globally eminent academics, including Nobel Prize winners. There is also a termly research seminar in which all members of College can participate. Twice a term, the “Principal Presents” series gives students an opportunity to meet prominent people in a small-scale setting.

FINANCIAL SUPPORT
Somerville provides financial support in many forms, including funds for books and academic-related travel. For more details on financial support, see page 16.

THE LIBRARY

With one of the University’s largest undergraduate libraries at your fingertips, whatever the subject area, our extensive collection and resources are there to support your study needs

OVER
120,000
ITEMS
OPEN
24/7
2,000
BOOKS IN THE JOHN STUART MILL LIBRARY
LOAN PERIODS
1 WHOLE TERM ON MOST ITEMS
STUDY SPACE FOR
75 STUDENTS AND CASUAL SEATING IN THE LOBBY
STOCK DATING BACK TO
1225 AD
2,300
NEW PURCHASES EVERY YEAR, MANY AT THE REQUEST OF STUDENTS

While the Bodleian and faculty libraries have limited opening hours, Somerville’s library is open around the clock, and it consistently features in the top reasons why students say they applied to the College. Not only is it one of the largest college libraries in Oxford, it also has a warm and welcoming atmosphere for working. Multiple desks, group study rooms, and computers mean that there is plenty of space to work. As well as everything you need for your studies, the library stocks a range of DVDs and novels, including works by well-known alumni of the College like Vera Brittain, Iris Murdoch, and Penelope Fitzgerald.

"As an English postgraduate student, the Somerville Library has almost every book I needed for my courses and dissertation. On the off chance the library did not have a copy of a book, they purchased the book for me, and this process was impressively quick as well."

"For someone like me who wants as much feedback as possible, the tutors are always very willing to give any additional advice. I’ve also found them really approachable which I think is very important when it comes to learning"

NILUKA KAVANAGH
Undergraduate, English

"As an English postgraduate student, the Somerville Library has almost every book I needed for my courses and dissertation. On the off chance the library did not have a copy of a book, they purchased the book for me, and this process was impressively quick as well."

NILUKA KAVANAGH
Undergraduate, English

RITA MANSURIAN
MSt, English

"For someone like me who wants as much feedback as possible, the tutors are always very willing to give any additional advice. I’ve also found them really approachable which I think is very important when it comes to learning"

"As an English postgraduate student, the Somerville Library has almost every book I needed for my courses and dissertation. On the off chance the library did not have a copy of a book, they purchased the book for me, and this process was impressively quick as well."

RITA MANSURIAN
MSt, English
Aside from our own Terrace Bar, which serves coffee all day, Somerville is ideally located for nearby cafés. G&Ds is a regular student hangout, serving ice cream until midnight, while Companion is the ultimate brunch spot. The Jericho Café has great coffee and loads of room downstairs to hang out with friends, and Taylors is the place to go if you want a takeaway coffee or sandwich.

Galleries are not hard to find in Oxford, with the world-famous Ashmolean and Modern Art Oxford so close by, plus the beautiful new galleries of the Weston Library. In terms of theatre, the Oxford drama scene is always thriving. It takes about 5 minutes to get to the main three performance spaces. For film aficionados, the Phoenix Picturehouse is right on the College’s doorstep.

Jericho comes to life at night. Cocktail-lovers will have trouble deciding between several exciting bars in the surrounding area. The main night-clubs are all within a short walk from the College, and students who act as ‘Entz Reps’ are on-hand to provide tickets. If you’d prefer a quiet drink, pubs like The Victoria, The Rickety Press, and The Eagle and Child are Somervillian favourites.

Central Oxford has all the High Street brands you could want, as well as the famous Covered Market. Closer to home, you can find charity shops, a post office, a florist and more in the immediate area. For books, The Last Bookshop always has bargains, while Blackwells, Waterstones and The Albion Beattik all offer literary events alongside their wares.

Somerville is one of the closest colleges to Oxford’s beautiful Port Meadow, an ideal place for a walk, picnic, or jog. The University Parks are also nearby, offering a space to play football, or an alternative route towards the English, Law, and Social Sciences faculties. In summer, the river beckons, and you can try your hand at punting on the Thames.

Little Clarendon Street boasts an impressive range of bakeries and delicatessens, and for the basics there are two branches of Co-Op right next to Somerville. It isn’t far to Tesco, Sainsbury’s, and the weekly Gloucester Green food market. Restaurants in Jericho include some well-known names as well as student favourites Mamma Mia and Arzoo’s. For a treat, try critically acclaimed Zheng or the cosy Pierre Victoire.
COLLEGE LIFE

Somerville is famed for its liberal and welcoming attitude, which means you’ll meet, work and play with a spectrum of great people. Our College culture has everything (and more) you could want from the Oxford experience - just tailor it and do it your way.

**THE TERRACE BAR** brings everyone together, whether it’s for a coffee, a beer, or a game of pool. In summer, people relax on the terrace overlooking Little Clarendon Street.

**MUSIC** lovers will find five pianos, a harpsichord, chapel organ and more available in the college chapel and practice rooms.

**FORMAL MEALS** are a key social event, and a bargain at under £10 for three courses. Our oak-panelled dining hall provides a stunning surrounding these weekly events.

**COLLEGE PARENTS** are assigned to incoming freshers in order to answer any questions they have before arriving and to offer guidance throughout the year.

**COLLEGE FOOD** is plentiful, delicious, and subsidised. Three meals are served every weekday, and a big brunch and evening meal on weekends, including a roast dinner on Sundays.

**CHARITIES** are a big part of Somerville’s ethos. The JCR has a link to Molly’s Library in Ghana, and students undertake volunteering in places all over the world.

**SPORTS** including cricket, netball, rugby, lacrosse, football and rowing are widely available at both a college and university level.

**ROOMS** mostly cost the same throughout the College, with a 10% premium on those with ensuites. Room preference is organised by a ballot to make it as fair as possible.

**CLUBS AND SOCIETIES** within the college include album club, a feminist discussion group, the music society, and the history society. New ones are set up all the time and they’re a great way to meet people in other years.

**THE CHAPEL** is open to those of any religion or none at all. It is open around the clock for quiet reflection, prayer, or music practice, and offers a range of events.

**THE CHOIR** is making its mark as one of the best mixed-voice choirs in Oxford. They release recordings and tour overseas, but they also regularly perform on Sunday evenings in chapel.

In 2014, four finalists won departmental and college prizes for their results in their undergraduate degrees. As well as university-wide prizes for the top marks in an exam, dissertation, or research project, each student was also awarded the Principal’s Prize, an annual honour for Somerville’s academic achievers.

There have been three Presidents of the Oxford Union from Somerville, most recently Stuart Webber, who was elected to hold the office in Hilary Term of 2016. Our University Challenge team made it to the final of the 2014 competition, and won it back in 2002. Somervillians Amber de Vere and Megan Wallace were members of the University’s Women’s Boat Race Team in 2015, the first year which saw the women’s race take place on the same course and same day as the men’s.

Actors, directors, producers, and stage managers from Somerville have all made their mark on the Oxford drama scene, putting on productions at all three of the main student performance spaces.

In 2015, Arts Officer Freya Judd set up the Somerville Arts Fund, which provides grants and loans to Somervillians in their drama, film, art, writing, or other creative projects.

The student press has a huge number of Somerville students working within it, as writers, editors, designers and illustrators. In 2015, three editors of The Oxford Student were from Somerville: Alys Key, Nasim Asl, and David Barker. Luke Barratt edited Cherwell and Daniella Sheir edited The Iox.
IF YOU WANT TO
CHANGE THE WORLD, COME TO SOMERVILLE

Somervillians have been making a difference in the world ever since the College opened its doors in 1879.

Somerville was founded to include the excluded. It was one of the first two colleges at Oxford for women, who before then had been excluded from the University. Its founders had a bold founding vision: that Somerville should be non-denominational (unlike many other Oxford colleges at the time) and that no discrimination would be made on the basis of social background or religious belief.

Despite many changes over the years, including admitting men in 1994, these ground-breaking origins have inspired an inclusive ethos and a willingness to question accepted orthodoxies that characterise the College to this day.

Somervillians have a formidable role model in the woman for whom the College is named. Mary Somerville (1780 to 1872) was one of the best known woman scientists of the nineteenth century. She was the author of best-selling books on science and a highly respected mathematician and astronomer. She was also invited by John Stuart Mill to be the first signatory on his pioneering petition to parliament for votes of women.

Like the College’s namesake, Somerville alumni are pioneers in their fields. Somerville’s values, academic excellence and pioneering spirit are as important today as they ever were. The College supports and encourages all of its students to find their own place in the world, regardless of background or conventional expectations.

CINDY GALLOP
Alumna (English, 1977), entrepreneur

“There is no such thing as an ordinary Somerville alumnus. I feel enormously strongly about helping Somerville because I think it has been a fundamental part of helping me to achieve the things I’ve always wanted to do.”

L inks to Somerville alumni are very strong, and frequent events are held which allow current students to meet past ones. These include talks and drinks receptions, as well as special events such as the Great War Roadshow. We regularly welcome alumni such as Baroness Shirley Williams, journalist Esther Rantzen and historian Kate Williams for visits to the College.

DOROTHY HODGKIN
First British Woman to Win a Nobel Prize

MARGARET THATCHER
First Female UK Prime Minister

INDIRA GANDHI
First Female Prime Minister of India

CORNELIA SORABJI
First Indian Woman to Attend a British University and First Female Indian Barrister

SHRITI VADERA
First Woman to Chair a Major UK Bank

MATTHEW MORIARTY
Undergraduate, Law

“If I applied to Somerville because I was inspired by those words: if you want to change the world, come to Somerville. So many former Somervillians have gone on to do great things. Somerville is a college where students are inspired, aided, and encouraged to pioneer in their field.”

First British Woman to Win a Nobel Prize

First Woman to Chair a Major UK Bank
**Graduate Studies**

Life as a postgraduate here is academically driven, but there’s also time to enjoy yourself and be part of the welcoming MCR (Middle Common Room) community.

**Making your graduate experience count for more**

Whether you are taking a one year taught course, a doctorate, or anything in between, Somerville has the facilities to make your studies even more rewarding.

**Giving you extra guidance**

Within the Oxford collegiate system, graduate students are supervised by Faculty members who are world experts on their subjects. These supervisors are based in colleges across the university. In addition, colleges give every graduate student a College Adviser. Students are assigned a Somerville Fellow (a senior academic) working in a related discipline who is there to give advice on anything, including their research and applications for jobs and funding.

Life as a postgraduate Somervillian

Most first year postgraduates live in College, where there is a common room exclusively for the use of MCR members. It’s the perfect place to chill out or have a social gathering, with sofas, newspapers, a Spotify-linked music system, and a film room.

The social life is thriving and friendly, with the MCR Facebook group providing a place to organise outings and activities when you need a break from work. Graduates are also a part of the wider College life, and there are plenty of opportunities to get involved with the choir, sports teams, or whatever takes your fancy.

**Yusra Shah**

MSc, Pharmacology

“The atmosphere amongst the graduates is really friendly, and we commonly share our findings of our research and present them to our fellow graduates to gain practice and advice. All in all, being a graduate at Somerville this year has definitely been the highlight of my education!”

**Ben Lambert**

DPhil, Biology

“Somerville is a leader in opening access to education, meaning that you will come into contact with a range of people from different walks of life. This leads to a varied, and interesting, atmosphere as a graduate.”

**Life After Somerville**

At Somerville, we know that your degree is only the first step. We will not only advise you on further study or an academic career path, but we can also help you take your skills out of the library or laboratory and into the workplace.

The University Careers Service advertises vacancies for jobs and internships, and can help you improve your C.V., coach you for interviews and put you in touch with a vast network of alumni, all in order to give you the best shot at landing that dream job. For more information on this, see careers.ox.ac.uk

In addition to the University’s vocational services, Somerville has many other ways to help you build your future career.

The Somerville College Development Office is your first port of call if you want to get in touch with any Somerville alumni working in the field you want to enter. We are in the process of collating an online database of all our alumni, so you can find a mentor to give you career guidance at the click of a button.

We have Somerville alumni groups for all sorts of careers, including Law, Media, Medicine and the City. All of our groups meet regularly in London and most hold events in College where students can get advice on their chosen career path. For more information, see page 11.

During your time at Somerville, you can expect to receive lots of career guidance from your subject tutors.

Modern Languages students can get advice on how to maximise their employability during their year abroad from our informal drinks event.

History students can attend Historians Look Forward, an evening which includes talks from alumni on how to get onto a competitive masters course, how to make it in the world of finance and more. These are just a few examples of how we prepare our students for life after Somerville.

**Graduate breakdown**

97.1% of all Oxford leavers are in work or further study within 6 months of leaving.

- 28.0% Further Study
- 64.5% Working
- 4.6% Unavailable
- 2.9% Unemployed

**Kathryn Finnis**

Alumna (Biology, 2010), Financial Analyst in Private Wealth Management

“The Development Office was instrumental in organising an initial meeting with an old Somervillian, Emily Harvey, at the firm where I now work. Emily gave me invaluable advice and perspective on the industry, and helped me maximise my time during my first weeks of work. Her mentorship was especially helpful when it came to navigating the firm, and deciding what I wanted to do.”

---

**Life as a Somervillian**

Most first year postgraduates live in College, where there is a common room exclusively for the use of MCR members. It’s the perfect place to chill out or have a social gathering, with sofas, newspapers, a Spotify-linked music system, and a film room.

The social life is thriving and friendly, with the MCR Facebook group providing a place to organise outings and activities when you need a break from work. Graduates are also a part of the wider College life, and there are plenty of opportunities to get involved with the choir, sports teams, or whatever takes your fancy.

“Being a graduate at Somerville this year has definitely been the highlight of my education!”

---

**2.9% Unemployed**

**4.6% Unavailable**

**64.5% Working**

**28.0% Further Study**

---

**Graduate Breakdown**

97.1% of all Oxford leavers are in work or further study within 6 months of leaving.

---

**Kathryn Finnis**

Alumna (Biology, 2010), Financial Analyst in Private Wealth Management

“The Development Office was instrumental in organising an initial meeting with an old Somervillian, Emily Harvey, at the firm where I now work. Emily gave me invaluable advice and perspective on the industry, and helped me maximise my time during my first weeks of work. Her mentorship was especially helpful when it came to navigating the firm, and deciding what I wanted to do.”

---

**2.9% Unemployed**

**4.6% Unavailable**

**64.5% Working**

**28.0% Further Study**
Somerville is home to a thriving culture of research. If you are applying to a taught course, you can expect your tutors to be experts in their fields. With such a wide range of ground-breaking (and often inter-disciplinary) projects, it is not surprising that our academics are often awarded prizes, grants or other honours.

With research components becoming an increasingly common feature in undergraduate degrees, everyone from new students to senior fellows has their part to contribute. Graduate students in particular are often keen to present their research and giving papers provides invaluable professional experience, particularly for aspiring academics. Opportunities to do this may be few and far between, but this is not so at Somerville. A twice-termly symposium is an invaluable feature where members of the JCR (undergraduate), MCR (postgraduates), or SCR (senior researchers) can present papers and discuss ideas. Everyone in College is welcome to attend, and it offers students and fellows the chance to talk about a range of topics together. The research topics vary wildly, and have included: The Sacred and the Secular, Social Behaviour Tool-making Crows in the South Pacific; Etruscan Temple Design development explained through the medium of Lego; mathematical algorithms for analysing mammograms; wildlife of Madagascar; genetic disorders; and probability and rationality.

**LEADING THE WAY**

With research components becoming an increasingly common feature in undergraduate degrees, everyone from new students to senior fellows has their part to contribute. Graduate students in particular are often keen to present their research and giving papers provides invaluable professional experience, particularly for aspiring academics. Opportunities to do this may be few and far between, but this is not so at Somerville. A twice-termly symposium is an invaluable feature where members of the JCR (undergraduate), MCR (postgraduates), or SCR (senior researchers) can present papers and discuss ideas. Everyone in College is welcome to attend, and it offers students and fellows the chance to talk about a range of topics together. The research topics vary wildly, and have included: The Sacred and the Secular, Social Behaviour Tool-making Crows in the South Pacific; Etruscan Temple Design development explained through the medium of Lego; mathematical algorithms for analysing mammograms; wildlife of Madagascar; genetic disorders; and probability and rationality.

**JOANNA RAISBECK**
**D.Phil., German**

“Somerville offers really quite an active research community - the medievalists have been collaborating on several volumes recently - so it’s great to have that internal drive to produce academic research specific to the College, whereas it’s usually focused on the departments or faculties.”

**PROFESSOR CHARLES SPENCE**

Described by Heston Blumenthal as “one of my biggest inspirations”, Professor Charles Spence regularly makes waves in both the culinary world and the field of psychology with his prize-winning research. He is a Fellow of Somerville, and also the head of the Crossmodal Research Laboratory at the University’s Department of Experimental Psychology. His experiments investigate the multisensory experience of eating. Most recently, he has produced a book with Betina Piqueras-Fiszman: The Perfect Meal.

**JOHN CHAPLINSKI**
**Lecturer in English**

“Gordon Brown is the first Prime Minister to have been a student at Somerville and to have then gone on to become Prime Minister.”

**THEODORElie L ELECTRE**
**Lecturer in French**

“I help students raise money for their projects through crowdfunding. Somerville is the only Oxbridge college to use a crowdfunding platform. We’ve done lots of really exciting things, including Molly’s Library (Somerville’s library project in Ghana). We raised over £9,000 in three weeks to rescue this library for future generations.”

**SIMON KEMP**
**Fellow and Tutor in French**

“I like the first day of term after the summer vacation, when I meet the fourth-years returning from their years abroad, looking hugely more grown-up and sophisticated than when they left, and see the first-year students, now looking more excited and less nervous than when I saw them last in admissions interviews.”

**HEATHER WEIGHTMAN**
**Annual Fund and Alumni Relations Officer**

“I teach undergraduate physics to first, second, and third-year students, and organise an introductory maths course offered to new students to help bridge the gap between A-level and degree level maths. I enjoy the way that questions from students force me to continually re-evaluate my understanding of the subject I am teaching.”

**ROBERT WASHINGTON**
**Chapel Director**

“When the Chapel was built, it remained unconsecrated. Today it is used for services led by many different religions and denominations as well as talks, concerts and even theatre productions and fashion shows. I see it as a playing an important role within the College community - no matter what your religious beliefs or opinions.”

**FELLOWS AND STAFF**

**PROFESSOR ALEX ROGERS**

When he isn’t pioneering research into ecosystems in the East Scotia Ridge, Alex Rogers is a Fellow of Somerville and Lecturer at the Department of Zoology. He has travelled the world investigating deep-sea ecology, discovering organisms previously unknown to science. He has worked with the Global Ocean Commission, the WWF, and Greenpeace among others, promoting better understanding of ocean inhabitants.

**JOANNA RAISBECK**
**D.Phil., German**

“Somerville offers really quite an active research community - the medievalists have been collaborating on several volumes recently - so it’s great to have that internal drive to produce academic research specific to the College, whereas it’s usually focused on the departments or faculties.”

**FORREST TAYLOR**
**Chapel Director**

““I help students raise money for their projects through crowdfunding. Somerville is the only Oxbridge college to use a crowdfunding platform. We’ve done lots of really exciting things, including Molly’s Library (Somerville’s library project in Ghana). We raised over £9,000 in three weeks to rescue this library for future generations.”

**SIMON KEMP**
**Fellow and Tutor in French**

“I like the first day of term after the summer vacation, when I meet the fourth-years returning from their years abroad, looking hugely more grown-up and sophisticated than when they left, and see the first-year students, now looking more excited and less nervous than when I saw them last in admissions interviews.”

**HEATHER WEIGHTMAN**
**Annual Fund and Alumni Relations Officer**

“I teach undergraduate physics to first, second, and third-year students, and organise an introductory maths course offered to new students to help bridge the gap between A-level and degree level maths. I enjoy the way that questions from students force me to continually re-evaluate my understanding of the subject I am teaching.”

**ROBERT WASHINGTON**
**Chapel Director**

“When the Chapel was built, it remained unconsecrated. Today it is used for services led by many different religions and denominations as well as talks, concerts and even theatre productions and fashion shows. I see it as a playing an important role within the College community - no matter what your religious beliefs or opinions.”

**BRIAN MCMANON**
**Chapel Director**

““I help students raise money for their projects through crowdfunding. Somerville is the only Oxbridge college to use a crowdfunding platform. We’ve done lots of really exciting things, including Molly’s Library (Somerville’s library project in Ghana). We raised over £9,000 in three weeks to rescue this library for future generations.”

**SIMON KEMP**
**Fellow and Tutor in French**

“I like the first day of term after the summer vacation, when I meet the fourth-years returning from their years abroad, looking hugely more grown-up and sophisticated than when they left, and see the first-year students, now looking more excited and less nervous than when I saw them last in admissions interviews.”

**HEATHER WEIGHTMAN**
**Annual Fund and Alumni Relations Officer**

“I teach undergraduate physics to first, second, and third-year students, and organise an introductory maths course offered to new students to help bridge the gap between A-level and degree level maths. I enjoy the way that questions from students force me to continually re-evaluate my understanding of the subject I am teaching.”

**ROBERT WASHINGTON**
**Chapel Director**

“When the Chapel was built, it remained unconsecrated. Today it is used for services led by many different religions and denominations as well as talks, concerts and even theatre productions and fashion shows. I see it as a playing an important role within the College community - no matter what your religious beliefs or opinions.”

**BRIAN MCMANON**
**Chapel Director**

“When the Chapel was built, it remained unconsecrated. Today it is used for services led by many different religions and denominations as well as talks, concerts and even theatre productions and fashion shows. I see it as a playing an important role within the College community - no matter what your religious beliefs or opinions.”

**JOANNA RAISBECK**
**D.Phil., German**

“Somerville offers really quite an active research community - the medievalists have been collaborating on several volumes recently - so it’s great to have that internal drive to produce academic research specific to the College, whereas it’s usually focused on the departments or faculties.”

**FORREST TAYLOR**
**Chapel Director**

““I help students raise money for their projects through crowdfunding. Somerville is the only Oxbridge college to use a crowdfunding platform. We’ve done lots of really exciting things, including Molly’s Library (Somerville’s library project in Ghana). We raised over £9,000 in three weeks to rescue this library for future generations.”

**SIMON KEMP**
**Fellow and Tutor in French**

“I like the first day of term after the summer vacation, when I meet the fourth-years returning from their years abroad, looking hugely more grown-up and sophisticated than when they left, and see the first-year students, now looking more excited and less nervous than when I saw them last in admissions interviews.”

**HEATHER WEIGHTMAN**
**Annual Fund and Alumni Relations Officer**

“I teach undergraduate physics to first, second, and third-year students, and organise an introductory maths course offered to new students to help bridge the gap between A-level and degree level maths. I enjoy the way that questions from students force me to continually re-evaluate my understanding of the subject I am teaching.”

**ROBERT WASHINGTON**
**Chapel Director**

“When the Chapel was built, it remained unconsecrated. Today it is used for services led by many different religions and denominations as well as talks, concerts and even theatre productions and fashion shows. I see it as a playing an important role within the College community - no matter what your religious beliefs or opinions.”

**BRIAN MCMANON**
**Chapel Director**

“When the Chapel was built, it remained unconsecrated. Today it is used for services led by many different religions and denominations as well as talks, concerts and even theatre productions and fashion shows. I see it as a playing an important role within the College community - no matter what your religious beliefs or opinions.”
FUNDING

Somerville works hard to make Oxford a more affordable experience, so that talented students are not deterred by a lack of finances

Like other Oxford colleges, Somerville participates in the Oxford Bursary scheme for undergraduate students. More than 20% of our students receive one of these bursaries, which are available for every year of the course. In addition to the bursary, the University and Somerville provide reduced tuition fees and Moritz-Heyman Scholarships to support students from lower income households.

“OUR WORLD-CLASS RESOURCES & COLLEGE SUBSIDIES KEEP LIVING COSTS DOWN”

The College is committed to ensuring that UK undergraduates with the academic ability to study here are not prevented from doing so because of their financial circumstances. Resources are also available (and there is an active fund-raising campaign) to support overseas undergraduates with travel grants and financial aid when needed. Graduates can apply for one of our generous partnership scholarships, offered in conjunction with a range of University departments as well as with the University’s Clarendon Fund.

1 IN 5 of our students receive an Oxford Bursary, which are available for every year of your course

£1,500 Grants worth £1,500 are given to outstanding students as part of the Somerville College Alumni Scholarship Scheme to enable them to remain at or return to Somerville for graduate study

£5,000 From 2015, an open competition for current students and alumni will offer the chance to win £5,000 for special projects through the Margaret Thatcher Excellence Awards

£500 Prizes for academic excellence are available for most subjects. Exhibitions are academic prizes worth £200 and Scholarships are worth £500.

£2,000 The Alice Horsman Scholarship makes awards of up to £2,000 to fund programmes of further study (outside of Somerville), travel plans and other projects.

£500 The Geldart Coombs Book Grant, which allows all second year students to claim £50 for books. Generous travel grants of up to £350.

SOME MORE WAYS WE CAN HELP

• Heavily subsidised accommodation and meals
• The Geldart Coombs Book Grant, which allows all second year students to claim £50 for books
• Generous travel grants of up to £350
• Up to five Choral Exhibitions each year, available to applicants wishing to read any subject, and for all voice types

“A receive the Oxford University and Somerville College Bursary which is funded by a combination of Somerville, the University and donors. It’s helped enormously, allowing me to buy all the books, stationery and study-related supplies I need for myself, as well as enabling me to participate more fully in university life.”

——

HEALTH & WELFARE

We want your experience here to be fulfilling and well-supported, and aim to foster a culture where no one at Somerville is afraid to ask for help, and no one at Somerville is unwilling to give it

“College and University wide welfare is a support network that can help anyone who is upset or struggling with their mental health. There are a huge variety of people to talk to and who are there to help.”

FINN STRIVENS
Undergraduate, Biochemistry
JCR Male Welfare Office 2015/16

Student health and welfare is a top priority at Somerville, and the level of pastoral support is high. Many College staff play a part in ensuring student well-being, including the College Doctor and Nurse. All students have a Personal Tutor with whom they can discuss any problems, both academic and personal. The Academic Registrar and Senior Tutor can offer advice and practical support. In addition, each student has an annual meeting with the Principal, which is an opportunity to discuss academic and non-academic matters alike.

Somerville students are generally very supportive of each other. The JCR Welfare Officers’ doors are always open to students with any sort of problem, as are the Peer Supporters’ (who are trained by the University Counselling Service).

The Dean and the Junior Deans oversee non-academic student discipline, and provide welfare support to students outside of office hours. The College Porters are often a first point of call in an emergency. The Junior Deans live in College, and one of them is on call every evening, night and weekend during full term. They are available to provide guidance and support, and to ensure that the needs and interests of the College, and of all the College members, are respected. The Dean’s Regulations and Decanal Disciplinary Procedure explain students’ obligations as members of the College community.

For more about the University’s welfare provisions, see ox.ac.uk/students/welfare

“As a disabled student, I often need a little more help than most. The amazing welfare support from both the staff and student body has been individual and caring, allowing me to achieve my best here at Oxford.”

TRINA WILSON
Undergraduate, English
JCR Female Welfare Office 2015/16

“College and University wide welfare is a support network that can help anyone who is upset or struggling with their mental health. There are a huge variety of people to talk to and who are there to help.”

FINN STRIVENS
Undergraduate, Biochemistry
JCR Male Welfare Office 2015/16

Student health and welfare is a top priority at Somerville, and the level of pastoral support is high. Many College staff play a part in ensuring student well-being, including the College Doctor and Nurse. All students have a Personal Tutor with whom they can discuss any problems, both academic and personal. The Academic Registrar and Senior Tutor can offer advice and practical support. In addition, each student has an annual meeting with the Principal, which is an opportunity to discuss academic and non-academic matters alike.

Somerville students are generally very supportive of each other. The JCR Welfare Officers’ doors are always open to students with any sort of problem, as are the Peer Supporters’ (who are trained by the University Counselling Service).

The Dean and the Junior Deans oversee non-academic student discipline, and provide welfare support to students outside of office hours. The College Porters are often a first point of call in an emergency. The Junior Deans live in College, and one of them is on call every evening, night and weekend during full term. They are available to provide guidance and support, and to ensure that the needs and interests of the College, and of all the College members, are respected. The Dean’s Regulations and Decanal Disciplinary Procedure explain students’ obligations as members of the College community.

For more about the University’s welfare provisions, see ox.ac.uk/students/welfare

“College and University wide welfare is a support network that can help anyone who is upset or struggling with their mental health. There are a huge variety of people to talk to and who are there to help.”

FINN STRIVENS
Undergraduate, Biochemistry
JCR Male Welfare Office 2015/16

Student health and welfare is a top priority at Somerville, and the level of pastoral support is high. Many College staff play a part in ensuring student well-being, including the College Doctor and Nurse. All students have a Personal Tutor with whom they can discuss any problems, both academic and personal. The Academic Registrar and Senior Tutor can offer advice and practical support. In addition, each student has an annual meeting with the Principal, which is an opportunity to discuss academic and non-academic matters alike.

Somerville students are generally very supportive of each other. The JCR Welfare Officers’ doors are always open to students with any sort of problem, as are the Peer Supporters’ (who are trained by the University Counselling Service).

The Dean and the Junior Deans oversee non-academic student discipline, and provide welfare support to students outside of office hours. The College Porters are often a first point of call in an emergency. The Junior Deans live in College, and one of them is on call every evening, night and weekend during full term. They are available to provide guidance and support, and to ensure that the needs and interests of the College, and of all the College members, are respected. The Dean’s Regulations and Decanal Disciplinary Procedure explain students’ obligations as members of the College community.

For more about the University’s welfare provisions, see ox.ac.uk/students/welfare
APPLYING TO SOMERVILLE

Three University open days are held every year: two in the summer, usually at the end of June, and one in September. Somerville opens for all of them and runs College tours with current students throughout the day. There is also the chance to speak to a College tutor in your subject. They are a great way to get a feel for the College and what student life is like here.

If you are unable to attend the open days, please contact us to arrange an individual visit. We also welcome drop-in visitors, for whom we can often arrange a tour of College on the day.

The College accepts applications for the vast majority of university courses, at both undergraduate and postgraduate level. For more information on the courses available at Somerville, consult our website or ask our admissions team.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact:

ACADEMIC OFFICE
Somerville College
Woodstock Road
Oxford, OX2 6HD
Tel: +44 (0) 1865 270619
Email: admissions@some.ox.ac.uk

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact:

ADmissions Team
Email: admissions@some.ox.ac.uk
Telephone: +44 (0) 1865 270639

GET IN TOUCH

if you have any questions or would like more information, Please contact:

Admissions Team
Email: admissions@some.ox.ac.uk
Telephone: +44 (0) 1865 270639

Undergraduate subjects

ancient & modern history
biochemistry
biological sciences
chemistry
classical archaeology & ancient history
classics
classics & english
classics & modern languages
computer science
engineering
english
english & history
english & modern languages
European & middle eastern languages
experimental psychology
history
history & economics
history & modern languages
law
law with law studies in Europe
mathematics
mathematics & computer science
mathematics & philosophy
mathematics & statistics
medicine
modern languages
Music
philosophy & modern languages
philosophy, politics & economics
physics
Physics & philosophy

Correct at time of going to press. Somerville admits students at graduate level to study a very broad range of courses, including some disciplines not covered in our undergraduate course list.

When I got to college for my interview, the porters and other support staff could not have tried harder to make me feel welcome.”
Jonny Lawrence, Undergraduate, French and Arabic

When I first entered Somerville, I was struck by how friendly a place it was. I got the feeling that it really challenged the typical perceptions of Oxford.”
Joe Smith, Undergraduate, German
* The Radcliffe Observatory Quarter includes: Blavatnik School of Government, GP Surgeries, Philosophy Faculty, Philosophy library, Theology library and the Mathematical Institute

** The Science Area includes: Archaeology Research Lab, The Radcliffe Science Library, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Engineering Science Department, Genetics Laboratory, Pharmacology, Physics, Physiology, Virology and Zoology