Undergraduate Admissions for EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY and PSYCHOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY & LINGUISITICS ~ University of Oxford ~ 2022/23

Pre-interview Admissions Tests

All applicants are expected to sit the Thinking Skills Assessment (TSA). Of the 657 applications received, 641 applicants successfully registered for and sat the TSA. We took into consideration all special circumstances surrounding TSA test sitting where these were reported to us via Cambridge Assessment Admissions Testing (CAAT), the central university admissions team and college communications. Test results are made available from 11 January 2023 and can be accessed via the CAAT website here.

Admissions processes – shortlisting procedure

The selection criteria used can be found here. The department provides shortlisting recommendations to colleges for all candidates. Colleges then review these recommendations and make their decisions, raising any special cases with the department. All special cases raised by College Tutors are considered at this stage. The decision is based on the exam grades obtained and the grades predicted, together with the recommendation from the school or college, performance on our pre-interview admissions test and other relevant information. Once shortlisting decisions are made, a centralised reallocation process ensures that a consistent number of candidates per place are interviewed at each college. We invite approximately 3 applicants for interview per place we offer.

Admissions processes – interview process

The interview is aimed at assessing a candidate's potential for future development and how well they will cope with the academic course. All shortlisted applicants are interviewed at two separate colleges, i.e., their "college of preference" and a second college. This is to ensure that we have two independent interview assessments for every candidate we have interviewed.

Tutors are looking for the following qualities at interview: Clarity of analysis and presentation of ideas; ability to generate own ideas and proposals; ability to listen and respond to ideas put forward during discussion, and to draw inferences from them; ability to put forward coherent and well thought out proposals and responses.

Final decisions

An overall assessment of all candidates is made at a meeting in the Department of Experimental Psychology. All College Tutors are asked to rank the candidates that they have seen, using the full range of indicators. These are: 1) GCSEs or equivalent; 2) predicted or obtained A-levels or equivalent; 3) the reference from the school; 4) the admissions test; 5) the interviews; 6) and other relevant information. Final offers are based upon all these factors.

Admissions Statistics

		All	Shortlisted	Offer
		applicants	applicants	holders
Application numbers	Overall	657	233	102
	EP	376	134	52
	Psy+Phil	132	49	24
	Psy+Ling	108	37	17
	Phil+Ling	41	13	9
	Deferred entry	14	6	2
	Open college*	113	31	18
	F	510	165	73
	Μ	147	68	29
	Home	368	170	74
	EU	46	7	4
	Non-EU	243	56	24
TSA overall score	Mean	59	65	67
	Range (IQR**)	55 - 64	60 - 68	62 - 70
GCSE 9/8/A*	Mean	7.2	8.2	8.6
	Range (IQR**)	6 - 9	7 - 10	8 - 10
EP: A-level subjects	Psychology	205	84	35
	Biology	111	47	18
	Maths	97	39	17
	Chemistry	72	34	13
PPL: A-level subjects	Psychology	97	43	22
	Maths	56	29	14
	Biology	45	24	12
	RE	36	18	8

Note: * Open college applications are ones for which the applicant does not specify a college preference. For these applications, a college is assigned centrally and admitting tutors are not informed which applications are direct to the college and which are assigned in this way. ** Range values are for the inter-quartile range (IQR).