

A photograph of two students sitting on a windowsill, reading books. The student on the left is wearing glasses and a dark jacket with yellow stripes on the sleeves. The student on the right is a young woman with long dark hair, wearing a dark hoodie with white stripes on the sleeves. They are both smiling and looking at their books. The background is a large window with a view of a cityscape.

Revision
Specialists
since
1997

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GCSE
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The History

Founded in 1997, Oxford Science Studies (OXSS) was initially set up by academics with a strong interest in education. As the name suggests, OXSS originated as specialists in Science, though have expanded over the years and are now **revision specialists** for most subjects. Focusing solely on its courses, OXSS are **experts at organising tailor-made revision courses**, available during the Half Term and holiday periods to **allow students the opportunity for continued growth and consolidation of knowledge**, believing it fundamental to revise as you go, rather than leaving it all to the last minute.



The Courses

There are so many benefits to optimising holidays and keeping studies active!

Offering courses throughout the academic year allows students the chance to be **best prepared** for when the exams do come around. Students can start in the summer, getting up to speed for the year ahead and back into the swing of academic life. Autumn Half Term and Christmas & New Year courses allow for consolidation of new material, a chance to **build confidence** and overcome any areas of worry. Starting the new year in good stead, **lessens the pressure** of the upcoming exam season and Spring Half Term, Easter and May Weekend course offerings ensure that there is time to focus on a **thorough overview** of the years material, **consider exam technique**, get in some **all essential exam practice** and continue to think about **study tips** such as time management.

OXSS strive for all students to have a **beneficial and enjoyable experience**. **Classes are specific**. Application forms aim to identify not only the students required subjects, but also their exam boards of study, their level of ability (for GCSE/IGCSE), their year of study and in some cases chosen paper, period or text. Tutorials are **student led**, they focus on these specific requirements allowing students to **work on the exact paper or topic they need to**, those areas they have identified as needing help with. OXSS are proud to offer a **friendly and informal atmosphere**, with tutors keen to make **students feel at ease**, so that they are open to asking for help or further clarity, to making attempts when unsure on an answer and to making the most out of their time.

Contact OXSS today:
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“Simply put, I went from a D to an A... I was really struggling with maths and I couldn't understand why but just a few days with these courses, and I was really understanding how having an excellent teacher can help. All the teaching staff are friendly and clearly love the subject. I remember each one individually and everything they taught us. The environment was very calm and small classes make asking questions easy and getting detailed answers in return. The coordinating staff are always helping out and solving any issues. They are all extremely friendly and supportive. Certainly money well spent as I made my first choice and vastly exceeded what I thought I could achieve!”

Student



The Structure

Courses are intensive providing a **structured timetable and environment** geared towards **concentrated study** and away from distractions. The teaching approach is based on the tutorial system employed by the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, involving **small study groups**, each with their own **expert tutor**. Some courses offer the option of guaranteed one to one tuition, though even for group tuition the maximum timetabled class size is six.

OXSS believe in **small group sizes**, enabling them to tailor courses to suit the individual needs of a student, considering the ability of each student and any particular problems they may be experiencing.

Tutorials last **no longer than 50 minutes**, which OXSS have found to be the optimum length in terms of student concentration. Courses combine tutorials and independent exam practice, exercising that **teach and test method** OXSS know works so well. Sadly, having the knowledge of a subject is not enough, this must be combined with an ability to demonstrate this in exams. The timetable allows for **consolidation of material via tutorials and key exam practice**, with students set exam papers or questions relating to the topics covered, to gain real life experience and familiarity with the kind of questions they will face. Not only does this potentially uncover gaps in knowledge, not yet identified, but it also enables our tutors to assess how the student will perform in exams and identify any deficiencies. Students and parents benefit from receiving **electronic reports**, post course, detailing areas covered and recommendations for further study, so that they can continue their progress even after the course.

The **dedicated tutor time** allows student to **hone in on subject detail**, using exam practice sessions to **assess their knowledge** and performance.

Maximum
6 students
per class



Tutorials
& Exam
Practice



Subject
& paper
specific
revision
courses



The Subjects

Biology
Business Studies
Chemistry
Classical Civilisation
Economics
English Language
English Literature
French
Geography
German
History
Latin
Maths
Physics
Politics
Psychology
Religious Studies
Sociology
Spanish

This is not an
exhaustive list
and other
subjects may
be available.
Just ask!

All
exam
boards

The Availability

Autumn Half Term

1 to 9 days

Face to Face or Online

Christmas & New Year

1 to 6 days

Face to Face or Online

Spring Half Term

1 to 9 days

Face to Face or Online

Easter

1 to 3 weeks

Face to Face

May Weekends

1 to 4 days

Face to Face or Online

Summer

1 to 3 weeks

Face to Face

Understand 'HOW' to revise

“All the teaching staff are friendly and clearly they love the subject. I remember each one individually and everything they taught us. The environment was very calm and small classes make asking questions easy and getting detailed answers in return.”

Student

The Tutors

OXSS have brought together a core of tutors who they believe are the best in the business. Some are full-time tutors from their partner organisation Oxford International College, as well as professional private tutors and researchers from Oxford University, private tutorial colleges and schools. Some are examiners, and many are Oxford graduates who know what it takes to achieve top grades. Many are currently, or have been, involved in academic research at university level, which often enables them to bring special insight and enthusiasm to their subject. Tutors go through a rigorous recruitment process and performance is reviewed course on course.

Study Skills

Timetables for the Easter Course and the Summer School include scheduled Study Skills seminars, helping students with the background skills required for successful revision.

Topics covered may include:

- Time management
- Prioritisation and deadlines
- Personal study plans
- Note taking
- Essay techniques
- Concentration and breaks
- Effective use of resources
- Memory skills
- Stress management
- Revision techniques
- Exam techniques



Why attend a Revision Course?

OXSS understand that half terms and holidays are important to students, a chance to take a break, enjoy something different, to rest and relax. The thought of exams looming and the need to revise can sometimes overshadow what should be an enjoyable time. The idea of carving out set revision and study time, by attending a structured course, is one way to ensure that academic studies do not take a back seat, that knowledge remains fresh and the mindset of continued study stays present.

Here are some reasons why revision courses can be so beneficial:

- To maximise holiday revision time, ensuring effective and structured revision away from the distractions of home
- To consolidate learning regularly, fill in gaps in subject knowledge, allowing students to stay on top of their studies
- To get help in an informal and non-judgemental setting
- To get a new perspective on a subject and reignite an interest, receiving fresh insight from passionate individuals
- To ensure that students are reaching their maximum potential in exams
- To practice exam style questions, consider exam technique and build confidence in an exam environment



Student led tutorials

“ Thank you for the feedback and for taking such good care of my son. His feedback was that he had the time of his life and we can see that he is very inspired about stepping it up with his studies. As before, your programme was impeccable both as an academic experience and a super fun time. I am sure we’ll be in touch again very soon. Please extend our best regards and thanks to his teachers.”

Parent

Benefit from expert tutors



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Why Oxford Science Studies?

In a nutshell, the revision courses provided by OXSS are short intensive courses of tuition, revision and exam practice run by expert tutors in an environment geared towards concentrated study, away from all distractions.

Here are some reasons why attending a course with OXSS can be so beneficial:

- The maximum scheduled class size is 6 students, with the average being considerably lower, nearer to 2 students. This allows students to get the tailored help they require.
- Courses are very specific, students can select the specific subjects/papers they need help with, creating a bespoke course. This leads to the small class sizes, though rest assured, should no other student enrol for the same course it will still go ahead, just as one to one.
- OXSS aim to timetable the course around you, not the other way around - you tell them how many days or weeks and how many subjects. Some course providers will offer only 1 subject per week at Easter for example, with OXSS, you can choose up to 3. You are not limited and can take any combination.
- Timetables include a mixture of tutorial time and exam practice, offering that teach and test method that OXSS know works so well. Students not only get time with expert tutors, leading them as to areas for focus, so that they can consolidate knowledge and fill in gaps, but also time to put learning into action, to gaining exam experience, discussing exam technique and building confidence in the exam room.
- This is what they do, all year round. OXSS specialise in and focus solely on their scheduled holiday revision courses. Their efforts and resources go into ensuring that courses deliver the highest possible standards and quality. They have also been doing this since 1997 so have plenty of experience and know-how in what is needed to best support student revision.

Don't just take their word for it!

“ I just wanted to say a huge thank you for Jacob's amazing learning experience with OXSS. It's been such a fantastic confidence builder for him and I've been really impressed with the tutors who seemed to have grasped his weak points very quickly. **The system of working through questions and having the feedback has been invaluable** as his school teachers have done little of this. ”
Parent

“ Thank you for yet another excellent revision course for my daughter. She has really **benefited from the time and patience that this course and the fantastic tutors provide.** ”
Parent

“ They are a very professional, responsive, and flexible tuition provider. **They carefully listen to understand your exact requirements and tailor their provision to meet the students' needs.** Would thoroughly recommend. ”
Parent

The Timetable

Autumn Half Term
 Christmas & New Year
 Spring Half Term
 May Weekends

Students may select 1 subject/
 paper per day. The day includes
 4 x 50-minute tutorials and 3 x
 50-minute independent exam
 practice sessions.

Small
 group or
 1-to-1



	9.30-10.20	10.20-11.10	11.10-11.20	11.20-12.10	12.10-13.00	13.00-13.40	13.40-14.30	14.30-15.20	15.20-15.30	15.30-16.20	16.20-17.10
Day 1	Class 1	Exam Practice	Break	Class 1	Exam Practice	Lunch	Class 1	Exam Practice	Break	Class 1	
Day 2		Class 2	Break	Exam Practice	Class 2	Lunch	Exam Practice	Class 2	Break	Exam Practice	Class 2
Day 3		Class 3	Break	Exam Practice	Class 3	Lunch	Exam Practice	Class 3	Break	Exam Practice	Class 3
Day 4	Class 4	Exam Practice	Break	Class 4	Exam Practice	Lunch	Class 4	Exam Practice	Break	Class 4	

Some subjects require more information than others. In example, you may choose A Level Biology Paper 1 but for A Level History you would need to state the period also, such as Paper 1-1C The Tudors-England, 1485-1603. For ease, all available options are listed on application, by exam board.

How does it work?

Tutorials are time spent directly with an expert tutor, focusing on topic areas and subject specific detail. Tutorials are student led, meaning the students can direct the class and focus on areas of need, filling in gaps and consolidating knowledge. Tutors will set relevant past paper questions or exam style work, which is to be completed in independent exam practice, giving students familiarity with the type of questions they will face and a chance to build confidence.



Easter Summer

Students may select 3 subjects/papers per week. As well as tutorials and independent exam practice, this timetable also includes Study Skills.

	08.55 - 09.30	09.30 - 09.40	09.40 - 10.20	10.20 - 11.10	11.10 - 11.20	11.20 - 12.10	12.10 - 12.20	12.20 - 13.20	13.20 - 13.30	13.30 - 14.00	14.00 - 14.10	14.10 - 14.20	14.20 - 15.00	15.00 - 15.20	15.20 - 16.00	16.00 - 16.10	16.10 - 16.30	16.30 - 17.00
Monday			Course Introduction & Ice Breaker 10:50-12:20				Lunch	Lunch		Class 1		Exam Practice	Break		Class 1		Exam Practice	
Tuesday	Study Skills & Revision	Class 1	Exam Practice	Break		Class 1	Lunch		Exam Practice		Class 1	Break	Exam Practice	Class 1		Study Skills		
Wednesday		Class 2	Exam Practice	Break		Exam Practice	Lunch		Class 2		Exam Practice	Break		Class 2		Exam Practice		
Thursday		Class 2	Exam Practice	Break		Class 2	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch		Class 3		Exam Practice	Break		Class 3		Exam Practice
Friday		Class 3	Exam Practice	Break		Class 3	Lunch		Exam Practice		Class 3	Break	Exam Practice	Class 3		Feedback		



*Please note, where Study Skills is noted on a Tuesday afternoon this applies to the Easter Course only and is replaced with Sports for the Summer School.

The Experience

Courses are student led. OXSS offer a relaxed, informal learning environment allowing students the chance to freely ask questions and tailor sessions based on their needs. The timetable is structured, giving students short bursts of intense learning in an environment free from distraction. The offerings include both face to face and online, allowing you to select a course that best suits your circumstance. Online courses operate via Microsoft Teams.

Face to face courses take place at one of their glorious Oxford based locations, mainly Oxford International College or St Edward's School. For residential students, accommodation is in the form of boarding houses, split where possible by gender and age. In most cases there is the option to book a guaranteed single room.

Student wellbeing is of high importance and OXSS ensure that all necessary safeguarding provisions are in place. Office staff are available throughout the day to assist with any need, from academic to first aid. For residential courses, the energetic Evening Entertainment Team ensure the evenings activities go off with a bang and overnight wardens are close to hand at any hour.

OXSS mix learning with fun, hosting an Evening Entertainment Programme, on residential courses. A chance for students to relax and unwind after study and a great way to meet students from different walks of life and make new friends! Activities may include a scavenger hunt around Oxford, debate nights, sports, or cupcake decorating.



Academic & Social Enrichment



“ My daughter had a wonderful time with you. Yes, it was important she found a way to revise which suited her; and so she chose to spend time with you...But it was also important she continued her path to independence, made new friends, and dealt with unfamiliar situations. On both counts (revision and also character), you and she succeeded: she worked hard with her tutors, whom she liked, and she also came home confident and happy. ”

Parent

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A solid brown circular button with the text "Apply today" in white, lowercase, sans-serif font, centered within the circle.

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