



BONAS MACFARLANE EDUCATION

**OXBRIDGE PREPARATION 2017**

SCHOOLS PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME



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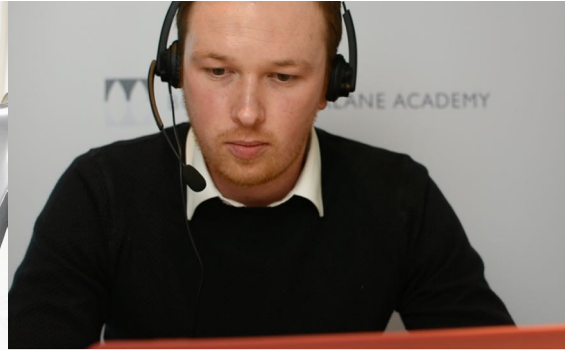


## Introduction

Our Oxbridge programme uniquely blends advice and enrichment. It enables applicants to understand the highly specific requirements of Oxford and Cambridge courses and prepares them for the world's most challenging university entrance assessments.

The schools' partnership programme uses our innovative Academy platform to bring UK-based experts live to your classroom. Advice is provided by Bonas MacFarlane consultants and enrichment is provided by academics from top British universities. Bonas MacFarlane also work with your school teachers to enable them to support you through the programme.

Once on the programme, pupils can also opt for additional enrichment courses and 1-1 support with Bonas MacFarlane tutors.

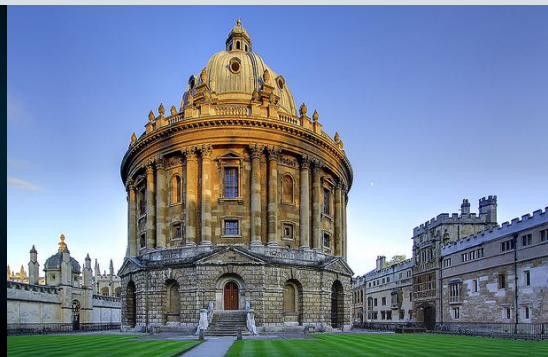
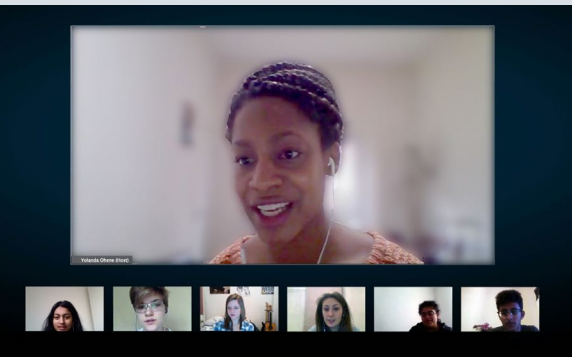


## Personal Statement Introduction:

We explain the key components of a strong UCAS application. You will be introduced to the Bonas MacFarlane methods for finding the course that is right for you. You will understand the work you need to undertake to produce an effective Oxbridge personal statement, and have begun logging your personal research.

## Personal Statement Feedback:

You will be assigned an Oxbridge admissions specialist who will provide individual written and video feedback on three drafts of your personal statement. This will help you to optimize the quality of your statement, and effectively communicate your suitability.



## Tutor Group Meetings:

Your personal statement tutor will meet with you and the rest of your tutor group throughout the course. These sessions will review your research of relevant courses, your reflections upon your weekly readings and the development of your personal statement.

## Oxbridge Applications:

The challenge of applying to Oxbridge is unique. This course provides you with an introduction to the essentials that you need to know about the process, from admissions tests to the collegiate system, and also serves to break down any pre-conceived ideas about what might be expected of the typical Oxbridge applicant.



## **Oxbridge Reading Series:**

Oxbridge applicants are expected to have read widely around their subject. Each week you are provided with a reading, video lecture or podcast in a series that has been carefully curated by UK academics to introduce you to advanced topics and concepts.

## **Extension Lecture Series + Subject Seminar Follow-ups:**

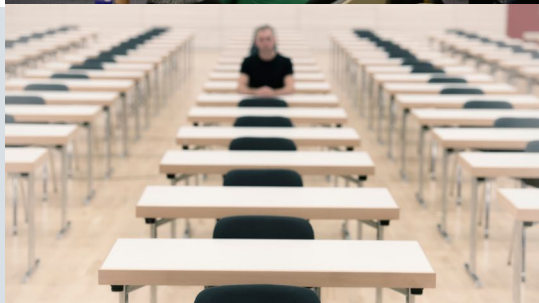
The Academy's lecture series gives you unique access to some of the UK's leading academics, who join us to debate a range of current issues. The debates are then brought to life in seminars with subject specialists, who challenge you to relate the discussion to your own discipline. The teaching replicates the style of learning at Oxbridge and top Russell Group universities.

## **Admissions Test Preparation:**

Oxbridge applicants are expected to submit examples of work or take admissions tests prior to their interview. A test preparation specialist prepares you for the challenging tasks that you will have to complete.

## **An Introduction to Interview Preparation:**

The UK's most competitive courses and institutions will most likely interview you before making their decision. These interviews can be high stakes, high pressure situations. This introduction teaches you how to prepare for these occasions. You will understand what admissions tutors are looking for and have strategies for dealing with the questions that you may face.





## **Charles Bonas, Principal**

Founder of Bonas MacFarlane, Charles was a music scholar at Harrow School, read History at Oriel College, Oxford, and studied at the College of Law in London.



## **James Higgins, Head of Studies**

Prior to joining Bonas MacFarlane, James was head of year in a London school. He completed both his BA in Hispanic Studies and his MA in Politics at Sheffield.



## **Krisztina Csorstea**

As an undergraduate, Krisztina studied PPE at Oxford. She is book reviews editor, international affairs, at Chatham House, and a research student at Kings College, London.



## **Dr Sophie Whitaker.**

Sophie read Modern History at Christ Church, Oxford. Her doctorate was on medieval Mallorcan history. Sophie then studied at the College of Law in London.



## **Yolanda Ohene**

As an undergraduate, Yolanda studied physics at Imperial. She is currently studying for a PhD in biomedical imaging at University College, London. She has worked on BBC science and engineering programmes and spoke at the 2016 Cheltenham Science festival.



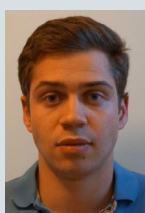
## **Jason Myers**

Jason has an MSc in applied mathematics and physics. He is currently working on a PhD in theoretical physics at King's College, London.



## **Dr Francis Hutton-Williams**

Francis Hutton-Williams holds a DPhil from Oxford, where he was an Amelia Jackson senior scholar. Since completing his doctorate, he has worked as an academic tutor for St. Catherine's College.



## **Peter Badoo**

Peter is currently pursuing a PhD in Applied Mathematics at Cambridge University. He did his undergraduate degree at St. Hilda's College, Oxford, where he received a Double First among other prizes.



## **Guest lecturers such as:**

Professor Michelle Cini, Bristol  
Dr Andrew Harrison, Bristol  
Dr Amber Jacobs, Birkbeck  
Professor Sofia Olhede, UCL  
Dr Stephen Rose, Royal Holloway  
Dr Sophie Van Huellen, SOAS



W/C	OXBRIDGE PROGRAMME		OPTIONAL COURSES		
3-Apr	Oxbridge Reading Series: Economics Engineering English French Geography History Law Mathematics Natural Sciences Philosophy Politics & International Relations Psychology	Personal Statement Introduction			
10-Apr					
17-Apr		Extension Lecture Series / Seminars			
24-Apr					
1-May		Oxbridge Applications			
8-May			Tutor Group Meeting	Module Choices 1: Core Skills Maths Critical Thinking: Advanced Writing for Humanities/Law Critical Thinking: Writing for Social Sciences Critical Thinking: Scientific Writing	
15-May		Oxbridge Applications			
22-May					
29-May		Oxbridge Applications			
5-Jun		Extension Lecture Series / Seminars			
12-Jun					
19-Jun					
26-Jun					
3-Jul				Module Choices 2: Core Skills Writing Critical Thinking: Advanced Reading for Humanities/Law Critical Thinking: Advanced Reading for Social Sciences Critical Thinking: Scientific Method Critical Thinking: Research Project	
10-Jul		Personal Statement feedback on 3 drafts by your Oxbridge tutor			
17-Jul			Tutor Group Meeting		
24-Jul					
31-Jul					
21-Aug					
28-Aug					
4-Sep					
11-Sep			Extension Lecture Series / Seminars		
18-Sep			Admissions Test Preparation		
25-Sep				Tutor Group Meeting	
2-Oct					
9-Oct					
16-Oct					
23-Oct		Tutor Group Meeting			
30-Oct	Interview Preparation				
6-Nov					
13-Nov	Interview Preparation				
20-Nov					
27-Nov	Conclusion of Oxbridge Programme				



## One-to-one support

Additional one-to-one support is available for tailored advice in all areas of the programme: admissions test preparation, interview preparation, personal statement advice and general course and university selection advice.



## Academy Courses

Once on the programme, you can opt for additional Bonas MacFarlane Academy courses. These are intensive, 5-week, developmental courses. Some are designed to reinforce core skills, whilst critical thinking courses prepare you for high level study.

Courses available include:

### CORE SKILLS

**WRITING:** This core skills course will help you to improve your English prose style.

**MATHEMATICS:** This course serves as a booster if you are likely to study courses such as economics, psychology and architecture.

### CRITICAL THINKING

#### ADVANCED READING FOR HUMANITIES & LAW:

This course challenges you to think on a more critical level. Its objective is to hone case-based argumentative skills.

#### ADVANCED READING FOR SOCIAL SCIENTISTS:

You are introduced to the key concepts of critical thinking in the social sciences.

**SCIENTIFIC METHOD:** This course examines how scientific methods are presented and critiqued.

#### ADVANCED WRITING HUMANITIES & LAW:

You will learn how to construct and write your own critical arguments.

#### WRITING FOR SOCIAL SCIENTISTS:

You will learn how to construct your argument using quantitative and qualitative data.

**SCIENTIFIC WRITING:** By the end of the course you will be able to write an effective piece of scientific writing.

**RESEARCH PROJECT:** The Research Project builds on the critical thinking skills courses. You carry out a small guided research project, led by university academics. The project is designed to deepen your knowledge of your chosen academic discipline.



# About Us



BONAS MACFARLANE EDUCATION  
OXBRIDGE PREPARATION PROGRAMME 2017

Founded in 1992 by Charles Bonas, today Bonas MacFarlane is one of London's longest established and most successful private education consultancy firms. The company has 25 years of experience helping students apply to Oxford and Cambridge.



Kept deliberately small and 'bespoke', this is the seriously upper crust of the consultancy and tutoring industry, blended, kneaded and done to a crisp according to the precise educational recipe for your privileged progeny.



Bonas MacFarlane, provider of some of the most sought-after tutors worldwide.



Even parents who already pay for schooling no longer seem to think that tutoring is unnecessary: Charles Bonas, the managing director of a London-based tutoring agency, Bonas MacFarlane, says most of its clients are privately educated... Underlying this demand is increasing competition to get into the most prestigious universities.



Bonas MacFarlane tutors are usually employed to help children over the major hurdles of school and university entrance... 'We drop talented young people into families,' says Charles Bonas, MD of Bonas MacFarlane.



The intense competition for entrance higher up the education ladder means the race for places starts sooner... Bonas MacFarlane now has 530 tutors (most of them products of the British independent system), four staff in Dubai, three in Kazakhstan and two in Moscow, and sends British tutors to about 30 countries, including Russia, Dubai, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and India.

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Contact the Oxbridge Course Leader, James Higgins  
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