

Undergraduate Admissions for EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY and PSYCHOLOGY, PHILOSOPHY & LINGUISTICS ~ University of Oxford ~ 2024/25

Pre-interview Admissions Tests

All applicants are expected to sit the Thinking Skills Assessment (TSA). Of the 752 applications received, 696 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 the test administrator, the central university admissions team, and college communications. TSA results are made available to applicants from 15th January 2025 via the test registration system.

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 (including any extenuating circumstances). 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 qualities at interview as detailed in our selection criteria (see link above).

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 applicants	Shortlisted applicants	Offer holders
Application numbers	Overall	752	250	112
	EP	478	151	67
	Psy+Phil	144	52	22
	Psy+Ling	104	35	17
	Phil+Ling	26	12	6
	Deferred entry	17	10	4
	Open college ¹	132	25	11
	W ²	588	170	76
	M ²	135	66	27
	Home	442	174	83
	EU	51	9	5
	Non-EU	259	67	24
TSA overall score	Mean	57	66	67
	Range (IQR ³)	50 – 64	62 – 70	62 – 72
GCSE 9/8/A*	Mean	6.7	8.6	8.8
	Range (IQR ³)	5 – 9	8 – 10	8 – 10
EP: A-level subjects	Psychology	61%	69%	72%
(% of applicants)	Biology	27%	32%	36%
	Maths	27%	34%	37%
	Eng Lit.	15%	16%	13%
PPL: A-level subjects	Psychology	40%	40%	44%
(% of applicants)	Maths	22%	32%	40%
	English Lit.	16%	16%	24%
	Biology	13%	16%	18%

Note: 1. 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. 2. Data only for applicants who specify gender as Woman or Man, because small numbers in other categories pose a risk to the privacy of individuals. 3. Range values are for the inter-quartile range (IQR).