

THE OXFORD EXPERIENCE

SEPTEMBER 6 - 19, 2020



Duke ALUMNI

 UNC GENERAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION



THE OXFORD EXPERIENCE

The Oxford Experience is your opportunity to study at the oldest university in the English-speaking world. Founded in the 9th Century and known for its academic excellence, extraordinary art and architecture, and numerous cultural offerings, Oxford is one of the world's foremost centers of thought and enlightenment.

In our two-week program, participants enroll in one of four noncredit courses led by Oxford tutors. A typical day includes challenging classes in the morning followed by a field trip in the afternoon. This year there is a full-day plenary excursion to Waddesdon Manor with an optional excursion to see *The Comedy of Errors* at the Royal Shakespeare

Company. Open lectures offered by each tutor give you an opportunity to partake in the other course offerings, concluding with a final gala reception and dinner held at New College. Evenings offer time on your own to explore the theatre and music scene, take in lectures or films, or to enjoy the pubs of this medieval university town. Your two weekends at the middle and end of the course provide free time to explore the city and countryside at your leisure.

Immerse yourself in the history and traditions of this storied learning center and truly unique educational opportunity. Imagine walking to class looking up at the soaring spires or visiting the world's oldest university museum, the Ashmolean. Your course may include books published by Oxford University Press, the world's second oldest and largest university press. Spend time touring the Bodleian Library and its Tower of the Five Orders. An evening spent listening to Evensong at Christ Church Cathedral is sure to be fondly recalled and recounted many times.

While attending the Oxford Experience, participants stay in Rewley House, located in the historic center of Oxford. Accommodations include twin-bedded rooms with private bath, a dining room, common room, computer room, bar, lecture, reading rooms, and access to a coin-operated laundry unit. Meals are included.

Duke University and The University of North Carolina celebrate over 25 years of collaboration to bring our alumni and friends together for this educational opportunity. Join us in September for an unforgettable Oxford Experience!

"After twenty years of thoroughly enjoying the Oxford Experience it has become part of our schedule for the year. For us it's among the first dates to go on the new calendar every January."

- Betsy Allen '99-'08, '10-'19

BRITISH PRIME MINISTERS



Through the later half of the 20th Century, eleven individuals have served as Prime Minister of Britain, eight of which were alumni of Oxford University. Each played a role in the chronology between decline from ‘great power’ after the Second World War, the modernization of England’s infrastructure and institutions, England’s entry into the European Economic Community, the issue of Ireland, challenges to the integrity of the United Kingdom, the gradual erosion of the post-war political ‘consensus’, ‘Thatcherism’, and the question of Britain in Europe. In this course, we will explore the terminology and operation of British politics, its historiography from 1945 up to the early years of the 21st Century, and the personalities and intentions of the eleven Prime Ministers during this time.

TUTOR

Michael Redley’s doctoral work at Cambridge University was in the colonial history of Africa. He also has a Master’s Degree in Economics from the London School of Economics. He has researched and published articles on British and imperial history, blending history, economics, politics and literature. He has taught on topics in modern British and imperial history for Week Class and Summer School programmes through OUDCE and for degree.

FIELD TRIPS

Full-Day field trip
Chartwell, Kent

Half-Day field trip
Weston Library, Bodleian Libraries,
Oxford

REQUIRED READINGS

1. P. Clarke, *Hope and Glory: Britain 1900-2000* (Penguin 2004)
2. Roy Jenkins, *Asquith* (Collins 1964)
3. John Bew, *Citizen Clem: A Biography of Attlee* (London 2016)
4. Steve Richards, *The Prime Ministers: Reflections on Leadership from Wilson to May* (London 2019)

“The fact that so many people return year to year is a testament to how much we value the experience.”

- Joe Ritok '15 - '19

ART AND POWER IN THE TUDOR COURT

In 1485, Henry Tudor won a kingdom in battle, but his throne was fragile. In the following decades, the Tudors used politics, diplomacy, machinations and violence to secure their dynasty. They exploited architecture and visual arts as part of the propaganda of monarchy and the performance of kingship. In this course, we will look at the relationship between art and power in the period 1485 to 1603, from the accession of Henry VII to the death of Elizabeth I. Through the architecture, furnishings and decorations of places, such as Hampton Court, we will see how the Tudor Court embraced styles of the Renaissance and competed with the courts of Europe. We will discuss the importance of Hans Holbein, one of the great masters of court portraiture, who fashioned an image of Tudor royalty. In the court of Elizabeth I, we will meet the courtiers who vied to build great houses in which to receive their queen and consider the fortunes spent to please, flatter and even lecture her. We will finish by decoding the many symbolic and politically charged portraits of Elizabeth, Gloriana, and see how she was translated from empress, to goddess, and lastly, to legend.

TUTOR

*Dr. Gillian White specialises in the history and visual arts of late medieval and early modern England. She previously worked for The National Trust as Curator/Collections Manager at Hardwick Hall, about which she then wrote her PhD. She has contributed sections on palaces and houses to the new critical edition of John Nichols' *The Progresses and Public Processions of Queen Elizabeth I*, published by OUP in 2015. She taught for many years in the Centre for the Study of the Country House at Leicester University and has been a member of the OUDCE tutor panel for more than a decade, teaching on the History of Art. She also undertakes freelance teaching and lecturing and has contributed to the Victoria & Albert Museum's course on the History of Textiles.*

FIELD TRIPS

*Full-Day field trip
Hampton Court*

*Half-Day field trip
Kenilworth Castle*

REQUIRED READINGS

1. Susan Brigden, *New Worlds, Lost Worlds: The Rule of the Tudors, 1485-1603* (2000/2002)
2. Simon Thurley, *Houses of Power: The Places that Shaped the Tudor World* (2017)
3. Susan Watkins, *The Public and Private Worlds of Elizabeth I* (1998)

"The classes were of great interest to each of us, the people in each of the classes 'jelled' together, the selections of the field trips were outstanding, and the tutors were personable and engaging."

- Charlette McQuilkin '17 & '19



“CAPABILITY” BROWN— GENIUS OR VILLAIN?

Ever since its emergence in the 18th Century, the English Landscape Garden has attracted controversy and fierce debate. Unquestionably, this style encompassed politics and philosophy, and it reflected and inspired major changes in poetry, painting and social order. In this course, we will trace the origins, evolution and the aftermath of the English Landscape Garden, with special emphasis on Lancelot ‘Capability’ Brown. We will discuss who, or what, was the ‘nature’ that inspired 18th Century gardens, whether the English Landscape Garden was England’s greatest contribution to the world of art, or ‘the time when the English lost their heads and scrapped their gardens,’ and was ‘Capability’ Brown a genius or a villain?

TUTOR

Richard Bisgrove has a BSc in Horticultural Science from Reading University and an MLA in Landscape Architecture from Michigan. He served on the National Trust’s Gardens Panel for nearly 20 years and held several posts in the Garden History Society. He has lectured internationally and written several books on garden design and garden history. Recently retired as Course Director in Landscape Management at the University of Reading, he has contributed for many years to Oxford summer schools.

“It seems every year just gets better!”

- Phyllis and Bruce Richmond ‘11, ‘16 - ‘19

FIELD TRIPS

Full-Day field trip

Croome near High Green, Worcester, Worcestershire and Compton Verney, Warwickshire

Half-Day field trip

Stowe, Buckingham, Buckinghamshire

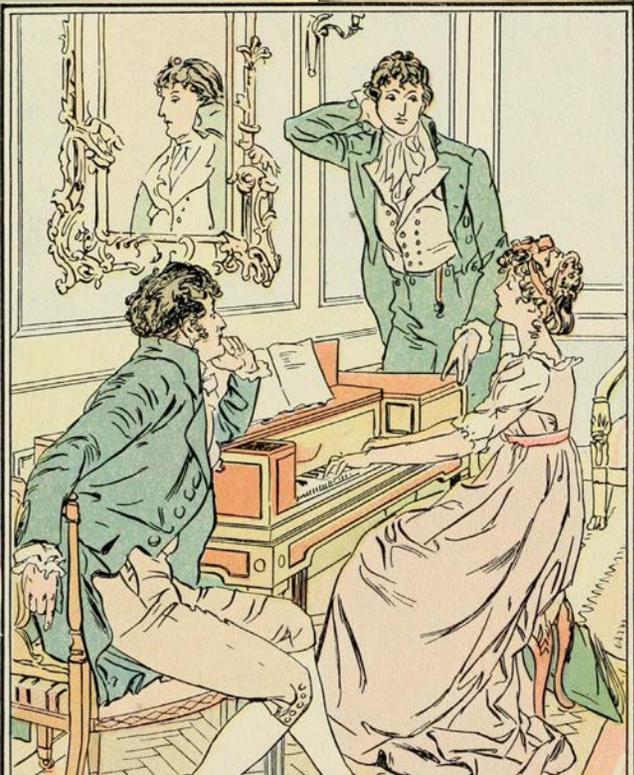
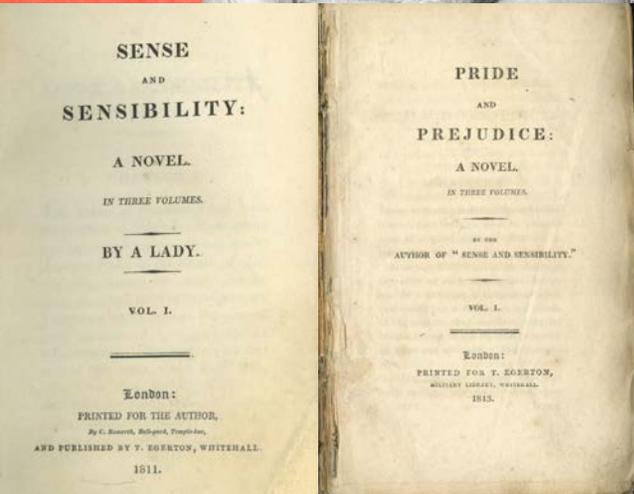
REQUIRED READINGS

1. John Dixon Hunt and Peter Willis, *The Genius of the Place: the English Landscape Garden 1620-1820* (MIT Press 1988 / 1993)
2. Dorothy Stroud, *Capability Brown* (Faber & Faber 1950 / 1975 / 1984)
3. Roger Turner, *Capability Brown and the eighteenth century English Landscape* (Phillimore 1985 / 1999 / 2013)
4. Steffie Shields, *Moving Heaven and Earth: Capability Brown’s gift of landscape* (Unicorn 2016)





JANE AUSTEN IN FILM AND FICTION



Since the publication “by a lady” of *Sense and Sensibility* in 1811, the works of Jane Austen have enjoyed popularity and critical acclaim. Scholarly interest shows no sign of waning, nor does the popular mania for all things Austen, especially in film and television. From the first television dramatization of *Pride and Prejudice* in 1938, screen adaptations of the novels have abounded, along with biographical films attempting to flesh out knowledge of Austen’s life. Do these adaptations testify to the timelessness of Austen’s wit and ongoing relevance of her social satire? Or do they damage her reputation as a writer with the addition of romantic elements that distract from the commentary and limit Austen’s appeal? What do choices made by screenwriters and directors tell us about their readings of crucial scenes? These are some of the questions we will consider as we examine the six novels themselves and a range of adaptations.

TUTOR

Emma Plaskitt is a graduate of McGill University, Montréal, and Merton College, Oxford, where she wrote her doctoral thesis on 18th Century novelists Eliza Haywood, Samuel Richardson, and Frances Burney. She has taught English literature 1640–1901 for many Oxford colleges and for a variety of American study abroad programmes. She currently focuses on teaching for SCIO, Wycliffe Hall’s visiting student programme and for Stanford University, for whom she is an Overseas Lecturer. Though a specialist in the literature of the Restoration and 18th Century, her research interests include the Victorian novel, particularly the gothic novel and novel of sensation, as well as fantasy fiction and children’s literature.

FIELD TRIPS

Full-Day field trip

Chawton, Hampshire:
Austen House Museum
& Chawton House

Half-Day field trip

Winchester, Hampshire

REQUIRED READINGS

**All selections by Jane Austen*

1. *Sense and Sensibility*
2. *Pride and Prejudice*
3. *Mansfield Park*
4. *Emma*
5. *Persuasion*
6. *Northanger Abbey*

“Conversations over meals with other learned people are a major benefit of the program.”

- Sally Moore '18 & '19



PLENARY EXCURSION

WADDESDON MANOR: Experience a full day of splendor at Waddesdon, a Rothschild house and gardens. From the lavish interiors filled with magnificent 18th Century French treasures of the internationally known Rothschild collections and exteriors emulating the French Renaissance châteaux of Loire Valley, Waddesdon was built to impress. A perfect destination for history and art lovers, as well as wine connoisseurs with one of the largest collections of Château Lafite Rothschild wines outside of France, take in the exceptional sights curated by the family who possessed the largest private fortune in modern history. Left in the care of the National Trust by James de Rothschild, with the largest endowment the Trust ever received, Waddesdon remains intact as the only example of the famous ‘Rothschild style’ of the 19th Century that can be visited by the public today.

OPTIONAL PLENARY: *THE COMEDY OF ERRORS* AT RSC, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

THE COMEDY OF ERRORS: Find your amusement with Shakespeare’s *The Comedy of Errors*, a fairytale farce of everyday miracles, mistaken identity, and double vision directed by comedy master Phillip Breen. Celebrating over 50 years, the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) produces plays by Shakespeare, his contemporaries, new works by living artists, as well as collaborates on projects with educators to inspire a lifelong love of William Shakespeare in young people. Join us for dinner and an evening out at the theater in Stratford-upon-Avon, on **Thursday, September 10**. *This optional plenary requires additional cost and includes round trip transportation, dinner before the show, and tickets to the performance. Tickets will be available on a first come, first served basis.*

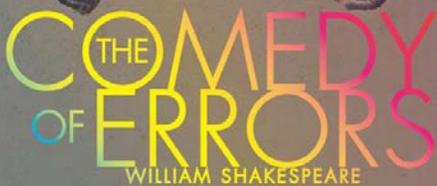
GALA RECEPTION AND DINNER

NEW COLLEGE, OXFORD, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

New College is one of the largest and most architecturally striking colleges in Oxford. William of Wykeham, Bishop of Winchester, founded New College in 1379, and some of the buildings date from the late 14th Century. The grounds include part of the medieval City Wall, and other buildings in the College date from the Victorian period. Enjoy a sumptuous dinner in the hallowed halls of this historic college dining hall as we celebrate the conclusion of another terrific year in Oxford.

The logo for the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC), consisting of the letters 'RSC' in a bold, white, sans-serif font on a red background.

ROYAL
SHAKESPEARE
COMPANY

The logo for 'The Comedy of Errors' by William Shakespeare, featuring the title in a colorful, stylized font with 'COMEDY' in yellow and 'OF ERRORS' in red and blue, and 'WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE' in a smaller font below.



TERMS, FEES, AND CONDITIONS

FEES

\$5,350 per person, double occupancy.
Single-room supplement \$500

Additional Accommodation Request

Superior twin/double \$280 per person
Superior single \$895

Price does not include airfare.

FIELD TRIP FEES

Jane Austen \$TBD
“Capability” Brown \$TBD
British Prime Ministers \$TBD
Tudor Court \$TBD

REQUIRED READINGS

Your tutors will be conducting classes based on the assumption that all participants will have completed the required readings prior to arriving in Oxford. Please see the required readings on each enrichment course page. Additional suggested

readings may be provided along with a fuller course description following completion of reservation.

ACCOMMODATIONS

You will stay in the heart of Oxford at the University’s Residential Center at Rewley House, which is part of Oxford University’s Department of Continuing Education. Accommodations are modest, being similar to those in a college. All twin-bedded rooms have private baths, coffee/tea makers, hair dryers, color televisions, and wi-fi. This is not a hotel, but a college residence, so the amenities one tends to associate with a hotel are not always available and the rooms are small and spare compared to American standards. *Please note that rooms on higher floors (there are four stories in some buildings) are accessible by stairs only.* The location and the spirit of camaraderie among the participants more than make up for any lack of luxuries. Rewley House has its own dining room, library classrooms, common room, and laundry facility. Participants have access to a computer room during the program.

AIR ARRANGEMENTS

Participants are responsible for arranging their own airfare to and from Oxford, as well as ground travel from airport to Oxford upon arrival. Specific instructions regarding bus and train schedules will be included in your Joining Notes mailed to you in August. Transportation from Oxford to Heathrow Airport for your return flight will be available for flights departing after 10:00 AM on September 19, 2020. ***Please note:*** *Participants leaving earlier than 10:00 AM on the final day of the program are responsible for their own transportation to the airport.*

If you are in need of assistance to book your flight, please call Cardinal Travel at 1-866-213-8743.

PARTICIPANT PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Please note that this program will be challenging for anyone who has difficulty with walking or other mobility issues. Field trips and excursions often require up to one mile or more of walking including uphill terrain, stairways, and uneven

ground. The age and layout of many buildings at Oxford can make them arduous to traverse as well. Our aim is to treat all participants equally and to keep our touring group together and safe while enjoying the program. Prospective participants with mobility difficulties, visual or hearing impairments, or other health concerns should make preliminary inquiries before signing up for this program.

APPLICATION/CANCELLATION/REFUNDS

A \$500 deposit is required upon application to make your reservation on this program. The balance of the fee is due May 1, 2020. Notification of cancellations must be received in writing. Refunds will be made according to the following per person cancellation penalties: Up to 120 days before departure: \$150; 119-90 days before departure: 50% of the total program price; 89-60 days prior to departure: 75% of the total program price; 59 days or less before departure: 100% of the total program price. In the event of cancellation of the program by Duke/UNC, a full refund will be given. We strongly recommend that you purchase trip cancellation and medical insurance. Information about trip insurance is included with your confirmation packet.

MORE INFORMATION

Duke Alumni Association

(919) 681-6216

education@daa.duke.edu

UNC General Alumni Association

(877) 962-3980

alumni_travel@unc.edu

