



The Pembroke Cambridge Summer Programme

at the University of Cambridge

12 July - 23 August 2025

Partner Information Pack



Introduction

The Pembroke Cambridge Summer Programme offers students the unique opportunity to enjoy outstanding small-group teaching in a beautiful and inspiring academic setting.

On the programme we combine the intimacy of College life and small class sizes with the excitement of studying abroad for six weeks with up to 250 students from all around the world.

Our portfolio boasts a number of exciting courses across a variety of disciplines and our students choose three to study over the summer, exploring the subject matter through lively discussion.

What's more, if a student is planning research or graduate studies, the Independent Supervision Research Project is a wonderful option to work one-to-one with an expert in the field.

Academic content is at the core of our offering, but there's much more to this experience and we do all we can to help students make the most of their time in our beautiful city and the UK.





Contents

1. Introduction
4. Pembroke College
5. Academic Study
6. Choice of Courses
7. Supervision Research Project
9. Assessment and Credit
12. Applications
13. English Language Requirements
15. Programme Fees
17. Plenary Lectures
18. The International Programmes Department



Pembroke College

The University of Cambridge is made up of 31 individual colleges, each with their own unique character, structure and philosophy. Pembroke College, founded in 1347 by Marie de St Pol, Countess of Pembroke, is the third oldest and sits right in the heart of the city.

Our College presents a tranquil environment with impressive architecture framing beautiful gardens and open courts, but College life is about so much more than buildings and grounds; it's about being part of a friendly and vibrant community with access to outstanding facilities.

Openness characterises Pembroke today. The College is an intimate yet diverse community committed to welcoming students of exceptional talent regardless of their social, cultural or educational background to give them the benefit of contact with a large and distinguished Fellowship.

Pembroke thrives on conversations between generations and disciplines, between undergraduates, graduates and Senior Members, between current students and alumni, and between academia and the wider world.

The College is home to around 440 undergraduate and approximately 300 graduate students.

The International Programmes Department

Here at Pembroke we've been welcoming international students on short-term study abroad programmes for nearly 50 years. Since our first international programme in 1977, over 20,000 students have enjoyed the educational, cultural and social experiences on offer at Pembroke College and in the city of Cambridge.

Educating students from all over the world has left a long-lasting mark on Pembroke itself, playing a part in shaping the College's identity as an outward-looking and open-minded higher education institution which embraces international research and education.

Almost all members of the International Programmes Department have studied abroad and we understand how enriching and valuable an experience studying in another country is.

We are determined to help our students make the most of their time in Cambridge and create a lifelong connection to the College.



Academic Study

Our programme is renowned for its rigorous and intellectually challenging courses and at the centre of our ethos is small-group teaching.

To achieve the interactive educational culture we believe is so important on the programme, we cap each lecture group at thirty students and each seminar group at fifteen.

Teaching and learning

Following the Cambridge style of learning, our programme encourages independent study alongside small-group teaching in the classroom.

Therefore for each formal contact hour, we expect students to spend at least two hours studying independently from extensive core and additional reading lists or preparing for seminars.

Students choose three courses, each with a total of 25 contact hours made up of:

12 x 75-minute lectures

8 x 75-minute seminars

Seminar teaching

Our seminars are generally organised workshop-style, providing the prime environment for interaction, debate and the exchange of ideas.

Students may also work on presentations, portfolios, case studies, peer-review and more as part of their seminars.

Choice of Courses

Three-course structure

We encourage our students to develop their academic curiosity and really benefit from the unique learning environment here at Cambridge.

So, while they might opt to take one or two courses for credit at their home institution, we invite them to try something new and our three-course structure lets them do just that.

The subject range represents Cambridge's strengths and the intellectual interests of the lecturers who design and develop the courses. Our courses are designed to be challenging but also accessible and rewarding.

Disciplines

We offer a number of courses across a range of disciplines for students to choose from, including Sciences, Mathematics, Economics, Social Sciences, and Arts and Humanities.

Generally we recommend students take one course in their major area of study, one in their minor or to fulfil a general requirement and one course in a different subject area to explore something new.

Modular structure

Our courses are split into three modules running over either three or six weeks:

Module 1 | 14 July - 1 August 2025

Module 2 | 4 August - 22 August 2025

Module 3 | 14 July - 22 August 2025

Current course portfolio

We refresh our course portfolio each year and the most up to date list is available on [our website](#). If you or your students require a more detailed course syllabus, please email us and we'll be happy to help.

Supervision Research Project

Why should students choose the Independent Supervision Research Project?

Quite simply, this option offers an extraordinary opportunity for students to work on their own choice of independent research project under the guidance of a supervisor who's an expert in that field. Supervisions are an integral part of the Cambridge undergraduate experience and for many students the most rewarding part of the programme.

What does this option involve?

This option replaces a Module 3 course and the student will have six one-hour supervision sessions working one-to-one with a supervisor.

Before each supervision session, the student will submit some written work to discuss during the session. The work should equal at least one third of the programme workload and usually takes the form of four 1,500-word essays.

The student and their supervisor may decide to replace the essays with a longer dissertation (5,000 words minimum), depending on the student's interests and chosen research topic.

What support is on offer?

We offer plenty of guidance to students working on this option. Before they start, we'll send information about the practicalities of completing an independent supervision research project. In the first session with their supervisor, they will:

- Agree on a provisional title and plan of work
- Decide the assessment method
- Set dates for the remaining sessions

During the summer, the academic team will keep in regular contact to check the student's progress, and students can also book an appointment with the Director of Studies during their regular academic advisory hours.

Supplement

If a student wants to take the Independent Supervision Research Project, they will need to pay a supplemental fee. To apply they must select the Supervision as one of their three courses, pay the fee and upload their supervision proposal.



A word about subjects

The Independent Supervision Research Project works best when there's a close match between the student's academic interests and those of their supervisor, so we can only arrange ones where we feel confident that this is the case.

In the very unlikely event that we are unable to find a suitable supervisor for a student's chosen topic, in the first instance they can revise their proposed research area or opt to take a taught course instead.

That being said, in recent years we have successfully arranged independent Supervision research projects for all students who chose this option.

The focus of some independent Supervision research projects have ranged from International Trade to Machine Learning, Romanticism to Mental Health, and Refugees to the History of Chemistry.

Supervision proposals must be submitted within two weeks of selecting the Supervision option.

Final deadline for proposals: Thursday 17 April 2025

Assessment

Although the assessment format can vary depending on the course, students usually choose a dissertation topic from a list provided by the lecturer and write a dissertation outline and a final dissertation.

Our lecturers will give individual feedback for the dissertation outlines to prepare students for researching and writing their dissertations. Students are expected to spend 12-17 hours completing the outline and dissertation.

Structure

Students will produce a 500-word outline of their thesis statement, introduction and main body. The outline will also include an annotated bibliography.

The dissertation requires students to produce a 3,000-word argumentative paper based on their outline.

Credit

Academic credit can usually be gained for the courses taken during the programme, although the amount of credit can vary according to the home institution's policy. In general, credit awarded has ranged from 3 to 4 US credits for each course or supervision.

Our strong academic portfolio, 25 contact hours per course and focus on guided independent study usually fits with a home institution's policy for credit transfer.

ECTS

The Pembroke Cambridge Summer Programme does not operate the European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS).

However, as an approximation, completion of the programme can be considered equivalent to completing a full Cambridge term (20 ECTS credits).

Transcript and syllabi

We provide an academic transcript within a month of the end of the programme and course syllabi are available to students to help with credit transfer.





Applications

Who can apply?

The programme is open to undergraduate and postgraduate students, as well as graduates, across the world. To apply they need to:

- Be at least 18 years old by the start of the programme
- Have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.2 on a 4.0 scale or equivalent at the time of application
- Have finished at least their first year of university by the start of the programme
- Have a high level of fluency in English (7.0 IELTS minimum or equivalent)

How to apply

Students apply using our online application system, linked on our website.

As well as completing the online application, we require:

- An academic transcript from their home institution
- An academic reference

Transcripts must be emailed to ip@pem.cam.ac.uk via a transcript issuing service or directly from the Registrar or relevant official at the student's home institution.

References must be emailed to us from the referee's institutional email address.

We cannot accept transcripts or references sent to us by students.

Securing their place

Once accepted on the programme, students confirm their place by selecting and securing their accommodation followed by their courses.

While accommodation choice is final, students can revise their course selection, subject to availability, until Thursday 5 June 2025, 5pm UK time.

We advise applying early as places are limited and there is a lot of competition for accommodation and course places.

Applications are open from October 2024.

Applications close on Thursday 29 May 2025, 5pm UK time.

English Language Requirements

As all classes on the Pembroke Cambridge Summer Programme are taught in English, a high level of fluency in English is a prerequisite for attendance.

If the student is not a national of a majority English-speaking country as defined by the [UK Home Office](#), they will normally need to provide evidence of one of the following qualifications:

- IELTS: a minimum overall grade of 7.0, usually with 7.0 in each element
- TOEFL Paper Based Test: 627
- TOEFL Computer Based Test: 263
- TOEFL Internet Based Test: 107 (including a minimum of 25/30 in each component)
- Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR): C1 or above, with a minimum overall score of 185
- Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English: grade A
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English: grade B or above

If a student has been assessed in English for most of their degree, do they need to provide a qualification?

We understand that in many countries English is used extensively in higher education and students may be able to meet our English fluency requirements without submitting evidence of any of the above qualifications.

If students think that they meet these criteria, they will need to contact the [Programme Director](#). We may ask for a transcript showing substantial university-level assessment in English and any other evidence that may be required to determine a high level of English fluency.





Programme Fees 2025

Application fee	£60
Accommodation fee (Bands 1 - 7)	£2,600 - £3,800
Tuition fee	£6,020
Supervision Project supplemental fee	£1,550

What do our fees cover

Our application and tuition fees are fixed, but the accommodation fee comes in different price bands to suit each student's preference and budget.

We like to be transparent to students about what their programme fees cover and this fee breakdown is also available on [our website](#).

Tuition fee

This covers all elements under Teaching and Learning and College-Based Support on the next page.

Accommodation fee

This covers all elements under Accommodation and Meals, Social Programme and Pembroke Circle Membership on the next page.

Financial aid

If students receive financial aid then we can defer their payment of accommodation and tuition fees until their financial aid is disbursed. Financial aid students will need to pay a £600 non-refundable deposit to secure their place on the programme.

Teaching and Learning

- Tuition (excluding the Independent Supervision Research Project supplemental fee)
- Academic and pastoral support from the programme team through daily drop-in advisory hours
- Full orientation, practical advice and information about the programme
- Comprehensive feedback from lecturers
- Access to the Pembroke College Library
- Three Plenary Lectures
- Humanities and Social Sciences and Sciences study skills sessions
- Course syllabi to aid with credit transfer
- Academic transcript

College-Based Support

- IT support and Wi-Fi across the College, teaching rooms and accommodation
- On-site medical, pastoral and welfare support
- Practical support and advice from the programme team

Accommodation and Meals

- Six weeks (42 nights) continuous residency in a single room in College accommodation
- Meal credit which equates to around 8 meals per week on average
- Two Formal Halls (formal dinners) with drinks reception
- Bedlinen and towels
- Weekly room cleaning
- Daily communal area cleaning
- Welcome reception and farewell barbecue

Social Programme

- Weekly bulletin of free or subsidised activities organised by our Programme Assistants and Activities Coordinator

Pembroke Circle Membership

- Lifelong connection to the College through the Pembroke Circle alumni network

Plenary Lectures

On the programme we encourage students to delve into issues beyond their usual remit and outside of their three courses. This is why each year we hold a series of Plenary Lectures, given by eminent figures of University and public life, on a diverse range of topics.

The talks are open to all students, followed by a Q&A session and drinks with the speaker. Here are some of our previous talks:



What's Happening with Brexit?

Rt Hon Lord Smith, Baron of Finsbury.
Master of Pembroke College



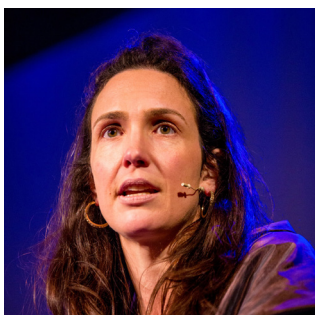
New Family Forms and Frozen Eggs: Lessons on Reproduction for Millenials

Dr Zeynep Gurtin
London Women's Clinic and Centre for Family Research
Visiting Researcher, University of Cambridge



Parseltongue: An Application of Linguistics

Professor Francis Nolan
Professor of Phonetics, University of Cambridge



Crimes Against Humanity and the Search for Peace and Justice

Dr Sarah Nouwen
Senior Lecturer in Law, University of Cambridge
Co-Deputy Director, Lauterpacht Centre for
International Law

The International Programmes Department

Dr Daniela Passolt

Director of International Programmes

Daniela.Passolt@pem.cam.ac.uk

Dr Geeta Kasanga

Deputy Director, Academic Lead

Geeta.Kasanga@pem.cam.ac.uk

Ms Laura Fazenda

Assistant Director of International Programmes

Laura.Fazenda@pem.cam.ac.uk

Dr Laura Yan

Assistant Academic Lead

Laura.Yan@pem.cam.ac.uk

Ms Rosie Lawrence

Pembroke Cambridge Summer Programme Director

Rosie.Lawrence@pem.cam.ac.uk

Mr Isaac Shortman

Programmes and Systems Officer

Isaac.Shortman@pem.cam.ac.uk

Ms Francesca Woodburn

Registrar and Japanese Programmes Director

Francesca.Woodburn@pem.cam.ac.uk

Ms Rebecca Withers

International Programmes Business Operations Manager

Rebecca.Withers@pem.cam.ac.uk

Ms Stephanie Everitt

International Programmes Administrator

Stephanie.Everitt@pem.cam.ac.uk

Ms Robin Nguyen

International Programmes Administrator

Robin.Nguyen@pem.cam.ac.uk





International Programmes

Pembroke College, Cambridge, CB2 1RF, UK

T: +44 (0) 1223 338143 **E:** ip@pem.cam.ac.uk

www.pem.cam.ac.uk/summer



@Pembroke_IP



PembrokeCambridge
Summer Programme

Pembroke College, Cambridge is a Charity (Registration No. 1137492).

Photography by Steven Bond, Plenary speaker images courtesy of the speaker, and of Dr Sarah Nouwen ©Ruby Ingleheart.