Before the Downing Summer Programme 2023

Applying to the programme

What is the application deadline?
The deadline to apply for the programme is Friday 24 February 2023.

Can I apply to all five strands of the programme?
You may apply to all five strands but you may only attend

- Two, if you are joining us for the full 4-week programme; or
- One if you are joining us for the 2-week programme

Please indicate your preferences on the application form.

I can’t make the first day / or the last day of the programme. Can I still attend?
Whilst we encourage you to attend the full duration of the programme, we understand that on occasion this might not be possible. Please email us (college-office@dow.cam.ac.uk) the dates you cannot make, and we will review your request on a case-by-case basis.

How soon will I hear back on whether I have a place on the course?
We will aim to respond to you within 1 – 3 working days.

Can you provide a letter to state that I am attending the course?
We would be able to provide a letter confirming you have a place on the course. If you require one for your visa, please see ‘International Students’ below.

Can I attend the programme if I am under 18 years old?
The programme is aimed at undergraduate university students, although we would accept applications from students about to commence their undergraduate studies in autumn 2023. If you are under 18 years old, we would require consent from your legal guardian for you to attend this programme.
International Students

Will you provide help in my visa application?
We will be able to provide a letter in support of your visa application. We would not be able to advise on which visa you will require, so please read your government’s policy and visit the visa information page on the UK Government’s website. Although we cannot assist with visa questions, the University has a dedicated team specialising in visa enquiries, which you may find useful.

What are the English language requirements for the programme?
A high level of fluency in English is a prerequisite for attending the programme. If English is not your If you are not a native English speaker, or you are not studying at an English-speaking university, the English Language Requirements are indicated at the end of this document.

Do I need International Health Insurance?
Please note that if you are coming to this programme from outside the UK, the National Health Service (NHS) provides free emergency medical treatment to those that are visiting the UK. Medical treatment and the costs of repatriation after a serious accident are not covered by the NHS so you must ensure that you have insurance to cover all medical expenses internationally and disruptions to travel. If you have any queries about health care provision, we suggest that you contact your home health care provider for advice, as it is your responsibility to ensure you are covered for international health insurance.

Will my phone work in the UK?
Please check with your service provider as to whether you can use your mobile phone in the UK. If your phone is unlocked before you arrive, you can buy a SIM card in the Cambridge with a 'pay as you go' plan, which would often be the cheapest option. Alternatively, you could buy a cheap mobile phone in Cambridge with a UK SIM card.

Fees

How much is the programme?
There are different fees depending on whether you participate in the 2-week or 4-week programme:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In-person Attendance</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tr>
<td>31 July – 27 August 2023 (4-week programme)</td>
<td>£7500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 July – 13 August 2023 (2-week programme)</td>
<td>£4000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 – 27 August 2023 (2-week programme)</td>
<td>£4000.00</td>
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Can I pay the fees in instalments?
Yes, although please be aware that the fees in full should be paid no later than 2 weeks before the start of the programme (17 July 2023).
Are there any discounts available?
We offer a £500 discount to those who will be taking the full 4-week programme (£7,500 instead of £8,000). This discount will be applied at the time you apply. If you are interested in additional funding, we advise that you contact your university’s Student Support Services as they may offer grants or funding for academic related activities during the summer.

What will the fees cover?
The fees will cover:
- The cost of the programme (lecturers, study pack, workshops)
- Food (breakfast, lunch, and dinner; formal hall; an evening BBQ)
- Accommodation (bedding and study table, bedding, shared bathroom)
- Social Activities (devised by the Teaching Assistants)
- Travel to activities within Cambridge
- Facilities in College (please see the ‘Facilities’ section below)

What is not included in the fees?
This is not an exhaustive list, but in essence, the fees do not cover anything outside of the programme within Downing. This includes:
- Travel to and from Downing College
- Costs associated with visa applications
- Souvenirs
- Food from outside of College

Preparing for your stay

Is there any background reading?
There is no background reading required as you will be given all reading material at the start of the course. You may wish to continue your reading after the course; please speak to the relevant lecturer who would be able to provide suitable post-programme reading materials.

What do I need to bring?
The British Summer can at times have four seasons in one day, so it's best to be prepared. We recommend you bring:
- Comfortable walking shoes
- A waterproof jacket
- A light jacket
- A smart outfit for Formal Hall, such as:
  - a suit (or at least a shirt and tie);
  - a cocktail dress; or
  - something suitable for a formal occasion
- Sportswear (if you want to take part in any sports activities)
- Toiletries (although they are easy to get hold of in Cambridge)
- Medication, if needed (please make sure that any medication you take in your home country is also legal in the UK before travelling)
- Travel Documents, if required
• Electronic Devices, (any electronic devices you bring with you will need to comply with UK health and safety regulations)
• Money / credit or debit card (please note that Downing College is a cashless College, so you will need to pay for many goods and services with a credit or debit card and cash won't be accepted

Getting to Cambridge

I am arriving by train
Cambridge Train Station lies just on the outskirts of the city centre and is a 15-minute walk from Downing College. There are regular train services from London King’s Cross and London Liverpool Street Station. You can buy tickets in advance or in person at the station.

I am arriving by plane
If you are arriving from:
• Stansted Airport – there is a direct 25-minute train journey to Cambridge; or a direct 45-minute National Express coach journey. The coach will stop at Parker’s Piece.
• Heathrow Airport – there is a direct 3-hour National Express coach to Parker’s Piece, Cambridge.
• Gatwick Airport – there is a direct 4-hour National Express coach to Parker’s Piece, Cambridge.

I am arriving by car
Our address is Downing College, University of Cambridge, CB2 1DQ. If you are being dropped off, there is an area by the Porters’ Lodge which you can use. Due to the limited car parking spaces at College, you would not be able to drive and leave your car at Downing for the duration of the programme.

How to I get to Downing from the train or bus station?
We’ll be in touch before arrival day with more specific information on where you need to go once you get to Cambridge. If you would like to search in advance, our address is Downing College, University of Cambridge, CB2 1DQ.
During the Downing Summer Programme 2023

About the Programme

**What is the Level and Demand of each course?**
The courses are aimed at undergraduate level, from years one to three. You would not be required to have specialist knowledge of the subjects; the Summer Programme will be a chance for you to develop critical thinking in areas that you might not be studying. Conversely, you would also be welcome to apply if you are studying these subjects as your focus at university.

**Who are the Lecturers?**
The Lecturers for the programme are Cambridge Academics and leading industry professionals. They all have extensive experience in their fields. To view their profiles, including the Summer Programme Co-ordinator, please visit the Summer Programme website.

**Are there any social events?**
During the programme, there will be Teaching Assistants on hand. The Teaching Assistants are made up of undergraduate student at Cambridge University and are there to ensure you make the most of the lectures (by forming study groups); and are also there to organise social events during your stay. Some social events will be scheduled, such as the evening BBQ and Formal Hall, but some of these events can be tailored to you, such as playing tennis or social evenings in Cambridge city.

**Facilities**

**Can guests stay in my room?**
Guests cannot stay in your accommodation. Please contact accommodation@dow.cam.ac.uk as there might be rooms available on Domus where they can stay. Please note, there stay would be charged as a paying guest.

**What facilities are available?**
During your stay, you would be able to use many of Downing’s facilities as part of your programme fee:

- Gym (induction will be provided)
- Tennis Courts, Basketball Court
- Paddock
- Opportunity for Rowing
- Library
- Launderette
- Post Room (send mail to and from College)
- Internet use
- Computer Room (although we recommend you bring your own laptop)
- Music Practice Rooms (pianos)
After the Downing Summer Programme 2023

Certificates and Grades

Will I be given a certificate?
You will be given a certificate that states you completed the Downing Summer Programme 2023. Certificates will be handed out at the award ceremony, which will take place on the last day of the programme.

Can my grade from the programme go towards my university degree?
Provided your university accepts our marks, then the credits gained from this programme can go towards your university grades.

Keeping in Touch

Will I become a member of Cambridge University?
During your programme, you will be a member of Downing College, University of Cambridge, experiencing summer as a student at Cambridge. However, only students that are matriculated are members of the University. We would, of course, be interested to hear of your news and would welcome you to reach out to us in the future.

Can I keep in touch via social media?
Downing College does have Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram accounts so we would love to hear of your memorable moments of the Summer Programme on there!

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English Language Requirements:
- GCSE in English Language/IGCSE English Language (as a first language): at grade C or above; or
- IELTS: normally a minimum overall grade of 7.0, usually with 7.0 in each element; or
- Cambridge Certificate in Advanced English: at grade A; or
- Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency in English: at grade A or B; or
- TOEFL Paper Based Test: 627; or
- TOEFL Computer Based Test: 263; or
- TOEFL Internet Based Test: 107 (including a minimum of 25/30 in each component).