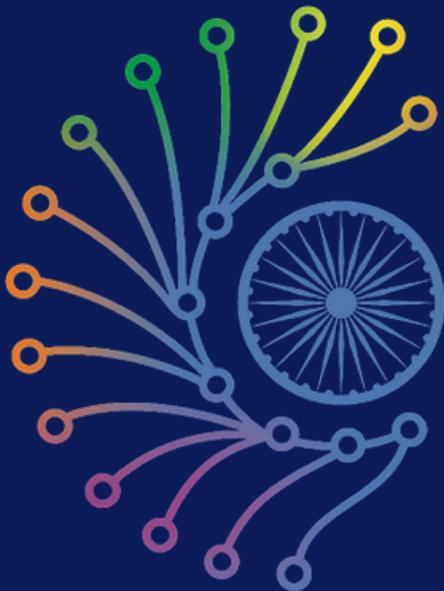


INSIGHT

HT26



A Changing World



- ✦ AI, Innovation, and Development
- ✦ Humanities Pathways
- ✦ Internship Advice and Global Work
- ✦ Oxford Life and How to...
- ✦ Our recommendations

OxWIB
OXFORD WOMEN IN BUSINESS

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President's Welcome



Hi everyone! I'm Joséphine, a 3rd year biochemist at Worcester and OxWIB president for this term. OxWIB has been such a wonderful part of my Oxford experience, from my first term on committee as a fresher, until now, exposing me to a wide range of high-calibre speaker events, fun socials and a group of fabulous and ambitious women*. Since its founding in 2008, OxWIB has grown to become Oxford's largest women*-led society, dedicated to democratising business for women*.

As president, I have had the immense privilege of working alongside a fantastic committee, who have worked tirelessly to deliver for our ever-growing member base. It has been amazing to see all the ideas they have come up with and executed over the short space of this term. The Insight Magazine is one such example, with the team working hard to develop a fun and informative edition that moves away from our traditional movie-related theme and looks into highly relevant issues ranging from AI to global work.

Our term card has attempted to consider what 'business' means in the broadest sense, with the aim of catering towards as many people as possible. We have had fantastic speaker events, that have explored the world of auction houses, fashion start-ups, DNI in the education sector, healthcare advising, as well as sponsorship recruitment events. However, one of the things that sets this society apart is its ability to go beyond just our speaker events, including our termly 'President's Drinks', our mentorship schemes and laid-back socials. The WIBs have also continued to support OneEighty, an Oxford-based mental health and behavioural support charity, through a fantastic charity 5K run in collaboration with Oxford Girls' Running and a winter raffle at the Bear Inn.

I would like to thank everyone who has made this term's initiatives a success, and especially the amazing Hilary '26 committee, whose passion and hard work never cease to amaze me. It has been an absolute privilege to lead this talented group of women* and I can't wait to see how the society continues to evolve into next term and beyond.

Joséphine x

Editors' Notes

Hi everyone, I'm Maya, a second-year Historian at Teddy Hall. This is my second term on the OxWIB committee, and I've absolutely loved working with the rest of the Insight team on this magazine.

For this issue of *Insight*, we wanted to focus on some of the key questions facing OxWIBs, and how the world around us is changing at an almost overwhelming pace. In a term full of essay deadlines, internship applications, and still trying to make it to the pub by 9pm, it's easy to forget how much is shifting beyond the Oxford bubble and how we are supposed to navigate it.

Through this issue, we hope readers gain a clearer sense of how to tackle challenges ranging from how to approach the corporate world with a humanities degree, or understanding how to use AI responsibly when it still feels so new and uncertain. We wanted to offer a fresh perspective on topics that often sit in the background while we are caught up in the intensity of term. We're incredibly proud of this issue and can't wait for you to read it!



**MAYA PARRY,
DIRECTOR OF INSIGHT**

Hi! I'm Imogen, and I'm in my second-year doing Classics and English at St. Anne's. My Oxford background is more on the magazine side and this is my first term on OxWIB - it's been so much fun feeling like I'm combining the two and working with such a lovely team. It's been great too to collaborate with OxWEST on a few articles in the issue.

We started brainstorming for this edition of *Insight* in the Christmas vac. Our idea was to create an issue that would be most interesting and helpful for all the OxWIBs inside and outside of the society, set against the background of life in Oxford and the development of AI which seems to affect it more strongly by the day. We wanted to offer our perspectives, thinking about how AI has shaped the way in which we now study and the sectors we are interested in, how to navigate dreaded internship applications in a changing job market, what it means to be a humanities student in a world so dominated by technology, and much more. We hope you enjoy!



**IMOGEN SCOTT-SMITH,
DIRECTOR OF INSIGHT**



Hey everyone! I'm Lisa, a second year studying History at St Hilda's. This is my first term on the OxWIB committee. I've had a great time being part of the society so far and being involved in creating this magazine. I enjoyed writing for my secondary school and 6th form magazines in the past, so I wanted to be involved in a magazine in Oxford. My favourite section of this magazine is the internship application advice - it helped me when I was applying to internships. Enjoy reading!

**LISA CARR,
REP OF INSIGHT**

Hey! I'm Liza, a first year English student at St Anne's. This has been my first term on the OxWIB committee, and I've loved every bit so far. It is such a great opportunity to meet new people and also find people who share common interests with you that you can attend talks and events with!

I have enjoyed writing for Insight, helped by our amazing team. This magazine has also improved my ability to articulate my thoughts, as well as conducting interviews and reading articles from those with experience in fields I am interested in.



**ELIZAVETA IVANOVA,
REP OF INSIGHT**



EXEO



**Evie Duckworth,
E&M, Christ Church
VP EXTERNAL**

**Josephine Hibou,
Biochem, Worcester
PRESIDENT**

**Annabel Josey,
History, Trinity
VP INTERNAL**



**Hannah Perman,
E&M, Brasenose
TREASURER**

**Madeleine Brown,
E&M, Pembroke
PRESIDENT-ELECT**

**Cordelia Lamming,
Classics, Exeter
ALUMNAE &
DEVELOPMENT HEAD**

MEMBERSHIP



**Angela Yu,
Classics, Jesus**

DIRECTOR



**Zoe Rawlings,
Law, Magdalen**

DIRECTOR



**Anusha Roy,
Geography, Regent's**

DIRECTOR



**Elizabeth Dinning,
English, LMH**

REP



**Ella Joseph,
English, St Hugh's**

REP



**Yolanda Gradillas,
PPE, St Hilda's**

REP

This term, Membership has focused on demystifying OxWIB, and hosted events such as the Galentine's cookie decorating, Ice Skating, Yoga Socials and more. They have also put on one of the highlights of the term, the President's Ball!

OUTREACH



Tiffany You,
PPE, Teddy Hall
DIRECTOR



Nuha Kidwai,
Biochem, LMH
DIRECTOR



Anna Hall,
PPE, Teddy Hall
REP



Tilly James,
Maths, Worcester
REP

This term, Outreach has continued their partnership with 180, hosting a Raffle night at The Bear with prizes from Missing Bean, Charlotte Tilbury, and more! They also ran the 5K charity run through some of the most scenic parts of Oxford.

INSIGHT



**Imogen Scott-Smith,
Classic and English, St Anne's**

DIRECTOR



**Maya Parry,
History, Teddy Hall**

DIRECTOR



**Elizaveta Ivanova,
ELL, St Anne's**

REP



**Lisa Carr,
History, St Hilda's**

REP

This term Insight has been putting together the *Insight* magazine. They have written articles and organised submissions on the theme 'The Changing World', answering questions about the future and business from the perspective of Oxford students and those who have had experience in the corporate and technology world.

SPONSORSHIP



**Holly Culhane,
Engineering, Christ Church**

DIRECTOR



**Janet Lau,
PPE, Pembroke**

DIRECTOR



**Natalie Kalubowila,
Chemistry, Magdalen**

REP



**Shirley Ding,
PPE, Somerville**

REP

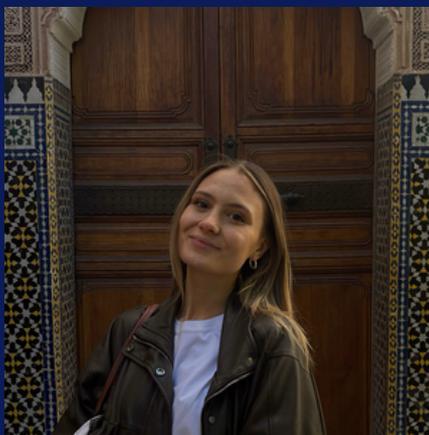


**Lucy Vrettos,
Biomed, Queens**

REP

The Sponsorship Team held 3 events this term. They kicked off with a Fireside Chat with EY, where representatives came in to answer questions about the typical experience of an analyst in auditing or consulting at a Big 4 firm. They held a Trading Simulation with AmplifyME, allowing attendees to take part in a fast-paced trading experience in real time. A VP from AlphaSights also came in for a Career Talk on possible paths in business graduates could take regardless of degree.

MENTORSHIP



**Kristina Schencher,
Economics, St Cross
DIRECTOR**



**Lovisa Schulman,
PPE, Hertford
DIRECTOR**



**Sarah Witheridge,
Physics, Christ Church
REP**

Mentorship works on forging connections, allowing each party to gain valuable experience and encouraging mutual growth. This term, they have arranged the committee coffee buddy scheme, as well as a professional exchange event for the committee.

EVENTS



**Verbena Tahta,
PPL, Worcester**

DIRECTOR



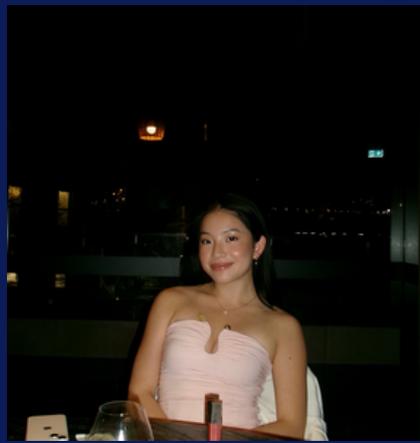
**Lizzie Dunley,
PPE, St Hilda's**

DIRECTOR



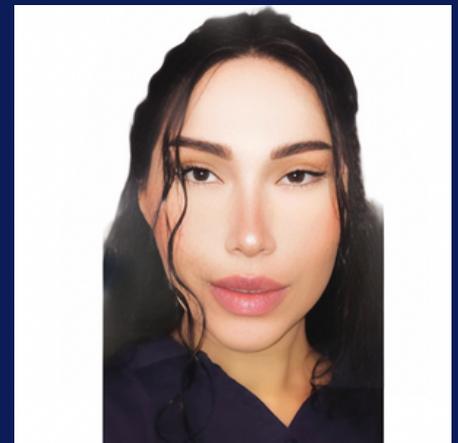
**Emma Pardo,
PPL, Teddy Hall**

REP



**Alissa Xue,
Law, Somerville**

REP



**Saima Asghar,
Medicine, Exeter**

REP

This term, Events have brought in a number of brilliant speakers, such as Joanne Shaw (Cancer Research UK), Anthea Peers (President of Christie's EMEA), and a joint conversation with Amelia Hitchcock-Merritt (founder of Bijoux De Mimi) and Sophia Ponsonby (founder of You Look Hot).

INVEST-OPS



**Emily Stobart,
E&M, Jesus**

DIRECTOR



**Rayna Chawla,
PPE, Keble**

DIRECTOR



**Vanessa Kan,
PPE, St Catz**

REP



**Sophie Watta,
Classics, Oriel**

REP

This term, Invest-Ops have collaborated with Economics society to put on two speaker events with Dame Kate Barker and Dame Melanie Dawes.

DNI



**Amrutha Nandakumar,
PPE, Brasenose
DIRECTOR**



**Chantelle Chan,
E&M, Trinity
DIRECTOR**

This term, DNI has conducted a fireside chat with Onyinye Udokporo about building a career as an author and a LinkedIn Corporate Headshot workshop with drinks.

DIGI-MARKETING



Skye-Jane Ingram,
DIRECTOR

MARKETING



**Deborah Akinsanya,
Law, St John's**

DIRECTOR



**Robin Hall,
Law, Queens**

DIRECTOR



**Ella Rayner,
Law, Trinity**

REP



**Ella Lee,
French, St John's**

REP



**Lyla Brandon-Bravo,
History, Corpus Christi**

REP

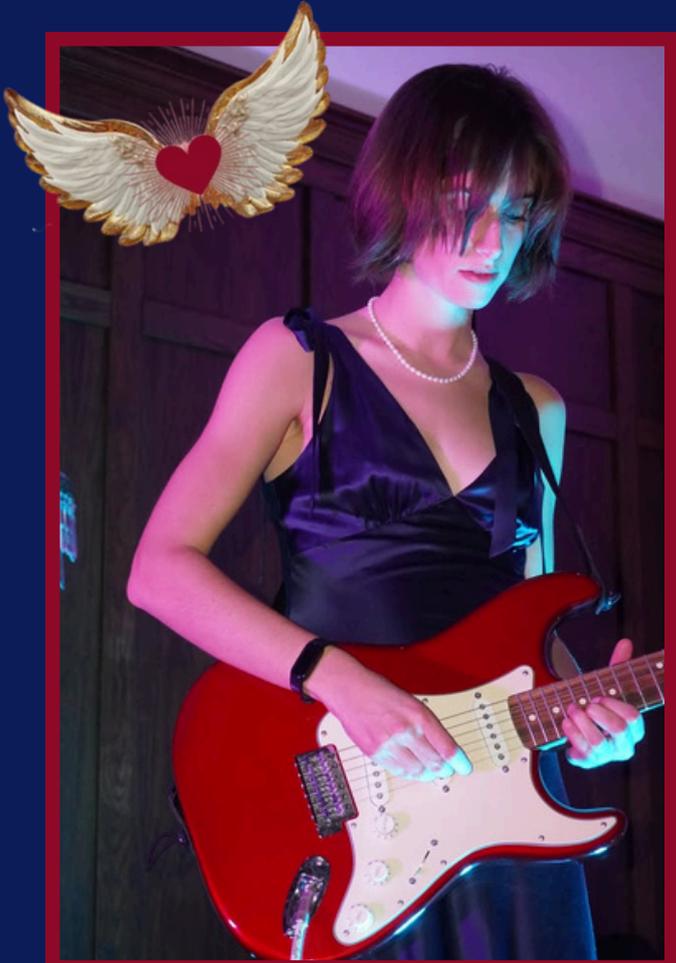
This term, the Marketing team has focused on connection and creativity. They were excited to bring back event interviews as a way to get everyone involved and bring the society together. This has included chatting asking attendees at Demystifying OxWIB for their predictions on the Pres Ball theme. They've also been busy behind the scenes filming exciting content at OxWIB events, including at the Founders' Panel which featured Sophia Ponsonby, founder of You Look Hot, and Amelia Hitchcock-Merritt, founder of Bijoux De Mimi.

President's Ball

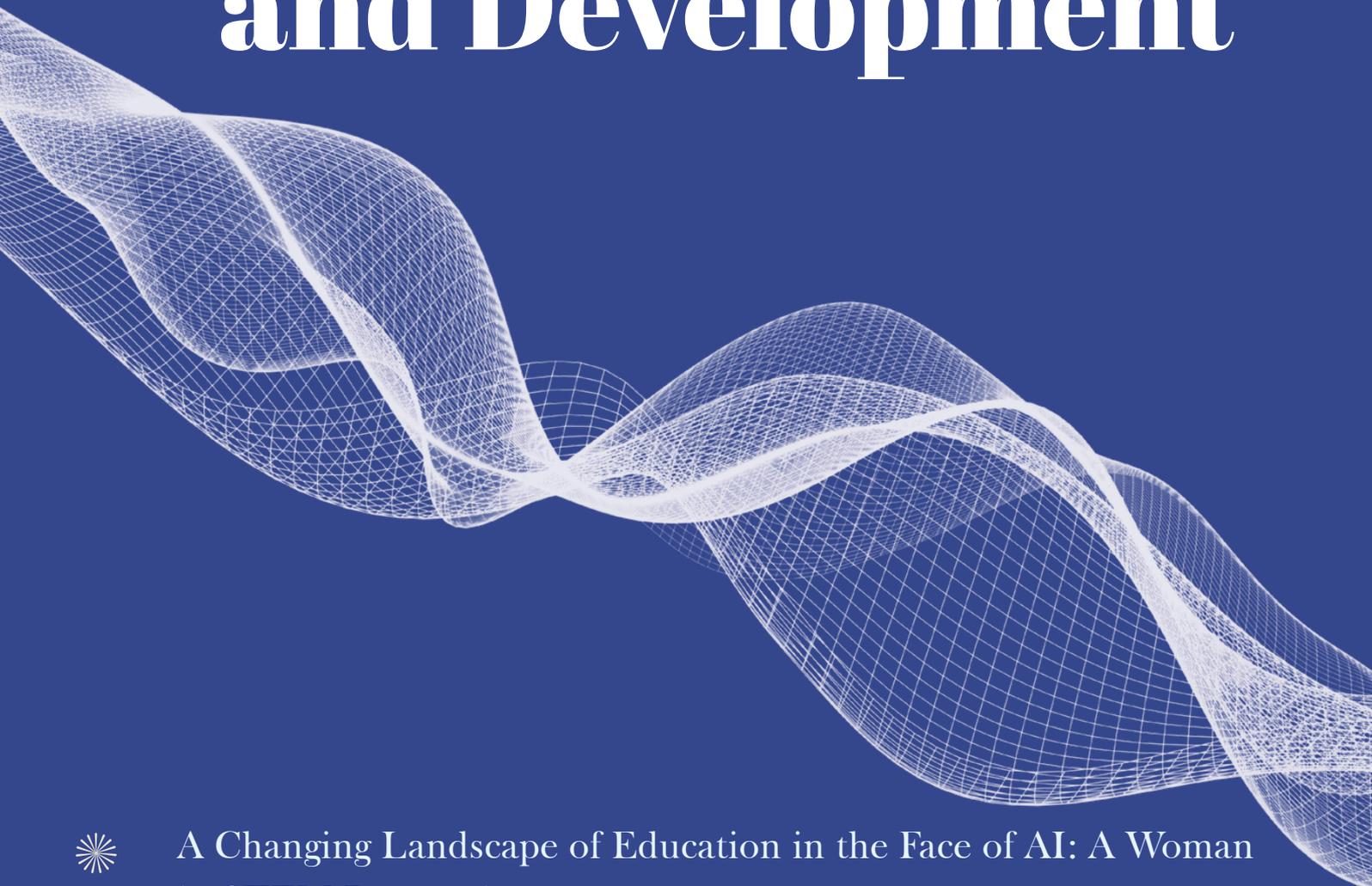


Theme: Star-Crossed Lovers
12th February 2026 at the Randolph Hotel





AI, Innovation, and Development



- ✦ A Changing Landscape of Education in the Face of AI: A Woman in STEM Perspective
- ✦ Copyright law in the age of AI
- ✦ Using AI productively
- ✦ The AI India Summit: A Discussion

A Changing Landscape of Education in the Face of AI: A Woman in STEM Perspective



The presence of AI since starting my degree in 2022 has increased rapidly. To start with, I don't think ChatGPT was even around, and now it's a tab that's always open for almost all of us. For me, it felt inevitable; I tried to resist for as long as I could. From my Instagram feed, I was constantly reminded of the issues with ChatGPT and other generative AI models in terms of environmental impact, so I had turned off Google's AI search mode and tried to pretend it was something that didn't exist. But then again, when the problem sheet deadlines stacked up and I was in the library seeing the sun set and rise, I couldn't resist the temptation.

Last year, I was mainly using ChatGPT for applications, getting easily available information about each company, but now it's something I go to for breaking down parts of the lecture notes I don't understand or finding out where to even begin with a question. Upon reflection, AI started to become something I used more only when I felt it was good enough to actually help me or answer questions on my problem sheet that I was stuck on. The free models of ChatGPT must have improved as well, but since we have the subscription with our Oxford accounts, it really has been a seamless experience. However, I do think about how much more power the more advanced models use and whether it is even something we need in our lives.

Another thing I found interesting was in my Engineering Computation module, where I learnt how well-integrated AI models are in the programming landscape. VS Code has the Copilot functionality alongside the terminal, and one of our first lectures in this module was on how to use it to help us. I appreciate Oxford staying at the forefront of technological trends and trying to find ways to work alongside AI as I am aware it is something that will be used in industry and corporate work from now on. Among the options for longer projects in this module, one focused on the comparison of AI-generated code versus our own code, especially on the validation side of this (which seems to be the current bottleneck for AI). Whilst this did seem interesting, I was more drawn to the "sustainable computing" project, for which, ironically, I did use ChatGPT to help me complete it. The regulation and disclosure rules have changed around AI as it becomes harder to distinguish between instances where it has or has not been used. AI checking for AI — who would have thought this would be our new reality?

As a woman in STEM, I am conscious not only of staying technically competitive but also of thinking critically about the systems we build and adopt. AI is powerful and increasingly unavoidable, but it is also resource-intensive and may cause more harm than good in the long run. Navigating this landscape feels like balancing ambition with responsibility. Education is clearly changing. The question is no longer whether AI should be present in our academic lives, but how we choose to engage with it ethically, sustainably, and thoughtfully. And I promise I didn't use AI for this (I asked my friends to check instead).

Copyright Law in the Age of AI

I first began to consider this issue when writing my English paper 1 coursework ('Introduction to Literature') in my first year. I had decided to write on Roland Barthes' idea of the 'Death of the Author'. Barthes encourages literary critics not to view a text as the product of a single voice, and to focus criticism away from the desire to discover what the author might 'really' be saying as a means to explain the text. Instead, Barthes describes a text as "a multi-dimensional space in which a variety of writings, none of them original, blend and clash" (Barthes, 1967, p.128). The crucial point is that there is no single, originating source for any text; every word, phrase, sentence is an unconscious reference to something already read.

My tutor prompted me to consider what this could mean in the age of AI, where large language models collect quotations from other works without giving them credit. Is this a problem, or is this what every human artist does? If an artist has rights over work which is essentially a "mosaic of quotations" (according to Julia Kristeva), to whom do we give credit and ownership for a text or artwork generated by AI?

The issue of AI and copyright was the subject of much debate within the UK Government at the close of 2024 and beginning of 2025. The UK Government's Copyright and AI consultation report began:

"Both our creative industries and our AI sector are UK strengths. They are vital to our national mission to grow the economy. This consultation sets out our plan to deliver a copyright and AI framework that rewards human creativity, incentivises innovation and provides the legal certainty required for long-term growth in both sectors." (Gov UK, 2024)

The consultation centred round the potential breaches of copyright law involved with training AI models. The process is called data mining, where AI models are fed large data sets, to be 'trained' to "find patterns and connections", but this material is often protected by copyright. Is AI training therefore a breach of copyright law? The balance for the government to strike here with any legislation they introduce is to ensure that artists and the creative industries maintain the rights to their own intellectual property, while also making sure that legislation is not so complex that it stifles AI innovation (Scott, 2025).

There was an interesting case centring around this issue which took place at the end of 2025, in which Getty Images sued Stability AI on four fronts, relating to Stability AI's imaging generating tool 'Stable Diffusion':

(1) Copyright infringement during training — Getty argued that Stable Diffusion had been trained using their copyrighted images without their permission.

(2) Copyright infringement in outputs — Stable Diffusion's production of images may also constitute a copyright infringement because large parts of the output images reproduced copyright protected works.

(3) Secondary copyright infringement — can importing a pre-trained generative AI tool (trained using copyrighted images) into the UK count as a secondary copyright infringement? Sections 22 and 23 of the 1988 Copyright, Designs and Patents Act states that importing an "article" known to be an infringing copy is a secondary copyright infringement. The court ruled that the generative AI tool does not contain actual copies, so importation of the tool cannot be classed as secondary copyright infringement.

(4) Trademark infringement — the High Court ruled that there were outputs produced by Stable Diffusion that contained watermarks identical or similar to Getty Images' trademarks, which constitutes trademark infringement.

Stability AI dropped the first two, rather important, claims, where a High Court ruling would have been crucial for understanding the stance of the UK court on AI and copyright infringement. The case is, however, subject to appeal.

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**Imogen Scott-Smith (Undergraduate,
Classics and English)**



Using AI Productively

In this day and age, AI has become integrated into almost everything we do. When we search something on Safari, it creates an unmissable box at the top dictating the basic answer to the search. In a university where time is important in any task, it can be tempting to take a quick glance, note down the answer, and move on. However, forms of AI such as that are designed to give you summarised information, even highlighting certain words in bold to grab your attention. By presenting information in such a way, it takes away from the works of many researchers and writers who conducted that research first, only to be viewed as inferior to a few sentences that appear quicker.

But AI's prioritisation of the most efficient depiction of information does also carry the risk of inaccuracies - page numbers of books, quotations, references are commonly misplaced seeing as there are so many different versions or publications or presentations of the exact same book or article. As such, this is not a critique of AI in itself, as we can all understand how important it has become. For professionals, research from LSE has found that on average those who use AI save around 7.5 hours a week, almost equating to £14,000 worth of work a year in some jobs. In fact, 7/10 Oxford students reported that at some point during the process of doing an essay they use some form of AI. It is not unreasonable to conclude students also save a significant amount of time, seeing as for some humanities degrees there can be three essays a week, and for all subjects, convoluted readings that could be summarised and understood much quicker. However, there are definitely alternatives to ChatGPT.

Recently, there have been more trends circulating social media with prompts for AI used in a more jokey way, such as 'Explain this reading to me in terms of characters from Gossip Girl'. Whilst effective, and at times, entertaining, ChatGPT also is not the most environmentally friendly. On average, it uses enough energy per day to constitute the charging of 8 million phones (Business Energy UK), almost the population of London. As an alternative, AI platforms such as DeepSeek AI use up to 50% less energy. Considering its use, it is naturally stronger in logic-based problems and coding, effectively checking codes, whereas ChatGPT has been known to be better at creative writing and continuing prompts.

However, the heavy reliance of ChatGPT has also been directly tied to a lack of critical thinking, especially in the formative stages when children are more inclined to use it in order to avoid homework. As such, even though DeepSeek may not be as effective in creative writing, it could enhance long-term resilience and builds more of a vocabulary bank rather than stealing texts directly off ChatGPT, whilst also serving as more environmentally friendly.

ChatGPT Energy Consumption Visualized, Business Energy UK

AI boosts productivity by the equivalent of one workday per week, new report finds, LSE

Elizaveta Ivanova (Undergraduate, English Literature)

The AI India Summit: A Discussion

This magazine is especially relevant at a time where AI is still largely unknown to businesses and governments alike. The recent AI Summit in India, organised by the Indian government and Ministry of Technology, may not be one you tuned into, but it will have a significant impact on how AI is used in business and governance. It marks a crucial intergovernmental forum focused not just on discussing AI in theory, but on translating those discussions into practical outcomes. Driven by the principles of “People, Planet and Progress”, the summit seeks to shape a future where AI advances humanity and fosters shared growth. Eighty countries and twenty heads of state attended, signalling its global importance. With the theme “AI for All”, it framed AI as a global challenge that requires collective solutions.

A central theme of the summit was how AI could empower low-income countries to strengthen public services, increase agricultural productivity and expand access to healthcare and education. This reflects its broader moral philosophy. AI is a technology that could cause serious disruption, yet here it is presented as something that can be directed towards social benefit. By centring development rather than corporate profit, the summit shifts the association of AI away from being solely the domain of Silicon Valley or Chinese tech giants. It becomes something embedded within governance itself. Importantly, African and Asian countries were not passive observers but participants in shaping the conversation. That matters in a space traditionally dominated by the United States and China.

At the same time, the summit did not ignore the anxieties surrounding AI. Unlike previous waves of technological change, AI has allowed private corporations to exert deep influence over economies and societies. As it moves into government systems and everyday life, fears around surveillance and manipulation have intensified greatly. The court case between the United States and TikTok, and the attempted ban, reflects this wider anxiety about the reach of technology firms into national space. The summit's emphasis on accountability and cooperation between governments and companies recognises that AI governance cannot simply be left to market forces but has to be shaped deliberately.

Perhaps the most significant formal outcome was the adoption of the Delhi Declaration. It outlines shared commitments to the safe use of AI and to spreading its benefits more evenly. It is non-binding, so its direct impact remains uncertain. Yet declarations like this still matter, as they signal that countries view AI governance as an issue that crosses borders and encourages cooperation across the globe. They also begin to define what responsible use should look like. Even without enforcement mechanisms, this kind of norm-setting can shape future regulation.

Alongside these governance discussions was a clear display of India's own technological capacity. Indigenous corporations presented themselves as serious actors in AI development. Reliance Industries announced its readiness to invest 110 billion dollars in Indian infrastructure over the next seven years. India has also developed its own large language models trained on domestic datasets, including the Sarvam model positioned as comparable to systems like ChatGPT. This ensures that AI systems reflect Indian realities rather than simply importing Western or Chinese frameworks. It also challenges a landscape currently dominated by American and Chinese firms. Through this, India is presenting itself not just as a market, but as a producer.

It is here that the summit connects more explicitly to power politics. India, as an emerging leading nation, is seeking to establish itself as a long-term actor in the AI sector. In an increasingly multipolar world, technological capability is closely tied to geopolitical influence. By presenting itself as a champion of "AI for All", India carves out a distinct diplomatic role in relation to the Global South, framing itself as a leader of the developing world who has a genuine commitment to uplifting those out of poverty. Significantly, such aid is framed around cooperation around creating jobs, developing infrastructure and improving access to public services, positioning such leadership as liberating rather than encouraging dependency. This contrasts Chinese aid such as the Belt and Road Initiative, which has cemented Chinese dominance across the continent. Instead, India is encouraging countries to shape their own trajectories using technological tools.

Whether these ambitions can be fully realised remains uncertain. The Delhi Declaration carries no binding force. AI can just as easily deepen inequality as reduce it. India itself continues to face significant development challenges at home. Yet the political signalling of the summit is clear.

Through this summit, AI has become more than an innovative mechanism that can streamline corporate development. Instead, it has become a conscious tool of political strategy where India seeks to diversify influence away from the US and China and strengthen its standing within a multipolar order. The AI India Summit should therefore not be seen simply as a technological gathering. It represents a moment where digital transformation intersects with emerging power politics, shaping both the trajectory of the Global South and the wider balance of global influence.

Bibliographical reference: India AI Impact Summit 2026: A Technological Turning Point – NUS Institute of South Asian Studies (ISAS)

Maya Parry (Undergraduate, History)



HUMANITIES PATHWAYS

- ✦ Humanities to Finance
- ✦ Humanities to Strategy: The Oxford Micro Internship

Humanities to Finance

I am a second-year Geographer planning to go into finance. I've been fortunate to have mentors guide me through the process, and I want to pay that forward by sharing what I've learned. The key takeaway is: it is possible to move into a career completely different from your degree. You just need to be deliberate, creative and confident in how you present yourself.

1. Identify what area of finance interests you

When most people hear "finance," they imagine 100-hour weeks at firms like Goldman Sachs. In reality, the industry is far broader. Finance includes the buy side, such as asset management and private equity, and the sell side, including investment banking, sales and trading, and commercial banking. Each path requires different skills, work-life balance and day-to-day experiences.

Before committing to a path, take these steps: read introductory overviews on sites like Wall Street Oasis to understand the areas, Google or use Investopedia to clarify unfamiliar terms, and research work-life balance honestly. Understand where each segment fits in the wider financial ecosystem, who its clients are and whether the day-to-day appeals to you. Networking is key: search for companies on LinkedIn, filter for Oxford alumni and reach out to Associates or VPs, who are often more responsive than senior staff. Send concise, grateful emails asking for a short virtual coffee chat to learn more about their role and include a brief statement about why you are interested in their team specifically. Remember, even ruling out an area of finance you don't want to pursue is incredibly valuable!

2. You already have the skills for finance

Finance hiring is about marketing yourself and showing potential, passion, and drive. This is where your humanities degree can actually give you an edge. Be ready to answer the classic question: "Why [your subject] to finance?". You don't need to pretend you studied economics but you can use this as an opportunity to show how your degree makes you a unique candidate and how your skills translate to finance.

Being able to read a dozen academic articles and produce a 1,500-word essay in 48 hours demonstrates analytical and organisational ability. You have learned to synthesise information, construct logical arguments, evaluate competing perspectives, and work under pressure - or at least present yourself as someone who does. Analytical essays demonstrate structured problem-solving. tight Oxford deadlines show you can prioritise under pressure. Do not underestimate the power of your extra curriculums. Balancing studies with hobbies shows resilience and time management but each hobby will inevitably have specific skills you have honed over the years that are valuable to the job.

3. You still need the finance knowledge

Transferable skills alone aren't enough. Firms may value diverse degrees, but they expect candidates to have a baseline understanding of finance. Even if your behavioural interview goes amazingly, if you cannot answer what the latest trends in the markets are or come up blank when asked for the 3 valuation statements in IB, you will not proceed to the next round. While different areas of finance have different technical skills they expect - courses and youtube lectures are always a good place to start and fill the gaps by reading the FT and keeping up with recent deals/macro updates daily. You need to show you are proactive and have already sought out ways to learn more about this industry. This can feel overwhelming, but developing this knowledge early will enable you to excel at technical interviews and hit the ground running at the internship or job.

4. Make your degree a strength

Your humanities background can set you apart - if you present it strategically. It demonstrates that your interest in finance is deliberate and driven. Coming from a different path also makes you memorable: you're more likely to be personable, well-rounded, and interesting to talk to, which can give you an edge in interviews.

Most importantly, do not let the imposter syndrome get to you. Your degree does not close doors. Many people in high finance positions did humanities degrees, so following a non-traditional path does not mean it cannot be done. Entering finance with a humanities degree is possible with sufficient networking, research, and preparation.

If you have any questions or want any advice please feel free to reach out to me at: anusha.roy@regents.ox.ac.uk - I am always happy to share my network and speak about my experiences.

Anusha Roy (Undergraduate, Geography)



Humanities to Strategy: The Oxford Micro Internship

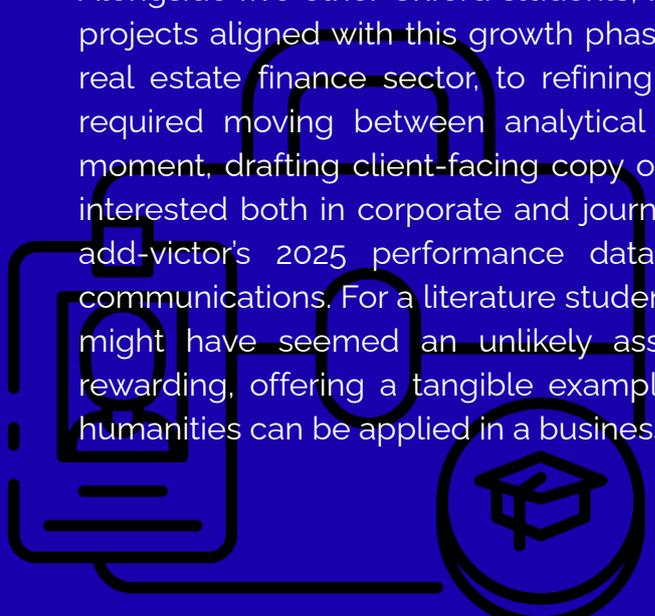
I am, in many respects, the classic humanities student: reading *Middlemarch* in the morning, and confronting existential questions of 'my career' by the afternoon. To study English at the University of Oxford is to enjoy the rare privilege of intellectual immersion; days spent in the Duke Humphreys, meticulous tutorials, and conversations that assume ideas matter. But the humanities also come with the acute awareness that ideas alone do not populate a CV.

The perceived tension between a non-vocational degree and the business sector is often overstated, yet it persists. To test this assumed divide of disciplines for myself, I applied to the Micro-Internship Programme offered by our university Careers Service. The application process of submitting a CV and a 300-word 'personal statement' was refreshingly proportionate. More notable, however, was the accessibility of the opportunities themselves: substantive opportunities within established organisations, and a realistic chance of securing a place.

Last December, I completed a week's placement at add-victor, a consultancy based in W1 just off Manchester Square. There is admittedly a certain pleasure in commuting into central London in business casual: boots striking the pavement in synchrony with the city's finance bros. Yet beyond the mild pageantry of professional attire, the experience proved invaluable.

Founded in 2012, add-victor is a tech-enabled recruitment and careers company connecting high-achieving athletes and military veterans with corporate opportunities. Its premise is both simple and quietly revisionary: that high-pressure performance environments cultivate precisely the skills that corporate employers seek. By rendering these transferable assets legible to the market, and by offering free career services in partnership with organisations such as BUCS, the firm positions itself as intermediary and advocate in equal measure. At a moment when businesses confront persistent uncertainty and intensifying competition for early-career talent, the problem is not the scarcity of high-performance individuals; it is the inefficiency with which they are matched to opportunity.

Alongside five other Oxford students, I worked on a portfolio of live consultancy and marketing projects aligned with this growth phase. Our work ranged from competitor mapping within the real estate finance sector, to refining brand positioning, messaging, and visual identity. This required moving between analytical and creative registers: interrogating market data one moment, drafting client-facing copy or stress-testing naming strategies the next. As someone interested both in corporate and journalistic careers, I opted to work on a project synthesising add-victor's 2025 performance data into a long-form article for their blog and client communications. For a literature student more accustomed to analysing metre than metrics, this might have seemed an unlikely assignment. Yet, the task proved highly instructive and rewarding, offering a tangible example of how analytical and communication skills from the humanities can be applied in a business context.



Later in the week, I contributed to a consultancy-focused project supporting the firm's expansion into the real estate finance sector. Presenting my proposals directly to the CEO and Founder required a measured, commercially aware approach: concise, solution-focused, and attentive to practical implementation. The experience was a valuable lesson in translating research and analysis into actionable business insight.

What stood out most during my time at add-victor was not only the exposure to corporate strategy, but the collaborative and supportive environment. The team was exceptionally welcoming and genuinely invested in ensuring that the week was as valuable as possible. Tasks were flexible; if a project did not align with our interests or strengths, we were able to pivot. Even after the formal week concluded, the engagement did not end. The team maintained connections via LinkedIn and demonstrated a sincere interest in supporting its interns' future entry into the business world. I gained insight not only from the tasks themselves, but from observing and learning from a team committed to both excellence and mentorship.

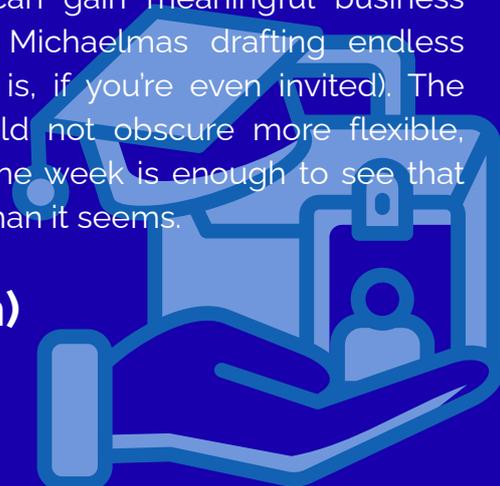
Oxford's Micro-Internship Programme occupies a valuable middle ground within the wider landscape of corporate experience. Conversations often centre on firms like Deloitte and McKinsey & Company, creating the perception that professional credibility requires highly competitive, long-term placements. A one-week internship may seem modest, but its brevity is precisely its strength: concentrated, hands-on experience without the pressure to commit, offering space to explore roles and test interests.

For humanities students, this flexibility is particularly valuable. We are frequently reminded that our degrees cultivate 'transferable skills', yet these do not need to be defended in the boardroom - only translated into practical contexts. The Careers Service facilitates this through over 300 short-term placements, lasting two to five days, offered in December, March, and June across a range of sectors.

So, how do you apply? The 300-word statement is less about self-mythologising and more an argument for fit: why this organisation, and why you? Precision will serve you better than hyperbole. My own application took little more than an hour. If the 'L' word must be appeased, it is worth noting that even a week is the same as a month's experience (but only on your LinkedIn 'Experience' profile).

Oxford offers intellectual immersion, but the Micro-Internship Programme ensures that such immersion does not preclude professional exploration. You can gain meaningful business experience without sacrificing your entire vac, or spending Michaelmas drafting endless applications and Hilary attending in-person assessments (that is, if you're even invited). The clamour around hyper-competitive corporate internships should not obscure more flexible, accessible routes into professional exposure. Sometimes, just one week is enough to see that the gap between Duke Humfrey's and the boardroom is smaller than it seems.

Agatha Crowther (Undergraduate, English)



INTERNSHIP ADVICE AND GLOBAL WORK

✦ *An Interview with Standard Chartered's Sophie Sedgebeer*

✦ *The OxWIB Internship Applications Cheat Sheet*

✦ *Britain Back in Erasmus+: What's in It for Us?*

An Interview with Standard Chartered's



Sophie Sedgebeer

Sophie Sedgebeer was an intern at Standard Chartered Bank in 2025, and since has been working there full-time. This interview will explore what it means to be an intern and how the process works

What degree did you study and how do you feel that helped with applications?

I studied economics at UCL. It helped me a lot because I'm in macro sales now. One of the modules I studied my second year was like macro economics, so that shows you about foreign exchange and interest rates, but not to the degree like I know now. But I know as well there's lots of other interns and people who are here who did not do an economics degree so I don't think that should be the message that you need to do an economics degree. I think it's more what you show that you've learned from your degree and if it's applicable to learning and a faster-paced environment.

What kind of skills do you think you picked up in economics that kind of helped towards your internship?

Well, in markets, and I guess in some of the other finance roles as well, obviously the math side's quite important and being able to be quick with the way of thinking. So that's why degrees such as physics or chemistry or maths would be just as applicable as economics. But within my degree, obviously having a wide range perspective, like the news, and applying that to different situations. I think one of the skills while we are part of internships like this, is how you act in a team. I did a lot of sports at university and I think that's probably almost helped me as much as my degree itself and knowing how to work in a team and having the confidence to be able to stand up and speak.

And could you talk a little bit about how a day in your life as an intern worked?

Yeah, so I had a bit of a different internship experience where I started off in coverage and then I moved to markets. So I actually applied to the coverage internship and I enjoyed coverage as a credit analyst. It's very different, markets to coverage, but I was mainly just coming in, seeing what emails I had overnight due to different time zones. And then from when I was a credit analyst, it was mainly about onboarding funds, looking at their financial statements and seeing whether or not the bank should be lending to them and onboarding to them. And then when I was in markets, I was on FX Options trading and now I'm in sales, so I know both sides of sales and trading.

And with the internship for markets, you'd just be shadowing a lot and the difference is with markets and coverage is with coverage, you can actually help them with the projects, whereas with markets, that's more trying to understand it. We had a trading game as well, which we were playing, where we try and put on different positions and our trade ideas and then tried to make some money from that. We also had teaching sessions for the different market products so we had one on FX, one on rates, one REPO, and that was almost like you're in school. We were just sitting down and they were like going through it and trying to explain to us. And then in your internship, you do a final presentation, which is based on what you've been working on on your desk or what you find interesting and then HR come and watch that as well and that brings everything together that you've been working on and in markets as well, the interns will do like have a fake trading games.

How long were you an intern for?

I was an intern this summer for 10 weeks. I was going to do a master's, but then I decided not to go ahead with my master's and they offered me to start immediately.

And how did you kind of find the culture and work ethic to be at Standard Chartered?

I think everyone here is really hard working. If you're going to go anywhere and finance, you need to have that work ethic. But everyone is super supportive and willing to help you learn. And that was a big thing I found in my internship. Especially markets with some of the trade stuff, it's going to be quite complicated to get your head around it, but everyone will make time for you and sit down with you and really explain it to the point that you can grasp it and people who really care about you understanding things. It is motivating as well to be surrounded by so many people who really know the stuff. And also, it's nice to be in that environment and it brings you along as well.

And regarding applications, how long did you know that you wanted to work in finance? And at what point of that did you kind of get to decide what sector you might want to work in more?

None of my family were in finance, so I did an economics degree because I liked maths, but I didn't want to just do proofs all the time. So that was my only reason behind choosing economics. I only really applied because everyone else in my course was. So in my first year of uni, I applied really late, so I applied for spring weeks and I got one with Deloitte and one with an American Express.

I did those and then I did an internship with HSBC Asset Management in my second year for 10 weeks, so similar to what I'm doing now. And I really liked that. I knew I wanted to be in finance, but I wanted something a bit more fast paced, as in the sales side rather than the buyer side so that's why I decided to come over to Standard Chartered and I got this internship. But I applied very late, in January of my first year of spring weeks, but the two internships I got were just from applying to the internship up front.

I know some of my friends at uni did like a spring with with Morgan Stanley, then they went to the internship and then they like got the full-time job, which is obviously great if you can do that, but I don't think it's necessarily like the be all and end all, and you can apply at any point. I think there's like this big narrative about like, if you don't get a spring week, then you're never going to get a job, which is just like quite crazy, and you should not think like that at all.

Do you think, though, that the internships you did in the prior years, do they help towards your success in your third year internship?

Yeah, definitely. The more that I spend doing stuff here, the more beneficial it is. And that's why, like I said, my economic degree was obviously really helpful because I knew a lot of baseline understanding of things, but nothing's going to be more helpful than actually being here and working on projects. And, you know, I think the spring internships gave me more commercial awareness. I understood more about different industries. At HSBC, I was learning more skills such as Excel that you may not learn naturally.

What do you think you did well as an intern to get a full-time job offer?

Well, the desk that I've got a job on now, so I'm in investor sales, which is like macro sales for hedge fund and asset managers. I didn't intern on it. What I was keen on as an intern is that you need to make sure that you get to know all different areas. And just because you're placed on a desk doesn't necessarily mean that that's like the desk that you'll end up on, because it might be that you're better suited for a different role, or it might not just be hiring. So it's important to get to know loads of people from networking and speaking to different people as well, because then you learn more about the bank. I also really took advantage of the juniors when I was here. Although it is really important to get to know the seniors, within the different teams, the juniors are going to be the most recent ones who have gone through the process and know it.

Also just within internships as well. You're there for a limited time and you obviously want to make sure that you're showing the best of yourself and getting involved in everything, and always asking, can I do more, not just taking what you're given as the ultimate 'what you should do' and just being a bit more proactive with it. But I think to get to the internship, everyone's always going to be great around you and of a really high standard as well.

Did you find that the juniors were happy to help as well when you talked to them?

Yeah. Even now, I would not be able to do what I do without the juniors. They are ultimately training you. And they are also normally better at explaining things because they understand it as well, from a very junior level. When you speak to senior people as well, they're so knowledgeable in what they do and it's fascinating how much they know about their markets or their products, but having someone that had to learn from scratch really recently is so useful.

Even if people are busy, they will always make time, which is really great. And that's what I liked about Standard Chartered.

And how come you picked Standard Chartered?

I had offers at other banks, but I really like the culture here. I think everyone's really supportive and friendly, and also, I think the markets that Standard Chartered covers are fascinating, such as emerging markets through the Middle East and Africa. It is obviously a really big bank but I'm getting a lot of exposure really as well and once I passed my exams, I was executing and helping out clients straight away and I think that's great that they pushed me to do that earlier on.

And also, if you had an interview in your application process, can you maybe talk a little bit about that or how it went?

I know coverage and markets are slightly different and I got an interview with coverage. First of all, there was a group interview with a case project. The main thing with that is they're seeing how you interact with people. Obviously the content of what you're presenting is important, but a big part of it was seeing if you can work in a team and alongside people, and if you are leading in a way that's encouraging to others. There was also an individual one. So it could be about competency based or about your motivations, or coverage or markets, or why the bank.

I think it is clear to see who has prepared and who hasn't. Before I went into interviews, I would have a list of things I wanted to say. It is also important to prepare for the bank you are interviewing for and not being generic. With markets, not so much in coverage, they like to test how you think on the spot, so also brushing up on mental maths. Another one was 'what's going on in the news right now?' It's about going that step further and reaching out and speaking to someone in particular, or attending an event.

If there was one piece of advice you could offer out to students who are currently applying, what would it be?

The more interviews you do, the more you learn. When I always think of how I was interviewing for spring weeks, or at the start of my second year, it's so different from now. So I just think it's practice and it is a really competitive process going into things like finances regardless of what field you're going into. So I think just using each interview as feedback. And if you don't get through to the next round it is always important to ask why, as it might be something very small that can be worked on. You're not really going to know for sure what area that you necessarily want to go into, so be open to exploring different areas of finance. At Standard Chartered, they'll make sure that you're put in the area in the bank that they think best suits you. It's not necessarily that you're stuck in one area. One more thing. The market maker podcast by AmplifyMe saved me many times, as well as FT News Briefing.

The OxWIB Internship Applications Cheat Sheet



Insights for exploring Consulting, Law and Finance.

Applications season at Oxford often arrives quietly, and then all at once.

If you are considering consulting, law or finance, it can feel like there is a hidden playbook everyone else has already read. The reassuring truth is: there isn't. What makes the process manageable is clarity about yourself, your motivations and how to communicate them.

This guide brings together the patterns that appear again and again in interviews, shared in the spirit of making the process feel more transparent and accessible.

Where OxWIB Students Commonly Apply:

Many Oxford students explore opportunities across consulting, commercial law and financial institutions. Below is a snapshot of firms that frequently recruit from the university:

CONSULTING	LAW	FINANCE
McKinsey & Company	Clifford Chance	Goldman Sachs
BCG	Linklaters	J.P. Morgan
Bain & Company	Freshfields	Morgan Stanley
Kearney	Allen & Overy Shearman	Lazard
Roland Berger	Slaughter and May	Rothschild & Co
Simon Kucher	Herbert Smith Freehills	Bank of America
Oliver Wyman	Latham & Watkins	BlackRock
EY-Parthenon	Hogan Lovells	Citi
Accenture Strategy	White & Case	Barclays

While each industry has its own technical focus — case interviews in consulting, commercial reasoning in law, financial markets in banking — the personal conversations are often more similar than expected.

The Three Most Important Questions Worth Practicing

1. Who are you?

This is less about achievements and more about narrative. What experiences shaped your interests? What themes connect your decisions so far? A clear, thoughtful introduction (e.g. chronologically starting from your high school graduation) sets a calm tone for the entire interview.

2. Why this industry or role?

There is no single “correct” motivation. What matters is authenticity. Perhaps you enjoy structured problem-solving, commercial reasoning, analytical depth, or working closely with clients. Being able to articulate that clearly makes conversation more engaging and natural.

3. Why this firm?

Every firm has its own culture, training approach, and areas of strength. Referencing specific conversations, events you attended or unique aspects of the firm that resonate with you makes your answer personal rather than formulaic.

Practicing these aloud, even just once or twice, can make a significant difference in clarity and confidence.

Behavioral Questions You May Encounter

In consulting, law competency interviews and finance fit rounds, you may hear variations of:

- Tell me about yourself.
- Tell me something not on your CV.
- Describe a major self-set goal you achieved.
- Tell me about a time you led a team through a difficult challenge.
- Give an example of when you are influenced or persuaded by others.
- Tell me about a setback and what you learned.
- Describe a time you worked under pressure.
- What is a weakness you are working on?
- When did you last step outside your comfort zone?
- Describe yourself in three words (with examples).
- What does success mean to you?
- Why would you be a strong addition to this team?

These questions are less about perfection and more about reflection. Interviewers are interested in how you think, how you grow, and how you work with others. Structured storytelling (for example, using the STAR structure) can help you communicate clearly without sounding rehearsed.

Pro Tip: The “Mini-Me” Bias - A Small Psychological Insight That Can Change an Interview

A powerful insight from social psychology is the similarity of attraction effect, often called the “mini-me bias”: people naturally feel more positively toward those who resemble them in background, interests or experiences. In interviews, this operates subtly but meaningfully. When your interviewer introduces themselves, listen carefully for genuine points of overlap, a similar academic path, career transition, or extracurricular interest, and thoughtfully engage with it (e.g., asking how they navigated a move from studying a STEM subject into consulting). Small moments of shared experience can make a professional conversation feel more natural, memorable, and human.



**Kristina Schechner (Postgraduate,
Economics)**

Britain Back in Erasmus+: What's in It for Us?



On the 17th of December 2025, it was announced that the UK would re-join the Erasmus+ scheme six years after its exit due to the Brexit deal, but what opportunities does this scheme actually bring to us, and how can we as students fully leverage it?

Erasmus+ is open to students, trainees and staff working in education, and it is an EU programme that provides grant funding for international placements aiming to help people improve their education, support diversity, and build cross-border partnerships. The scheme permits students to spend a year studying at European universities as part of their UK degree courses, without paying extra fees and permits European students to do the same here. Since Britain left the program in 2020, the program has immensely expanded, doubling its budget, and the government argues that more than 100,000 people in the UK could certainly benefit. In fact, some argue the program was key in helping to boost the UK economy, even after taking into account its membership costs (which have notably since quadrupled).

During the six years of the UK's absence from the program, the Turing Scheme was launched as an alternative to Erasmus, yet with more of a global focus rather than a distinctly European one. However, it seems that re-joining the Erasmus+ program has been a more popular alternative. In an interview with the BBC, Nell Eustace highlights her and seemingly other students' preference for the Erasmus over the Turing program, noting the Turing scheme as 'much less reliable'. "The government did not give my university enough money to cover all students this academic year, so only students from underrepresented backgrounds received funding."

A student from Devon had similar comments about the Turing scheme, telling the BBC that she had to cancel her plans to study in Italy because the Turing funding was so limited.

Nell Eustace also raises the issue of how many students feel that perhaps the exit from the scheme in 2020 was unfair as current students were in many cases too young to have a say in the Brexit referendum:

"I am relieved that the Erasmus scheme will be available to future students...but it does highlight how Brexit has affected those who weren't even old enough to have a say at the time it was voted for"

It is important to consider that for many current graduates, the return of Erasmus+ has arguably come too late. The many students who began their degrees from 2020 to 2025 had to navigate the post-Brexit landscape with fewer guaranteed exchange opportunities and certain financial complications. Perhaps some may argue then, that the re-joining of Erasmus+ was not merely an opportunity regained, but one restored after a period of disruption.

Accompanying Britain's journey back into Erasmus+, has been an intensification of political debate surrounding relations with the EU. The government under Keir Starmer has framed joining the program as part of a wider political strategy to reset relations with the European Union post-Brexit, and this has led to much political conversation regarding the consequences and debates surrounding Brexit. Minister Nick Thomas-Symonds spoke to the BBC on the topic, and claimed that the Starmer government's "new partnership with the EU is working" but Secretary Priti Patel said the deal was a "betrayal" of Brexit and that it reflects how Labour wants to "drag Britain back under the control of Brussels" and undermine the popular vote. Nevertheless, a poll for YouGov found that a clear majority of Britons actually supported re-joining the Erasmus scheme – around 65% of those asked said that they supported rejoining the Erasmus scheme, compared to 12% who opposed.

For us students, it seems the advantages resulting from this decision are endless, and ultimately help to widen the career prospects of those who participate. A 2025 UUKI report found that students from less advantaged backgrounds who had studied abroad had a higher five-year average professional-level employment rate (70.2%) than those who didn't (68.3%). The long-term professional benefits are certainly imperative to consider when discussing the significance of the scheme. The easier access to study abroad means students can more readily develop intellectual independence and deepen academic understanding with alternative teaching styles. In an increasingly competitive and global job market, can students really afford not to take advantage of such opportunities?

It seems clear that the decision has had an overwhelmingly positive response on the whole. Baroness Jacqui Smith, discussed how, "Erasmus+ will open doors for thousands of students and staff right across the country in universities, schools, colleges and adult education... it breaks down barriers to opportunity, giving learners the chance to build skills, confidence and international experience that employers value". The Russell Group, which represents 24 UK universities, says Erasmus will open up "fantastic opportunities" for students, but warns "there is a lot of work to be done to make sure the sector is ready".

Ultimately, it seems, the UK's return to Erasmus+ is about far more than an additional academic experience, but it is about widening opportunities for the youth and building international relations between Britain and the rest of Europe. For a generation whose education has been heavily shaped by Brexit, despite them being too young to influence it, the scheme's return reflects both practical benefit and symbolic change for the younger generations in British politics.

By Lyla Brandon-Bravo (Undergraduate, History)





Oxford life and How to...



✻ Oxford: Revival and Renewal/ New but Better?

✻ How to: Survive an OxWIB Speaker Event?

✻ How to: Use LinkedIn?



Oxford: Revival and Renewal/ New but Better?



Jazz Tuesdays at The Bear Inn

A hidden gem has finally gotten the recognition it deserves. The Bear Inn's Jazz Tuesdays are perfect for a chill, atmospheric night. The low ceilings, creaky floorboards and wooden are all part of the charm of Oxford's oldest pub. Great for a cozy drink and feel-good atmosphere. 'Just seeing what the hype is about' quickly turns into being a committed fan. If you want to escape your essay deadline stress, listen to the live jazz from 8-10pm.

Plush > Bridge?

The hottest topic of debate this term is....Plush versus TNB? Either you're tired of Bridge's repeat playlist or you're a superfan. Either you feel claustrophobic or carefree in Plush – it is chaotic, cave-like and obviously sweaty, yet it's suffocatingly popular. Our market research (as semi-clubbers ourselves) tells us Plush is currently in the lead, but there is still some fond nostalgia for Bridge. Something about it draws people back for Park End on Wednesdays and has the crowd considering a return for a second night in a row.

Knead Bakery

Yes, it may be on the pricier side. Yes, you'd pay it anyway. The pastries are delicious and the café is ideal for a wholesome lunch. We perhaps would not especially recommend as a study café as you can't sit and people-watch through a window onto the High Street. But for coffee, cakes and a catch-up it's perfect.

Jojo's Cocktail Bar



In the heart of Cowley, Jojo's Cocktail Bar has a classy but vibrant atmosphere. During happy hour, you can get a free slice of pizza when buying a Cocktail. We know you'd get the cocktail either way... So, why not enjoy a slice of pizza with it? Whether you want a nice dinner out or a classy pres for Bully/ O2, Jojo's Cocktail Bar has everything you need!

Reggaeton/The Oxford Retreat

Want to escape from the classic white girl club music for a night? Reggaeton is the perfect place for you! The Oxford retreat, located just over the bridge towards Bridge nightclub, hosts reggaeton night on Fridays. With the best kind of music, and lots of Bad Bunny, this event is not one to miss! The mix between the pub and club vibes creates a unique atmosphere, which will be sure to get you moving. Reggaeton is a night for all; with freshers, second and third years (and the occasional local), be sure to get there early because the queue reflects its popularity! If you arrive any later than 11 you will have to wait in an hour queue but not to worry because it is worth the wait!

By Lucy Vrettos (Undergraduate, Biomed) and Yolanda Gradillas (Undergraduate, PPE)

How to: Survive an OxWIB Speaker Event?



What NOT to do:

The day's been long: quoted an AI-generated scholar in your tute, card declined in Missing Bean, no Vois until Exam Schools stop. You promised Josephine / Maddie / misc. scary director that you'd DEFINITELY be at the sponsorship / panel / launch event later. Fade. And it's all the way at Worcester (classic Josephine). Double fade.

But, then, you remember: Maddie said that if you missed another event, she wouldn't promote you to Director next term. Nightmare. You walk to Worcester. You get to plodge, late. Which room was it again? You check Slack. No signal. You ask the porters. Too many signals. You try to envisage the event: does it have more of a committee yoga vibe, or HT26 handover vibe? You decide on yoga. (It's been a long day.) You go there. Fool! Obviously it was more similar to the committee handover!

The event is in progress: it's a sponsorship event by Blackstone. Mining? Yawn. And SO unethical. You make a mental note to post this on Oxfess.

You sit there in silence for 30 minutes playing 2048. New High Score! It's almost 8.30pm - time to queue for half price Itsu. You take three personalised KeepCups and leave early.

What to do:

There's a sponsorship event later. YOUR team's event. You brace for intense stress, but, phew, Holly Culhane is your director. You text your three #girlboss besties: 'Blackstone later? Plodge @ 7pm?' Immediate response: 'Yes defo - pub after?' Electric.

You research Blackstone: founded 1985 (shoutout Scharzmann Centre), \$1tr.+ assets under management, internship application opens in a week(!!!!). You draft four questions (two formal, two informal) and practice them in front of the mirror in the JCR bathroom. You briefly consider a future as a news anchor. You feel \$1tr.+.

You arrive at Plodge, then sit in the front row. The presenters are having obvious issues setting up the tech - you volunteer your Eduroam password, and instantly save the day. Hero. You nod through the full presentation. Any questions? You raise your hand immediately.

'Blackstone's institutional ownership of rental housing can reduce affordability and oppose tenant-friendly policies. How does Blackstone evaluate ethical risks when assessing potential investments?' Silence. Everyone stares at you. Why did you even say that? Whatever, you can still apply to MetroBank / Tesco Bank / Virgin Money. Then:

'Great question!' You relax. Nod. Pray that they don't turn the question back on you. (They don't). No-one else's question is nearly as good as yours. #Smug.

After the Q&A, your friends want to leave for Turf Tavern. The college gossip magazine has just dropped. You're in it?! (It's definitely about the Freshers' Bop.)

You say you'll catch them up.

You approach the speaker, to thank her for the talk. You ask her one of your 'informal' questions. 'Another great question!' She asks your name. Your college. Same college! Same tutor?! Isn't he / she so inspirational / strict / kind? Soooooo true. NO WAY - she's actually your college great-great-great-great-great grandmother.

You thank her for her time - it's been SO insightful. You mention that you're keen to apply to the summer internship, and she recommends that you reach out to her for any help on your application. Mission accomplished. You play it cool(ish), and thank her again.

You go to Turf, and request the presenter on LinkedIn under the table.

You were voted 'Most Likely to Succeed' in the college magazine. Obviously.



By Cordelia Lamming (Undergraduate,
Classics)

How to: Use LinkedIn?

LinkedIn is the largest social network for working professionals. Two new users join LinkedIn every second! This makes it an ideal platform to use to promote yourself or explore high-quality career opportunities.

The platform is like a virtual CV where you can showcase your education, skills, work experience and achievements in a structured CV-style format. It's one of the best platforms to reach professionals, to connect, share and grow a community. As well as being used to find job opportunities, you can showcase your skills and join meaningful discussions.

Your LinkedIn profile promises an unparalleled opportunity to:

- Build your network with like-minded people
- Expand your chances of discovering interesting career opportunities
- Connect with your alumni from college/ university
- Gather 'social proof' of your capabilities in the form of recommendations from colleagues or previous employers
- Use company information to prepare for job interviews
- Search for the latest vacancies on the platform
- Get found by employers and recruiters



Here are some tips on how to get started:

1. You need to add a professional photo where you are smiling, dressed appropriately and looking directly at the camera.
2. Write a catchy, industry-specific headline using keywords so it makes it easier for others to find you
3. In the summary box, use bullet points to highlight your greatest accomplishments, volunteer work and awards you have received and mention some of your interests. Include your email at the very end.
4. Add your work experience. Make sure to identify key accomplishments and achievements. Strategically use keywords and quantify your accomplishments as best you can by using percentages and numbers.
5. Your education section tells a lot about you. It's a perfect way to connect with your old classmates and even alumni. Use the description section to add awards, achievements and committees (don't forget to add OxWIB!).
6. Complete the volunteer section, where you can highlight your passions
7. Customise your background photo to add originality
8. Edit your URL if you would like to personalise it
9. Stay active on the site by making new posts, engaging with new connections and followers, and adding new information about your current job or job-seeking status, new skills you've obtained, or projects you've completed.

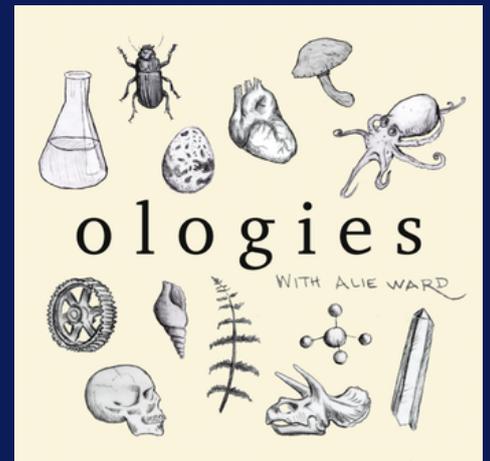
SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE: PODCASTS



‘Swamp Notes is the weekly US politics podcast from The Financial Times. Every Friday, host Marc Filippino talks to reporters in Washington as well as the FT's veteran US political commentators and a cast of expert guests to explain what the latest moves in the capital mean for the economy, for business and for people in America and beyond.’
(The Financial Times)



‘Ologies with Alie Ward, also known as Ologies, is a weekly science podcast hosted by Alie Ward. Each episode, Ward interviews an expert from a distinct scientific field (somnology, bryology, philematology, etc.)’ (Apple Podcasts)



‘What's CODE SWITCH? It's the fearless conversations about race that you've been waiting for. Hosted by journalists of color, our podcast tackles the subject of race with empathy and humor. We explore how race affects every part of society — from politics and pop culture to history, food and everything in between.’
(NPR Podcasts)





SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE: SONGS



Nice to Each
Other - Olivia
Dean



Man's Best Friend -
Sabrina Carpenter



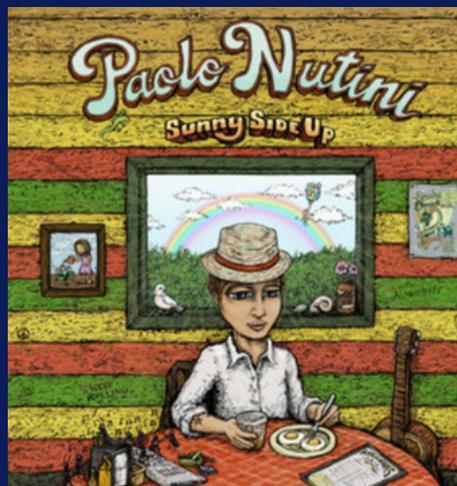
Sweet Disposition
- The Temper Trap



Earrings - Malcolm
Todd



I Think We're Alone
Now - Tiffany



Sunny Side Up -
Paolo Nutini



SOME OF OUR FAVOURITE: BOOKS

Lea Ypi

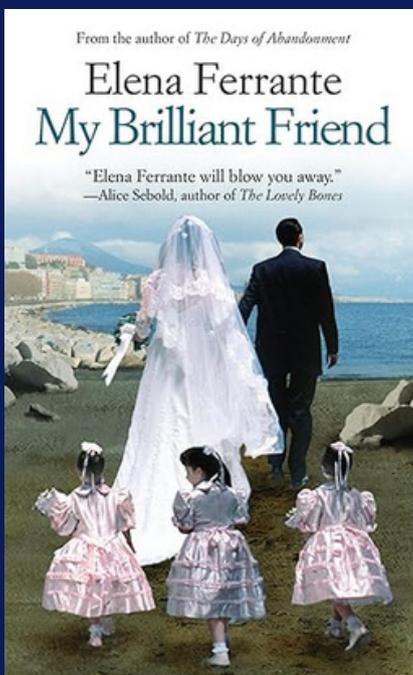
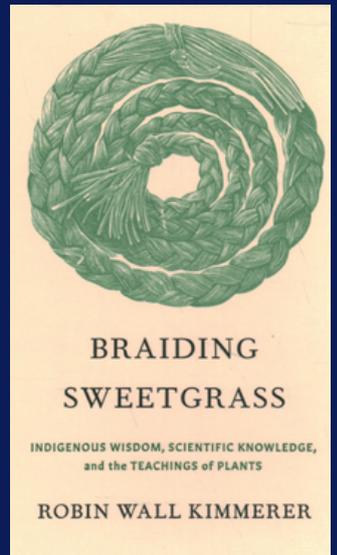


‘Free is an engrossing memoir of coming of age amid political upheaval. With acute insight and wit, Lea Ypi traces the limits of progress and the burden of the past, illuminating the spaces between ideals and reality, and the hopes and fears of people pulled up by the sweep of history.’

(Penguin Books)

‘Drawing on her life as an indigenous scientist, a mother, and a woman, Kimmerer shows how other living beings—asters and goldenrod, strawberries and squash, salamanders, algae, and sweetgrass—offer us gifts and lessons, even if we’ve forgotten how to hear their voices. In a rich braid of reflections that range from the creation of Turtle Island to the forces that threaten its flourishing today, she circles toward a central argument: that the awakening of a wider ecological consciousness requires the acknowledgment and celebration of our reciprocal relationship with the rest of the living world.’

(Penguin Books)



My Brilliant Friend is the first book of Elena Ferrante’s series of four Neapolitan Novels, which tell of 60 years of tumultuous and competitive friendship between Lila and Elena. The novel opens with Lila’s disappearance and moves backwards in time to the girls’ early childhood. Set in a suburb of Naples, they navigate the violence that surrounds them, their difficult family and neighbourhood dynamics, and their desire to make a better life for themselves through education.



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