



GRANDTOURIST



ALMA COLLEGE

CREATIVE WRITING

A summer residency - St Hugh's College, University of Oxford

19th-28th August, 2025



Oxford, Radcliffe Camera and All Soul's College.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY

A brief history of Oxford - There is evidence of teaching and learning in Oxford from the late 11th century. The university started life as a small cluster of religious communities, meeting together to discuss theological texts and philosophical works. By the 13th century colleges like Balliol, Merton and University were established. Christ Church and Jesus College came next. Then came Pembroke and Wadham. The women's colleges opened much later in the 1870s & 1880s including Lady Margaret Hall, Somerville and St Hugh's.

Today Oxford University is a collection of 35 colleges that make up 'the university'. It is one of the most famous and respected academic institutions in the world. Each of the colleges that makes up the University of Oxford is unique and individual. Our 'residency' will be based at St Hugh's College, where we will stay in student accommodation and live as if we were students at the university. St Hugh's is famous for its beautiful gardens and friendly atmosphere. Every college offers accommodation, teaching and library facilities to the undergraduate population. The colleges are quite small and typically house a maximum of 300-500 under-graduate students. This means each year a college accepts only about 130 new students. The total undergraduate student population in Oxford at any one time is about 10,000 students.

Oxford has educated many of our leaders, business owners and university professors. Oscar Wilde, JRR Tolkien, CS Lewis, Iris Murdoch, Margaret Thatcher, Bill Clinton, Indira Gandhi, Stephen Hawking, Tim Berners Lee and Rowan Atkinson were all students at Oxford.

[A Ten day \(9 night\) Residency at St Hugh's College, Oxford](#)

[19th-28th August, 2025 December](#)

Key points:

- A unique opportunity for Alma students to study at Oxford University, staying at St Hugh's College, during the summer vacation.
- A 10-day (9 night) program of lectures, teaching, seminars & discussion
- Accommodation in student rooms at St Hugh's.
- Breakfast included daily in St Hugh's Dining Hall
- Lunch or dinner included daily at the college.
- Special visits and walking tours of Oxford including (for example) The Sheldonian Theatre, Bodleian Library, University Museum & Ashmolean.
- The Residency teaching program will be led by Alma Program Director - Ms Sophronia Scott (Graduate of Harvard).
- The geography, history and context of Oxford including tours and visits will be led by Janet Simmonds (MA Oxon) a graduate of Oxford University and a member of St Hugh's College.



St Hugh's College, University of Oxford

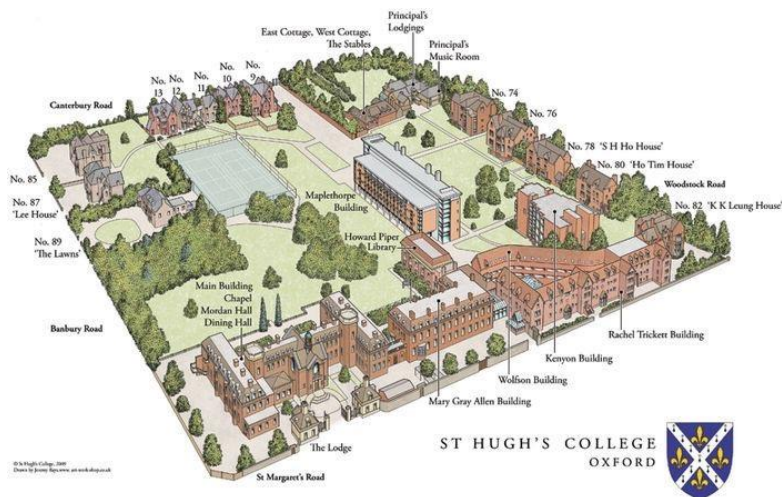


Christ Church Library, University of Oxford

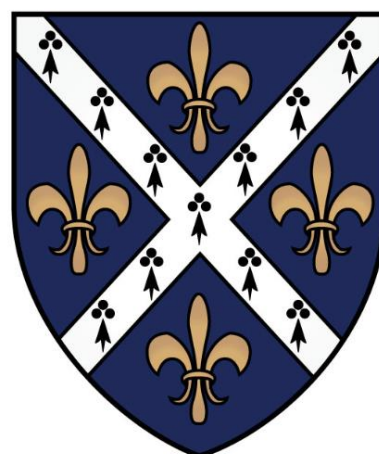


Exclusive features:

- Staying (as a student) in an Oxford College. A truly unique experience.
- Expert tour leader – Janet Simmonds, Oxford University Graduate (St Hugh's 1980-1983) with Master's Degrees in Geography (Oxford, 1983) and History of Art (Manchester, 1999) will lead the group, introduce the trip and offer perspective on life as a student at Oxford, JCR affairs and the joys of being an Oxford alumna.
- Special behind-the-scenes visits/meetings for the Alma group.
- Guest Speakers from the University of Oxford will entertain and inform us.



St Hugh's Campus – map



St Hugh's College – crest



Costs:

- The cost of the Residency is in the region of US \$ 5995 per person.
- The precise cost of the Residency will be confirmed soon.
- The residency is expected to be a total of 15-20 students.
- There will be 2 or 3 Alma staff present including the Course Director.
- Accommodation is in single student rooms with private shower/wc.
- Air fare not included - Participants must purchase their own airline tickets

In the USA: To register your interest – please contact: Sophronia Scott – MFA Program Director at Alma College, and visit the Alma web site: www.alma.edu

- e-mail: scotts@alma.edu
- Call: 1-989-463-7394
- www.alma.edu/academics/programs/mfa-in-creative-writing/

In Europe: If it is easier for you to communicate with someone in Europe, then contact Janet Simmonds, Oxford University graduate and creator of the ‘Oxford Residency’ for Alma College.

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- Prepared for Alma College, Michigan, USA
- Oxford University Alumni
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