Geography Admissions Feedback 2019-20

Summary

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<table>
<thead>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applications</td>
<td>447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shortlisted</td>
<td>278</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offers 2020 entry</td>
<td>99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Offers 2021 entry</td>
<td>5</td>
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<td>(including 16 open offers)</td>
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Mansfield made ten offers for 2019 entry, including two open offers.

Shortlisting

Candidates were shortlisted using their UCAS applications and their contextualised GCSE score (where available). 278 applicants were shortlisted, which was approximately 3.4 candidates per place.

UCAS Application

Tutors assessed candidates on their examination performance to date, examination predictions, personal statement, reference, and relevant contextual information.

Contextualised GCSE score

All candidates who had sat GCSEs were also given a contextualised GCSE score. The contextualised GCSE score provides information on how well an applicant performed at GCSE compared to other applicants to Oxford, given the performance of the school at which they sat their GCSEs.

Applicants were also required to sit the new Geography Admissions Test (GAT) as part of a pilot. Scores from the GAT were not used during the decision-making process.

The UCAS application and contextualised GCSE score (where available) were used to create an initial shortlist, which was then discussed by Geography tutors from across the colleges. A final list was agreed and applicants were then notified about whether they had been shortlisted.

A number of candidates were reallocated to a different college at this point, to ensure that the ratio of shortlisted applicants per place was approximately the same at each college.

Interview

All shortlisted candidates were asked to come to Oxford to attend an interview. Applicants resident outside the EEA/Switzerland were also offered the option of a remote interview. At Mansfield, each candidate had two interviews: one on Physical Geography and one on Human Geography.

In the interviews tutors looked for: potential for independent thinking; ability to follow an argument; comprehension; problem-solving; spirit of enquiry; evidence of ability to respond in a thoughtful way to unpredictable questions and ideas; evidence that the candidate's interest goes beyond their current academic training; ability to able to deploy knowledge in ways that show initiative and enthusiasm.
Offers

Offers were made to candidates who demonstrated the most potential to perform well on the course, on the basis of their UCAS application, contextualised GCSE score and interview performance, and any other relevant contextual information. The final list of offers was agreed at a meeting of Geography tutors from across the colleges.

As part of the process, some candidates were reassigned to a college other than the one they had applied to or been allocated: 25.9% of candidates who were made offers received their offer from a college other than their first-choice college.

Most candidates were made a conditional offer; for details of the standard offer please see here.