Human Sciences Feedback 2016-17

Across the university as a whole this year there were 185 applicants for Human Sciences and the estimated competition for places was approximately 6.6 candidates per place.

88 applicants were shortlisted for interview. Candidates shortlisted for interview if their application showed evidence of a good or promising academic record and a strong reference. All candidates for Human Sciences were required to sit the Thinking Skills Assessment (TSA). The TSA score was also used during the shortlisting process. The average TSA score for all candidates was 61.2. The average TSA for shortlisted candidates was 65.0.

In selecting candidates for a place to study Human Sciences tutors looked for evidence of such qualities as: ability to follow an argument, skill in communication and listening; ability to respond in a thoughtful way to unpredictable questions and ideas, intellectual curiosity and initiative, openness of mind and independent thinking. Our tutors looked for applicants’ enthusiasm for their current studies or activities, but also evidence that the candidates’ interests went beyond their current academic training, and that they were able to deploy their knowledge in ways that show initiative. Candidates who showed evidence of their ability to cope successfully with both the quantitative and the essay-based components of the course were at an advantage.

Across the University, 33 offers were made for Human Sciences for 2017 entry (including open offers) and one for 2018 entry. Mansfield made 4 offers for Human Sciences this year.

A full list of the selection criteria for Human Sciences is published on the web at http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/courses-selection-criteria.