

Bucksmore Pre-University Preparation • *Course Description*

Key Facts

Location:
St. Hilda's College

For ages: 15-17

Class Size: 12

Hours per week: 23 hours

Minimum Duration: 2 weeks

Start Dates: 30 June or 14 July 2026

International Relations & Politics

Subjects

International Relations

Politics

Law & Diplomacy

History

Experience Being Taught at First-Year Undergraduate Level in Oxford

Students will be taught this subject at a first-year undergraduate level within a prestigious Cambridge University setting. The Pre-University International Relations & Politics course at Bucksmore introduces students to the theory and practice of politics in the modern world, exploring the role of power in international relations and how the global community operates through rules, interests, and institutions.

Students explore core concepts such as power, sovereignty, governance, and globalisation, while developing critical skills in debate, analysis, and comparative political thinking. The programme combines lectures, case studies, and debates of contemporary issues including international security, global governance, migration, and climate change.

Students live on campus and take part in excursions around Oxford and top UK destinations, ensuring a well-rounded learning experience that blends academic study with real-world applications.

For more information on this programme, please follow this link to our dedicated course page: www.bucksmore.com/summer-courses/pre-university-summer-courses/advanced-studies-oxford-international-relations-and-politics/

Course Features

This course provides a strong foundation in political theory, international relations, and global governance. Students analyse how states, organisations, and individuals interact in an interconnected world, and consider the challenges of diplomacy, conflict, and cooperation. The programme balances theory with real-world application, encouraging students to question power structures and evaluate responses to pressing international issues. Our course aims to explore the following:

- **Political Theory and Ideologies:** Explore key debates such as realism, liberalism, and Marxism, and their relevance to contemporary politics
- **The State, Sovereignty, and Governance:** Analyse how states are created and maintained, and the role of supranational organisations like the UN, EU, and WTO
- **Globalisation and International Relations:** Examine how globalisation shapes trade, culture, diplomacy, and inequality
- **International Security and Conflict:** Investigate the causes of war, civil unrest, terrorism, and peacebuilding efforts
- **Human Rights and Global Challenges:** Discuss migration, climate change, and humanitarian crises in a global context

Course Details

Upper Intermediate (B2) English level required.

Fees include: subject tuition, full boarding, all meals, activities and excursions, complimentary airport transfers and insurance.

Course Certificates

Personalised report card,
Bucksmore Certification &
Bucksmore Letter of
Recommendation*

*(available on request)