



The Semester Programmes

at Pembroke College, Cambridge



Fall Semester

3 September – 9 December 2023

Spring Semester

14 January – 21 June 2024



The Semester Experience

“To be in a new environment and to take on a whole new system of studying here at Pembroke is a really transformative experience.”

Maddy (Barnard College)

The Fall and Spring Semester Programmes offer you the exceptional opportunity to experience life as an undergraduate at one of the most distinguished universities in the world. You'll learn from world-leading academics and benefit from all our 800-year-old institution has to offer as fully matriculated members of both the University of Cambridge and Pembroke College.

It's important to us that you fully integrate into the close-knit student community here and we'll provide you with a strong academic and pastoral support network. We'll be there as you challenge yourself academically, open up exciting new areas of independent study or even make a head start on an honours thesis.

You might just be so inspired by your experience you'll want to return to Cambridge for a graduate degree.

To learn more, see our website:

www.pem.cam.ac.uk/semester

College Life

You might be wondering what exactly a 'College' is.

The University of Cambridge is made up of thirty-one individual Colleges, each with their own unique character, structure and philosophy. Founded in 1347, Pembroke is the third oldest College and sits right in the heart of the city.

The environment is spectacular; you'll walk the same streets as some of the world's greats, enjoy formal dinners in historic dining halls and be surrounded by beautiful grounds, art and architecture. But this experience of College life is about so much more; it's about being part of a friendly and vibrant community with access to outstanding facilities.

While living in either Pembroke or a neighbouring College's accommodation you'll have access to the College library and sports ground as well as a wide range of College and University services such as the College Nurse and University Counselling Service. You'll soon come to realise that a College is not just a dorm, but a uniquely supportive environment.

That's part of what makes studying at Cambridge a truly unforgettable experience.

"I was captivated by the incredible scenery and setting that is Cambridge, but also the general mood of reflection and getting to work on how we can rethink what we know." Sahil (George Washington University)



Academic Opportunities

At Cambridge we're renowned worldwide for the excellence of our teaching and research. As a semester student you'll be lectured by academics who are experts in their field, alongside regular Cambridge undergraduates.

As well as attending lectures you'll also benefit from one of Cambridge's greatest strengths: the supervision system. You'll have an hour-long supervision each week, either individually or in small groups.

You'll work closely with your supervisor, who will set weekly essays, and will have the opportunity to explore your subject more deeply, discuss your own ideas and receive regular feedback on your work.

While studying with us you'll choose two 'papers', or courses, to take over the semester usually in the area of your major. You may also have the opportunity to write a dissertation rather than sit an exam, and this might just be one of the most enjoyable and rewarding aspects of your academic experience at Cambridge.



Beyond the Classroom

While we're sure you'll be busy delving into exciting new areas of study, we're equally sure you'll want to make the most of the many extracurricular opportunities Cambridge has to offer.

Whatever you're into – sports, music, acting, journalism, you name it – there's a student team or society to join. It's also a great way of getting to know other Cambridge students.

Trust us; you'll soon fall in love with our beautiful, historic and lively city. And with London less than an hour away you're also perfectly placed to travel during the five-week Easter vacation or at the end of the programme.

As the Spring Semester comes to an end you'll enjoy the famous Cambridge May Week when we celebrate the end of the academic year with garden parties and May Balls. Fall students don't miss out either as Christmas-themed Formal Halls and Winter Balls make for an unforgettable end to your time with us.

"I actually knew even before coming to Pembroke that I wanted to join the Ultimate Frisbee team. It's been a terrific way to get my bearings, exercise and meet a lot of nice, welcoming people from across the University."

Noah (Princeton University)

Applying

Do our semester programmes sound right for you?

You'll need to be able to work at the same level as regular Cambridge undergraduates and our application process is therefore rigorous and very selective as we have a limited number of places available.

Each year we accept around 40 students in the Fall and another 40 in the Spring, including a number of students who combine the semesters and study with us for a full academic year.

To apply, you'll have finished two years of study at your home institution before your semester at Cambridge begins and usually have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.75.

We'll ask you to complete an online application form and send us an academic transcript, two academic references and examples of your graded written work.

We're always happy to hear from you if you have any questions, just get in touch with us at semester@pem.cam.ac.uk.

"I've learned so much about myself, about who I am as a social being, an intellectual being and I wouldn't give that up for the world. Being here is a once in a lifetime experience."

Yehong (Harvard University)





The International Programmes Department

Here at Pembroke College we've been welcoming international students on our programmes for over 40 years. If you'd like to know more about our programmes, we'd love to speak with you.

Dr Daniela Passolt

Director of International Programmes

Dr Geeta Kasanga

Deputy Director, Academic Lead

Ms Laura Fazenda

Assistant Director of International Programmes

Ms Francesca Woodburn

Registrar and Japanese Programmes Director

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International Programmes

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@Pembroke_IP

Pembroke College, Cambridge is a Charity (Registration No. 1137492)

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