



SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE  
CAMBRIDGE



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GRADUATE HANDBOOK

2011-12

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## WELCOME TO SIDNEY AND CAMBRIDGE

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If, like 80% of every year's new group of graduate students, you are coming to Cambridge for the first time, you'll spend a short period getting used to the way the College and the University work, the lay-out of the town, and generally settling in and finding your way to the good things here -- friends, student societies, pubs, and coffee.

There are a few important things that you should do in preparation for your arrival. If you have questions please get in touch with the Graduate Tutors' Personal Assistant, Suzannah Horner, ([gradtutor@sid.cam.ac.uk](mailto:gradtutor@sid.cam.ac.uk)).

**Funding:** You will have been asked by the Board of Graduate Studies to provide guarantees of full funding for the entire course of your degree before you are allowed to start. It is extremely important that you do this before you come to Cambridge as otherwise it is not possible to accept you into the College or into your department. Although you may have heard otherwise, there is little or no money available to make up deficient funds once you arrive. If you are having problems it is far better to get in touch before you come, than to arrive hoping to 'find' funding part way through your course.

**Visas:** The visa regulations for students from outside the European Union have recently changed to what is now called Points Based Immigration (Tier 4). Students requiring such a visa will receive a sponsor letter from the Board of Graduate Studies. When you have this, you are expected to apply for a visa from the British Embassy or consulate of your home country.

Please note that it is no longer possible to bring a dependant with a student visa. It may be possible for a dependant to visit with a tourist visa, but they will not be entitled to work during their visit.

You can find some information to get you started at the [Board of Graduate Studies website](#).

**Points Based Immigration:** The University has a responsibility to monitor students who are sponsored with a Tier 4 visa. Such students must:

1. Present themselves to the graduate office within 7 days of their arrival to the UK, with

their passport and identity card (if they have one)

2. Report to the graduate office at a number of "progress points" during their course of study.
3. Let the college know of any changes of status to their visa (for instance any changes to the visa, or any arrangements made to work away from college)

**Medical:** Whatever your nationality, you are entitled to free medical and hospital treatment under the National Health Service if you are registered for a course of six months or longer duration. However, if you are from outside the British Isles you should also have medical insurance, to cover travel home if you become seriously ill or must return home to seek extended treatment. We require that you register with a local GP during the first week of your being in Cambridge. There is free dental treatment available to students, but it is increasingly difficult to find, and you are advised to have a dental check-up and any treatment before leaving home. Regular dental treatment for which you have to pay is available to all students.

**Health Questionnaire:** You will receive from us a health questionnaire – please complete this and send it directly to the College Nurse at Sidney Sussex College. This information will be held in strictest confidence and enables the Nurse to respond to any special needs.

**Insurance:** The College's insurance does not cover the personal possessions of students. Students are advised to make the necessary insurance arrangements (along with travel insurance if they are coming from overseas) prior to coming to Cambridge. There is an optional contents insurance scheme for those in College accommodation; details will be sent to students when they are offered College accommodation.

**Arrival Date:** If you are taking college accommodation (described below) your room will be ready for the start of your course, but will not be available earlier. Please let the Graduate Tutors' Personal Assistant know several weeks in advance and no later than 1<sup>st</sup> September about your intended arrival date in College.

**Pre-existing medical conditions for UK students:** If you have a serious or chronic condition which currently requires hospital

treatment, you should check with your hospital consultant or GP to find out whether you need referral to Addenbrooke's Hospital in Cambridge, before coming into residence. Should referral be desirable or necessary, prior arrangement will minimise delay in arranging treatment for you in Cambridge. UK residents should bring their medical card with them.

**Pre-existing medical conditions for Overseas students:** Anyone coming from outside the UK who has a pre-existing condition which may need continuing treatment should be aware that such ongoing treatment may not be available in the UK under the National Health Service provision. If you have doubts you should ensure that you are covered by private medical health insurance for the length of your academic course.

**Disabilities** It is very important that those with disabilities should declare this as soon as possible. You can do this on your health questionnaire, or by notifying the Graduate Assistant. This is especially important if the nature of your disability will require special assistance or facilities so we can then arrange for the University's Disability Resource Centre to contact you and make arrangements.

## DIRECTIONS AND ARRIVAL

The College is located at the heart of the city centre (see the map on the next page). The front gate and Porters' Lodge are on Sidney Street, and the back gate is on Hobson Street. Should you ask somebody for directions, it is worth remembering that the College is opposite Sainsbury's Supermarket.

When you arrive in Cambridge go straight to the Porters' Lodge at Sidney Sussex (all taxi drivers know the way to the nearest entrance to the College). At the Lodge, a Porter will sign you in and give you your room keys and directions to your room. Although the Porters on duty will not be able to leave their posts to escort you and your bags to your house, they will be able to point the way on the map and call a taxi for you if your house is too far to walk to with your bags.

**Arriving by Car:** Those approaching Cambridge from the North are advised to take the M11 and exit at Junction 13, which is adjacent to the Madingley Road Park and Ride site. Those approaching from the South are advised to exit

the M11 at Junction 12 and then follow the A603 into Cambridge.

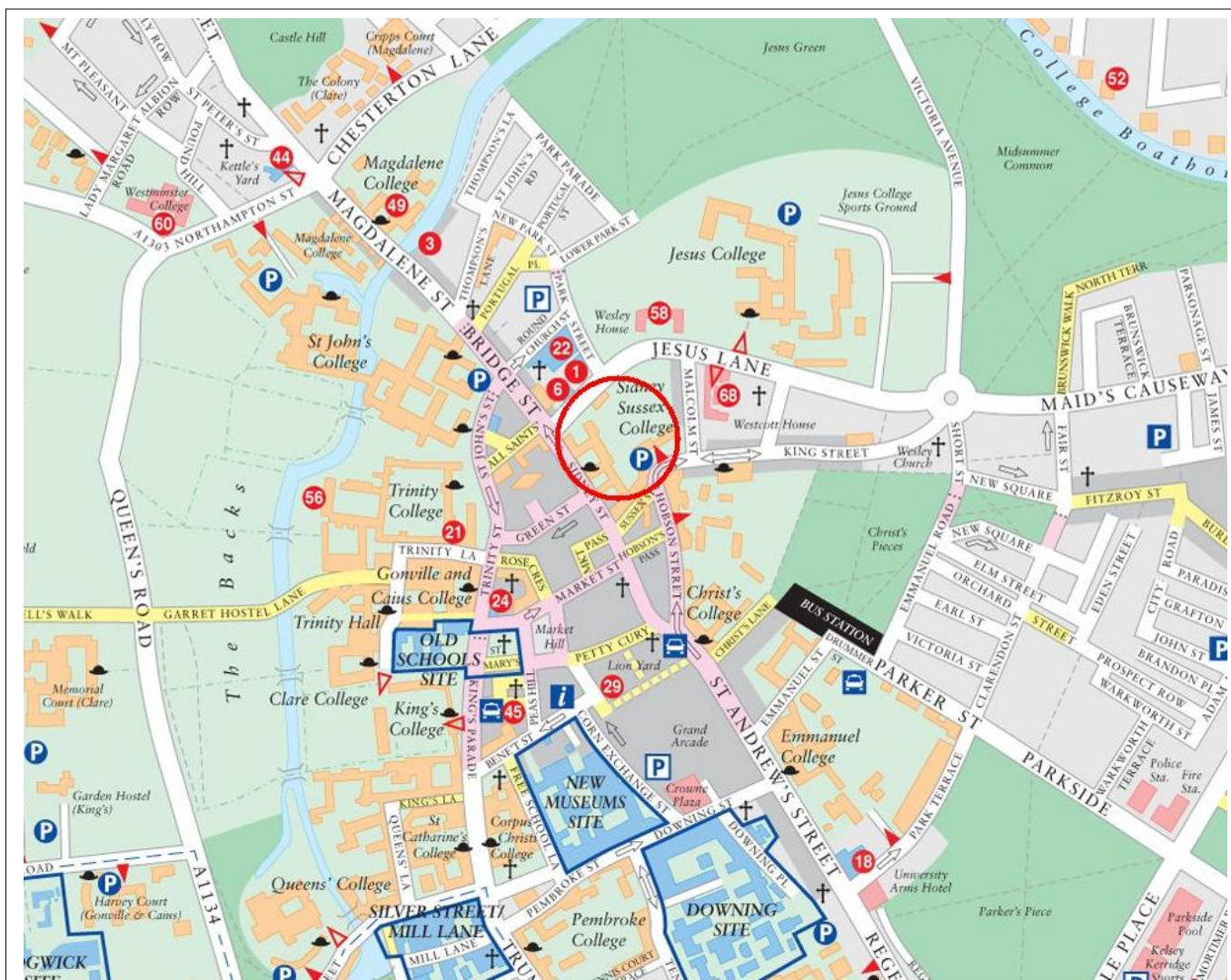
You may park very briefly at the College car park on King Street to unload your possessions (if you are living on the main site), but if you are staying longer you should either use one of the city's public car parks (which are expensive) or the park and ride system. Please note that there is no parking for graduate students in the College. Because of the one-way system, approach College from Parkside, go straight on at the mini roundabout, and follow the road bearing left into Emmanuel Street (you will go past the Drummer Street bus station) and then turn right onto St Andrew's Street which forks onto Hobson Street.

Note also that Sidney Street is closed to traffic between the hours of 10am until 4pm, Monday-Saturday. You are reminded that no student may keep a car while studying in Cambridge without formal permission from the University's Motor Proctor. Such permission is only given if there is off-road parking available.

**Arriving by Coach or Bus:** The National Express ([www.nationalexpress.com](http://www.nationalexpress.com)) has a coach network that connects Cambridge with the rest of the UK, including a frequent coach service from London Victoria. Tickets can be purchased in advance or on the coach (as long as there is space). Coaches usually stop at Parkside bus station which is a 5 minute walk from college, and taxis are usually available if required.

**Arriving by Train:** Trains from central London, either from King's Cross Station or Liverpool Street Station, run at least once an hour from both stations, and take between 45 and 90 minutes (see <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>). There are taxis at the Cambridge bus and train stations to take you and your luggage to Sidney.

**Arriving by Plane:** The nearest airports are Stansted and Luton, but most flights from outside Europe will come into Heathrow or Gatwick. From the airports, the simplest way to Cambridge is to take the National Express Coach Airport Services (see [www.nationalexpress.com](http://www.nationalexpress.com)). The coaches run frequently and take 2-3 hours from Heathrow and 3-4 hours from Gatwick. You can also travel from the airports by train (from Gatwick take the Thames Link train to Kings Cross or the Gatwick Express to Victoria Station in London followed by the underground or taxi to King's Cross or Liverpool Street to catch the



1 ADC Theater 3 Alumni Office 6 International Office 18 Cambridge Assessment 21 Cambridge Commonwealth Trust 22 Union Society 24 Cambridge University Press 29 Chaplaincy 44 Kettle's Yard House and Gallery 45 Linkline 49 Pepys Library 52 Sports clubs of the University - Boat Club 56 Wren Library 58 Cambridge Theological Federation 60 Westminster College 68 Westcott House

Cambridge train; from Heathrow, either take the Underground to King's Cross, and change there to the Cambridge train or take the Heathrow express to London followed by the underground to King's Cross.). For train times/fares see <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>.

## ABOUT SIDNEY SUSSEX COLLEGE

As a member of Sidney, you'll be joining a lively city-centre college which is convenient for all the main shopping and entertainment areas of Cambridge; and, being central, it is close to most of the main departmental, library, and laboratory sites situated around the fringe of the city-centre. Sidney is opposite Sainsbury's, the only city-centre supermarket - a very big advantage!

Sidney is a small college, both numerically and physically, in comparison with most other Cambridge colleges. We have slightly over 360 Undergraduates at any time reading for degrees in

the whole range of University subjects; and about 210 graduate students at all stages of research, of which about 90 will be first-year graduate students. The Fellowship of the College (about 75) includes specialists from virtually all the larger and smaller faculties (a list of Sidney fellows and their academic interests can be found on the [Sidney Sussex College web page](#)).<sup>1</sup>

The College grounds are especially beautiful: two formal seventeenth-century courtyards are the front door of the College; a more informal Victorian cloistered courtyard with a croquet lawn functions as the transition into Sidney's glorious and extensive gardens of six acres, open to all members of the College. There are several more modern buildings around the perimeter of the

<sup>1</sup> Please note that every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this handbook is correct at the time of writing, but details are subject to change.

## GETTING HELP

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### THE GRADUATE TUTORS

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site. Public rooms and facilities such as the dining hall, the Chapel, seminar rooms, a small gym, a squash court, the library and computer suite, and public function rooms are located all over the College. A large proportion of the undergraduate population live in rooms on the main site. The Master and his family occupy the Master's Lodge at the centre of the College; every Fellow has an office on the College site, and a few live in the College full-time.

Graduate students in Cambridge do most of their work in their departments or libraries, and usually find that their supervisors are not fellows of their college. As a graduate student at Sidney, you'll automatically be a member of the M.C.R. (the Middle Combination Room -- there's the Senior Combination Room for the Fellows and the Junior Combination Room for the Undergraduates). The M.C.R. elects its own officers and representatives to the College Council (the executive body of the College). Whether you are living in College accommodation or not, you are encouraged to take meals in the College dining hall and you will be given a swipe-card to pay for your meals. There are frequent guest nights in Hall organised by the M.C.R., as well as many other social events throughout the year.

In addition, the Graduate Tutor hosts a series of dinners for graduate students and Fellows during the year and a bi-annual dinner where Ph.D. students may invite their supervisor. Any student may book college rooms for events they wish to organise, and the graduate students enjoy convivial garden parties in the warm weather, bops, and other entertainments at other times. You'll also find that you have another social base in your department, where graduate students and faculty members in your field interact. Although you may not be interacting with them very much at the academic level, you'll probably meet lots of the Sidney undergraduates, who live on site and also use the dining hall and other facilities. You'll find that the level of energy at Sidney is very high, and that there are lots of things happening in a small community. Undergraduate extracurricular activities such as drama, music, and sport are all open to graduate students as well, who are encouraged very warmly to join in. We urge you to bring your musical instruments, sporting equipment, your singing voice, your acting skills, and anything else that will help you contribute to the life of the College.

The Graduate Tutors are Fellows of the College who have responsibility for the well-being of all postgraduate students in Sidney. They have personal contact with postgraduate students in pastoral, academic, and social situations, but are also responsible for all the paperwork associated with your programme of study, and keep contact with the University and with your department about your progress.



Dr Iain Black  
Graduate Tutor and Fellow  
in Geography  
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Dr Julius Ross  
Graduate Tutor and Fellow  
in Mathematics  
Office: M2, Cloister Court  
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Dr Black is the personal Tutor for students in Humanities and Social Science and is responsible for finance issues for all graduate students. Dr Ross is the personal Tutor for students in the Sciences, and is responsible for accommodation issues for all graduate students. Irrespective of your subject, you are welcome to contact either Tutor about any issue at any time.

The Graduate Tutors' role before you arrive includes accepting you for admission to the College, assigning accommodation, answering your questions or arranging for special needs, and putting you in touch with other bodies in the University which can further assist you as you prepare to begin your degree. Once you arrive, the Graduate Tutors will welcome you to College, explain how things work, and, with the help of the Graduate Tutors' Personal Assistant, members of the MCR Executive, and the tutorial team, generally help you get settled. Ongoing

responsibilities include helping you maximise your enjoyment and comfort as a College member, which might include not only helping solve personal, financial, or bureaucratic problems you may encounter, but also entertaining you at dinners and drinks parties, helping you to organise events and facilities within the College for postgraduates.

Most of all, the Graduate Tutors are your advocate within the College, and on occasion your advocate in any issues which arise with your faculty or department. Although the pastoral team of tutors, headed by the Senior Tutor, is ready to assist you at any time, it is the Graduate Tutors who have special knowledge of postgraduate needs (which, as you'll find, are somewhat different from those of undergraduates). Whatever your situation, you can turn to any of the Tutors for advice and help, but you should try first of all to reach the Graduate Tutors, usually through their Personal Assistant.

You will meet the Graduate Tutors, the Graduate Tutors' Personal Assistant (Suzannah Horner), and the Senior Tutor (Mr. Max Beber) at the start of the academic year, and they'll be happy to answer further questions.

As you read this, remember that you can contact us right away (email to the graduate assistant is preferred in the first instance), even if you are not yet at Cambridge.

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## PA TO THE GRADUATE TUTORS

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The Graduate Tutors' PA is normally the first point of call for graduate student enquiries. To get in touch you may visit the office which is usually open during normal working hours. Otherwise please get in touch by phone or by email.



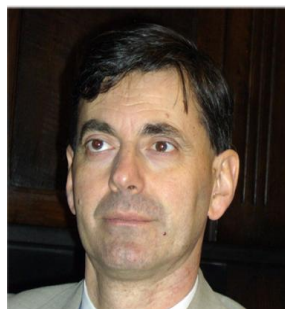
Suzannah Horner  
Graduate Tutors' PA, and  
Praelector's Assistant.  
Office: B Staircase.  
Tel: 01223 338810  
[gradtutor@sid.cam.ac.uk](mailto:gradtutor@sid.cam.ac.uk)

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## PASTORAL TEAM

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From time to time students discover that they need a friendly and sympathetic ear in which to confide any difficulties they are having. For graduate students, The Graduate Tutors and the Graduate Tutors' PA are the first ports of call. However, the College's Tutorial team, who also deal with the undergraduates, are available and very willing to speak with graduate students on a confidential basis. Below are the College's Pastoral team.



Mr. Max Beber  
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Economics  
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Revd Dr Peter Waddell  
Pastoral Dean and Fellow in  
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Mrs. Jenny Taylor  
College Nurse  
Tel: 01223 338826  
[nurse@sid.cam.ac.uk](mailto:nurse@sid.cam.ac.uk)

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## ACCOMMODATION

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You are eligible to apply for College accommodation for the first year of your studies if you are starting your graduate work in Cambridge and have not previously been a graduate student living in University accommodation. We are normally able to offer accommodation for one year to anybody who accepts our offer by early July, and last year we were able to give a

subsequent year's accommodation to all students who requested it. Students bringing partners may apply for couples' accommodation, but because we have very few married flats we cannot guarantee that all married students will be able to live in College accommodation. Unfortunately we have no college housing suitable for single or married students bringing children with them or planning to have children while in Cambridge.

College accommodation comes in many shapes and sizes. Several graduate rooms are located in 'graduate houses' which are residential houses in Cambridge neighbourhoods near the city centre which have been converted to student use. Each hostel has between 6 and 12 rooms, a full kitchen and bathroom(s), a washing machine, and in some cases a garden. There is space for bicycles within the grounds of each hostel. There is no parking for cars and you are reminded that Cambridge students may not keep cars in the city except by special permission by the University Motor Proctor. Most houses are equipped with a telephone point and an internet connection in each room. With the prevalence of mobile phones, it is no longer economically feasible to install a public phone in each house.

Each graduate student is offered a single room in a house for the period of the academic year plus all or part of the summer (i.e. early October to mid September – see 'Rental Terms' section in next column for full details). No two hostels are alike, and no two student rooms are alike. The College provides cleaning and maintenance services for each hostel, and you will quickly become acquainted with your bed maker (or 'bedder' for short), the person who looks after the house for the College on a daily basis. Graduate students are encouraged to make use of College facilities such as the Combination Room, the TV room, the Dining Hall, sports fields, and boathouse.

Because our stock of available rooms is fully used and is often still being worked out in September, we cannot entertain specific requests for types of accommodation unless for exceptional medical reasons, in which case a supporting letter from your doctor will be necessary. In addition, once here, the College cannot change your room unless in exceptional circumstances. Most houses are near the College, but none is especially near any of the labs or departments, so you will not be at any disadvantage relative to your department by being assigned to one house rather than another.

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## RENTAL TERMS

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Your rental agreement for 2011-12 with the College runs from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011, based on occupancy of 13 weeks per term. Students will be offered the possibility of extending their tenancy until mid-September 2012, but are warned that they may have their room assignments changed after 30<sup>th</sup> June. Unless you are one of the few graduate students whose degree course begins before the beginning of full term (October 4<sup>th</sup>) (PGCE, MBA, MPhil Real Estate Finance and MPhil Economics), you cannot take up your College accommodation before the beginning of the rental agreement. Please do not turn up in Cambridge before that date unless you have made other plans for temporary accommodation outside of College.

In general, graduate student rooms cost in the range of £94 - £111 per week, which includes heat, light, gas, and housekeeping. The College provides a duvet, two pillows, and a mattress-cover in each room; students must supply their own bed linen, blankets, and towels.

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## KITCHEN FIXED CHARGE

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There is also a Kitchen Fixed Charge (KFC) which is the essential overhead charge which allows the College to offer a full kitchen service to all students, and to offer meals at lower than restaurant prices. The details and amount of the KFC charge are negotiated by the student bodies with the bursar. At the time of writing, there is a variable charge that depends on the distance a student lives from the main college site, and applies to those living in both college and private accommodation.

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## TELEVISION LICENCE

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If you plan to watch television in your College room you are required by law to purchase a television license, which is available at the Post Office. Currently a colour TV licence costs you approx £145.50 a year and you need a licence to watch television on any equipment, including a laptop or personal computer. Not having a licence could lead to prosecution and a fine of up to £1,000. For more information visit [www.tvlicensing.co.uk](http://www.tvlicensing.co.uk).

## YOUR FIRST WEEK AT SIDNEY

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**Doctor:** Register with a local doctor/GP (General Practitioner), and with a local dentist. A list of city-centre doctors and dentists will be given to you at the Induction Session, and you can also consult us for more specific advice. It is vital that you register immediately so that you are fully covered in case of illness and emergency. Please remember to complete and return the on-line form for our records which tells us whom you are registered with (this will be available on-line before the start of term).

Get in touch with your department; there you'll find out how to reach your supervisor. Your department will have an important induction session for new graduate students, and those working in labs will have a safety course to attend. Find out right away when these sessions are taking place and do not miss them.

**Induction Session:** You are *required* to come to the Sidney Graduate Induction on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2011 at 6.15pm in the Mong Hall (informal dress). There you'll meet all the new graduate students plus quite a few current graduate students and officers of the MCR. You'll meet the Graduate Tutors, the Graduate Tutors' Personal Assistant, the Senior Tutor, the Chaplain, and key staff members. Over wine and snacks, we'll be answering questions, giving you a few tips and pointers, and showing you around the College.

**Matriculation Ceremony:** You are *required* to matriculate and may only do this once you have paid your fees. You matriculate by signing a form in the Graduate Tutor's Office. If possible please attend the Matriculation Photograph (a group photo), which will be taken on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2011 at 1.00pm in Cloister Court. Gown required. Casual attire is not acceptable – men should wear a jacket and tie, and women should also wear smart clothes.

**Matriculation Dinner:** You are *required* to attend the Graduate Matriculation Dinner on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> October 2011. This is an enjoyable formal meal in Hall preceded by a reception given by the Master in his Lodge. (Please let us know your dietary requirements). It is assumed that you will attend unless you formally write to the Graduate Tutors' PA giving your reason for non-attendance by Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> September. Formal dining in Hall traditionally requires a Cambridge academic gown and formal dress. You can buy a used gown from

the Porters or buy a new one at one of the academic outfitters in town. The following link gives further information:

[www.admin.cam.ac.uk/univ/degrees/dress/](http://www.admin.cam.ac.uk/univ/degrees/dress/)

**Bank:** If you need to, set up a bank account at a local bank. If you let us know which UK bank you would like to open an account with we will prepare a letter for you to collect on your arrival in Cambridge.

**University Card:** This will be given to you at the Induction Session. This is your photo-identity card which will be your University library card, gets you into various University buildings, and allows you to get student discounts on rail travel and other services.

## COLLEGE LIFE

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### FEES

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Graduate students are charged both the University Composition Fee and College Fee for each year of their course, and you must in addition pay for your own maintenance and for the living expenses of any dependants who may accompany you.

You are expected to pay your bills to the College on time, and you must have cleared all your debts to the College in order to be allowed to graduate. If you are having financial difficulties, it is essential that you inform your Graduate Tutor immediately. The bills you'll be responsible for fall into three categories:

1. University Composition Fee (for tuition and departmental running costs)
2. College Fee (for maintenance of communal services and facilities in College)
3. College Bill (a termly bill for services you personally receive from College, including room-rent for those in College accommodation, meals taken, photocopying, Kitchen Fixed Charge).

If you hold an award from an official grant-giving authority (e.g. BBSRC, ESRC, EPSRC, MRC, NERC, PPARC, or AHRC), your university and college fees will be paid directly to the College by that body. If you are self-funding, or if you hold an award from an awarding body from another country or not included in the list above, and the award is paid to

you directly, you will be required to pay these fees to the College yourself. Please make sure you have the capital available to you to pay all your annual University and College fees in full as soon as you arrive.

Whether you live in private or College-owned accommodation, you'll be asked to give a £250 deposit against your College bill. This is returned at the end of your degree.

Your termly College bill must be paid in full within ten days of its receipt. If you anticipate difficulty in being able to meet these deadlines, please contact the College Office or the Graduate Office as early as possible.

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## BURSARIES SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

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The College has a small number of awards and bursaries. Graduate students on research degrees (i.e. non taught degrees) may apply for a limited amount of research expenses to cover research costs that are not covered elsewhere. There is also a Blues Award for students representing the University sports teams, and some music awards for those partaking in the musical life of the College. There is a limited amount of hardship money for those who find themselves in financial difficulty. Please note though that the hardship money cannot be used for students who arrive in Cambridge without the necessary funding for their entire degree.

In addition the College has a number of scholarships offered on a rotational basis (the Evan-Lewis Thomas Law Studentships, the Howard / Gledhill / Sidney Sussex / Osborne Research Studentships), which are advertised as and when they become available. These are competitive and are open to students from outside Sidney and based on academic merit. For more details as well as the deadlines see the [College website](#).

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## RESIDENCE

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You are required to be resident in Cambridge for a certain amount of time during your studies in order to qualify for your degree. This is an obligation imposed by the University and managed by the College. The normal residence requirement is three terms per year of eight weeks each. The three terms here in Cambridge

are Michaelmas Term (early October to early December), Lent Term (mid-January to mid-March) and Easter (late-April to mid-June), and you are expected to be here at least for these periods ('full term' as they are called); in practice, a graduate student is also normally in Cambridge for much of the time in between full terms. For more information visit [www.cam.ac.uk/cambuniv/termdates.html](http://www.cam.ac.uk/cambuniv/termdates.html)

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## SMOKING

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Sidney currently operates a comprehensive non-smoking policy in all public areas of the College, including the Hall, function rooms, stairways, and corridors. Smoking is not permitted in any student accommodation, including the hostels off-site. Students are not allowed to smoke outside within 2m of doors or windows or in covered outside areas, such as the walkway between Chapel Court and Blundell.

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## THE DEAN & DISCIPLINE

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The College has produced a [Compendium of Rules & Regulations](#) that is available in both of which are available online or by request. The current version was last updated in March 2010.

The Dean, Dr Bernhard Fulda, is the Fellow responsible for discipline in the College (email: [dean@sid.cam.ac.uk](mailto:dean@sid.cam.ac.uk)).

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## ROOM BOOKINGS

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Any member of Sidney may book a function room either for a society meeting or private function, with the option of having it catered. Contact the conference manager at [conference@sid.cam.ac.uk](mailto:conference@sid.cam.ac.uk) for availability and prices.

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## HOW DO I GET PERMISSION TO HOST A GATHERING OR PARTY?

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If you are thinking of holding a gathering or party, then you will need to obtain permission from the Domus Bursar, Mr Keith Willox ([domusbursar@sid.cam.ac.uk](mailto:domusbursar@sid.cam.ac.uk)).

You should begin by consulting the [Regulations Guide](#). You can apply for permission electronically using the [Party Wizard](#) service on Sidnet.

## FURTHER REGULATIONS

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Further rules and regulations can be found in the College Guide and the College Statutes, both of which are available online or by request.

## SOME USEFUL INFORMATION ABOUT CAMBRIDGE

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### FOOD

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Sainsbury's supermarket is just across from the College. There are small mini-markets in residential neighbourhoods throughout Cambridge. The open market in Market Square in the middle of town is a great place for fruit, vegetables, fish, cheese, flowers, and lots of unusual goods (open Monday-Saturday, early morning to about 4.30 pm). Marks and Spencer's in the Market Square has an open-late supermarket of high quality fresh foods (it is more expensive than Sainsbury's).

### RESTAURANTS AND PUBS

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There is an excellent selection of city-centre food and drink, from sandwich and coffee shops to burger-bars to full-service restaurants. Chinese, Vietnamese, Indian, Turkish, Italian, Thai, French, New British and vegetarian, cuisines are all on offer at a range of prices. There were once twelve pubs in King Street, at Sidney's back door; many no longer exist, but a varied selection of pubs flourish all over the town centre. Almost all of them have a friendly and welcoming atmosphere. Women and men alike can enjoy them, and there is no longer any tradition of men-only pubs in the area. The local Sidney establishments are the Bun Shop, the Champion of the Thames, the Radegund, and the Maypole. You can buy wine and beer from off-licences (liquor stores), as well as from supermarkets; and you can select excellent wines from Sidney's own cellars by going to the College Buttery. Local coffee and snack shops include Clown's, Tatties, Prêt a Manger, and Sainsbury's, which makes fresh coffee and sandwiches and has a salad and fruit bar. You will also find numerous branches of the well known coffee shops such as Costa Coffee, Starbucks, and Café Nero.

## PERSONAL ITEMS AND TOILETRIES

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Boots the Chemists (a large drugstore) is a few yards from the College, and has a pharmacy as well as all the usual personal items. Even nearer is Superdrug. Sainsbury's stocks a good selection of essentials.

### ELECTRICAL GOODS

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UK electrical supply runs at 240v with three-pronged electrical plugs. American and Canadian hairdryers, stereos, etc, will not work in England unless they have an internal volt-converter or a special converter appliance attached to them. All other countries work on the same voltage, but will probably require an adaptor plug (available here or in your home country) to allow them to be plugged into English electrical points. Videotape, video players, and televisions made for the American and Japanese markets will not work in England or elsewhere in Europe, which use a different broadcast and recording specification. Laptop computers can be equipped with suitable power units for plugging into English points. Please consult your computer manufacturer if you are uncertain about your machine.

### NEWSPAPERS

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There is a newsagent located a few yards away in King Street and a branch of WH Smith in nearby Market Street. There are newspapers and magazines in the M.C.R.

### POST

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One large and several sub-post offices operate in central Cambridge. You can buy stamps from most grocery stores, chemists, and newsagents. Your own post will come to your College pigeonhole, not to your room or hostel address. There is an effective University Mail Service (UMS) which delivers several times a day between departments. Although students may not use this for personal post, they frequently receive official letters and notices from their departments through the UMS. E-mail is the standard means of communication.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

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Further information can be found on the College website [www.sid.cam.ac.uk](http://www.sid.cam.ac.uk) and in the College Guide which is available from the website or by

request. If you have any questions please email us at [gradtutor@sid.cam.ac.uk](mailto:gradtutor@sid.cam.ac.uk)

Dr Iain Black and Dr Julius Ross (Graduate Tutors)  
Suzannah Horner (PA to the Graduate Tutors)  
Mr Max Beber (Senior Tutor)