About Trinity Hall

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The University of Cambridge has 29 undergraduate Colleges, from the ancient to the modern, and each has its own distinct character. Your College will be your home for your time in Cambridge, the place where you study, live and socialise.

Trinity Hall nurtures academic excellence in students from all backgrounds, and has a well-earned reputation for informality and friendliness between students, academics and staff. Located in the centre of town, and backing onto the river, it is within easy walking or cycling distance of the lecture halls, labs, libraries, clubs, pubs and shops.

We welcome talented students from a wide variety of school backgrounds and from many different countries. Trinity Hall will provide you with an environment and facilities to stimulate you and help you achieve your goals, supporting you throughout your studies both academically and pastorally. Although our students work hard and consistently show strong academic performance, we also want you to enjoy your time here so there are many clubs and societies for you to join.

Trinity Hall admits around 115 undergraduate students a year so it is easy to get to know your fellow students. Altogether, there are around 650 students, both undergraduates and graduates, across a range of subjects, 60 Fellows, 130 staff and 8,000 alumni worldwide, including several Olympic gold medallists, a Nobel Prize-winner and an Oscar-winning actress!

Brief History of Trinity Hall
Trinity Hall is the fifth oldest College in the University of Cambridge and so falls under the ‘ancient’ category of Colleges. We are often confused with the larger Trinity College next door, but we have been around longer – King Henry VIII founded Trinity College in 1546, almost two hundred years after Bishop William Bateman founded Trinity Hall in 1350, originally for the study of canon and civil law. The Front Court, Chapel and Dining Hall still occupy their original positions but have been reconstructed and refurbished over the years. The Old Library, a Tudor building dating from ca.1590, still houses the College’s collection of medieval books and manuscripts and some chained books – a Tudor security device!
Teaching in the University of Cambridge is divided between the Faculties and the College. Lectures, seminars, classes and laboratory work are all held at the Faculties, which design the syllabi and set the examinations.

The College is where you will have your supervisions – small groups in which you can receive personal tuition from an academic who specialises in your subject. This is a fantastic opportunity to ask questions, seek clarification and discuss your work with an expert in your field. Each student has a Director of Studies, who will guide and support your academic progress and arrange your supervisions, and a Tutor, who will help you with more personal matters and any wellbeing or financial concerns you may experience.
Trinity Hall accepts students for all Cambridge courses apart from Education, which makes for a diverse academic community. You will make friends both within your course and outside it, rubbing shoulders with scientists, historians, lawyers, linguists and many others who are all as enthusiastic to learn as you are. At Cambridge, you can follow your own interests and take advantage of the excellent resources available to you.

All students have access to the libraries in their Faculty as well as the University Library – a copyright library, which holds copies of every book published in the UK and many from around the world. Trinity Hall also has the Jerwood Library, a quiet place to study, with window seats overlooking the river. Many students bring their own laptops into the Jerwood, to access online study resources and to write essays, but there is also a Computer Room on the top floor with printing facilities.
Accommodation
All undergraduates at Trinity Hall are guaranteed College accommodation throughout their undergraduate studies. Our student accommodation is spread over three sites: the historic Central Site by the river, the Thompsons Lane site in the town centre and near to Jesus Green, and the Wychfield Site on Huntingdon Road adjoining the College sports field. Rooms vary in size, price, outlook and amenities so there will be something to suit everyone. All rooms are fully furnished with a bed, desk and chair, wardrobe space, and many with comfy chairs or even sofas. Each room has high-speed internet access and there are laundry facilities on all sites. The most recent addition to Trinity Hall’s student accommodation is WYNG Gardens, which is on Thompsons Lane and has all en-suite rooms, most of them with double beds. At Wychfield, there are seven wheelchair-accessible rooms with en-suite facilities, two of which have linking rooms for carers.
Food and Drink

Food is served in the Cafeteria and eaten in the Dining Hall and mealtimes are lively and sociable, providing a good break from studies. The Aula Coffee Shop is a popular place to grab a sandwich or to relax with a coffee and a delicious cake. The College is committed to reducing its impact on the environment, so we offer vegetarian and plant-based options at every meal and use Fairtrade, sustainably sourced and locally produced supplies, which adhere to animal welfare standards.

The College holds optional ‘Formal Halls’ twice a week where students can linger over a three-course meal, perhaps with friends from other Colleges. There are also regular ‘Superhalls’ with themed menus from around the world. The College caters particularly well at formal meals for those with special dietary requirements.

There are also basic kitchens on Central Site, suitable for making snacks, and more fully-equipped kitchens on other sites for when students wish to cook their own meals.
Music
Music is an important part of life at Trinity Hall and there are many opportunities to get involved, whatever your musical tastes. The College has excellent music facilities with three practice rooms, two grand pianos, a double manual harpsichord, drum kit, amps, electric keyboards and a Carsten Lund organ in the Chapel. The Chapel Choir sings two evensongs each week throughout term time and gives concerts both at home and on tour. The Trinity Hall Music Society organises regular recitals, running fortnightly on Thursday evenings during term time, which usually take place in the music room or occasionally in the more formal setting of the Master’s Lodge. All recitals are free to attend, and feature performances from soloists and chamber groups from within Trinity Hall and across the University.

Trinity Hall participates in the University’s Intercollegiate Instrumental, Choral and Organ Award Schemes and we also offer our own Instrumental Award.
Free Time
Although you will come to Trinity Hall to work hard and learn lots, there are many things here for you to enjoy in your free time. In your first week at College, the JCR (the undergraduate student body) organises events to help you get to know your fellow students and make friendships. The JCR common room, Aula Coffee Shop and Bar are the social hub of student life in College and the student-run Trinity Hall Entertainments (‘Ents’) team organises regular events such as Crescent Room (club) Nights, Film Screenings, Open Mics, Quiz nights, Tit Hall Big Night Out and the June Event – an all-night-long summer party with live bands, great food and entertainment. The TitBit, a student written newspaper with several editions during the year, will keep you in the know with its lighthearted look at College life.

Trinity Hall has a vibrant collection of societies from sporting to board games to films and theatre productions and the JCR is keen to support societies in College. You will be sure to find something you like but otherwise you can start your own! The College also has its own punts, moored along the Backs, which can be used by students for lazy times on the river.
Sports
Our students enjoy a wide variety of sports and Trinity Hall caters for all tastes from serious athletes to those wanting to try something new, keep fit and have fun. The College has a range of sports societies including football, cricket, netball, badminton, pool, rugby, sailing and rowing. There is also a board game society for those who want to be slightly less active! At the Wychfield site, we have our own sports field, which is regularly used for training sessions and matches, as well as a fitness room, hardcourts, Olympic standard squash courts and table tennis tables. On the river Cam the Trinity Hall Boat Club (THBC) has its own fully equipped Boat House open to experts and novices alike.
Chapel
The Chapel is the smallest of any College in Oxford or Cambridge and has a central role in the life of the College. We often have outstanding visiting preachers and, although the weekly services follow broadly the pattern of the Church of England, everyone is welcome to attend irrespective of their beliefs. The Chapel can also provide a haven of quiet to spend a few moments in quiet reflection.

Trinity Hall welcomes students of any faith or none, and Cambridge is a wonderful place to explore new ideas, philosophies and religions, either intellectually or personally.

Pastoral Support
The College is interested in not only your academic progress but also your wellbeing. Should students be concerned with any aspect of their studies, health or wellbeing, Trinity Hall has a network of people they can talk to including their Tutor, the Mental Health Team, Peer Supporters and the JCR Welfare Officers. The JCR Welfare team put on a variety of welfare events every term, ranging from puppy therapy to yoga, as well as a weekly Welfare Tea. The University offers a Counselling Service, and the University’s Disability Resource Centre provides help and advice to those who may need additional support.

Financial Support
Trinity Hall is committed to the principle that no student should be deterred from studying here by financial considerations. The University of Cambridge offers financial support through various means-tested schemes such as the Cambridge Bursary Scheme. Due to the generosity of its alumni and donors, Trinity Hall is also able to offer some financial support to students. As well as subsidising the cost of food and accommodation for all undergraduate students, financial assistance may also be offered in the form of hardship funds, bursaries, prizes and travel grants.
Trinity Hall is a wonderful place to study; it has all the convenience of being situated centrally, without any compromise on the prettiness Cambridge has to offer! Living on-site means that your lectures and other colleges aren’t too far away – which is great in the first year when everything feels new and foreign. And with a college library that overlooks the river (as well as window seats and cushions!), such accessibility takes nothing from the charm of the college. Not only does Trinity Hall have many physical benefits, but also social; the atmosphere is so friendly and warm that it was easy to settle in quickly.

Dorothy
1st year, Law
Applying to Trinity Hall
We welcome applications from outstanding students, whatever their social and educational backgrounds, who wish to challenge themselves and fulfil their highest potential.

Don’t be put off by myths about Cambridge and the assumption that you won’t fit in – there is no stereotypical Cambridge student and Trinity Hall is a place where everyone is encouraged to belong and to thrive.

Our website contains details about requirements for different courses, as well as advice about writing personal statements and other information about the application process. When assessing applications, we take into account a whole range of information, including previous school performance, predicted grades, school references and personal statements. For some courses, we ask you to send in samples of written work you have done at school. Most courses require applicants to take an admissions assessment – details are given on the Courses section of our website.

Interviews are an important part of the application process, and we interview everyone with a realistic chance of being offered a place. At Trinity Hall, applicants are usually given two interviews, each with two interviewers. The interviews are all academic in nature. The questions asked will range from topics that you have already covered at school to new material that you have not seen before. The interviews are designed to get you thinking and discussing and, believe it or not, can actually be quite interesting!
Visiting Trinity Hall

The best way to discover life at Trinity Hall is to come along for a visit. As well as taking part in the University Open Days in July, we have College Open Days throughout the year. At these, you can come to a taster session in several subjects and speak to Directors of Studies about the courses you are interested in. You will also usually have the chance to have lunch in the Dining Hall and to be shown around the College by current students, who will be able to tell you what life at Trinity Hall is like. Have a look at our website to see if there are any open days coming up. Alternatively, you can contact the College Admissions Office to ask if you can visit another time. We look forward to seeing you!
How to find us

Contact us
The aim of this prospectus is to give you a flavour of what studying, living and socialising at Trinity Hall is like but you will find more detailed information on our College website:

www.trinhall.cam.ac.uk/study-with-us

Trinity Hall, Cambridge CB2 1TJ

E admissions@trinhall.cam.ac.uk
T +44 (0)1223 332535

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