

MANSFIELD COLLEGE

University of Oxford



Materials Science Feedback 2016-17

This year, across the University, there were 167 applicants for Materials Science. The estimated competition for places was 4.8 candidates per place.

All applicants for Materials Science were required to sit the Physics Aptitude Test. The Physics Aptitude Test is a two-hour long test of maths and physics. The average marks for the PAT (out of 100) for the whole cohort were as follows:

Maths: 28.42
Physics: 21.06
Total: 49.48

Applicant UCAS forms were also graded by tutors using the selection criteria for Materials Science. The average UCAS grade was 7.68 out of 10. A pre-interview grade was then given using a combination of the UCAS grade and the PAT score. The average combined UCAS and PAT score was 7.13.

125 applicants were shortlisted for interview (approximately 3.0 applicants per place). The following information was taken into account when shortlisting candidates: examination results and predictions, teacher's reference, personal statement, PAT results, and any relevant contextual information.

The average PAT scores and UCAS grades for shortlisted candidates was as follows:

Maths: 30.88
Physics: 23.68
Total: 54.6

UCAS grade: 8.19
Average combined PAT and UCAS grade: 7.65

All shortlisted candidates were interviewed at two colleges. The Materials Science tutors assessed applicants on the following criteria: academic ability, including sufficient understanding of Maths, Physics and Chemistry, independence of thought, and the ability to appreciate the interdisciplinary nature of Materials Science; interest in Materials Science, stretching beyond the confines of the A-level science syllabus; motivation and perseverance; ability to work independently and to communicate ideas clearly and effectively; attainment at GCSE and A-level (or equivalent); command of the English Language; performance on the PAT.

The selection criteria for Materials Science are published on the web at:
<http://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/courses/selection-criteria>.

Across the University, 42 offers were made, including 4 open offers. Mansfield made 6 offers for Materials Science this year.