

## Widen your interest outside of lessons

**Wider reading...** the following list of suggested reading is a combination of books suggested by Oxbridge tutors and a selection added by your very own subject teachers. When it comes to writing a personal statement as part of your university application, a better candidate would have attempted to read outside of lessons.

### Architecture

*A Pattern Language and The Timeless Way of Building*, Christopher Alexander  
*The Penguin Dictionary of Building*, James H MacLean and John S Scott  
*Albert Speer: His Battle with Truth*, Gitta Sereny  
*Modern Architecture*, Kenneth Frampton

### Art / Photography

Micheal Freeman, *The Photographers Eye*, Ilex  
Micheal Freeman, *The Photographers Mind*, Ilex  
Micheal Freeman, *The Photographers Perfect Exposure*, Ilex  
Andrew Graham Dixon, *Art the definitive Visual Guide*, D&K  
Edward Lucie Smith, *Art Today*, Phaidon  
*Art Now*, Uta Grosenick, Taschen  
Alan Pipes, *Foundations of Art and Design*, Lawrence King

### Biological Sciences

*Climbing Mount Improbable, The Greatest Show on Earth, The Evidence for Evolution, or The Selfish Gene*, Richard Dawkins  
*The Single Helix*, Steve Jones (A few years old now, so not fully up-to-date but still fascinating.)  
*Darwin's Island*, Steve Jones  
*Bugs Britannica*, Peter Marren and Richard Mabey  
*Bad Science*, Ben Goldacre  
*Almost Like a Whale*, Steve Jones  
*A Brief History of Everyone Who Ever Lived*, Adam Rutherford  
*Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind*, Yuval Noah Harari  
*I Contain Multitudes*, Ed Yong  
*Tamed*, Alice Roberts

### Business Studies

*The Little Big Things: 163 Ways to Pursue EXCELLENCE* – Tom Peters  
*In search of excellence* – Tom Peters and Robert Waterman  
*Drive: the surprising truth about what motivates us* – Daniel Pink  
*Essential Drucker* (classic Drucker collection) – Peter F Drucker

### Chemistry

*Elements of Physical Chemistry*, Atkins  
*Inorganic Chemistry*, Shriver and Atkins (you will also use this during the course)  
*Foundations of Organic Chemistry*, Hornby and Peach

### Computer Science

*Computer Science: A Modern Introduction*, Les Goldschlager and Andrew Lister (Prentice-Hall, 1988)

*The Pleasures of Counting*, Tom Körner (Cambridge University Press, 1996)

*The New Turing Omnibus*, A Kee Dewdney (Computer Science Press, 1993)

*The Mythical Man-month*, Fred Brooks (Addison-Wesley, 1995)

### **Economics**

*The Keynes Solution*, Paul Davidson

*Understanding Modern Money*, L. Randall Wray

*Keynes: The Return of the Master*, Robert Skidelsky

*The Seven Deadly Innocent Frauds of Economic Policy*, Warren Mosler

*The Return of Depression Economics*, Paul Krugman

*Black Swan*, Nassim Nicholas Taleb

*The State We're In* – Will Hutton

*Freefall* – Free markets and the sinking of the global economy – Joseph Stiglitz

### **Engineering**

*Isambard Kingdom Brunel*, Adrian Vaughan

The biography of one of the greatest engineers who ever lived.

*Mathematical Methods for Science Students*, G Stevenson

*The New Science of Strong Materials and Structures*, J E Gordon

*Cats' Paws and Catapults*, Steven Vogel

*What Engineers Know and How They Know It*, W G Vincenti

### **English**

Anything and everything by David Crystal for English Language!

*The Mother Tongue*, Bill Bryson

*Listen to your Child*, D. Crystal

*The language Instinct*, S. Pink

*The Adventure of English*, M. Bragg

### **Literary criticism**

David Lodge's *The Art of Fiction* is a good place to start.

*What is Literary Theory?* Terry Eagleton

*Norton Anthology of Criticism* – great selection of literary theory used for undergraduate courses

*The Emigrants*, W.G. Sebald

*An Introduction to Literature, Criticism and Theory*, Andrew Bennett and Nicholas Royle

*Bertens Literary Theory: The Basics*

*The English Studies Book* R. Pope

### **Quirky novels which stand out from the crowd**

*Oroonoko*, Aphra Behn (seventeenth century, slavery, racism)

*The Monk*, Matthew Lewis (18<sup>th</sup> century gothic)

*The Life and Opinions of Tristram Shandy*, Lawrence Sterne (18<sup>th</sup> century, experimental narrative, funny)

*The Turn of the Screw*, Henry James (Freudian late Victorian)

*The Yellow Wallpaper*, Charlotte Perkins Gilman (short, Victorian, feminist)

*Tess of the D'Urbervilles* or *Jude the Obscure* Thomas Hardy (Victorian, dark)  
*Wuthering Heights*, Emily Bronte (nineteenth century love, violence)  
*The Waves*, Virginia Woolf (experimental modernism)  
*A Room of One's Own*, Virginia Woolf (feminist modernism)  
*Tender is the Night*, F. Scott Fitzgerald (American, 1930s)  
*Finnegans Wake* or *Ulysses*, James Joyce (modernism for the ambitious!)  
*The Unicorn* or *The Bell*, Iris Murdoch (modern female philosopher – good and evil, sexuality, consciousness)

*Guerillas*, V S Naipaul (post colonial)  
*A House for Mr Biswas*, V S Naipaul (post colonial)  
*A Child in Time*, Ian McEwan (modern)  
Anything by Haruki Murakami (modern, quirky Japanese lit)  
*Disgrace*, J. M Coetzee (modern South African)  
*Edge of Time* by Marge Piercy (dystopian)  
*Memoirs of a Survivor* by Doris Lessing (dystopian)  
*White Teeth* by Zadie Smith (modern)  
Ali Smith and Kate Tempest are both excellent modern female writers  
*Catcher in the Rye* by JD Salinger

**Decent Poets:** WB Yeats, Walt Whitman, WH Auden, Phillip Larkin, John Keats, Robert Frost, Alfred Lord Tennyson (Maud is the best), Sylvia Plath, Seamus Heaney, William Blake  
*Norton Anthology of Poetry* is a good buy – great selection across time of decent poetry used for undergraduate courses

**Decent Playwrights:** Harold Pinter, John Webster, Christopher Marlowe, Tom Stoppard, Joe Orton, Arthur Miller and Tennessee Williams.

### **Experimental Psychology**

*Musicophilia*, Oliver Sacks  
*Mindwatching*, H J and M E Eysenck (Prion, 1995)  
*How the Mind Works*, S Pinker (Allen Lane, 1997)  
*Hilgard's Introduction to Psychology*, R L Atkinson, R C Atkinson, E E Smith, D J Bean and S Nolen-Hoeksema (Harcourt Brace & Co., 1996)  
*Psychology: The Science of Mind and Behaviour* - R D Gross (Hodder and Stoughton, 1996)

### **Geography**

*Global Geomorphology*, Michael Summerfield  
*Glaciers and Glaciation*, Douglas Benn and David Evans  
*The City in History*, Lewis Mumford  
*Spaces of Culture*, ed. Mike Featherstone  
*Prisoners of Geography*, Tim Marshall

### **History**

A People's History of the US, Howard Zinn  
British Political History, Malcolm Pearce and Geoffrey Stewart

*Imperium*, Ryszard Kapuscinski  
*Witnesses of War*, Nicholas Stargardt  
*Le Feu* ('Under Fire,' in English), Henri Barbusse  
*Britons: Forging a Nation*, Linda Colley  
*Suite Francaise*, Irene Nemirovsky

More recommendations:

*What is History?* - E H Carr  
*In Defence of History* - Richard Evans  
*History in Practice*, Ludmilla Jordanova  
*The Nature of History*, Arthur Marwick

History would also recommend George Orwell's, *Animal Farm*, *Nineteen Eighteen Four* and *Homage to Catalonia*.

### **Law**

*About Law*, Tony Honore  
*Understanding Law*, Adams and Brownsword  
*The Law Machine*, Marcel Berlins, Clare Dyer  
*A Theory of Justice*, John Rawls

### **Mathematics**

*Chaos, Making a New Science*, James Gleick  
*100 Essential Things You Didn't Know You Didn't Know*, John D. Barrow  
*Fermat's Last Theorem*, Simon Singh  
*The Code Book*, Simon Singh  
The Simpsons and their mathematical secrets, Simon Singh  
*Alex's Adventures in Numberland: Dispatches from the Wonderful World of Numbers*, Alex Belllos  
*It Must be Beautiful: Great Equations of Modern Science*, edited by Graham Farmelo  
*Alice in Numberland*, Baylis and Haggarty  
*The Problems of Mathematics, Nature's Numbers, From Here to Infinity*, Game, Set and  
Math and the Magical Maze, Ian Stewart  
What is Mathematics? Courant and Robbins  
*Mathematics: The Golden Age*, Devlin  
The Secret Life of Bletchley Park, Sinclair McKay

### **Media**

The Guardian Newspaper - Media section - available to buy every Monday.  
The Media Student's Book - 5th Edition - Routledge.  
Image and Representation - Nick Lacey - 2nd Edition - Palgrave, Macmillan.  
Narrative and Genre: Key concepts in Media Studies - Palgrave, Macmillan.  
Media, Institutions and Audiences: Key concepts in Media Studies - Palgrave, Macmillan.  
*WJEC/Eduqas Media Studies for A Level – Year 1 & AS: Student Book* – Christine Bell, Lucas Johnson  
*WJEC/Eduqas Media Studies for A Level – Year 2 & A2: Student Book* - Christine Bell, Lucas Johnson

### **Medicine**

*C; Because cowards get cancer too*, John Diamond

*Emperor of all Maladies*, Siddhartha Mukherjee  
*Immunobiology*, C A Janeway  
*Human Physiology*, Gillian and Christopher Richards  
*Evolutionary Medicine*, ed. Wenda Tervathan

### **Midwifery / Nursing**

*Careers uncovered: Nursing and Midwifery*, Richmond, Trotman Publishing  
*A Midwife's Story*, Penny Armstrong & Sheryl Fieldman  
The Nursing & Midwifery Council [www.nmc-uk.org](http://www.nmc-uk.org)  
The Royal College of Nursing [www.rcn.org.uk](http://www.rcn.org.uk)

### **Modern Languages**

Prospective Modern Language students might be interested to read Edith's Grossman's *Why Translation Matters*.

This is a short list of possible authors you could look at:

French: Rousseau; Voltaire; Hugo; Balzac; Stendhal; Flaubert; Baudelaire; Verlaine;  
German: Goethe; Schiller; Holderlin; Keller; Hoffmann; Schlegel; Heine; George;

### **Music**

*The Journal of Music* - subscription-only web-based journal  
*Instrumentation and Orchestration*, Alfred Blatter.

*Music Instinct*, Philip Ball

*Schenker Guide*, Tom Pankhurst

*Powder Her Face*, Thomas Ades

*Greek*, Mark-Anthony Turnage

*The Ring Cycle*, Richard Wagner

Leonard Bernstein

The father of modern musical theatre. *West Side Story*, *Mass*, and *Candide* are all brilliant music-theatre works.

Harrison Birtwistle

*The Minotaur*, *The Io Passion*, *The Corridor*, and *Panic* give a full overview of this dynamic modern British composer's works.

### **Philosophy**

*Utilitarianism*, J.S Mill

*The Social Contract*, Jean-Jacques Rousseau,

*Straw Dogs*, John Gray

*Consolations of Philosophy*, Alain de Botton

*The problems of Philosophy*, Bertrand Russell

*Philosophy; The Basics*, Nigel Warburton

*A History of Western Philosophy*, Bertrand Russell

### **Philosophy, Politics and Economics (PPE)**

*The Prince*, Machiavelli

*Britain Since 1918* – David Marquand

*Daughter of Persia: A Woman's Journey from Her Father's Harem through the Islamic Revolution*, Sattareh Farman Farmaian and Dona Munker

*Language, Truth and Logic*, A J Ayer

*Microeconomics*, Katz and Rozen

*The Economy under Mrs Thatcher*, G Maynard  
*The State We're In and The State to Come*, W Hutton

### **Physics**

A Short History of Nearly Everything, Bill Bryson  
*A Briefer History of Time*, Stephen Hawking and Leonard Mlodinow  
*The Drunkard's Walk: How Randomness Rules Our Lives*, Leonard Mlodinow  
*Fermat's Last Theorem*, Simon Singh and David Rintoul  
"Surely You're Joking Mr Feynman", Richard Feynman  
Several different works of Richard Feynman, from *Six Easy Pieces* to *Six Not-so-easy Pieces*, right through to his *Imaginative Lecture series*.

### **Sociology / Social Sciences** (these can be accessed from Mr Kielty)

Radical, Maajid Nawaz  
Le Suicide, Émile Durkheim  
Runaway World, Anthony Giddens  
School Wars, Melissa Benn  
The Whole Woman, Germaine Greer  
Who Stole Feminism, Christina Hoff Sommers  
Black Like Me, John Howard Griffen  
The Clash of Civilizations, Samuel P. Huntington  
12 Rules for Life, Jordan Peterson  
The God Delusion, Richard Dawkins  
Learning to Labour, Paul Willis  
Marx's Das Kapital for Beginners, Michael Wayne  
The Hidden Face of Eve, Nawal El Saadawi  
Women vs Feminism, Joanna Williams  
Postmodernism, Christopher Butler

### **Spanish**

Hodder and Stoughton study guides for *La Casa de Bernarda Alba* and *Volver*  
Spannish Grammar Drills by Rogelio Alonso Vallecillos  
Oxford AQA Spanish AS Grammar workbook  
AQA Spanish AS and A level Grammar and Translation workbook  
Collins Advanced Spanish grammar  
*Palabra por Palabra*  
Federico Garcia Lorca by Ian Gibson  
*Bodas de Sangre* and *Yerma* by Federico García Lorca  
Films - *Todo Sobre Mi Madre* and *Mujeres Al Borde de un Ataque de Nervios*  
Websites - [20minutos.com](http://20minutos.com), [rtve.es](http://rtve.es)

### **Speech Science**

*The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*, Jean-Dominique Bauby

### **Theology**

*The Imitation of Christ*, Thomas Kempis

*The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, Mohsin Hamad

*God is Back, How the Global Revival of Faith is Changing the World*, Micklethwait and Wooldridge

**Veterinary Medicine**

*The Textbook of Veterinary Anatomy*, Dyce, Sack and Wensing (Second Edition, 1996)

*Getting into Veterinary Science*, J Handley

*Careers Working with Animals*, Helen Young