



**Harris
Manchester
College**

Written Work Guidance

History and Politics

This guidance is intended as a helpful supplement to the information provided here: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/applying-to-oxford/guide/written-work>. It in no way supersedes the official requirements set out there.

History written work to be submitted as part of your application for undergraduate level History should consist of one essay of no more than 2000 words in total on a historical subject.

The aim of written work is to demonstrate that you can write logically and coherently on a historical topic, with a balanced argument, in clear English. Any historical period or geographical area is acceptable. Your essay should be written in the form of an answer to a question, not in the form of a narrative account of an event. It must include a bibliography, which contributes to the word length. A marked piece of work is perfectly acceptable as is a timed piece.

Please ensure you complete the required [Cover Sheet](#), paying attention to the declaration of originality and explanation of how your essay was written: "Please explain the circumstances in which your work was produced. For example, was this completed as part of your schoolwork, did you receive any guidance and if so, how much? Over what timeframe was it written?" This information helps us to evaluate your work fairly.

Candidates who are currently on academic courses are advised to submit the most recent essay written on their course. Alternatively, candidates may consult their current teacher for advice on preparation of a suitable piece. Candidates who have recently been but are no longer on courses are advised to retrieve their course work. Where none of these options is possible, candidates may submit an entirely new essay written to support their application; you may draw potential topics from A-level papers available online.