The Pembroke-King’s Summer Programme
at the University of Cambridge

6 July–18 August 2019
Not Just Another Summer Programme: The PKP Experience

The Pembroke-King’s Summer Programme (PKP) offers you the unique opportunity to enjoy outstanding small-group teaching in a beautiful and inspiring academic setting. On PKP we combine the intimacy of College life with the excitement of studying with over three hundred students from all around the world.

Helping you make the most of your six weeks in Cambridge is our top priority, and it’s no surprise so many PKP students have cherished the opportunity and fallen in love with our wonderful city over the years. And with lifelong membership of the Pembroke College Circle, we’ll make sure that the Cambridge experience doesn’t end when you leave Cambridge.

You don’t have to just take our word for how special the programme is, take a look for yourself: www.pem.cam.ac.uk/pkp
The Collegiate Experience

You might be wondering what exactly a ‘College’ is.

The University of Cambridge is made up of thirty-one individual Colleges, each with their own unique character, structure and philosophy. We host PKP across two of the oldest: Pembroke College (founded 1347) and King’s College (founded 1441).

The environment is spectacular; you’ll walk the same streets as some of the world’s greats, enjoy formal dinners in historic dining halls and be surrounded by beautiful grounds, art and architecture. But this experience of College life is about so much more; it’s about being part of a friendly and vibrant community with access to great facilities.

While living in either Pembroke or King’s accommodation you’ll have access to the College libraries and sports grounds as well as a wide range of College services such as the College Nurse. You’ll soon come to realise that a College is not just a dorm, but a uniquely supportive environment.

That’s part of what makes studying with us a truly unforgettable experience.

“The programme is so interesting and provides a fresh perspective on my learning. The seminars and lectures are really effective at promoting learning through interaction.”

Crystal (Singapore Management University)

Academic Study

Our programme is renowned for its rigorous and intellectually challenging courses and at the centre of our ethos is small-group teaching. To achieve the interactive educational culture we believe is so important on PKP, we usually cap each lecture group at thirty students and each seminar group at fifteen.

We encourage you to develop your academic curiosity and really benefit from the unique learning environment at Cambridge. So, while you might take one or two PKP courses for credit at your home institution, we invite you to try something new and our three-course structure lets you do just that.

With around 45 courses on offer across a range of disciplines you really are spoilt for choice and if you’re interested in developing your independent research skills, why not replace one of your courses with a supervision project? You’ll immerse yourself in a project of your choice under the one-to-one guidance of an academic expert. It’s a great option if you’re planning to write a senior thesis or pursue graduate studies.
Outside the Classroom

While studying is an important aspect of PKP, this is your chance to truly experience Cambridge student life.

Our team of Programme Assistants (PAs) will organise an exciting and varied schedule of activities for you to try. As Cambridge students themselves, they’re well placed to help you navigate the city and take advantage of the city’s wonderful cultural offerings.

They’ll introduce you to Cambridge classics such as croquet, cream teas, punting on the River Cam and a whole host of other activities. So, whether you’re into sports, museums, sightseeing, performing, you name it – we’ll have an activity planned to suit you.

“The PAs make a really welcoming environment so we can explore Cambridge, have fun and make friends with people from all around the world.”

Lindsay (Northwestern University)
How to Apply

Are you ready to start your PKP journey?

We welcome applications from intellectually ambitious students from all over the world.

Competition for places on PKP is intense and we consider applications on a rolling basis, so make sure you apply early.

You apply to PKP through an online platform, but will also need to make sure your home institution sends us a transcript and academic reference. You’ll need a minimum GPA of 3.2 or equivalent and will have finished the first year of your degree course by the start of PKP. It's also important you have a high level of fluency in English and we'll ask to see evidence of this if needed.

Once we’ve received your completed application we’ll let you know our decision within ten working days.

“The thing I enjoy most about PKP is the diversity. Not only is there a diversity of nationalities, but also a diversity of opinions and academic backgrounds.”

Angie (Illinois Wesleyan University)
The Pembroke College Circle

While even the best of summers must come to an end, you’ll enjoy a lifelong connection to the College through the Pembroke Circle.

In becoming a member, you’ll join an impressive network of over 3,000 people from across the globe. It’s free to join the Circle and you’ll be happy to know that you’ll enjoy many of the same benefits as regular College alumni.

We’ll help you stay in frequent contact with Pembroke, the wider College community and importantly with each other. You’ll not only receive a personalised Circle membership card, College publications and regular updates from us, but we’ll also invite you to attend special events in Cambridge and around the world.

The International Programmes Department

Here at Pembroke College we’ve been welcoming international students on our programmes for over 40 years. If you’d like to know more about our programmes, we’d love to speak with you.

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