



## **Oxford Media Policy Summer Institute 2019**

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

#### **HOW DO I APPLY?**

You will need to provide basic demographics, information on your background and current position, and research/professional interests. You will be required to submit a CV and a 1-2 page statement of interest. You will also be required to answer one short answer essay (2-3 paragraphs), and provide contact information for one referee who would be willing to provide a reference for you. The application process is conducted entirely online and will be available soon.

#### **WHO SHOULD APPLY TO THE INSTITUTE**

Participants come from a wide range of backgrounds, and have in the past included regulators, lawyers, PhD and law students, media practitioners, technologists, people working in ICT industries, and those working for civil society organizations. In an effort to encourage further scholarship and research on issues related to media law and policy, strategic communication, and media and democratization, this year's Institute seeks, in particular, to identify talented young scholars (PhD candidates and early career academics) working on themes related to regulated and unregulated speech online, digital rights, media activism, and the role of corporations in media policymaking. At the same time, the program benefits from a diversity of participants, and applications are also welcome from those working in other areas and as lawyers and those employed by NGOs, government bodies, and regulatory agencies.

#### **WHO SHOULD I PUT AS THE CONTACT FOR MY REFERENCE?**

Your reference contact should be an individual familiar with your work or your research who can comment on your academic ability, leadership, professional achievements, and/or research interests. Please inform this person that we may be reaching out to them for a reference letter.

#### **HOW ARE THE APPLICATIONS ASSESSED?**

Participants are selected by the course convenors. Care is taken to balance the cohort (including ensuring diversity of background, experience, geographical representation, etc).

#### WHEN IS THE APPLICATION DEADLINE?

The early decision application deadline is 19 March and the final deadline is 20 April 2019. Once the application period opens, applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis before the deadline, so we do recommend that you get it in as soon as you can.

#### WHAT ARE THE FEES OF THE INSTITUTE?

Tuition for the Oxford Summer Institute is 1,800 GBP (plus a £10.00 processing fee). The total cost for the Institute will depend on your personal travel costs to the UK and the type of accommodation selected. More information on housing is available below. Information about the payment process will be provided to accepted applicants.

#### IS FUNDING AVAILABLE? HOW DO I APPLY FOR FUNDING?

Funding is very limited. Applicants are encouraged to self-fund or find funding through alternative sources (employers, foundations, government funders). A few full and partial tuition waivers are available for top applicants. There is funding available for two scholarships for travel costs (visas, airfare) and one for housing costs in Oxford. Keep in mind that these scholarships will be highly competitive. On the application, you will have the opportunity to designate the kind of funding you require. For applicants who have potential funding sources, there is an option on the application to apply for scholarship funding with a note that you might be able to secure outside funding.

Even if the tuition fee is prohibitive, we encourage people to still apply as they may be eligible for this sponsorship.

#### WHAT ACCOMMODATION IS PROVIDED/AVAILABLE?

Housing at PembrokeCollege, which includes breakfast, is available for all participants for a cost of £74 +VAT (ca. \$97) per night (en-suite room with bathroom in room) for 13 nights (from Sunday, August 4th to Saturday, August 17th). Please note that we have reserved a fixed number of rooms, and rooms will be booked on a first-come, first-served basis. On the application, there is a question to designate the type of housing you think you will require.

#### CAN I PROVIDE MY OWN HOUSING?

If you would like to arrange your own accommodations, you may do so at your own expense. When submitting your application, please indicate whether you will be arranging your own accommodations. If you do not request housing at Pembroke College, please note that the organizers cannot guarantee that housing will be available at a later date, should your arrangements fall through. We encourage all participants to communicate regularly with the organizers in order to ensure that any changes in accommodation needs can be met. Oxford is very busy in the summer, and housing can be hard to come by late in the game!

#### CAN I BRING MY FAMILY?

We generally discourage participants from bringing family members to the institute, unless you are arranging your own accommodations.

#### WHAT IS HOUSING LIKE AT PEMBROKE COLLEGE?

College accommodations in Oxford are basic, yet clean and comfortable. The participants will be located in the historical bedrooms in Pembroke College. All bedrooms are provided with bed linen, towels, toiletries and hospitality trays.

#### CAN I ATTEND FOR ONLY PART OF THE INSTITUTE?

Applicants should be available and willing to participate for the entire duration of the Institute.

#### HOW WILL I BE NOTIFIED ABOUT ACCEPTANCE?

Applicants will be notified of acceptance by email by the first week in May at the latest. For applicants who submit before the April deadline, we will endeavour to get back to you at an earlier date. If you are in need of an early decision due to summer planning deadlines, please submit as soon as possible and designate your need for early decision on the application. If you designate that you require an early decision, note that the decision process may be slightly more competitive.

#### DO I NEED A VISA?

Please visit this site to find out if you need a visa to participate.

#### I NEED A VISA TO VISIT THE UK. WHAT IS THE VISA PROCESS AFTER ACCEPTANCE?

Applicants who need visas will be provided with a letter of acceptance. Applicants in need of a visa are encouraged to begin the visa process as soon as they receive notification of acceptance, as there are frequently unseen delays in the visa application process. For more information, please visit the UK Border Agency.

