

Online 'Oxford Maths Entrance Test' Course Autumn 2010

The **MEI** will be running a six-week **on-line** preparation course for the **Oxford Maths Entrance Test** during the first half of the Autumn Term. The course will be delivered live in real time using an *Illuminate* virtual classroom.

Each week there will be a one-hour live session which will concentrate on a particular aspect of the entrance test. **Sessions will be held on Mondays – see below for detailed programme – from 5.00 pm to 6.00 pm.** Prospective students should ensure that they are available to participate at these times and dates. Each successful applicant will be sent full details of how to participate in the course, including how to log in to the *Illuminate* virtual classroom.

Students will be expected to:

- work through questions prior to a session
- follow-up sessions by filling in any gaps
- download materials from the Oxford University Mathematical Institute website:

<http://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/prospective-students/undergraduate>

Following each session, students will receive by email a copy of the PowerPoint presentation used in that session, which will include 'dynamic' worked solutions for questions discussed within the session. This is ideal for students who wish to work through the material at their own pace.

By the end of the course, students will have complete solutions to the Specimen Papers and to the actual papers set in 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009. *Note that although the Oxford University Mathematical Institute publish solutions to the Specimen Papers, they do **not** publish solutions to the actual papers set.*

The course tutor has substantial experience of working with students at this level.

The fee for the course will be **£50**, for which an invoice will be sent in early October.

Oxford Maths Entrance Test Course Programme 2010

Date	Topic
Monday 13 th September	Multiple choice questions and algebra
Monday 20 th September	Functions and calculus
Monday 27 th September	Thinking outside the box
Monday 4 th October	Detailed consideration of the 2006 paper
Monday 11 th October	Detailed consideration of the 2007 paper
Monday 18 th October	Detailed consideration of the 2008 paper

The **2009** paper will be used as a 'mock' exam. Students will be sent worked solutions towards the end of the half-term break.

The actual entrance test will be taken on **Wednesday, 3rd November, 2010.**

Details of *Elluminate*

A package called *Elluminate* will be used to provide the sessions. *Elluminate* allows tutor and student to communicate in audio, by handwriting on a shared virtual whiteboard and by instant messaging. We use *Elluminate* because it is a well established package which is easy to use, and which has extensive support and optimum features, which include:

- ✓ **Shared whiteboard**
- ✓ **Audio conferencing**
- ✓ **Instant messaging**
- ✓ **Application sharing**
- ✓ **A graphical calculator**



All that is needed to participate in these sessions is a broadband internet connection.

A simple headset, or headphones and a microphone, is needed to communicate in audio.

For this course, students are not expected to speak, so a set of speakers or headphones will suffice.

How to apply

To apply students must complete an application form which may accompany this information leaflet. Ideally, this should be sent electronically to the course tutor as an email attachment.

The application form requires details of the source of fee payment (£50). Invoices will be sent to successful applicants towards the end of the course. The use of *Gifted and Talented* funding is appropriate for this.

The number of places is limited, so will be allocated on a “first-come, first-served” basis. All successful applicants will be sent further details of the course by email, including instructions on how to use the *Elluminate* virtual classroom and what they need to do prepare for the first session.

If you require any further information, including an application form, then please contact the course tutor, Bob Francis by email: bobfrancis@furthermaths.org.uk