

Policy position for Visiting Students' access to lectures

This note provides information on the policy position with regards to access to lectures for Visiting Students and how it can be implemented in 2020/21.

Action required

All colleges, divisions, departments and faculties are asked to **note** the policy provisions for Visiting Students' access to lectures.

If you have queries about policy, please contact Susan Brace, Senior Policy Officer, Education Policy Support (susan.brace@admin.ox.ac.uk). If you have technical queries about giving students access to Canvas resources, please view the [Canvas FAQs](#) in the first instance.

Further information

1. Concerns have been raised about the access that Visiting Students will have to lectures and other teaching sessions given the significant shift to online provision and the lack of a maintained single point of reference for lecture information. IT Services investigated whether Canvas could provide this single point of reference but, following consultation, it was agreed that this is not appropriate, nor is it possible for access to lectures for Visiting Students to be automated.
2. College Visiting Student Directors or other appropriate college officers should liaise with relevant departments/faculties to ensure that Visiting Students have access to lectures and other related material as identified by the Visiting Student's tutor in consultation with the Visiting Student.
3. Departments/faculties should provide the Visiting Student with access to lectures and other related material following discussion with the appropriate college officers. It is acknowledged that access to all material related to a lecture or lecture series may not be appropriate, particularly where the lecture is outside the Visiting Student's main subject(s).
4. When considering whether access to a lecture and related material is appropriate, colleges and departments/faculties should be aware of the following policy and regulatory statements.

[Code of Practice on Visiting Students](#)

1.iii. The academic experience of Visiting Students for the courses in which they study must broadly be equivalent to that provided for other undergraduate students on those courses.

3. Visiting Students are members of a college or other society, and, as such, are entitled under specific conditions to use of university libraries, to attend lectures, seminars and classes, and to work and receive teaching or supervision in university laboratories.

[Examination Regulations](#)

5. Every Visiting Student shall be entitled:

(a) to use the university libraries subject to the provisions of the statutes or decrees governing particular libraries, and to the general regulations and rules of the libraries concerned.

(b) to attend lectures advertised in the lists of boards of faculties and other bodies, provided that:

(i) attendance at lectures described as seminars or classes or informal instruction shall be subject to the permission of the holder, and

(ii) attendance at lectures given in any college building shall be subject to the right of the college concerned to refuse admission.