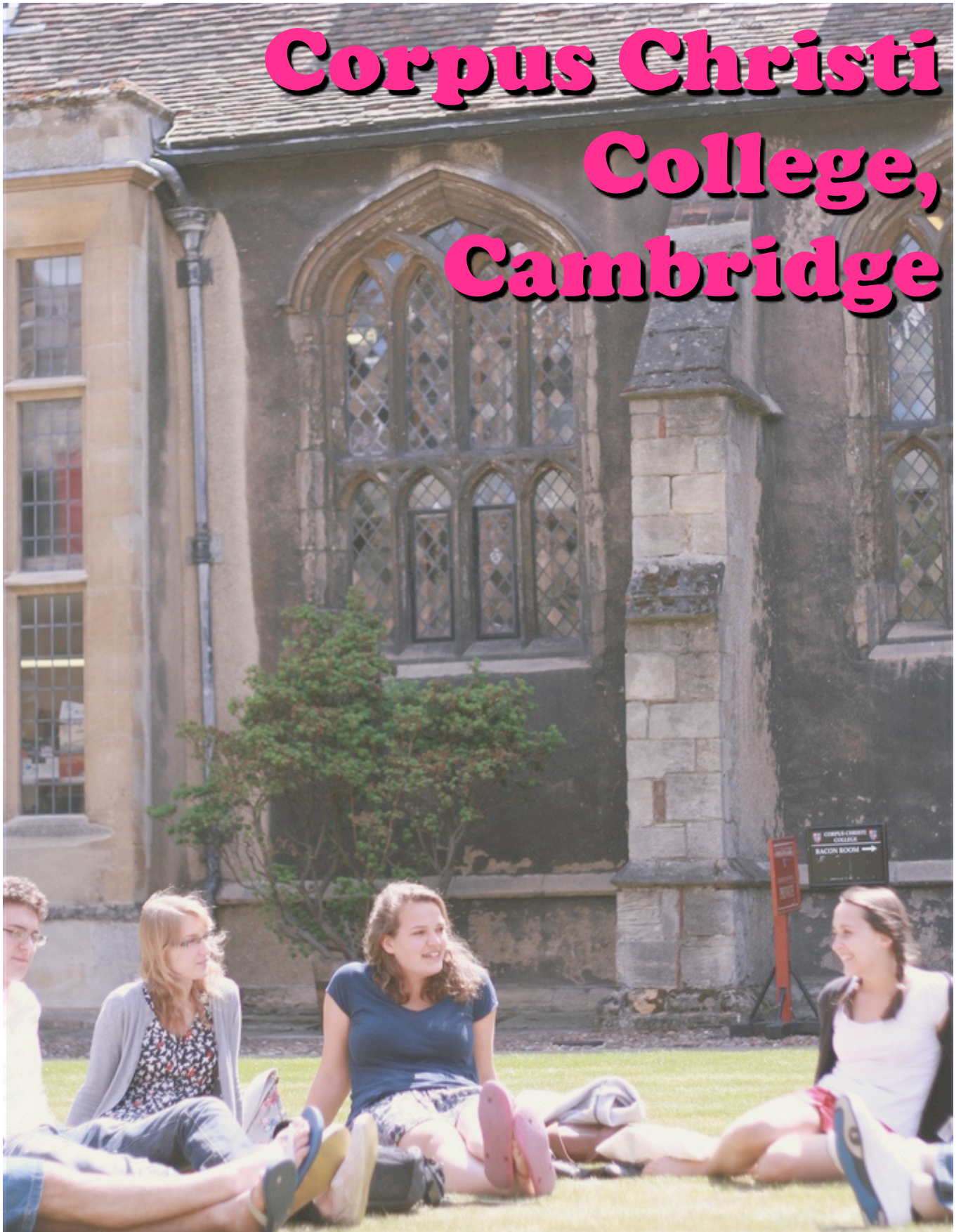


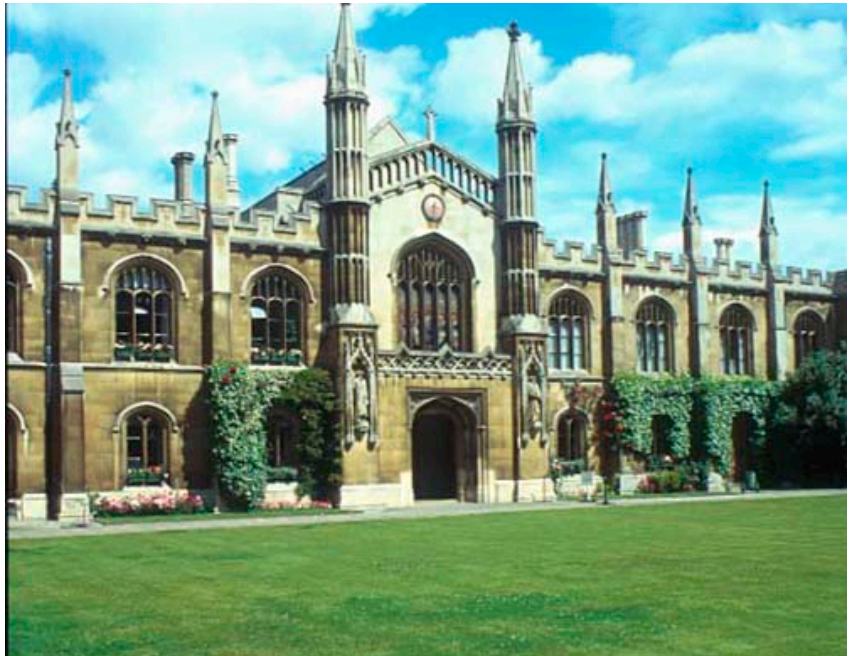
Corpus Christi College, Cambridge



corpusJCR Alternative Prospectus

Introduction

Cambridge can be a very confusing place. Applying to university is a big enough decision without the added confusion over which college to apply to. Ultimately, all of the colleges offer very similar things regarding both academic and social lives, but each college does have its own unique selling points. Choice of college can be based on things seemingly as trivial as how close the shops and nightclubs are, or what the sports facilities are like. But whichever college you end up at, you will immediately think it's the best and have a great time there.



But why Corpus? It's central and small, both great features. Nothing is too far from Corpus, most university departments can be reached in under 10 minutes, whilst everything you could want from a town is right on our doorstep. Corpus is small, you get to know everyone (staff and students alike) very quickly; you immediately feel like part of a friendly college community. There is always someone to talk to, whether for a serious conversation, a rant about supervision work, or just a light-hearted chat about nothing in particular! Organised events such as 'slacks' (college discos, essentially), karaoke nights, film nights, acoustic evenings, plays at our very own theatre (the Corpus Playroom) always prove popular. More relaxed parts of typical student life thrive at Corpus; the pool and table-football tables are for people of all talents, whilst the JCR (Junior Combination Room - our common room/TV room) has Sky TV and a DVD player and is always a good place to relax.

Application

Applying to Cambridge can seem daunting and stressful - but fear not, it isn't as complicated as it might seem at first. Applications to Cambridge work in the same way as those for other universities, except that: the UCAS deadline is earlier and a specific college processes your application. Around 80% of applicants are interviewed, and all are treated equally. Interviews take place in early December, and meals are provided for all applicants. If you have to travel far for interview, Corpus will give you a room in the college for the night.

If selected for interview, you will have two academic interviews, both of which are designed to look at the way you think when given difficult questions; you are not expected to know the answers to everything you are asked! There is little formal preparation that can be done for the interviews. Tests and pre-reading vary from subject to subject.

Emily Alldritt, 1st Year Theology

'I was really nervous about interviews - what to wear (not important), where to go (they give you a map and there are plenty of people to ask directions), what to say (completely up to you!).'

Jo Woods, 3rd Year Biochemistry

'I came out of my interview thinking "I got everything wrong and I'm definitely not getting in, but that was fun". I was surprised how much I enjoyed the difficult problem solving exercises.'



Letters are sent out in early January notifying applicants as to whether they were successful or not. Sometimes, there are not enough places for all of the applicants who impress, so they are placed in the 'Pool' where another college may be able to offer them a place.



Day in the life...

8am - alarm sounds. Turn it off! You can definitely afford 15 more minutes in bed.

8.30am - alarm goes off again. Probably time to get up. Leap out of bed and grab some breakfast before dashing to lectures.

9am - sit through that most horrific of university experiences: a '9am lecture'. If you are an arts student (basically those subjects which are not science) then this may be your only lecture of the day. Science subjects are far more structured and based far more upon lecture material, so have more lectures! You can read more specific student profiles on the Corpus JCR website (<http://www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/jcr>).

Fill the rest of the morning with either lectures or some reading, easing your way into the day.

12-1.30pm - lunchtime. Great time in the day: a break after a hard morning of work (loosely defined). There is a full hot lunch served in hall every weekday, whilst the bar is also open for soup/sandwiches/salads and coffee. Of course, no afternoon of attempted work can be faced without some chocolate, a game of pool or a bit of time spent chatting to people in the bar...

2pm - head for the college library, or perhaps back to your department to do some lab work or attend a seminar session. Again, life differs for science and arts students, with science students perhaps having afternoon commitments in their department and arts students being left to read in the library. Afternoons also often contain supervisions - small group teaching sessions (sometimes as small as one-to-one) in which you go over a particular bit of your work for the week with an academic or PhD student.

6pm - that magic time: dinner time. Everyone converges on hall to eat and catch up with friends. Dinner time is a great chance to moan to friends about the slow progress of work during the day, whilst also getting a hearty meal at a reasonable price. Having eaten, head to the bar to perfect your procrastination skills fully...

7pm - perhaps do a little more work, just to make up for what was inevitably not finished in the day. Unfortunately, we do have a fair amount of work to do!

9pm - head off to meet some friends for a coffee, a quiet drink, a night out, or anything else you might have planned: Cambridge offers all sorts of things to do!



Facilities

It would be a lie to say we don't work much whilst at Corpus, and for that the Taylor Library, right in the heart of the newest bit of college, is key. With over 60 desks, all with their own lighting, power socket and internet connection, it is a great place to study... and is open 24 hours a day to help you deal with the occasional bout of late night work. The Taylor Library is well stocked, with faculty libraries and the huge University Library providing literally millions of titles. As well as the Taylor Library, Corpus has its very own computer room where all students have access to excellent facilities and a top-notch printer. Internet is also available in all bedrooms for a small fee.



For the entire length of your undergraduate degree, the college offers accommodation – meaning you never have to go through the stress of house hunting whilst at Corpus! In first year, everyone lives in, or right next to, the main college site, with predominantly second years filling up the two accommodation blocks set slightly (5 minutes walk) away from the main site. Living in the college with all your friends is both financially beneficial (you only pay rent for thirty weeks of the year) and great fun. On top of this, we are lucky enough to have housekeeping staff ('bedders') who leave us clean bedding once a week and give our rooms a clean. They don't, however, tidy our mess... we've got to do that ourselves!

Camille Savinien, 2nd Year History

'The library is very comfortable... I generally work there because it is open whenever I want to work and it reminds you other people have to work too; it can be a very social place to be!'



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Tom Williams, 3rd Year English

'I was worried my room would be really small, but it's bigger than my room at home. It's great to be so close to people, your neighbours become some of your best friends!'



Welfare

Whilst at Corpus you become part of a great support structure to help you get through the hectic terms:

- Your Director of Studies is always on hand to offer help, whilst your college tutor is there to ensure your more general happiness.
- The college chaplain - Revd. James Buxton - is always willing to listen to any kind of problem.
- The JCR has two welfare officers there to help you through the daily trials and tribulations of student life; as well as running laid-back welfare events they offer a listening ear to anyone with any kind of problem and can point those in need in the direction of help.



Social Life

Besides studying a range of subjects, Corpus students have a variety of interests outside their work life. Societies in Corpus range from the academic - the Nicholas Bacon Law Society, the Natural Sciences Society and the Lewis Society of Medicine - to the social - the Northern Ireland Society, RAG, and the Fletcher Players - and the sporting. Alongside the dramatic opportunities offered by the Fletcher Players, the Bene't Club is Corpus' music society, running events for musicians of all abilities and interests. (To view a full list of Corpus Societies visit the JCR website.) If there isn't a society within the college to suit your interests, there will be one in the university, and if there still isn't... just start one!

Chris Meurice, 2nd Year Natural Sciences

'Corpus sport is welcoming and generally informal. With relatively fewer students than other colleges, and awesome facilities at

Leckhampton, anyone can find something they enjoy.'



Corpus punches above its weight in sport, and regularly beats bigger colleges. We have fantastic facilities at our Leckhampton site, 10 minutes walk from the main college: a football pitch, a rugby pitch, a cricket pitch, tennis courts, a squash court and gym, and a netball court. We also have a swimming pool - outdoor and unheated, but still popular in summer! Furthermore, every year we play a whole series of sports, from football to darts, on one day against our sister college in Oxford - Corpus Christi, of course. It's a great day out for the college and something that brings us all together to do something a bit different.

Beyond college life, Cambridge has a lot to offer all students, regardless of interests. Nightlife in Cambridge is heavily geared towards students, with Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Sundays particularly good student nights out. Although a small city, Cambridge has a number of nightclubs catering for a variety of tastes, nights out being a good addition to 'slacks' in the bar (essentially themed parties with optional fancy dress held on three Friday nights throughout term). Pubs, too, are ten-a-penny in Cambridge as a city, whilst there are many coffee shops dotted around the town centre to help people while away afternoons. Cambridge has a number of cinemas and theatres, with both professional and student productions offered at reasonable prices. A popular activity, especially if visitors are around, is punting on the Cam, a fun way to see some of the colleges and relax in the sun (hopefully anyway). In short, there is plenty to occupy you in Cambridge!



The Cambridge bursaries system, the Newton Bursary, currently matches whatever maintenance grant is given to a student by the government.

For up to date tuition fee information go to <http://www.cam.ac.uk/admissions/undergraduate/finance/>.

Corpus is priced very reasonably...

Average rent per term: **£1047.42**

Price of a pint of beer: **£2.35**

Rough cost of a full meal in hall: **£3.50** (a range of options available, always meat and veggie)

Cup of tea in the bar: **£1**



Contacts:

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JCR Ethnic Minorities Officer: jcr-ethnicminorities@corpus.cam.ac.uk

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www.corpus.cam.ac.uk/jcr