

**OXBRIDGE  
ACADEMIC**  
P R O G R A M S

49 West 45th Street, 12th Floor • New York, NY 10036  
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August 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

**The Cambridge Prep Experience** is an intensive academic summer program for students completing 8th and 9th grades that prepares them for the upper years of high school and beyond. The program combines a superb faculty and small-group teaching with a genuine hands-on experience of English history and culture. Under its auspices, students from all over the United States, Canada and multiple foreign countries come to live and study at Cambridge University for the month of July. This program is now in its 19<sup>th</sup> year.

Our courses are taught by an outstanding faculty of teachers and scholars drawn from Cambridge and Oxford Universities, Ivy League colleges, and other institutions. In addition to daily classroom activities – lectures, discussions, lab experiments, etc. – **Cambridge Prep Experience** students hear talks by guest speakers, attend musical and theatrical performances, and explore local museums, galleries and historical sites. Depending on their Major course, students take a final exam, submit a portfolio, produce written work for final assessment, mount an exhibit, publish a magazine, or take part in a theatrical production or art exhibition.

Over the course of the summer, students experience over 90 in-class hours, plus countless hours more of extramural learning and cultural enrichment. The level of academic performance achieved by the students is truly extraordinary. We are very pleased to observe that many of our former students carry this standard forward in their college careers at some of the best universities in North America and Europe.

If you have any questions or would like more information about the nature of the program, the work students have done on it, or the colleges at which former students are currently enrolled, please do not hesitate to call or email our New York office.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. James G. Basker

President, Oxbridge Academic Programs

Richard Gilder Professor of Literary History, Barnard College, Columbia University

Major Course Title:  
**SCIENCE AND THE FUTURE**

Faculty:  
**Ismael Moreno-Gomez**, MS University of Navarra, PhD University of Cambridge

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

Science and the Future explores the most exciting cutting-edge advances in areas as diverse as particle physics, nanotechnology, material science, genetic engineering, biotechnology, artificial intelligence, and computer science for big data.

An exciting journey from the subnano-scale to the macro-scale, visiting some of the most interesting technologies was followed by an in-depth study of the Internet and Big Data worlds. We finished with a revision of the upcoming Biotech revolution and the impact that it could have.

Students explored the possible futures that science and technology are creating for humankind, and debated how these will affect our daily lives, our society, and our planet. By the end of the course they gained a broad view of forthcoming scientific advances.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

Students participated in small projects on daily basis like building a robot bug, making atomic structures or designing a battery with household items. In addition they undertook an individual final project which involved research and presentation of the evolution by 2050 of a technology of their choice. In-class time amounted to 72 hours.

**CLASS GUEST SPEAKERS:**

The course encompassed two guest lectures: in the first one Angelina Morelos, a researcher in Clinical Neuroscience talked about Big Data. After a general introduction she explained how she uses vast amount of data in order to deepen the understanding about how the brain works.

The second speaker, Nawar Al-Zebari, is a researcher at the Cambridge Centre for Medical Materials. He introduced the topic of smart materials for medical applications and the topic of Tissue Engineering.

**PROGRAM GUEST LECTURERS:**

Prof. Jim Basker (Poetry and Slavery), Dr. Graham Banes (OranNick Hutchison, Dr. James Gilbert, Emilene Zitikus-Andrade, Sir Christopher Hum (Leading the British Embassy in China), Carys Brown (18th cen, Dr. Christopher Catherwood (On Churchill), Dr. Pradipta Biswas (Controlling a Computer With Your Eyes), Shaelena Morely (Architecture), Prof. Christopher Sangwin (Mathemati

**FIELD TRIPS:**

During the course we visited the Science Museum in London where we could explore possible careers in Engineering and the Natural History Museum where we could see valuable materials. We had several tours around Cambridge where we got to know the local places that were relevant to the discussed topics.

**ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Cambridge Quest Scavenger Hunt, Cambridge Ghost Tour, Glass Painting Workshop, Cambridge Botanical Garden, Afternoon Tea with Faculty and Staff, Poker Tournament, Cambridge Prep Symposium, Field Day, Football (International, American, & Gaelic), Basketball, Orchard Tea Garden in Grantcheser, Screening of Wimbledon Men's & Women's finals, Screening of Women's World Cup Final, Cambridge Voices, Cambridge United vs. Norwich City football match, Great St. Mary's Tower Tour, Punting on the Cam, Ely Cathedral and Octagon Tower Tour, Imperial War Museum Duxford, Quiz Night, Raptor Foundation Demonstration, Bowling, Visit to examine manuscripts at Corpus Christi College Parker Library, Shepreth Wildlife Park, student talent show, student TED talks, Fitzwilliam Museum, Knitting, Salsa Lessons, Stage Combat Workshop, Croquet, Board Games Night, Cambridge Shakespeare Festival performances of Romeo and Juliet, Love's Labour Lost, The Merry Wives of Windsor



*Peterhouse, Cambridge  
4 July - 30 July, 2015*

*Director, Dorothy Hutcherson  
Founder, Dr. James G. Basker*

Nathan Robinson

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STUDENT NAME

**SCIENCE AND THE FUTURE**  
MAJOR

**COMMENTS:**

Nathan was a very diligent student during the course. His contributions to the class were always meaningful and interesting. His final presentation was fantastic, including not only the current state of the art scientific knowledge but also his personal views on the topic of Internet of Things.

Nathan's engagement was great when we talked about Big Data, Internet and when we made robots but it was a bit lower when we were covering other topics. I would encourage Nathan to explore as many fields and disciplines within science as he can in order to become a well-rounded scientist. I would encourage Nathan to consider science as a future career option.

A+  
Grade

*Director, Dorothy Hutcherson*

*Ismael Moreno-Gomez, Instructor*

Dr. James G. Basker, Founder

*Peterhouse, Cambridge*  
*4 July - 30 July, 2015*

*Director, Dorothy Hutcheson*  
*Founder, Dr. James G. Basker*

Minor Course Title:  
**SPEECH AND DEBATE**

Faculty:  
**Gavin Ayliffe**, MA University of Oxford, MPhil University of Cambridge

**COURSE DESCRIPTION:**

The ability to communicate effectively is an essential tool for everyday life. Speech skills, in particular, convey confidence and an affirmation of one's own self-worth and value in society. They enhance personal effectiveness and are a prerequisite in social interaction, in education, and in business.

This course encouraged the individual to improve his or her ability to communicate through a variety of public speaking analytical methods and techniques. Students made verbal presentations, structured statements and reports for a range of functions and audiences, learned to promote views and opinions effectively and persuasively, and learned to analyze important speeches and speaking situations. They advanced and defended propositions and ideas, and broadened their style and vocabulary to suit different contexts. Through structured exercises and activities, students extended their vocal and verbal skills, accumulating useful vocabulary and techniques of address.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

In-class time amounted to 24 hours

**CLASS GUEST SPEAKERS:**

none

**PROGRAM GUEST LECTURERS:**

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**FIELD TRIPS:**

none

**ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES:**

Cambridge Quest Scavenger Hunt, Cambridge Ghost Tour, Glass Painting Workshop, Cambridge Botanical Garden, Afternoon Tea with Faculty and Staff, Poker Tournament, Cambridge Prep Symposium, Field Day, Football (International, American, & Gaelic), Basketball, Orchard Tea Garden in Grantcheser, Screening of Wimbledon Men's & Women's finals, Screening of Women's World Cup Final, Cambridge Voices, Cambridge United vs. Norwich City football match, Great St. Mary's Tower Tour, Punting on the Cam, Ely Cathedral and Octagon Tower Tour, Imperial War Museum Duxford, Quiz Night, Raptor Foundation Demonstration, Bowling, Visit to examine manuscripts at Corpus Christi College Parker Library, Shepreth Wildlife Park, student talent show, student TED talks, Fitzwilliam Museum, Knitting, Salsa Lessons, Stage Combat Workshop, Croquet, Board Games Night, Cambridge Shakespeare Festival performances of Romeo and Juliet, Love's Labour Lost, The Merry Wives of Windsor



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STUDENT NAME

## **SPEECH AND DEBATE**

### **MINOR**

#### **COMMENTS:**

Nathan has a sharp mind and real presence. He was always generous to his classmates, but he is a fierce debater, who trained hard and discriminated easily between different lines of argument. The speed with which he grasped arguments on economic and social justice was striking. His range of cultural reference (which is astounding for one so young) helped him a great deal here. His final rebuttals preparing for the Union blended fine phrasing with a rigorous analysis of social justice in America.

In terms of future improvement he must continue to read widely - a grasp of the internal rhymes and rhythms of English poetry is worth any number of statistics. He must also look to expand his vocal range and inject a little more blood and fire into his concluding passages. Listening to recorded collections of great speeches and observing great preachers and actors is crucial here. Nathan has grown in stature here and I urge him to aim at greatness in future.

A  
Grade

*Director, Dorothy Hutcheson*

*Gavin Ayliffe, Instructor*

*Dr. James G. Basker, Founder*