

Sample Project Proposal 3

I should really like the opportunity to attend the Study Week at St John's for a number of reasons. Firstly, because after many years of teaching, my desire to assist young people to develop their potential is undiminished and I believe that for some, Oxford can make a vital contribution in helping them to realise their aspirations. Secondly, because I have been presented with a brand new challenge in my career, that of being responsible for the development of Sociology in the Sixth Form.

Sociology has tended to be a peripheral subject and is often taught by isolated individuals like me, without the support of a department, with minimal resources and living in a rural area like north Wales, lack of easy access to university facilities. I should like to address some of these problems during the Study Week. I have already succeeded in considerably increasing the numbers of students studying Sociology in my school and I can assure you that if I am fortunate enough to be accepted I should work diligently on a project which would have mutual benefits.

I should use my time to acquire an up-to-date knowledge of the subject through research at the University's libraries, B.S.A. literature and purchases at Oxford's book shops. I should also like to talk to other colleagues on the course who teach in the same or similar subject areas. Within the time available I should concentrate on the "A" level module on Education which examines the impact of gender, class and ethnicity on educational achievement and this would link very well with the knowledge with which you will provide us about entry to Oxford. My aim would be to produce teaching materials which I can then share with other teachers of Sociology. I should also use my lengthy involvement with my County's M.A.T. programme to run workshops to raise awareness of Sociology and to encourage future sixth formers to consider applying to Oxford.

May I thank you for considering my application.

Strengths:

Applicant has limited access to other facilities.

Project proposal linked to expertise/resources at Oxford

Named resources identified

Plan for dissemination of knowledge (MAT = more able and talented)

Weaknesses:

Project definition could be clearer (is the outcome a new scheme of work, new resources or just improved knowledge)

Project not linked to resources or expertise at St John's.