

International Politics Summer School  
St. Antony's College, University of Oxford  
Aditya Mathur

Due to the generous support of the Tazaki Foundation, I was able to study at St. Antony's College, Oxford's only college specialising in the teaching of international affairs. The program I took part in was two weeks long and I enrolled in the seminar "Making Sense of Chinese Politics and China's Global Ambitions". Throughout my time there, I learnt in depth about the rise of China in the past few decades, its perceptions of the world order, and the complexities of its internal bureaucracy. I was also given the chance to make an academic presentation and to write an academic essay and gain feedback from the highly experienced faculty members.

In addition to the seminar, my favourite thing about the summer course was the ability to meet diplomats, UN officials, EU employees, fellow students of international relations and many other individuals with diverse backgrounds. Interacting with them really broadened my horizons and enabled me to build the contacts necessary to gain opportunities in the field of international relations.

Besides this, the city of Oxford, with its historic libraries, various colleges, peaceful parks, and diverse student population formed a beautiful backdrop to this experience. Spending two weeks there after living in a city as vibrant and fast-paced as Tokyo provided me with a refreshing change of scenery.

