

OLIVER ISKANDAR BANKS

+44 7421 903 084 LVRBNK@GMAIL.COM

EDUCATION – INSTITUTIONAL

University of Oxford. *Politics, Philosophy, and Economics BA, MA (Oxon).* Predicted 1st. 2019 - 22

- Scored better than 90% of successful applicants at entry.
- Awarded the *Prize for Academic Excellence* in my first year, in the name of Isaiah Berlin
- Achieved dual high 1sts in two theses on democracy and growth, and social capital.

Forest School, Walthamstow. A Levels: A* *Mathematics*, A* *English*, A *Chemistry*. A* *EPQ*. 2012 - 19

- Won a prestigious £50,000 academic scholarship.
- The only boy in my cohort to achieve a place at Oxbridge.
- Chairman of Photography Club.
- Track cycling on the Olympic Velodrome.

EDUCATION – SELF-LED

European Graduate School. *PACT Division.* 2021

- Studying PhD-level philosophy through world-leading thinkers Slavoj Žižek and Judith Butler
- Dissecting contemporary issues like COVID-19 and black activism via Marx and Freud.

Oxford. *Independent Initiatives.* 2020 - ongoing

- Research projects in Economic Utility Theory, China's Belt and Road, Biotechnology and Warfare, and Irreal Temporality.
- Wadham College Political Theory & Philosophy Reading Group
- Feminist Abolitionism Reading Group
- BLM Reading Group

EdX. *Online study.* 2017 - 20

- Contemporary Japanese Architecture at University of Tokyo
- Architecture at Harvard University
- Foundations of China at Harvard University
- R Programming Language at Harvard University
- Economics at UC Berkeley

EXPERIENCE – SENIOR ROLES

President. *Broad Street Humanities Review.* 2021 – ongoing

- Most senior position in Oxford's top interdisciplinary journal.
- 100% increase in applications in 3 months under my leadership.
- Over 1200 pages published of ground-breaking and original research.

Interviews Editor and Events Director. *The Oxford Blue.* 2020 – 21

- Interviewed the Editor-in-Chief of The Economist, the Op-Ed editor of the New York Times and the man that made Netflix's top show
- Hosted the most successful event ever run by the newspaper.
- The best member of my team by interviews secured.

Global Affairs Editor. *The Oxford Blue.* 2020 – 21

- Commissioned over 50 articles for Oxford's vanguard publication.
- Worked with a dozen writers, week-in week-out.
- Commended for excellent editing by the Editor-in-Chief on three separate occasions.

Chair. *Oxford Economics Undergraduate Committee.* 2020 – 21

- Representing 1,000 of the world's brightest students at the University board
- Communicating with representatives across 33 colleges and 12 time-zones
- Hosting events with a World Bank Representative, a Peruvian politician, and a White House Commentator

Co-founder. <i>How the World Recovers.</i>	2020
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a political think-tank with a former colleague • Wrote 10,000 words of analysis on the effects of the pandemic. • Gained an audience of 2,000 people in 6 months. 	
EXPERIENCE – CULTURE & JOURNALISM	
Blogger. <i>The Oxonian.</i>	2020 – ongoing
- Publishing through a professionally hosted website I set up and administrate myself.	
Arts Content Writer and Editor. <i>Chimera.</i>	2021
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeting a crypto market of over \$1 trillion • Secured interviews with the world’s leading contemporary artists. • Working self-taught alongside interns with \$40,000 fine arts degrees. 	
Culture columnist. <i>The Flete.</i>	2020 – 21
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrote for Oxford’s first BAME-led student newspaper. • Deconstructed Futurist art and the aesthetics of China • Spent over 100 hours writing alongside my full-time degree. 	
Contributing Writer. <i>The Cherwell.</i>	2020
- My piece reached number 4 on the global Google News feed.	
Contributing Writer. <i>The Oxford Student.</i>	2020
- Writing for one of the world’s oldest student newspapers.	
FURTHER EXPERIENCE	
Research Assistant. <i>SchoolPol Project.</i>	2021 – ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working on one of the biggest politics research projects in Oxford. - Finding the impact of education on state-building throughout the 20th century. 	
Undergraduate Representative. <i>Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Committee.</i>	2021 – ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representing 24,000 students. • Professionally trained in tackling discrimination and bias. • Voicing BAME and LGBT issues to the upper echelons of academia. 	
Assistant. Mergers & Acquisitions at <i>EY.</i>	2018
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created graphics in PowerPoint and Word for an \$80m restructuring pitch. • Participated in conference calls across 7 countries. • Extracted critical information from 400+ page documents under time pressure. 	
Administrative assistant. <i>The Broadway Surgery.</i>	2017 - 18
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Securely disposing of thousands of patient records. • Reviewing hundreds of medical communications per day. • Making sensitive decisions to protect the public reputation of the surgery 	
Personal portfolio management. <i>Hargreaves Lansdown.</i>	2017 – ongoing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Managing a portfolio with double digit annualised returns - Advising friends and colleagues on five-figure trades. 	
SKILLS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interviews, writing skills, editorial experience. • Managerial expertise. • Academic and general research skills. • Social media marketing and advertisement. <i>Intermediate.</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R programming language. <i>Intermediate</i> • Equity and cryptocurrency trading. Discounted Cash Flow modelling. • Office and Google suites.
INTERESTS	
I read 365 books a year.	Computer and keyboard builder.
Classical piano. <i>Diploma level.</i>	Travel and post-Soviet culture.
100,000 words of articles published.	Fine wine.
Prolific poet and artist.	