Senior Tutors' Committee: Recommended Supervision Norms

The table below records supervision norms by Tripos. They have been agreed by Faculties and Departments, in consultation with Directors of Studies groups, and are intended to guide Directors of Studies on the number of supervisions a standard student might expect to receive for each year of study. The actual number of supervisions a given student receives may well vary according to paper choices and, in particular, to their individual academic needs. These norms are updated regularly and recirculated to Colleges each year. Term-time workload hours per week are shown within a range including all timetabled work such as lectures, supervisions, practicals; and including private study.

Supervision levels *per year*	Year 1	Total Student workload hours *per week in term*	Year 2	Total Student workload hours *per week in term*	Year 3	Total Student workload hours *per week in term*	Year 4	Total Student workload hours *per week in term*	Comments
Natural Sciences Part IA	~80	40	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Typically 4 per week in pairs, College organised. Additional note for Part IA Materials Sciences IA 11-12 hours per week. Lectures 3hrs, Supervisions 1hr, Practicals 3hrs, Private study 4-5hrs.
Natural Sciences Part IB	N/A	N/A	~60	40	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Typically 3 per week in pairs, College organised. Additional note for Part IB Materials Sciences: IB 14-15 hours per week. Lectures 3hrs, Supervisions 1 hr, Practicals 3 hrs, Project work 2 hrs, Private study 5-6hrs. Additional note for IB HPS: Students are expected to attend lectures and supervisions and pursue appropriate amounts of private study and preparation work for their papers and project work both during term and in the Christmas and Easter vacations. The Higher Education Policy Institute (HEPI) has calculated that the average amount of scheduled teaching in full-time History and Philosophy of Science subjects at the University of Cambridge is 11 hours and 12 minutes per week, with private study of approximately 33 hours and 18 minutes per week. Therefore the average amount of work expected per week by each student during term time is around 45 hours (900 hours in total during the course of the year). NST Part IB History and Philosophy of Science is one of three options for the year (33%). Students have 60 hours of formal teaching and 24 hours of supervision, leaving 216 hours for private study and preparation for supervisions specific to HPS (approximately 10 hours per week).
Part II Earth Sciences	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	~24	Pt II 10-15hrs/wk for project, 10-12 for each course.	N/A	N/A	Approx hours based on 2 hours per core lecture module (3 options for Part II and 2 options for Part II Physical Sciences). Part II Includes four hours project supervision (taken over the preceding Easter Term and Michaelmas).
Part III and MASt Earth Sciences	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	~24	Pt III 30-35hrs/wk for project, 20-25 for coursework.	Approx hours based on 2 hours per option (6 options). Part III and MASt includes 12 project supervisions in Michaelmas. It is recommended that Colleges organise 4-5 general supervisions for presentation, writing and critical review skills.