

## The Nomvuyo Ngwaxaxa Scholarship at Ruskin College, Oxford

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The Nomvuyo (Vuyo) Ngwaxaxa scholarship is for a woman trade union activist/official from the Republic of South Africa to carry out full time post graduate studies for one year on the masters' degree (MA) in International Labour and Trade Union Studies (ILTUS) at Ruskin College, Oxford. This new scholarship has been founded in the memory of Vuyo whose mission was to encourage women union activists to empower themselves through education. She died much too young but her vision lives on through this scholarship programme.

A second scholarship is also available for a woman trade union activist/official from outside the UK/European Union. The scholarships are available for entry onto the new MA ILTUS programme starting October 2014. The scholarship contributes to tuition fees, accommodation and travel costs. Student visa, and allied costs, must be borne by the successful applicants.

Ruskin College is working closely with the UK's TUC in promoting the new scholarships. We welcome applicants who can demonstrate a considerable interest in post-graduate study and show how this experience will contribute to their labour movement activity in their home country and/or internationally.

If you wish to apply for a scholarship you will first need to apply for, and be accepted onto, the MA programme. You will also be required to be in receipt of a valid student visa for study in the UK for the period of the MA programme (Oct 2014 – Jun 2015) and must ensure that this is in place prior to the start of the new programme.

Applicants for a place on the MA ILTUS should hold a relevant first degree (or equivalent) in the social sciences or an allied field. Ruskin College can accept those without a first degree onto the MA although they will be required to demonstrate a strong capacity to undertake post-graduate study, and evidence significant experience of trade union activity.

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Contact Ian Manborde ([imanborde@ruskin.ac.uk](mailto:imanborde@ruskin.ac.uk)) to arrange an informal discussion about the MA.

The 2014-16 MA ILTUS prospectus is here: [http://issuu.com/mailtus/docs/ma\\_outlined\\_version\\_1](http://issuu.com/mailtus/docs/ma_outlined_version_1)

YouTube video of student comments: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSOR3XvcXf4>

YouTube video of ILTUS programme: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oV2gler4SI8>

## The MA ILTUS

The MA is a prestigious post-graduate international programme run by a College with a strong historical and contemporary reputation for delivering outstanding education and training to trade union activists and officials from across the world. The MA enables students to investigate and analyse key challenges to organised labour globally and to develop the academic skills to undertake research which helps generate a range of credible, authoritative responses. The MA is led by a core teaching staff with significant experience of teaching and learning with trade unionists and the programme is supplemented by leading academics and practitioners in the field.

MA students benefit from studying in a first class educational environment, with a library dedicated to providing resources specifically for ILTUS students. Ruskin students also benefit from membership of the outstanding facilities and resources of the Oxford University library service, which is a major resource to support study and research activity. Ruskin students are also able to attend a selected range of lectures delivered by the different colleges of Oxford University.

## What alumni say about their experience of the MA ILTUS at Ruskin College



“The MA has broadened my understanding of union revitalisation and examples from unions in various parts of the world that have embarked on strategies and actions to confront and arrest union decline and crisis”

Ariel B. Castro, Senior Specialist for Workers' Activities  
ILO Sub-Regional Office for South Asia



“The MA is an incredible experience and I encourage any trade unionist to take the time to update and refresh their knowledge of the major ways that labour movements are challenged and of what we can do about this. I learnt so much about myself and my work as a trade unionist during my time at Ruskin, I encourage you to enrol.”

Mary Ogunbiyi-Samuel  
Nigerian National Union of Teachers (NUT)



“We face so many challenges in our own countries and globally as trade unionists, the MA at Ruskin gives you the knowledge and skills to understand what we can do to strengthen and build trade unions internationally. Ruskin is a fantastic place to learn and I have been able to put so much of what I have learnt into practice”

Adams Barasa (Assistant to the General Secretary)  
Kenyan Trades Union Congress (KTUC)