Welcome to Ruskin College.

I am delighted that you are thinking of joining us.

Your experience is at the heart of all that we do – the way that we teach and the way that you will learn is unique. We pride ourselves on our individualised approach to learning, with small interactive group sessions, modern facilities, and expert tuition. This ensures that you will receive an outstanding educational experience. Students at Ruskin College tell us that their time here has inspired them, increased their confidence, supported personal growth, and ensured their progression into employment or further study.

We are dedicated to ensuring that your journey with us will be enriching and fulfilling, and that when you complete your course, you will be leaving us with the skills you need and confidence to build your future.

I look forward to meeting you.

Paul Di Felice
PRINCIPAL

Established in 1899, Ruskin College has a well-earned reputation as a ground-breaking college, combining life-transforming education with an enduring commitment to social justice.

We offer residential adult learning to people of all ages and backgrounds. With historic links to the University of Oxford, we offer university-standard education and facilities, without the need for qualifications.

Second chance at education
For many of our adult learners, financial, personal or social obstacles have made it impossible for them to take educational chances earlier in their lives. Ruskin exists to put that right.

Courses for all
We have courses to suit everyone, whatever the situation: whether it’s vocational short courses, degree programmes, apprenticeships or simply a desire to develop your personal interests.

Social change
For us, education is about social change too. By transforming the lives of adults who deserve a second chance in education, we know that they will make their communities better places too.

About Ruskin

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Our Vision
A society where everyone has access to quality education regardless of their background, and the opportunity to fulfil their potential.

Our Mission
To provide the best level of education and inclusion opportunities to adults - particularly those who may be excluded or disadvantaged - and to transform the individuals concerned along with the communities, groups and societies from which they came.

Our Values
Students First: providing inspirational teaching and learning opportunities
Respect: valuing everyone, all the time
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion: creating a supportive environment
Excellence: setting high expectations
Pride, Celebration and Loyalty: positive attitudes towards studying and working

From the Principal

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Ruskin has a proud and rich history. The college was founded in 1899 by two Americans, Charles Beard and Walter Vrooman, who studied at Oxford University and decided that the same level of education should be available to everyone, not just the elite.

The college was founded at a time of real ferment in political and educational thinking, and it gave a voice to disenfranchised working class people; it empowered them to act more effectively on behalf of communities and organisations such as workers’ unions, societies and institutes.

**Labour Party**

Numerous high profile Labour MPs have passed through our doors, including Clement Attlee, John Prescott and Dennis Skinner. Several serving Labour MPs were educated at Ruskin.

**Activism**

Ruskin’s drive for social progress brought with it a history of activism. The college has campaigned tirelessly in defence of human rights and equality. It was the birthplace of the Women’s National Liberation Movement.

**Trade Unions**

Ruskin enjoys close ties with Trade Unions, which has seen thousands of Trade Unionists educated at the college each year and many of Ruskin’s alumni go on to take key positions on trade unions bodies.

**Transformative learning**

Today the main college activity takes place at our spacious and modern Headington campus. Here, Ruskin continues to provide transformative learning to its students, its communities and society as a whole.
You have a right to education, no matter what. We are passionate about breaking down barriers to your learning and enabling you to fulfil your potential in a supportive and progressive environment.

We put you first
Our teaching is designed around you: your ambitions and your needs. We will find a level of study that works for you and support you at every step.

University links
We are connected to the University of Oxford. This means top-level teaching, Oxford-style tutorials and access to University facilities.

Small class sizes and personalised support
Our class sizes are small and you will receive personalised support. We will inspire and guide you into further study and work.

A better society
Your studies will have a knock-on effect: your community will benefit too. Society will be enriched by your personal experience.

Bright futures
Students go on to the next levels of education, at Ruskin or top universities. Many go on to work in education, social work, media, management and politics.

Our residential campus has a real community feel in a quiet and leafy location, with lots of outdoor space, yet we are only a short distance from the bustling city of Oxford.

The Callaghan Library
Opened in 2012, our library is the heartbeat of study at Ruskin. It is stocked with over 40,000 books, with lots of work space, and has great views over the surrounding countryside.

Campus and facilities
When you’re not studying, you can wander our spacious, wooded campus, enjoy refreshments with friends in our award-winning café, or relax in our stunning 18th century walled garden.

Cultural diversity
Our friendly college community is culturally diverse and full of life, with people of all ages and backgrounds. Our active Students’ Union looks after your interests and organises activities.

Speakers and events
We are also one of the top venues for literary and political meetings in Oxford. You can enjoy speakers, music and poetry evenings, and plenty of other events in our performance space.

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Residential Study

Living on campus is one of the special features of life at Ruskin. As a residential college, you can stay here during your studies and experience first-hand the truly community feel of life on campus.

Modern facilities in beautiful surroundings
Our large, modern rooms are in small residential sections dotted around our wooded campus, with lots of space and uninterrupted views across the countryside. You share a range of modern shared facilities with your neighbours and either en-suite or shared bathrooms.

Long or short-stay
Whether you are on a residential short courses or wish to stay with us long-term during your studies, we have options to suit you.

Fully-funded accommodation
Many students on our adult courses can benefit from full funding for their accommodation. Others make the most of low cost long-term stays on our modern, attractive campus near Oxford.

Disabled students
We have rooms that are fully equipped to cater for our disabled students. All rooms are wheelchair accessible.

Oxford on your doorstep
You are only minutes away from the buzz of the cosmopolitan city of Oxford. Oxford has great shopping and entertainment options and is only a short distance from London.
Our Accommodation

Our accommodation blocks are spread around our spacious and tranquil campus. It may feel like the countryside, but each block is in close proximity to all college facilities and no distance from local amenities. Each of the intimate residential buildings is unique in character and fully equipped to cater for your needs, providing a positive communal living experience.

Webb House
Opened in 1988 by then-Leader of the Labour Party Rt Hon Neil Kinnock, Webb House is our newest block and the model of modern residential living. With 28 en-suite rooms and shared facilities, Webb House represents a home from home for many of our students.

Biko House
In 1976, Labour Prime Minster Jim Callaghan laid the foundation stone for Biko House, named after South African anti-apartheid activist Steve Biko. The building consists of 21 modern rooms over two floors, with shared bathrooms and cutting-edge facilities, making for an ideal shared living environment.
Bowen House
With construction completed in 1965, Bowen House offers well-appointed rooms, modern shared facilities and a key position on campus. Named after Irish novelist Elizabeth Bowen, who resided nearby, the block backs onto fields, with stunning countryside views.

Stoke House
Stoke House, purchased in 1965, was originally built in the 17th Century and retains much of its original charm. Just outside the college gates, yet within 100 metres of college, Stoke House has a rural feel, with lots of outdoor space, large beamed rooms and modern en-suite facilities.
As a student at Ruskin, you will be joining a special community. Whether around campus or in the classroom, you will benefit from university-level teaching in a uniquely supportive environment.

In the classroom
With small class sizes and an inclusive and supportive teaching model, your pathway to learning will be smooth. You will have a personal tutor in your subject area, who will lead tutorials, help you develop your study skills and facilitate your learning.

Student Services
Our friendly Student Services team are dedicated to making your student experience as seamless as possible. They will be your first stop for issues and advice outside of your teaching, including your course application, funding and welfare support, accommodation options and childcare support. The team are on hand to help you with registration and timetables, UCAS applications and certification.

Student Welfare
Your welfare is our priority and we want you to enjoy a happy and safe learning environment. You can discuss any issue or concern with us and use our free and confidential counselling service.

Disability Support
You will receive full provision for your disability. We will advise you about studying here and provide on-going support and resources to make sure your learning isn’t hindered in any way.

International Students
We are a diverse college community with students from all over the world studying here. Please contact us to find out more about applying to Ruskin from overseas.
Our Courses

Sustainable Education

Ruskin offers transformational learning - for individuals aged 19 to 99. We change the lives of our students, but we have a social agenda too. Our courses are designed to feed back into our college community, wider communities and society as a whole: a sustainable education.

We offer Residential and Short Courses through to University Programmes and Apprenticeships in the categories below. See our Course Directory or our website www.ruskin.ac.uk for more details.

Business & Management

You can find the right educational path for you with our wide range of business and management courses. Whether you are taking your first steps into employment or wish to develop your professional skills and confidence, we have a range of courses to suit you.

Community, Youth & Social Work

Education at Ruskin has always been about the transformation we make not just to individuals, but also to our communities. The focus of our programme of Community, Youth & Social Work courses is towards working with people, young and old, to improve society as a whole.

Health & Wellbeing

Whether your focus is the welfare of others or your own wellbeing, we provide courses that aim to develop you as an individual and enable you to improve the lives of others. From nursing, social care and counselling through to addiction, mental health and yoga, no area is left uncovered.

Political Literacy & Activism

Ruskin is rooted in working class education, Trade Unions and activism in pursuit of social progress and this makes up a key area of our educational provision. We offer courses spanning politics, the social sciences and Trade Unions, that will equip you to help build a fairer society.

Skills to Change Your Life

We have a wide range of English, Maths, IT and employability courses that will help you make key changes to your life. Whether you are looking to get into employment, to progress in your work, or simply to generate the skills to improve your life in the UK, we have the course for you.

Sustainability

As a college with activism at our heart, environmental sustainability is a crucial and urgent issue for us. We offer a variety of courses that will help you understand more about the challenges we face and enable you to make a difference in your local and global communities.

Come to an Open Day

Open Days are a great way for you to find out more about life at Ruskin: our teaching, our courses, our campus and how we can help you take the next step on your learning journey.
Fees & Funding

Adult Courses

19-23 years old?
You can apply for fully funded Entry Level, Level 1 or Level 2 courses.
You can get funding for a Level 3 Access to Higher Education course if you don’t already have a Level 3 qualification.

24+ and unemployed?
You can apply for fully funded Entry Level, Level 1 or Level 2 courses.
Level 3 courses will be part-funded and for Level 3 Access to Higher Education courses you would need an Advanced Learner Loan.

19+ and have a qualification at Level 3?
Level 3 courses will be part-funded and for Level 3 Access to Higher Education courses you would need an Advanced Learner Loan.

24+ and in work?
You can apply for fully funded Entry Level courses.
Level 1, 2 and 3 courses will be part-funded and for Level 3 Access to Higher Education courses you would need an Advanced Learner Loan.

University Programmes
We can help you apply for a government loan with Student Finance England to cover your tuition fees. You can also apply for a maintenance loan to help pay for your living costs.

Asylum Seekers
If you have lived in the UK for at least six months and are receiving local authority support, we can help you get funding for your studies here.

Childcare
We can help you access financial support for your childcare costs, depending on your household income.

We can help
If you have any questions about funding, we are here to help you at every step. Contact our Student Money Adviser at sma@ruskin.ac.uk or call us on 01865 759600.

Find out more: www.ruskin.ac.uk
Ruskin College is three miles from Oxford city centre and can easily be reached by car and public transport.

Driving
We are one of the only places to provide free parking in Oxford. We are fortunate enough to have a strong relationship with Oxford City Football Club – where students can park for free. There are regular shuttle buses to and from the club each morning and afternoon.

Taking the Bus
There are regular buses running between Headington and the city centre – it only takes 10 minutes. There are also coaches running 24 hours a day to and from London.

Cycling
Oxford is the city of bikes! We have plenty of space for you to store your bike on the campus, making it a great option for travelling to and from college.