

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

***Please note that the Graduate Open Day for 2020 has had to be cancelled due to the Pandemic.***

***We are unable to give tours of the School under any circumstances.***

### ***How do I apply to do a DPhil (PhD) at the Ruskin?***

DPhil is the name for a PhD that is used at the University of Oxford. Applications are made online. Guidance is provided in these links:

<https://www.rsa.ox.ac.uk/study/dphil/applying-to-study-for-a-dphil>

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/courses/dphil-fine-art>

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/admissions/graduate/applying-to-oxford/application-guide>

### ***Do I need to contact a potential supervisor before applying?***

No - unlike at many other universities, you do not need to contact a potential supervisor before you submit your application. Admission to the DPhil programme is organised centrally at the Ruskin, so there is no need to discuss your project with a proposed supervisor in advance. We are a small School and this ensures that the admission process is as fair and equitable as possible. If your application is successful, your supervisor or supervisors will be appointed before you begin your programme of study.

### ***Can I nominate a preferred supervisor on my application form?***

Yes – but the School cannot guarantee that your preferred supervisor will be available for supervision.

### ***Can a member of staff read or check through my submission/ proposal / portfolio?***

No – feedback cannot be provided on prospective applications. The School receives a very large number of submissions and it is not possible to comment on individual proposals. Instead, you are encouraged to apply through the online system so that your project can be properly considered by a panel of assessors.

### ***What funding is available?***

A guide to funding is provided here: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/fees-funding>

Please note that should you wish to apply for ***The Open-Oxford-Cambridge Doctoral Partnership (AHRC)*** you must complete the application form at the same time as you submit your application: <https://oocdtp.web.ox.ac.uk/>. Applications cannot be accepted after this point.

Most Oxford scholarships are awarded between late February and June. The approximate date by which decisions are expected to be made will normally be given in the relevant scholarship information, as linked through the [Fees, Funding and Scholarship Search](#). **Only successful applicants are notified of the outcome.**

***The School strongly recommends that you look for alternative forms of funding since only limited funding is available through the University. Funding is not guaranteed when offered a place on the DPhil programme.***

### ***How do I apply for an English Language Waiver?***

To request a waiver, please answer the questions in the online application form. If you have substantial professional experience, you must provide further details of your employment to support your request.

### ***How do I submit my portfolio?***

Portfolios should be hosted on a website or service that is publicly accessible via the internet (such as Vimeo, YouTube, Flickr, or your own website). The URL and the password for the portfolio should be included on a separate page in the 'written work' material to accompany your application. We will not accept any portfolios submitted via email or portfolios uploaded in a PDF file. If you cannot provide a web-based portfolio, please email [graduate@rsa.ox.ac.uk](mailto:graduate@rsa.ox.ac.uk) to discuss alternative arrangements.

### ***Will interviews take place online this year?***

Yes – due to the pandemic all interviews will take place on line.

### ***If I am offered a place, can I defer entry to the following year?***

No – the School does not offer deferrals. The offer of a place is only valid for admission in the agreed year of study.