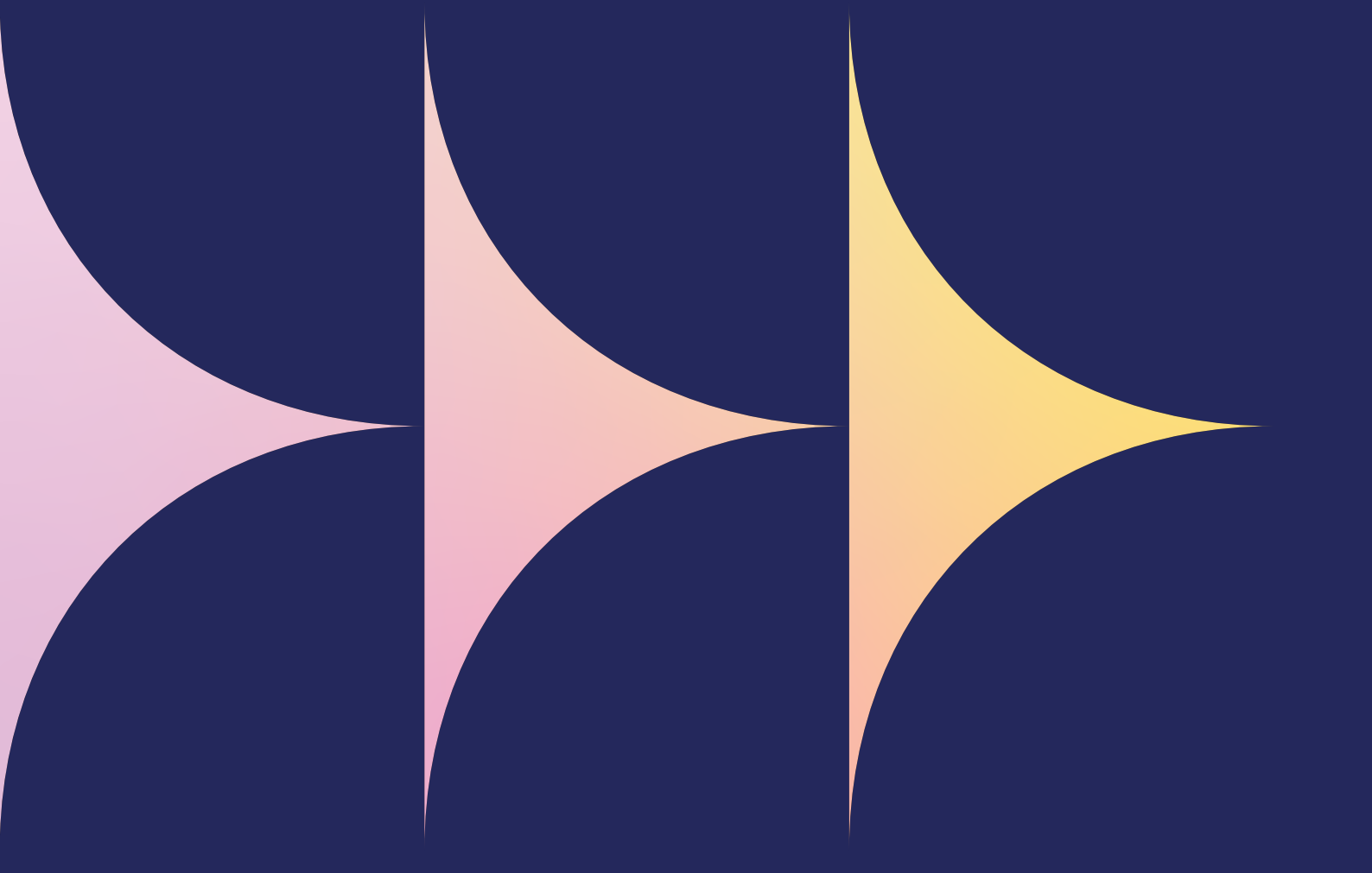


Make a new start

Studying with The Open University

A guide for learners 2024/2025





**The
future
is Open**

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Please note, for people in prisons, acceptance onto Open University study is always at the discretion of the Prison Governor or their appointed representative.

The Open University offers a number of other modules and qualifications in addition to those described in this prospectus. We have not included them here as they are not available to those without full online access. Once restrictions are removed, students will be able to register on modules outside of those listed here.

Introducing The Open University

Life-changing learning

The Open University (OU) has changed the lives of more than two million people, bringing them new knowledge, skills, interests and inspiration, and helping them achieve new goals. The main reason we're called The Open University is that we are open to everyone. Every year, we help thousands of people achieve extraordinary things and you could be next. You simply need the determination to succeed.

What you can study

The OU offers qualifications in a broad range of subjects and provides access to many educational opportunities, from short introductory modules to longer, broader modules leading to degrees and other recognised qualifications. The choices you make will affect the funding sources you are able to apply for.

Find out more about financial support on pages 11–13.

Many of our modules can be studied by people in secure environments, and many do not require any prior knowledge of the subject – but you'll normally be expected to show that you can study successfully at National Qualifications Framework (NQF) Level 2 or above, or its equivalent.

If studying from a prison in Scotland, you'll be required to provide evidence that you have studied successfully at Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Level 6 in a relevant subject such as English (Scottish Highers equate to SCQF Level 6).

In Ireland, you must have studied successfully to Leaving Certificate level or QQI level 5 in at least two subjects.

Your education department or learning centre can tell you more about entry levels and the qualifications and modules available to you, subject to your particular circumstances.

Our students

Students in secure environments, and those in the community with restrictions, have been studying successfully with the OU for many years. They include people from all backgrounds, many of whom have previously had negative experiences of education. OU studies have given students in secure environments something constructive and stimulating to focus on and helped them gain confidence and belief in their own abilities. For some, taking OU modules has been an end in itself – for others, it has led to valuable qualifications and provided opportunities for a new start when they return to the community.



Entry requirements

Unlike other universities, there are no formal academic entry requirements to study most of the OU's undergraduate qualifications. However, you'll need to satisfy your education department or learning centre that you're ready to take on OU study and that there are no security or public protection issues that would make a particular course of study inappropriate. In Scotland, you'll also have to satisfy the eligibility criteria laid down by the Higher Education Access Board (HEAB).

Where to start

If you haven't studied at university level before, or it's been a long time since you last studied, you may prefer to begin with an Access module. They are specially designed to help you find out what it's like to study with the OU, get a taste of a subject area, develop your study skills, and build your confidence. These modules include the same high-quality teaching materials and study support we're famous for and are also fascinating and fun to do. For more information about Access modules see pages 7–8.

If you have studied at university level before:

- but did not attain a qualification, you may be able to start at a higher level. You might also be able to count credit from previous study towards a qualification, but you'll need to apply for credit transfer before registering
- and already have a higher education qualification, you may still study but there are different rules regarding funding for your studies.

In either of these two instances, contact your education department or learning centre who can advise you on next steps. The final decision on where you can start your studies rests with the Prison Governor, their appointed representative (or with the HEAB in Scotland), or other appropriate authority who must approve all applications.



From that first assignment, I received tremendous feedback from The Open University and felt really motivated to continue and improve my performance. The OU tutor recognised my solitary learning experience and my self-esteem increased immeasurably.

Andy
HMP Prescoed



How OU study works

Beginning your studies with an Access module

Access modules are introductory modules offered in a range of subjects with lots of support and no exams. They are designed to enable you to develop your confidence and study skills before signing up for a qualification (and, if you're a student in England or Wales, before committing to a student loan). In England and Wales, you may be able to study an Access module free of charge through special funding arrangements with the Prisoners' Education Trust (PET).

If you're in Scotland, Northern Ireland or Wales, your national centre will be able to advise on funding.

Alternative funding options may be available for students in secure hospitals or those studying from the community. For more information, please contact our Students in Secure

Environments Registration Team or The Open University in Scotland, Northern Ireland or Wales if appropriate.

You can find more information about Access modules on pages 7–8.

The information that follows is about studying for a qualification, by which we mean a number of modules leading to a certificate, diploma or a degree. For more information about studying modules as standalone courses, and for details of the modules we offer, ask your education department or learning centre to contact our Students in Secure Environments Registration Team or The Open University in Scotland, Northern Ireland or Wales if appropriate.

Our flexible and supportive approach to education allows you to study for a qualification with confidence.

What you can study

Whatever the change you want to make, whatever your goal, it starts here with one of our highly respected undergraduate qualifications. You can study towards a degree or start with a certificate or diploma of higher education and build on your studies as you go.

For practical reasons, such as a requirement for internet access to study the relevant modules, not all of these can be made available to students in secure environments, although you may be able to register on other modules depending on any legal restrictions imposed after your release. The following information will help you decide which qualification is best for you.

- **Certificate of higher education**
Get a general grounding or improve your understanding of a subject area.
- **Diploma of higher education**
Expand your knowledge and improve your skillset in a specialised area.
- **Named degree**
Complete modules in a specific subject to earn an honours degree and open doors to a new interest or career.
- **Open degree**
Design your own honours degree and include modules from different subject areas to suit your needs and interests.

Please note that in England and Wales you'll only be able to apply for a student loan if you're studying towards a qualification and have declared this to The Open University.



Building your qualification

You'll need to build up credits to gain your qualification. Here's how it works.

The different stages

You'll need to complete:

- one stage for a certificate of higher education
- two stages for a diploma of higher education
- three stages for an honours degree.

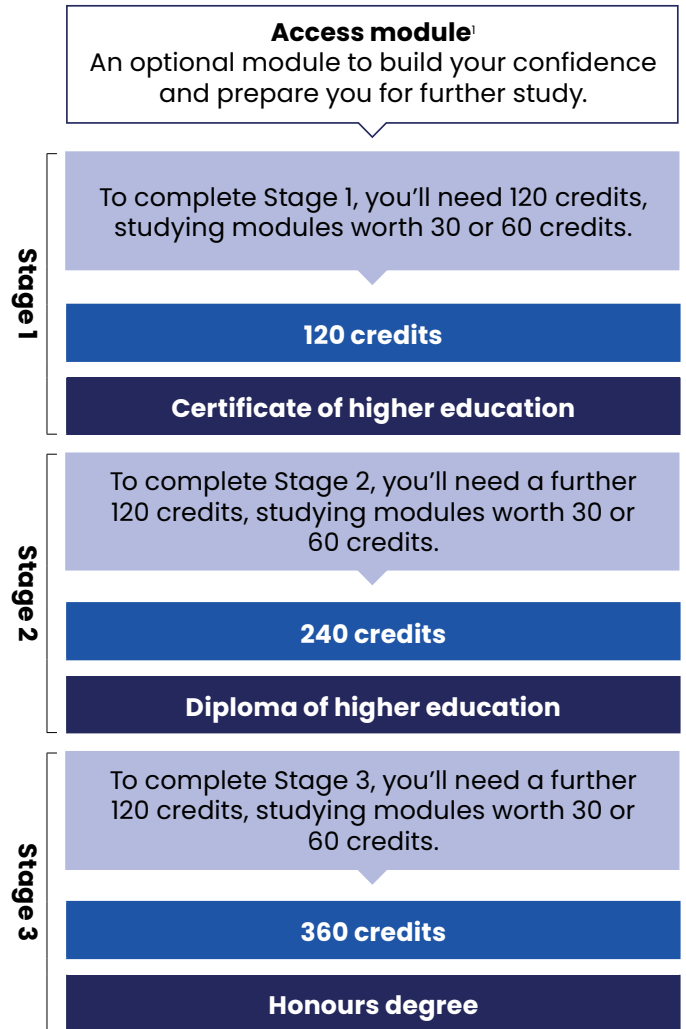
To complete each stage, you must build up a set number of credits.

The credits you need

- You'll need 120 credits to complete each stage.
- You gain credits by successfully completing modules.

The modules available

- With each module you pass, you'll earn a set number of credits, usually 30 or 60.
- Modules are either compulsory or chosen from a range of options.



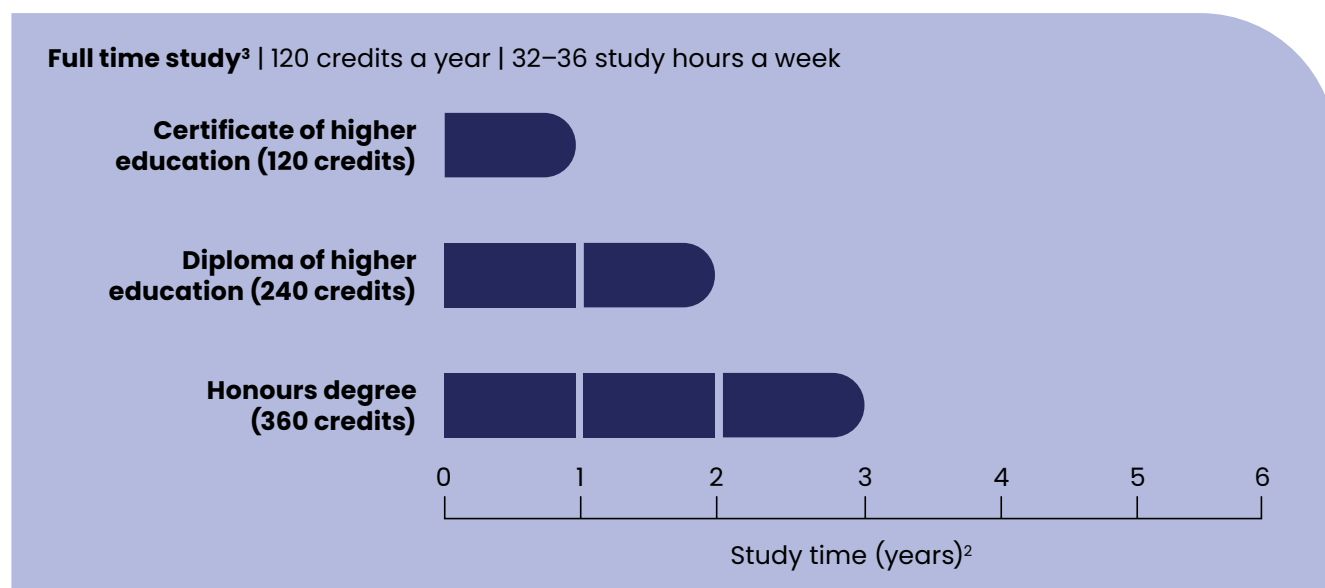
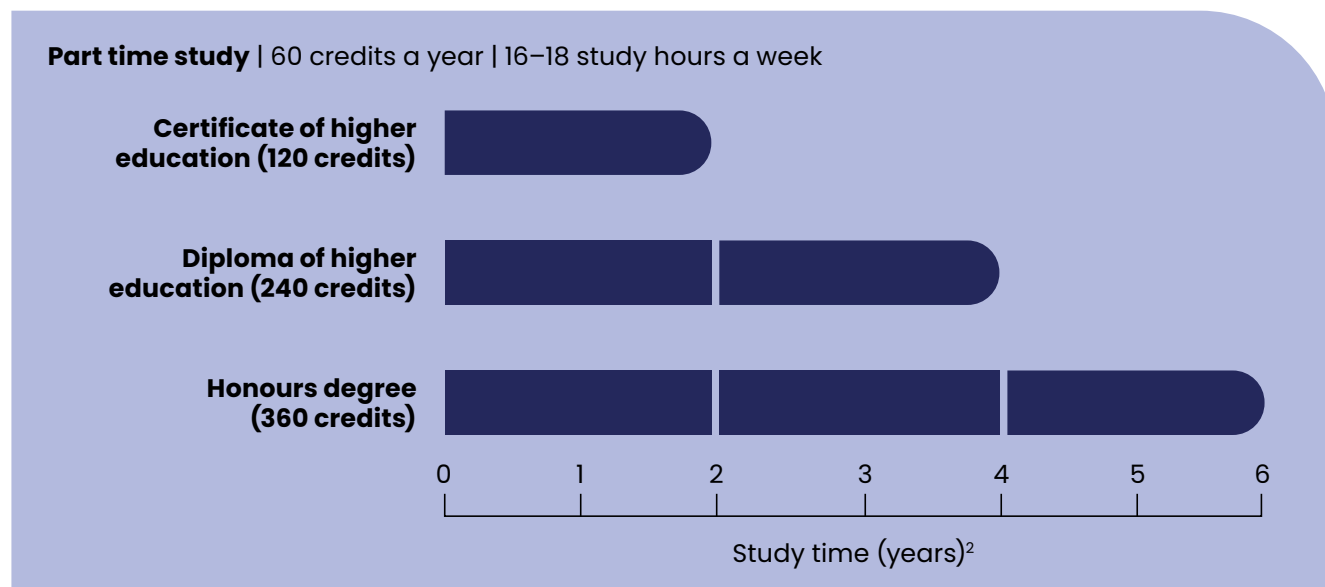
¹ Only available in the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Ireland.

How long your qualification will take

We give you the flexibility to choose the amount of study you want to take on each year. That means you can get the qualification you want in a timeframe that works for you.

Most of our students study part time, gaining 60 credits a year. That's like studying at half the rate of a full-time course at a campus-based university. If you want to complete your study at full-time equivalent intensity, you'll need to gain 120 credits per year.

The guide below gives you an idea of how long your qualification could take.¹



¹ Some qualifications follow a different pattern of study. See individual descriptions on our website for more information.

² Study time is the period between starting your first module and completing your last module. It doesn't necessarily include the time we need to release your module result(s) or award your qualification.

³ All OU students are considered part-time students. This remains the same even if you choose to study at a full-time equivalent intensity.

Prepare for study with an Access module

We're different to other universities because we're open to people based on their potential rather than their prior qualifications.

Our students come from a diverse range of educational backgrounds, so we offer a choice of starting points depending on how confident you are in your study skills. You can dive straight into your qualification, or you can get started with an optional Access module. You just need to be ordinarily resident in the UK (time spent in prison does not count towards residency).

An Access module could be a great first step. It can also help you find out more about your interests and where you want your learning to take you.

What you can study

Each Access module covers relevant topics and develops the skills you'll need as you continue your chosen qualification. You'll explore a range of broadly related subjects within one module. That means you'll have the time and space to discover where your natural interests lie before settling on your ultimate qualification goal.

Arts and languages Access module (Y031)

Gain a broad and diverse introduction to nine subject areas. Study art history, English language, English literature, creative writing, modern languages, history, religious studies, classical studies, and music. This fascinating module is ideal if you're looking to explore your creative side and hone your study skills.

Business and law Access module (Y035)

Develop an understanding of law and business, develop confidence in academic writing and build your study skills. You'll focus on some of the big issues in these important subject areas and the effects they have on our daily lives. By using case studies, and considering key debates, you'll explore a wider theme of resolving differences and working together.

Psychology, social science and wellbeing (Y034)

Get an introduction to the wide-ranging topics that make up the social sciences. You'll engage with theory and real-world events to build up your skills and knowledge.

Science, technology and maths Access module (Y033)

Grow your knowledge in a range of technical subjects, including science, engineering and design, environment, mathematics, and computing and IT. As the foundation for further studies in these fields, this module will help build your confidence and prepare you for more OU study.

Skills development built in

Our study materials will develop not only your knowledge, but your skills and confidence too. They're designed especially to help with refreshing your study techniques – it might have been a while since you last studied, or you might prefer getting to grips with distance learning at a gentler pace. Whatever your circumstances, an Access module is excellent preparation for the next step of your student journey.



Students who start with an Access module are more likely to be successful when they advance to OU Stage 1 study.

World-class resources

On the Virtual Campus (only in prisons in England and Wales)

If you study using the Virtual Campus you'll have access to all the resources available on the Access module sites.¹

¹ The Business and Law Access module is not available on the Virtual Campus.

You'll receive login details from your education department when you're registered. The Access module sites on the Virtual Campus contain the audio and video materials as well as module quizzes and interactive activities. Website functionality is dependant on local IT settings.

Using the offline pack

We'll send you all your study materials, including books, printed materials and a disc if available. All of these materials are included as part of your funded place through the Steps to Success Scheme.

You will require access to a computer to play the disc provided.

All students receive an offline pack – including those students using the Virtual Campus.

No exam

Instead, you'll complete four, short, written assignments plus a few smaller assessed pieces of work. Our study materials will support you and build your confidence to submit your work – you'll also receive detailed feedback to develop your skills.

Start dates and study duration

Access modules start in February, May and October. They usually last for 30 weeks. Each week requires around nine or ten hours of study. We recommend that you apply early to guarantee your place.

Funding your Access module

The arrangements for the funding of higher education differs across the four nations of the UK. The fees and funding available to you are based on where you're ordinarily resident.

England or Wales

The fee for students ordinarily resident in England is £909, and if you're ordinarily resident in Wales the fee is £328.

The Steps to Success Scheme offers you the opportunity to study an Access module fully funded by the Prisoners' Education Trust (PET).

To qualify for a funded place you must:

- be serving a sentence of imprisonment in the UK
- be ordinarily resident in England or Wales (time spent in prison does not count towards your residency)
- be a UK national or have settled status in the UK under the terms of the Immigration Act 1971
- have not completed any more than one year on a full-time undergraduate programme at NQF Level 4 or above or completed 30 credits or more of OU study
- have authorisation from the Prison Governor or his/her appointed representative to study an Access module
- have an earliest release date that is within eight years of the first day of the first academic year of your Access module.

Our Students in Secure Environments Registration Team will be able to advise on residency requirements and answer any queries you may have.

If you meet the stated criteria it's likely you'll be eligible for a place.

How to apply

Our Students in Secure Environments Registration Team will advise on the application process and how to apply to the PET for funding.

Northern Ireland or Scotland

The fee in Northern Ireland is £290 and the fee in Scotland is £297. Your OU national centre will be able to advise on the funding available in your nation.

Tuition Fee Loan

If you don't meet the criteria for funding through the Steps to Success Scheme, or you're unable to secure other funding and you're ordinarily resident in England or Wales, you may be able to cover the cost of your Access module with a Tuition Fee Loan, also referred to as a student loan (see pages 11–13 for further information).

Other ways to pay

You can fund yourself and pay up front and in full, or you can pay via a third party (this is not an option if you're studying from prison in Scotland). Please contact us for more information regarding other funding sources and their deadlines.

Support for your studies

You'll be supported throughout your studies in a variety of ways via a range of sources.

Your OU tutor

Just before you start a module you'll be assigned a tutor, who will help you through the module. They may also be able to provide telephone tutorials (when permitted).

You submit assignments regularly to your tutor via your education department or learning centre. If you are studying from the community you will be able to submit your assignments via email. Your tutor will mark your work and offer constructive teaching comments to help you.

If you need help between tutorials, contact your tutor or ask your education department or learning centre to contact your tutor for you.

If you're in prison in England or Wales, and the Virtual Campus is available to you, then you may be able to contact your tutor using this facility.

Student support teams

Your education department or learning centre has access to further support through the OU's Students in Secure Environments teams. The OU has staff across England, Scotland, Wales and Ireland (covering both Northern Ireland and Ireland) who look after students in secure environments and support the education staff.

These staff have access to information and resources for all aspects of OU study and can provide specialist advice and guidance to help with study choices, careers options, and fees and funding. There's a dedicated Student Registration Team in each nation for students in secure environments.

Study guidance and support

Almost all OU students have moments when they find studying tough. You may lose confidence or motivation and might even think about giving up your studies. The OU has a great deal of experience in helping students in this situation and we encourage you to ask for this help when it's needed. We can, for example, help you with planning your studies and with skills in reading and note-taking, completing assignments, and preparing for examinations and other assessments.

If you are in prison, you can ask your education department or learning centre to approach the University about this kind of additional help. If you are in the community you can reach out to us directly.

Offline access to learning materials

The Open University uses a blend of printed and online learning materials but recognises that most students in secure environments do not have access to the internet. At the time of publishing this prospectus, the modules included in this publication can all be made accessible to students who do not have internet access. This is achieved by using alternative formats and therefore the learning experience will be different. Our Students in Secure Environments Registration Team can provide advice on specific requirements for individual modules. We advise you to check the latest situation before you register.



Disabilities and additional needs

The OU is committed to helping students with disabilities and additional needs. It's important you let the University know about the support you might need for your study so that we can put arrangements in place to help you succeed. We may, for example, be able to provide alternative format materials. You may be eligible for other disability-related support on release, so it's important that you share your disability or additional needs.

Audio and video material

Many modules will supply a disc which can be played in a computer and some Blu-ray players. These discs will have all of the audio and video files included in your module if you do not have access to them via the Virtual Campus or through your module website.

If you cannot use the disc provided, you will also be supplied with a transcript which will allow you to access the content of audio/video materials.

The Virtual Campus (only in prisons in England and Wales)

This is a secure intranet that may be available if you're resident in prison. The OU Virtual Learning Environment is hosted on the Virtual Campus and allows students to use all the digital study materials, with the exception of the tutor group forum and external hyperlinks, as use is restricted by HMPPS. Using the Virtual Campus can greatly enhance your study experience, giving you access to audio-visual study materials as well as the ability to use the system's Secure Relay Messaging Service to contact your tutor and submit your assignments via your education department.

We have worked hard to make almost all of our modules available on the Virtual Campus this year and with the recent upgrades to prison IT systems, we hope that many more students will be able to take advantage of this.

Our landing page includes a range of study skills booklets which you might find useful. You can also find some short courses on **Skills for Study** and **Skills for Work** under the **My Learning** section of the Virtual Campus.

Please note that the Virtual Campus is not available to students in secure hospitals, although these students may have other options for accessing digital materials.

Fees and financial support – for undergraduate study

The following guidance is provided for individuals who are currently serving a sentence of imprisonment. If you're currently an inpatient in a secure hospital, you may be eligible for alternative Access funding, Part-Time Tuition Fee Loan funding, or a Part-time Fee Grant in Scotland. If this applies to you, our Students in Secure Environments Registration Team can provide advice on funding options appropriate to your individual circumstances.

The arrangements for the funding of higher education are different across the four nations of the UK and internationally. The fees and funding available to you are based on where you're ordinarily resident, rather than on the location of your prison. When we say, 'ordinarily resident', we mean the country you were resident in before the start of your prison sentence (time spent in prison does not count as your ordinary residence).

England

Access module fee is £909. Funding is available through the Prisoners' Education Trust (PET) Steps to Success Scheme which will pay for your Access module. Speak to your education department about applying for PET funding.

Standard module fee is calculated per credit, and individual modules are worth either 30 or 60 credits. The table below provides examples of different study intensities and the associated fees.

Credits each year	Cost per year ¹
30	£1,818
60	£3,636

¹ 2024/25 prices (exceptions apply). Fees typically increase annually. In England, fees are subject to the part-time fee limit, as set out in section C.2 of the University's Fee Rules.

In England, the total cost for a 360-credit honours degree based on today's prices is £21,816.

Part-Time Tuition Fee Loan

You may be eligible for a loan from Student Finance England to cover tuition fees.

If your application is successful, Student Finance England will pay your module fees directly to The Open University. The Tuition Fee Loan differs from traditional loans in a number of significant ways:

- You don't have to pay anything up front. Repayments only start when your salary exceeds the income threshold, which is currently £25,000.
- You can pay off the loan early without any penalties.
- Any balance outstanding is written off after 40 years.

Example repayment amounts

Income each year before tax	Monthly repayment
Up to £25,000	£0
£27,000	£15.00
£30,000	£37.50

Repayments are based on what you earn, not what you owe. You'll repay 9% of what you earn over £25,000. For example, if you earn £27,000, you'll repay £180 that year (9% of £2,000). That's just £15.00 per month.



To apply, you must be registered on a qualification and reserved on a module of at least 30 credits that counts towards it. You'll also need to:

- have started studying towards your registered qualification after 1 September 2012
- be serving a sentence of imprisonment in the UK
- have authorisation from the Prison Governor, Director or other appropriate authority to study the current module
- have an earliest release date that is within six years of the first day of the first academic year of your current qualification
- be a UK national or have 'settled status' in the UK (under the terms of the Immigration Act 1971)
- have been 'ordinarily resident' in the UK, (excluding the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man) for the three years immediately before starting the module – and not wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education (time spent in prison does not count towards this three-year period).

Although Part-Time Tuition Fee Loans are provided by Student Finance England, our Students in Secure Environments Registration Team can provide your education department with an application form and can answer any queries you may have.

It can take Student Finance England up to six weeks to finalise applications, so apply as early as possible to ensure your finances are in place in time to start your course.

Northern Ireland

Access module fee is £290.

The NI Prison Service might agree to sponsor you dependent on a successful application.

Ask your education department to contact us to discuss funding options before reserving a place on an Access module.

Standard module fee is calculated per credit, and individual modules are worth either 30 or 60 credits. The table below provides examples of different study intensities and the associated fees.

Credits each year	Cost per year ¹
30	£580
60	£1,159

¹ 2024/25 prices, fees typically increase annually.

In Northern Ireland, the total cost for a typical 360-credit honours degree based on today's prices is £6,954.

Funding

All funding queries should be directed to the Northern Ireland Prison Service via your education department.

Ireland

Access module fee is £873.

Ask your education department to contact us to discuss funding options.

Standard module fee is calculated per credit, and individual modules are worth either 30 or 60 credits. The table below provides examples of different study intensities and the associated fees.

Credits each year	Cost per year ¹
30	£1,746
60	£3,492

¹ 2024/2025 prices, fees typically increase annually.

In Ireland the total cost for a 360-credit honours degree based on today's prices is £20,952.

Scotland

Access module fee is £297.

Funding for your Access module may be available. Ask your learning centre to contact the University about this.

Standard module fee is calculated per credit, and individual modules are worth either 30 or 60 credits. The table below provides examples of different study intensities and the associated fees.

Credits each year	Cost per year ¹
30	£594
60	£1,188

¹ 2024/25 prices, fees typically increase annually.

In Scotland, the total cost for a typical 360-credit honours degree based on today's prices is £7,128.

Funding

Most students are likely to be eligible for a Part-Time Fee Grant to cover tuition fees.

To find the most up-to-date information on the financial support available to students in Scotland, ask your learning centre to contact the OU in Scotland.

Wales

Access module fee is £328.

Funding for your Access module is available through the Prisoners' Education Trust (PET) and you can also apply to them for funding for short modules which are not loan eligible.

Ask your education department about applying for PET funding.

Standard module fee is calculated per credit, and individual modules are worth either 30 or 60 credits. The table below provides examples of different study intensities and the associated fees.

Credits each year	Cost per year ¹
30	£656
60	£1,312

¹ 2024/25 prices, fees normally increase annually.

In Wales, the total cost for a typical 360-credit honours degree based on today's prices is £7,872.

Part-Time Tuition Fee Loan

You may be eligible for a loan from Student Finance Wales to cover tuition fees.

If your application is successful, Student Finance Wales will pay your module fees directly to The Open University. The Tuition Fee Loan differs from ordinary loans in a number of significant ways:

- You don't have to pay anything up front. Repayments only start when your salary exceeds the income threshold, which is currently £27,295.
- You can pay off the loan early without any penalties.
- Any balance outstanding is written off after 30 years.

Example repayment amounts

Income each year before tax	Monthly repayment
Up to £27,295	£0
£29,000	£12.79
£34,000	£50.29

Repayments are based on what you earn, not what you owe. You'll repay 9% of what you earn over £27,295. For example, if you earn £29,000, you'll repay £153.45 that year (9% of £1,705). That's just £12.79 per month.

To apply, you must be registered on a qualification and reserved on a module of at least 30 credits that counts towards it. You'll also need to:

- have started studying towards your registered qualification after 1 September 2014
- be serving a sentence of imprisonment in the UK
- have authorisation from the Prison Governor, Director or other appropriate authority to study the current module
- have an earliest release date that is within six years of the first day of the first academic year of your current qualification
- be a UK national or have 'settled status' in the UK (under the terms of the Immigration Act 1971)
- have been 'ordinarily resident' in the UK, (excluding the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man) for the three years immediately before starting the module – and not wholly or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education (time spent in prison does not count towards this three-year period).

Although Part-Time Tuition Fee Loans are provided by Student Finance Wales, The Open University in Wales can answer any queries you may have.

Set Books

Some modules require set books and other materials or equipment that you would normally be expected to buy. The OU will provide the set books for your module where necessary and these will usually be dispatched just after your module start date. Please contact us or ask your education department or learning centre to contact us for any queries you may have about your set books.

Step-by-step guide to enrolment

You need to allow enough time in advance of the module start date to complete your registration and obtain funding to secure your place on the module.

Application deadlines for modules can be found in the individual module descriptions in this prospectus. Any applications made after these deadlines are unlikely to be accepted.

The guidance below is provided for individuals who are currently serving a sentence of imprisonment.

If you're currently an inpatient in a secure hospital, the registration process will be slightly different.

If this applies to you, our Students in Secure Environments Registration Team can provide advice on the enrolment process appropriate to your individual circumstances.

The final enrolment deadline for modules beginning in October is **5 September 2024**.

A step-by-step guide to enrolment for modules beginning in October – England

What happens	When
You're considering studying with the OU. You arrange an initial discussion with your education department and choose your qualification and/or first module.	January–March
The prison sift process will determine whether your choice is appropriate.	March–May
You submit an application to your education department.	March–July
Your education department contacts the OU to reserve a place and we send you a registration pack.	Typically within a few weeks of application.
If you are enrolling on an Access module, complete the application form and send it to the Prisoners' Education Trust (PET). At the same time return your registration agreement to the Students in Secure Environments Registration Team.	One week after receiving your registration pack.
If not, simply complete the registration agreement and application for a Part-Time Tuition Fee Loan (if applicable), and then pass these back to your education department. They will complete their part and send the paperwork back to us and to Student Finance England.	About a week later. (Please note your application for a Part-Time Tuition Fee Loan can take up to six weeks to process so please apply as soon as you receive your registration pack).

A step-by-step guide to enrolment – Northern Ireland and Ireland

What happens	When
You're considering studying with the OU. You arrange an initial discussion with your education department and choose your qualification and/or first module.	As appropriate.
The prison sift process will determine whether your choice is appropriate.	As appropriate.
You submit an application to your education department and they ask you to complete an initial reservation form. They will contact us to reserve a place and we'll send you a registration pack.	Around 12 weeks before the module start date.
Successful applicants complete the OU registration documentation.	Once approved by your education department.
The OU registers you on your first module.	On receipt of the registration documents.

A step-by-step guide to enrolment for modules beginning in October – Scotland

What happens	When
You're considering studying with the OU. You arrange an initial discussion with the learning centre staff.	January–March
You choose your qualification and/or first module with advice from the learning centre and OU staff if needed.	January–April
You complete the Higher Education Access Scheme application form for approval by the learning centre, Governor or Regime Manager before sending it to the HEAB.	March, April Applications must be with the HEAB by 15 May.
The HEAB meets to consider applications and make recommendations.	Late May/early June
The final decision on applicants is made by the Scottish Prison Service's Head of Learning and Skills and applicants are informed.	July
If you're successful, complete OU registration documentation and a Part-time Fee Grant application form which can be obtained from SAAS (if appropriate).	July, August
The OU registers you on your first module.	August, September

A step-by-step guide to enrolment for modules beginning in October – Wales

What happens	When
You're considering studying with the OU. You arrange an initial discussion with your education department and choose your qualification and/or first module.	January–March
You submit an application to your education department.	January–April
Your education department will contact the OU to reserve a place and we'll send you a registration pack.	March–July
If you're enrolling on an Access module, complete the application form and your letter and send it to the Prisoners' Education Trust (PET). At the same time return your registration agreement to the Students in Secure Environments Registration Team.	One week after receiving your registration pack.
If not, simply complete the registration agreement and application for a Part-Time Tuition Fee Loan (if applicable), and then pass these back to your education department. They will complete their part and send the paperwork back to us and to Student Finance Wales.	About a week later. (Please note your application for a Part-Time Tuition Fee Loan can take up to six weeks to process so please apply as soon as you receive your registration pack).

After registration – all nations

What happens	When
You receive your study materials, you are allocated a tutor and if you are in England or Wales, your education department will receive your Virtual Campus log in details.	Within a week of module start date.
You begin studying.	Module start date.
For 30 or 60 credit modules, your tutor and the education department or learning centre organise tutorial visits or telephone tutorials where possible.	At various points during the module.
You submit assignments (feedback given by your tutor approximately two weeks after submission).	At set dates on your study calendar.
You'll be given a date to sit your exam or a deadline to submit your end-of-module assessment (EMA).	At least 12 weeks before the module end date.
You start revision or preparation.	Around four weeks before the exam or EMA submission.
You sit your exam or submit your EMA.	Around four weeks before the module end date.
You receive your module result.	Around eight weeks after the module end date.



Careers and employability services

Your past doesn't need to define your future.

Once you've begun your OU study, you'll have access to our Careers and Employability Services throughout your student journey and three years afterwards.

Everyone is different, everyone is valued, so we'll support you, whatever your career needs and whoever you are. Just bring yourself.

Whether you have yet to discover where OU study might take you, are exploring career pathways, or are studying for personal progression, we'll help you work out what you have to offer, options you'll find fulfilling, and take your first steps towards your future.

By choosing to study, you have brought about a change in your life. Many OU students find that the process of studying and learning can make them feel differently about themselves and the world around them and we can support you on this journey to your future.

You may feel confident about taking steps towards your future, or you may feel unsure where to begin, so here are some of the steps along the way: which questions would you like the answer to?

Understand your skills, strengths and what's important to you

- Where do I start?
- How do I know what's right for me?
- Where can my OU study take me?
- What skills has OU study given me?



94% of students using the OU's Careers and Employability Services would recommend it to others.

Imagine your future

- How do I get to my career goals?
- How do I find out what career choices there are for me?
- How can I make all the hard work in OU study count, if I'm not studying for career reasons?

Take your first steps

- How do I know if my CV is hitting the right notes?
- How can I develop skills employers want where I am now and back in the community?
- Who can support me in finding work?

How we help you answer these questions and navigate your future:

- **Careers consultations** by phone or letter, at the discretion of your secure environment. You can have as many as you need.
- **Your Career Planning Guide** has six sections to take you through key stages in planning and managing your career. You can work through it from start to finish or by using sections as you need them. Available from your education department and on the Virtual Campus in England and Wales for those in prison. Those studying in the community can contact us to obtain a copy.
- **CV** preparation and feedback.
- **Job seeking support** and advice on disclosing your sentence.

- **Careers information** can be sent via your education department on request.
- **Self-employment** advice.
- **Support for People with Convictions** leaflet, including support for job seeking and self-employment.
- **Virtual Campus** resources including a webinar on disclosing a conviction and information and advice pack.

Get in touch with us:

- In a secure environment – through your education department.
- In the community – through the SISE team.



Really informative and helped me confirm my career aim and determine the route to take to achieve this.

The Careers Consultant really helped me by understanding what I want to do in life.

Feedback from students in Ford Prison



Transferring prisons or studying from the community

Moving to another secure environment

If you move from one secure environment to another, you should be able to continue with any OU modules you're taking and successfully complete your studies.

However, facilities for study in a secure environment may vary, and each has its own policy for supporting OU students. You'll need to check this when you move, and it's important that you play your part in letting the OU know, via your education department or learning centre, that you have moved so that we can continue to support you.

The OU recognises that there can be delays and difficulties when you move. There may be delays in your study materials being transferred to your new address, for example – in many cases we can give extra support and/or allow extra time for assignments, etc.

To help make this transition as smooth as possible, please remember to tell the induction staff at your new prison or secure unit that you're an OU student.

Studying in the community

When you leave prison or are discharged from hospital, many aspects of your life will change. You'll have new priorities, new pressures on your time and you'll be responsible for your own learning.

As an OU student, you can continue with your studies wherever you're living in the UK, Ireland or most parts of Continental Europe. Depending on the restrictions that may be placed on your OU student account following your release or discharge, you may have access to a wider range of support services to help you through your studies. You'll also be more likely to have internet access to get information and advice from the OU website on study skills, module choice and careers.

On your release or discharge, please contact our Students in Secure Environments Team in England or your OU national centre in Scotland, Wales or Northern Ireland, to provide us with your new address and details of your appointed Probation Officer so we can update your record. This will ensure any module materials are sent to the correct address. Our Students in Secure Environments Team will look after your OU interests and become a useful source of information and advice. The contact details for us can be located on the back of this book.

As soon as we have details of your new address, our Students in Secure Environments Team will look after your OU interests and become a useful source of information and advice. Unless you're near the end of your module, they may allocate you to a new tutor. If you intend to study from a country outside the European Union, please contact our Students in Secure Environments Registration Team for further information.

Students serving community sentences

We are also committed to supporting students who are serving community sentences and who are subject to court-imposed legal restrictions and conditions – this includes those subject to Sex Offender Registration and Sexual Harm Prevention Orders. Our team liaises with either Probation or the Police Public Protection team on your behalf to ensure the right support is in place. This is important so we can support you with your studies, whilst also enabling you to comply fully with any restrictions or conditions that may impact your studies.

Further study

The OU can provide information, advice and guidance on further study, and can also put you in touch with other institutions that may be able to help you. OU qualifications and modules are recognised by most other educational organisations such as colleges and universities, in the UK and abroad. Please contact our Students in Secure Environments Registration Team, for further information and advice.

Careers advice in the community

We support you when you're back in the community. We can help you find job vacancies and support you in writing CVs, job application forms and preparing for interviews. We can also give you feedback on covering letters.

Choosing which modules to study

OU level 1 modules are most suitable if you've either completed an Access module or have the confidence to begin at this level. You can move on to higher level modules if you want to develop your study skills, expand your knowledge of a subject, or progress through a qualification.

The modules listed on the following pages are currently available in secure environments.

Each module has a 'facts box' to show the credits and level of study; the start dates and when to register by; the length of the modules and their study requirements.

Some of these study requirements may not be possible for you, so before applying you should check with your education department or learning centre.

Modules in:	
Arts and Humanities	22
Business and Management	30
Environment and Development	34
Health and Social Care	36
Languages	38
Law	44
Mathematics and Statistics	50
Psychology and Counselling	56
Science	58
Social Sciences	64
Sport, Fitness and Coaching	72



Our modules mostly require either six or nine months of study and, depending on the number of credits, these combine to determine the average amount of time it will take to complete.

As one credit represents about ten hours of study, 30 or 60 credit modules will take you around 300 hours or 600 hours to complete respectively.

Approximately 60–80 per cent of this time will be directed through the module materials and the balance will be used for independent learning, review and revision. The number of hours required each week will vary during the length of your module. For example, if you are preparing an assignment, the number of hours required in that week may be higher than other weeks where you are studying the module materials. Our modules usually contain study break weeks, so you can either have a rest or use these to catch up if necessary.

The list of modules is subject to change as new modules begin and older ones end. Please ask your education department or learning centre to contact us for more detailed descriptions and information of the requirements to study any of these modules which form part of your intended pathway or that interest you, and to confirm any special requirements.

We provide the requirements to study each module in more detail on our Module Information Sheets (MIS). Your education department will have access to the digital MIS on the Students in Secure Environments website. If you are concerned about the requirements for any module the MIS will provide more detail on these, so please make use of this resource.

Almost all our modules are available to study via our secure Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) on the Virtual Campus and we do encourage you to use this option wherever possible (this applies to England and Wales only). This will give you the full study planner, all the weekly activities, video and audio content (subject to IT settings), access to interactive computer-marked assignments and all assessment information, and the opportunity to contact your tutor via a Secure Message. There is a guide on how to use the VLE under the 'Help' button once you have logged in. We have also developed a range of other study skills support which we hope will be useful.

We have been advised that all prisons have had an upgrade to their IT infrastructure so that our VLE will work properly, but please contact us if you have any problems accessing it.

We also know that some prison regimes do not allow students to do OU study during the day, which can make it difficult to get to a computer. Even if you can only do this once or twice a week, we would still encourage you to try this digital resource as we are sure you will find it useful.

However, you do not need to use the Virtual Campus at all to complete your module because your learning materials will be supplied in an offline pack. For the majority of modules that include audio and video content, the offline pack will include a disc that will need to be played in a computer. Transcripts are provided for students without the facility to play the discs.

The OU offers further modules and qualifications which, because of the internet access required, may only be available to you when you leave a secure environment. Credits gained whilst in a secure environment can count towards these qualifications.

Arts and Humanities

Arts and humanities is a rewarding and enjoyable area to study. Exploring and analysing human culture and history from ancient civilisations through to the twenty-first century, gives us a deeper insight into the world we live in and how we got here.

If you thrive on intellectual challenges, and want to learn about specific subjects – such as music, civilisations and their histories, philosophical ideas about human existence, the world's religions, cultural practices and objects people have made – then our modules and qualifications have much to offer you. The rewards include academic achievement, enhanced employment opportunities and personal fulfilment. As well as subject-specific skills, studying arts and humanities modules provides you with an adaptable set of skills for a wide range of occupations, and can improve your career prospects. Individually stimulating, our modules also form our qualifications, allowing you to study towards a certificate, diploma or degree.

OU level 1

Discovering the arts and humanities (A111)

Credits: 60 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

25 Jan 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

Do you want to know more about how people have expressed themselves through the ages and around the world? If so, this module is for you. Studying the arts and humanities helps us to learn about what people thought and felt throughout history, as well as how the things they created influence the world we live in today. The module is built around three themes: 'reputations', 'traditions' and 'crossing boundaries'. It invites you to discover people, events, practices, ideas and works of art from 3,000 years ago to the present day.

Cultures (A112)

Credits: 60 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: A111 (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

How are cultures produced and encountered, and why does it matter? These questions are examined in this module through the key themes of place, power, literary 'classics', and journeys. You'll learn about contemporary cultures and relationships between cultures throughout history, discover how and why cultural identities emerge, and explore how they are expressed using texts, images and objects. After exploring a range of case studies from classical studies, art history, English literature, and creative writing, you'll investigate these themes with specific reference to your choice of one of these subject areas.

Revolutions (A113)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	A111 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024 1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

What makes a revolution? Why does the world suddenly change, and what are the consequences? In this module you'll examine four periods of swift and radical change: the Reformation, the French Revolution, the aftermath of World War I, and the 1960s. You'll look at each from the perspectives of history, music, philosophy and religious studies, discovering how these disciplinary approaches complement each other and enhance your understanding of continuity and change. In the final part, you'll return to the discipline that most interests you and study a topic or period in greater depth.

OU level 2

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Art and life before 1800 (A237)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	A111 and A112 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This is a foundational module for studying art history, exploring the many and dynamic roles that art, architecture and other artefacts played in human life from prehistory up to 1800 CE, from cave paintings through Byzantine icons to artists' etchings. In the period before 1800, artworks were not unchanging objects of appreciation destined for museum walls. Instead, they were closely connected to people's social, economic, political and spiritual lives. In this module, you'll study key examples of this dynamic relationship and learn how to analyse artworks methodically and thoughtfully in their historical contexts.

Art and visual cultures in the modern world (A236)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	A111 and A112 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module introduces you to the art and visual cultures of the modern period from the second half of the eighteenth century up to the present day. There are five blocks with each centring on a crucial topic that helps to define the distinctiveness of art and visual cultures as they exist in this period. They will include familiar examples such as the Pre-Raphaelites and Impressionism, as well as more unexpected material such as taxidermy and satellite imaging. Each block also addresses the local and the global, with material relating to the United Kingdom, its regions and nations, and to more distant contexts and diverse cultures.

Creative writing (A215)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	A111 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module takes a student-centred approach to creative writing, offering a range of strategies to help you develop as a writer. The emphasis is highly practical, with exercises and activities designed to ignite and sustain the writing impulse. The five-part module starts by showing ways to use your memory and experience in your writing, and build a daily discipline for your work. This is followed by the demonstration and practice of the three most popular forms of writing – fiction, poetry and life writing (which includes autobiography, biography and travel writing). The concluding part aims to demystify the world of agents and publishers, teaching you how to revise and present your work to a professional standard.

Early modern Europe: society and culture c.1500–1780 (A223)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	A111 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

The early modern period from 1500 to 1780 is one of the most engaging periods for historical study. Beginning with the upheavals of the Reformation, and ending with the Enlightenment, this was a time of fundamental intellectual, social, religious and cultural change. At the same time, early modern Europe was rooted in and retained many of the customs of medieval times. You'll explore this balance of change and continuity through documents written, and (for the first time) printed including diaries, pamphlets, legal documents, bureaucratic records and ballad songs, as well as the images and objects.

Exploring religion: places, practices, texts and experiences (A227)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	A111 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module offers an accessible and cutting-edge introduction to the study of religions, exploring places, practices, texts and experiences. You will encounter a range of religious traditions, in particular Christianity, Hinduism and Islam, in diverse geographical, cultural and historical contexts. You'll study these religions as they are actually lived and investigate their impact on different societies and cultures. The module challenges various widely held assumptions about religions and the study of religion, and engages students with three core questions: What is religion? How do we study religion? Why should we study religion? Drawing on rich audio-visual material, this module develops key skills for study and employability.



Exploring the classical world (A229)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	A111 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module is for anyone interested in ancient Greece and Rome. You'll investigate a wide range of topics such as Homer's poetry and the society where it was created; fifth century Athens; republican Rome; and Roman social history. This module explores ancient poetry, drama and historical texts in English translations along with art, architecture and archaeological evidence, to build an understanding of the classical world. Whether your interest in Greece and Rome is long-standing or new, this module will give you a fresh perspective, develop your skills in analysis and evaluation and lay a firm foundation for further exploration.

Literature matters (A240)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

In this module you'll think about literature in the light of key contemporary concerns: representation and identity, the environment, politics, and the imagination. Along the way, you'll read books in a diverse range of literary genres, including novels, drama, short stories, poetry, and essays. In your literary encounters, you'll travel in time from the sixteenth century to the twenty-first century and read texts from Britain and around the world.

Telling stories: the novel and beyond (A233)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	A111 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

How have writers chosen to tell their stories, and why? What techniques do they use to make us believe in the reality of the worlds they create? If you're interested in finding out in depth about how literature works this module is for you. You'll read gripping stories from across literary history, from Shakespeare to science fiction, from Thomas Hardy to Arundhati Roy, with a particular focus on nineteenth- and twentieth-century novels. This will develop your understanding of key techniques and devices used by writers, as you investigate the historical contexts behind their work and discover new ways of understanding literature.

The British Isles and the modern world, 1789–1914 (A225)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	A111 (recommended)
Start:	28 Sep 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024
	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

The British Isles in the long nineteenth century was a place of rapid expansion and growth, when the United Kingdom became the so-called ‘workshop of the world’. It was also a period of conflict and uncertainty, where poverty and political unrest prompted widespread anxieties about the nature of progress. Taking up these different perspectives, in this module you’ll look at the landmark transformations of the period such as the political union of Britain and Ireland, industrialisation, the growth of cities, and the expansion of the British Empire. By focusing on one century, this module provides you with the space for a deep engagement with historical method and debate.

Understanding music (A234)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This introduction to the fundamentals of music will allow you to understand and use music notation. You’ll study the elements of music and how these are assembled into larger musical structures, focusing on music encountered in Western traditions (popular and classical). You’ll learn to make sense of a wide variety of notated music, and you’ll be encouraged to make meaningful connections between the topics you study and your own experiences and tastes through independent study. You’ll develop practical musicianship skills, using professional music-notation software, that will provide you with a grounding for arranging and composing. You don’t need any prior knowledge of musical notation in order to study this module, but some basic preparation in advance will be helpful.

OU level 3

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Advanced creative writing (A363)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	A215 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

In this module you’ll develop your writing ability by widening your generic range and developing your knowledge of style. The module works on the forms introduced in the OU level 2 module *Creative writing* (A215) – fiction, poetry and life writing – and supplements these with dramatic writing, showing you how to write for stage, radio and film. You’ll explore how these scriptwriting skills might enhance your prose style, improve your writing across the range of forms, and further develop your individual style and voice. The module also offers guidance on professional layouts for the dramatic media.



Art and its global histories (A344)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	A236 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module presents a new history of art, starting with the Renaissance, when Europeans encountered a new range of desirable objects from across the globe. You'll explore the role of art and architecture in colonial expansion up to 1800, before looking in depth at art and culture in British India. The vital role that art played in the stories that Europeans have told about the wider world are highlighted, with suggestions as to the ways in which these stories might be challenged or revised. The module concludes by analysing the globalisation of artistic practice from the twentieth century to the present day.

Central questions in the study of music (A342)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

What does music mean? What does it do? These are the queries at the heart of this module. You'll explore how music conveys meanings and has impact within its social contexts, before moving into investigations of audiences, performances, and film music. The module incorporates a focus on the transmission of music, examining how it is edited, notated, and recorded. The final part looks at music in relation to specific social and historical contexts, incorporating case studies of works of western art music from the eighteenth, nineteenth, and twentieth centuries.

Empires: power, resistance, legacies (A328)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Empires have had a remarkable impact on world history over the last five centuries. This module explores empires thematically, looking at their origins, rule, the experiences of imperialists and their subjects, forces of resistance, and imperial decay and legacies. The British empire is covered in detail along with its European counterparts and Asian empires: Ottoman, Mughal, and China. Throughout, you will use various types of sources to explore the perspectives of a wide range of people: from rulers and resisters to ordinary subjects.

Europe 1914–1989: war, peace, modernity (A327)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: A223 (recommended)

Start: 28 Sep 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This module will give you an overview of Europe's twentieth-century history. It begins with Europe on the eve of the First World War and ends with the reunification of Germany at the end of the Cold War. As well as analysing political and military developments, it will introduce you to the key themes in Europe's economic, social, medical and cultural history. A central focus of the module is how historians have studied the period. You'll be introduced to historical debates, and to the vast resources for the study of twentieth-century history.

Greek and Roman myth: stories and histories (A350)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: A111 and an OU level 2 arts module

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Since myth permeated nearly every aspect of Greek and Roman life, it is impossible to study the classical world without encountering myths in some form or other. In this module you'll study a rich and fascinating range of art, literature, and material objects, looking not just at individual mythical figures and stories but also broader uses of myth in classical Athens, Augustan Rome, and beyond. As well as extending your knowledge of Greek and Roman myth, you'll be able to develop as an independent learner and hone your skills of communicating with both academic and non-specialist audiences.

Key questions in philosophy (A333)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: DA223 (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This broad-ranging module investigates five different topics in philosophy: truth in fiction, the justice of war, reason and action, life and death, knowledge and reason. Each topic is approached through a set of key questions that are significant, accessible and engaging. Why do people seek out art that makes them cry? Can a war be fought justly? Can organisations be held responsible for what they do? What might it mean to say that life is sacred? Is science rational? The study materials will enable you to examine these questions in some depth while leaving space for independent study and reflection.

Literature in transition: from 1800 to the present (A335)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: OU level 2 literature or English language modules (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module draws you into the main currents of literature from 1800 to the present day. You'll engage with some of the most stimulating literary works ever written, and track the seismic historical transitions and transformations relevant to them – with an eye on our present and the future. Numerous major authors are offered for close critical study (Dickens, Tennyson, Woolf, T.S. Eliot, Dylan Thomas, Winterson, and others), alongside exciting but relatively neglected authors. Influential literary movements and critical interventions will be discussed, while leaving ample space for your own ideas.

The Roman empire (A340)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: A111 (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

At its height the Roman empire stretched from Scotland to Syria. This module will introduce you to this empire, addressing questions such as how did this vast multicultural population of diverse ethnic, cultural and religious groups maintain itself? How was it viewed by those who ruled it? What forces held the empire together and what happened when these came under pressure? You'll learn how to use written sources and archaeological remains to explore these fundamental questions about what the empire was, how it worked, what it meant to be Roman, and the continuing legacy of the empire.

Why is religion controversial? (A332)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: A111 and A217 (or another OU level 2 arts module)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module focuses on the intricate connections between religion and controversial issues, including politics, tradition, gender, multiculturalism, animism, atheism, violence, sex and capitalism. You will study processes of upheaval and change within religious traditions and some of the complex – and sometimes clashing – local, regional and national perspectives on familiar and unfamiliar controversies. Using a mix of historical, sociological and ethnographic sources, approaches and methods, this module will help you to develop your understanding of the role of 'religion' in historical and contemporary societies.

This module will be available for the last time in October 2024.

Business and Management

Starting from your own experience, you'll develop and extend your knowledge, skills and practice. Employers are attracted by the relevance and accessibility of our programmes too.

OU level 1

An introduction to business and management (B100)

Credits: 60 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This key introductory OU level 1 module provides an accessible and comprehensive introduction to business and management in a globalised world. Through readings and international case studies you'll explore a wide range of topics in contemporary business and management: what motivates people to work; how to assess financial soundness of a business; what attracts customers; how economic crises affect businesses; and ethical challenges in business and management. Using a blend of text, audio video and interactive online activities, you'll develop vital skills for study and for work in business, public or voluntary sector organisations.

Communication skills for business and management (LB170)

Credits: 30 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This multi-award-winning OU level 1 module will develop your language and skills for communicating effectively in the world of business and management. You will learn to write successful business assignments and a range of workplace documents; develop strategies to read complex texts on business topics; be able to give effective presentations and take part in business negotiations and academic discussions. The module materials use a blend of texts, audios, videos and interactive activities to help you develop both your written and spoken business communication skills.

Fundamentals of accounting (B124)

Credits: 30 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module provides a broad introduction to accounting study at university level. It covers the fundamentals of financial and management accounting as well as the essential skills, knowledge and ethics required to be a professional accountant. The module will also be suitable if you are in a general management position as the accounting material covers measuring management performance and improving financial planning, control and decision-making. You'll gain an understanding of financial reports through their preparation, based on the double-entry bookkeeping system, which is essential for the management of any organisation.

OU level 2

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Developing leadership (B208)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module offers you the opportunity to learn about cutting-edge leadership ideas in tandem with developing as a practitioner. You'll cover topics such as identity, person-based leadership, collective leadership, ethical leadership and aesthetic views of leadership. You'll also learn how to be a more discerning and critically engaged consumer of leadership ideas, in the workplace and more generally in society. The module follows a developmental approach, meaning that you'll reflect on leadership practice in your working environment and/or in the wider world, and be well placed to experiment with new concepts and practices as a result.

Financial accounting in context (B293)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	21
Prior study:	B124
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module will help you to understand different types of company from their formation, company financial accounting, the regulatory framework in which they operate, and their role in the context of market economies, law and society. You'll also gain an understanding of corporate governance, corporate responsibility, and sustainability reporting. You'll learn how to interact with accountants and auditors to understand their duties, and other external stakeholders to understand their information needs. By the end of this module you should be able to prepare basic company financial accounts (including cash flow statements), and interpret the financial statements of a single entity company from the perspective of external stakeholders.

Financial analysis and decision making (B294)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	21
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Apr 2025 – register by 13 Mar 2025

Drawing upon realistic examples and scenarios, this module will help you to understand effective financial decision making within organisations. You'll learn how financial capital can be raised and allocated, how to evaluate investment projects, as well as how to value stocks, bonds and real estate. You'll also explore the advantages and disadvantages of the most commonly used derivative instruments. If you have, or plan to pursue, a managerial position either in a private or public organisation, or if you simply want to understand more about how to plan your personal finances and invest wisely, this module will provide a solid foundation for the decision-making challenges you may face.

Shaping business opportunities (B207)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module provides you with a broad grounding in business and management practice and study. You'll explore how organisations work by looking at their internal functions (operations, finance and marketing). You'll also learn about the external environment and how the economic and political context helps shape how businesses respond to global challenges. Using a blend of text, audio, video and interactive activities, you'll develop vital skills for study and for work in business, public or voluntary sector organisations. Particular attention is paid to developing your critical thinking skills. You'll also be introduced to mind mapping as a technique to help you express your ideas and creativity.

Understanding customers (B206)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Have you ever wondered why you sometimes emerge from the supermarket with a full trolley, having gone in for just a pint of milk? In this module you'll tackle questions like this to help you understand why customers buy. You'll learn how marketers influence customers, whether as individuals or professional buyers, and pick up some useful skills you can use yourself. You'll also study how social marketers 'sell' things like healthier lifestyles using the same tools as their commercial counterparts. This module is ideal if you're working in marketing, aiming to work in marketing, wanting to gain insights for your own business, or if you simply want to understand more about your own consumer behaviour.

OU level 3

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt please ask your education department or learning centre.

Leadership in a changing world (B329)

Credits:	30 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	21
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module provides you with the unique opportunity to learn about leadership in the current world, characterised by precarious times and new opportunities to develop positive leadership. You'll discover what type of leadership is needed in a world of disruptive technological change and turbulent contexts, how to be influential in this era of social networking, and what is your leadership call to develop your career and to improve the world. You'll gain an appreciation of how leadership is increasingly mediated through social networks.



Management accounting and finance (B391)

Credits:	30 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	22
Prior study:	B293 and B294 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

The aim of this module is to introduce you to core management accounting and international financial concepts within organisations for decision making purposes. It will enable you to understand management accounting which is concerned with providing information and analysis to managers to help them plan, evaluate and control activities, in order to achieve an organisation's objectives.

Marketing in action (B328)

Credits:	30 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	21
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Apr 2025 – register by 13 Mar 2025

Whether you're interested in a career in marketing or merely curious about how marketing works, this module provides an opportunity to explore marketing practice in action. The module is built around marketing communications as a fundamental marketing practice and is informed by insights from practitioners. You'll learn how marketing is applied in different contexts, how to keep pace with marketing trends and emerging practices and appreciate the role of marketing research. You'll also examine social and environmental sustainability, enhance your ethical awareness and analysis skills, explore stakeholder marketing and navigate the plethora of marketing evaluation measures.

Strategic management (B302)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Are you ready to discover how strategic management can help to explain our dynamic world? In this module you'll learn how to apply strategic management models and frameworks to real cases – from entrepreneurial companies to large multinationals and see how companies succeed in competition or how corporations expand internationally. You'll become able to make sense of the strategies of the organisations around you and strategic decision making. This module will also show how you can have an active role in the analysis of strategic contexts and in shaping and implementing strategy.

Environment and Development

Climate change, global trade, energy supply, pollution, cultural conflict, biodiversity loss, and poverty are defining issues at local, national and international levels. These issues are interlinked and find a common focus in environment and development.

OU level 1

Environment: journeys through a changing world (U116)

Credits: 60 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

Our world is changing fast – climate change, growing demand for finite resources, the impact of pollution and the loss of many plants and animals. This module introduces subjects from natural sciences, social sciences and technology to develop your understanding of environmental and sustainability issues. It shows how people are seeking positive solutions to environmental challenges where you live and in the Arctic, Africa, the Amazon, and China. You don't need any prior environmental knowledge, just an interest in the future of our planet.

For students without internet access, interactives and videos are provided on a disc. If you encounter problems accessing the disc, alternatives are provided wherever possible. Please get in touch with your OU contact who will go through your options with you.

OU level 2

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Environment: sharing a dynamic planet (DST206)

Credits: 60 at OU level 2

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: U116 or DD102 (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Environmental issues pose challenges. What are the biophysical and social causes of environmental change? What exactly is an environmental issue and why are they often controversial and difficult to resolve? How can we make a difference? You'll address all of these questions as you explore four key global environmental concerns – life, water, carbon, and food – through a rich and interactive set of study materials. As you do so, you'll develop a distinctive way of thinking about environments and environmental issues that draws on the insights of both natural and social sciences to be at once intellectually innovative and practically relevant.

This module will be available for the last time in October 2024.

OU level 3

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Environment: responding to change (SDT306)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 32

Prior study: OU level 1 and 2 study in appropriate subjects

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This interdisciplinary module equips you to participate actively in sustainability debates. It provides a guide to the mass of information available on environmental issues, including biodiversity conservation, adaptation to climate change, and long-term food security. It encourages you to examine these issues from multiple perspectives, taking a holistic view of environmental systems, including how we value them. An investigation strand runs through the module, in which you'll look at an aspect of your local environment or consumption behaviour to evaluate the possibilities of future responses to change.

Environmental policy in an international context (DD319)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This innovative module explores the causes and consequences of a range of environmental problems and the main policies that have been formulated to address them. They include climate change, ozone depletion, deforestation, loss of biodiversity and unsustainable development. You'll learn how political divisions, inequalities and contentions over values and knowledge can hinder political responses to environmental problems. The module concludes by examining some of the policy options that might lead to a 'green future'. You'll find this module ideal if you wish to develop a policy-relevant understanding of international problems for career development or personal interest.

International relations: continuity and change in global politics (DD313)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	D229 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

We live at a time of historic change in the international system. The rise of China and other developing countries, and the resurgence of Russian militarism, are challenging the long dominance of the West. Political upheaval and the growing role of networks are reshaping the world. Economic, social and technological changes are altering the context for international relations. This module asks the key questions about contemporary international relations. It teaches key ideas such as sovereignty and security; develops your ability to analyse and respond to some of the central problems of our day; and to understand longer trends of continuity and change in global politics.

Health and Social Care

Our health and social care modules focus on the factors that shape our health and wellbeing in society. The modules explore and explain issues around mental health, caring for people, bereavement and how we understand health issues. They offer insights into a wide range of health and social care practice.

OU level 1

Introducing health and social care (K102)

Credits: 60 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

We all depend on care services at some time in our lives – at home; in hospitals, clinics or GP surgeries; or in community and residential settings. This key introductory module provides an authoritative overview of health and social care, with real-life case studies taking you deep into the experience of receiving care and working in care services. This module will build your knowledge and understanding of care work, develop skills, and prepare you for further study and future employment.

Wellbeing across the lifecourse (K119)

Credits: 60 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

The promotion of wellbeing at all ages is essential for building a prosperous society. This module examines key issues associated with wellbeing in childhood, adulthood and later life. Drawing on core theories and real-life case studies, this module considers different sources of wellbeing and explores how health care, social care and public health professionals can support the wellbeing of individuals and populations. The module also focuses on building skills required for further study, including handling data, evaluating information and academic writing.

OU level 2

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Death, dying and bereavement (K220)

Credits: 60 at OU level 2

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

In this module, you'll explore the social context of death and dying, considering the impact on end of life care and bereavement support. You'll engage with real life examples which will enable you to think critically about how practice in this area can be improved. This module is relevant to those working with dying people and their families, or anyone who wants to find out more about death, dying and bereavement.

OU level 3

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Approaches to mental health (K314)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Over the past century there has been a radical shift in responses to people who experience mental health problems. In this module you will learn about how politics and concepts about mental health and professionalism have driven contemporary approaches to these issues. By directly relating theory to case studies and examples, you will reflect upon how the services that are offered shape the lives and experiences of individuals supported by a range of practitioners in statutory organisations, the third sector and beyond. You'll critique the role of psychiatry and other professional groups. You'll also consider how diagnosis shapes mental health practice and the benefits and limitations of current responses.

Leading, managing, caring (K318)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	32
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module is designed to appeal to anyone with an interest in caring services in a modern, complex and demanding world. From service users and informal carers, to social workers and clinicians, if people don't work effectively together the quality of services will be undermined. Rooted in the foundations of a caring approach to leadership and management, this module provides tools and insight to understand your role in relation to others. Whether you are managing a large team of people or simply trying to ensure good quality care for yourself or a loved one, this module will help you achieve the best outcomes.

Languages

Whether it's for general interest or to further your career, learning a new language is an enjoyable and rewarding experience that opens up new horizons. We have modules for you, whatever stage you are at. You can study French, German and Spanish from beginners' to advanced level.

You can also learn about English with us. Whether you want to learn how English became a world language, investigate how grammar generates meaning, or explore creativity in a range of texts, our English language modules will stimulate and challenge you.

OU level 1

English for academic purposes online (L185)

Credits:	30 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module focuses on the development of academic reading and writing skills but will also help you make progress in speaking and listening in order to study successfully. It will be useful if you wish to improve your existing competence in academic English whilst studying or if your goal is to raise your IELTS scores. Its approximate entry and exit IELTS scores are between 5.0–5.5 and 6.5–7.0.

Introducing English language studies (L101)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Language is an essential part of being human. It's something we rely on in almost every part of our lives. Nevertheless, do we really know what it is and how it works? History, culture, politics, technological innovation, and personal experience shape our use of language. This module will create strong links between broader language issues and the language and literacies that affect you as a student. It will develop your ability to talk about language, and help you apply your understanding of language issues to your own development as a communicator. You'll study a series of contemporary topics that investigate how people use language in everyday life, focusing on the role of English in a connected and diverse world.

Introduction to French studies (beginners) (L102)

Credits: 30 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Learn to speak and understand French in a wide range of practical situations, and explore French life and culture with this carefully structured beginners' module. This introductory OU level 1 module is designed to develop the skills you need to speak and understand simple French in everyday contexts. It explores life in French-speaking countries and communities, introducing you to a wide range of practical situations such as travelling, shopping, working and eating out.

Introduction to German studies (beginners) (L103)

Credits: 30 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Learn to speak and understand German in a wide range of practical situations, and explore life in German-speaking communities with this carefully structured beginners' module. This module develops the skills you need to speak and understand simple German in everyday contexts. It explores life in German-speaking countries and communities worldwide through topics relevant to adult learners. For example, impressions of Germany, Austria and Switzerland; travelling on public transport; lifestyles and cultural events; jobs and technology.

Introduction to Spanish studies (beginners) (L106)

Credits: 30 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Learn to speak and understand Spanish in a variety of practical situations, and explore life in Spanish-speaking countries. This introductory OU level 1 module is designed to develop the skills needed to speak and understand simple Spanish in everyday contexts like work, family life, sports, travel, as well as exploring the geography and history of Spanish-speaking cultures through topics relevant to adult learners.

French studies 1 (intermediate) (L112)

Credits:	30 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	L192 or L102 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module takes you to an intermediate level of linguistic competence in French, which is equivalent to B1 level of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference. You will develop your confidence in listening, reading, writing, speaking and interacting in French, as well as your knowledge and understanding of French-speaking societies and cultures. In addition, the module is designed to expand your academic, digital and employability skills in French contexts.

German studies 1 (intermediate) (L113)

Credits:	30 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	L193 or L103 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module takes you to an intermediate level of linguistic competence in German, which is equivalent to B1 level of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference. You'll develop your confidence in listening, reading, writing, speaking and interacting in German, as well as your knowledge and understanding of German-speaking societies and cultures. In addition, the module is designed to expand your academic and employability skills in German contexts.

Spanish studies 1 (intermediate) (L116)

Credits:	30 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	L194 or L106 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module takes you to an intermediate level of linguistic competence in Spanish, which is equivalent to B1 level of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference. You will develop your confidence in listening, reading, writing, speaking and interacting in Spanish, as well as your knowledge and understanding of Spanish-speaking societies and cultures. In addition, the module is designed to expand your academic and employability skills in Spanish contexts.



OU level 2

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

English in the world (L201)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Today, English is the pre-eminent global language, spoken by more than a quarter of the world's population. English plays a key role in international diplomacy, trade and commerce, the global media and entertainment industries, and is used in everyday encounters across the world. In this module, you'll trace the history of its spread across the globe and explore the diversity that characterises present-day English in a range of everyday settings. You'll also investigate its influence, alongside other languages, in contemporary global issues such as migration and political protest.

French studies 2: language and culture of the French-speaking world (L222)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	L112 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module takes you to an upper intermediate level of linguistic competence in French, which is equivalent to B2 level of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference. You'll further develop your cultural knowledge, and practical language skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing and interacting in a variety of situations – ranging from everyday conversation to putting forward your point of view in a debate. You'll also consolidate and further develop academic, digital and employability skills in French-speaking contexts.

German studies 2: language and culture of the German-speaking world (L223)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	L113 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module takes you to an upper intermediate level of linguistic competence in German, which is equivalent to B2 level of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference. You'll further develop your cultural knowledge, and practical language skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing and interacting in a variety of situations – ranging from everyday conversation to putting forward your point of view in a debate. You'll also consolidate and further develop academic, digital and employability skills in German-speaking contexts.

Spanish studies 2: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world (L226)

Credits: 60 at OU level 2

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: L116 (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module takes you to an upper intermediate level of linguistic competence in Spanish, which is equivalent to B2 level of the Council of Europe's Common European Framework of Reference. You'll further develop your cultural knowledge, and practical language skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing and interacting in a variety of situations – ranging from everyday conversation to putting forward your point of view in a debate. You'll also consolidate and further develop academic, digital and employability skills in Spanish-speaking contexts.

OU level 3

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Language and creativity (E302)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: U214 (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module looks at creativity in the English language around the world: from everyday contexts to 'high culture' literary language and the impact of new media. You will investigate the relationships between language and other modes such as image, movement, music and dance, and also explore developments resulting from the rise of social media, which is having a profound effect on the uses of language in society. The module will give a detailed understanding of what linguistic creativity is, how it is used, and the issues it raises, while also helping you to consider your own daily experiences of the English language.

Language, literature and childhood (L301)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: OU level 2 modules in English language, literature or Childhood studies

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module explores children's literature from the perspectives of language, literature and childhood studies. You'll consider issues such as: How do children acquire and use languages and literacies? Why (and how) is language important in children's literature? What is the difference between literature for children and literature for adults? Why (and how) is literature important for children and young adults? How is childhood socially constructed? And how is the child represented in literature? You will look at these and other issues using a range of children's literature texts and text extracts.

French studies 3: language and culture of the French-speaking world (L332)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	L222 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module further develops your knowledge and understanding of French-speaking societies and extends your language competence. The interactive online study materials are based around text, audio and video resources including interviews and documentaries. You'll engage in critical analysis, develop academic writing, research and presentation skills, and are introduced to the concept of linguistic and cultural mediation. The six module themes provide both broad and focused coverage of historical and contemporary aspects of French-speaking societies.

German studies 3: language and culture of the German-speaking world (L333)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	L223 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module further develops your knowledge and understanding of German-speaking societies and extends your language competence. The interactive online study materials are based around text, audio and video resources including interviews and documentaries. You'll engage in critical analysis, develop academic writing, research and presentation skills, and are introduced to the concept of linguistic and cultural mediation. The six module themes provide both broad and focused coverage of historical and contemporary aspects of German-speaking societies.

Spanish studies 3: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world (L336)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	L226 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module further develops your knowledge and understanding of Spanish-speaking societies and extends your language competence. The interactive online study materials are based around text, audio and video resources including interviews and documentaries. You'll engage in critical analysis, develop academic writing, research and presentation skills, and are introduced to the concept of linguistic and cultural mediation. The six module themes provide both broad and focused coverage of historical and contemporary aspects of Spanish-speaking societies.

Law

Law is a fascinating subject with a great tradition and a dynamic future. It is a foundation stone of society and it plays an increasingly important and visible role in all areas of modern life. Social and environmental responsibilities, the way businesses operate, and international codes of conduct are all determined and upheld by legal systems.

OU level 1

Criminal law and the courts (W111)

Credits: 60 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This module employs a range of engaging activities to immerse you in key issues and debates relevant to the Criminal Justice System of England and Wales. The module will focus on a range of criminal offences, such as murder and theft using real case studies, as well as aspects of criminal defences. You'll also be addressing themes of law reform, campaigning, inequality and human rights.

Civil justice and tort law (W112)

Credits: 60 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

By studying this module you'll gain an understanding of the range of civil laws, as well as the operation of the civil justice system. You'll develop knowledge of the issues relating to law-making in England and Wales, including key underpinnings of principles and actors operating in the legal system, as well as issues relating to access to justice and alternative dispute resolution. This module will also cover the substantive legal subject of tort law. A range of torts will be explored including negligence, nuisance, and defamation.



OU level 2

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Business and employment law (W240)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	21
Prior study:	W111 or W112 (recommended)
Start:	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This module will introduce you to business and employment law within the legal system of England and Wales. You'll explore the nature of business structures, with particular emphasis on corporate organisations and their internal and external regulations. The module will then explore employment relationships, both through the study of law, policy and practice and also through the practical application of legal principles in connection with simulated case scenarios. By the end of the module, you'll have an understanding of how business and employment law affect individuals and their impact upon society.

Contract law (W212)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	21
Prior study:	W111 or W112 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module employs a range of engaging activities to immerse you in key issues and debates relevant to contract law. The focus will be on the key transactional stages of contracts, the rules that regulate contracts, and the problems that arise with them. This will include addressing themes of technology, inequality, and international influences, and the fairness of contracts that are used everyday. It is taught to you through one family's experiences of contracts in daily life.

Evidence law (W250)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	21
Prior study:	W111 or W112 (recommended)
Start:	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

In this module you'll be exploring the law of evidence in England and Wales to discover what evidence can and cannot be used in a criminal or civil case and why. This includes considering the consequences of police misconduct, the dangers of witness evidence, the debates around jury trial, and the ways law and science interact. Using a range of engaging activities, you'll investigate the dilemmas, controversies and developments in this vital area.

Family law (W230)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	21
Prior study:	W111 or W112 (recommended)
Start:	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This is an engaging module where you'll learn about the key areas of family law in England and Wales. By employing a range of activities, it will expose you to interesting issues and debates concerning families and children, such as the medical rights of children and children's rights. You'll examine how family law responds to change in society and consider how the law may regulate or intervene in our private lives. During the module, there will be an opportunity to understand how the knowledge and skills that you gain are used in legal practice as well as other employment settings.

International, environmental and space law (W260)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	21
Prior study:	W111 or W112 (recommended)
Start:	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This contemporary module confronts how international law has evolved and functions within the framework for global governance in a changing and evermore complex world. The module's dynamic approach focuses on two exciting areas of international law (international environmental and space law) to develop your understanding of international law as the law of global governance. You'll study humanity's impact on the global and outer space environment and the governance mechanisms designed to manage that impact. As we move towards tackling the global climate emergency, this module will give you the tools to evaluate the feasibility and fairness of that transition.

Public law (W211)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	21
Prior study:	W111 or W112 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module introduces you to the fundamentals of UK constitutional, administrative and human rights law from a range of perspectives including critical, geographical and historical. It explores the past, present and future of the UK constitution to enable you to gain an understanding of historical and contemporary issues affecting the relationship between the citizen and the state in the UK. Two central themes run through the module: human rights, and the perspectives of the four UK nations. Alongside this, you'll develop your ability to carry out independent legal research, formulate legal arguments and understand others' perspectives.

OU level 3

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt please ask your education department or learning centre.

Equity, trusts and land (W302)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 32

Prior study: OU level 2 law modules

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module emphasises critical engagement with laws in context. Equity, trusts and land are examined as individual laws, as well as through interactions with the political, cultural, social and economic contexts of today and those possible in the future. Throughout the module students are prompted towards the recognition and examination of these contexts and interactions, as well as the need to question and challenge them in-depth using reasoning and curiosity.

Please note that this module can only be studied as part of a degree.

European Union law (W330)

Credits: 30 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 21

Prior study: 60 credits from OU level 2 modules

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module explores European Union law (EU law) by focusing on differing themes. It teaches the differing topics from a European perspective rather than from a UK perspective which makes this module different to other EU law courses. This way, you'll be given a more in depth view of EU law. You'll be given various opportunities to apply and critically evaluate the law with and without reference to the UK's legal system. It will also help you develop further academic and professional skills. The focus is law at European Union level looking at the workings of the EU Institutions, Court and its jurisprudence.

Please note that some details of the module may require modification in order to accurately reflect the impact of the emergent national and transnational changes affecting governance of the EU.

Land law (W312)

Credits: 30 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 21

Prior study: W211 and W212 (recommended)

Start: 1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This module will introduce you to many aspects of land law using a range of activities. It will consider what land is and how it is owned and regulated. The module is focused on land law in the UK, mainly England and Wales, however within the module you'll be introduced to some of the different ways that different cultures and legal systems consider land. There will also be an opportunity to begin to explore property litigation and the skills involved.



Law, society and culture (W340)

Credits: 30 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 21

Prior study: OU level 2 law modules

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

Law plays a role in all aspects of our everyday life. In this innovative module, you will explore the relationships between law, society and culture. You'll explore these themes through the lens of diverse and cutting edge issues which can sometimes be controversial. You'll have a unique opportunity to shape your pathway through the module by choosing the theme of your final block of study, focusing either on law and humanities or on law and environments. This module will also equip you with a range of legal and transferable skills necessary for further independent study as well as for your personal and professional life.

Trusts law (W311)

Credits: 30 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 21

Prior study: W211 and W212 (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module introduces you to the core concepts of trusts law. You'll learn legal research, critical evaluation and develop a wider range of skills too. You'll also have an understanding of how trusts law affects individuals and impacts society, commerce, taxation, and the charity sector. By the end of the module, you'll have a strong knowledge of core concepts.

Justice in action (W360)

Credits: 30 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 32

Prior study: OU level 2 law modules

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

The main feature of this module involves working on an Open Justice project where you'll apply your academic knowledge to practical legal issues to provide legal advice, assistance and guidance. You'll consider why people undertake pro bono work and the concept of access to justice. You'll also look at how legal values and ethics can and should influence legal work.

Please note that this module can only be studied as part of a degree.



The Royal Courts of Justice

The Royal Courts of Justice

Mathematics and Statistics

Mathematics and statistics play a part in almost all daily activities. They are at the heart of advances in science and technology, as well as being indispensable problem-solving and decision-making tools in many areas of life. Mathematical and statistical knowledge is much sought after by employers for a wide variety of jobs.

You don't need to have studied mathematics to an advanced level at school to study one of our OU level 1 modules. If you have already studied some mathematics or statistics at university, or equivalent, you may be interested in one of our more specialised modules at OU level 2 or OU level 3.

OU level 1

Discovering mathematics (MU123)

Credits: 30 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024
1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This module provides a gentle start to the study of mathematics. It helps you integrate mathematical ideas into everyday thinking and builds confidence in using and learning mathematics. It covers statistical, graphical, algebraic, trigonometric and numerical concepts and techniques and introduces mathematical modelling. You'll learn skills required to study further mathematics or to successfully study many other subjects, such as business, computing, economics, education, humanities, science, social science and technology.

Essential mathematics 1 (MST124)

Credits: 30 at OU level 1

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: MU123 or equivalent prior study

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024
1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This key introductory module provides a broad and enjoyable foundation for university-level mathematics, but you do require some prior knowledge. It teaches you the essential ideas and techniques that underpin university-level study in mathematics and mathematical subjects such as physics, engineering and economics. You'll study a range of fundamental topics – including calculus, vectors, matrices and complex numbers – and use mathematical software to solve problems. You'll also develop your skills in communicating results and defining problems. This is not a module for beginners.

Students without computer access cannot undertake some activities in this module and may lose marks as a result – although it is possible to pass the module without these marks. Please get in touch with your OU contact who will go through your options with you.

Essential mathematics 2 (MST125)

Credits:	30 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	MST124 (or taken at the same time)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024 1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This module builds on the concepts and techniques in *Essential mathematics 1* (MST124) to provide a complete foundation for higher-level mathematics studies. You'll be introduced to a broad range of enjoyable and essential topics, such as proof, differential equations, mechanics and discrete mathematics, as well as extending your knowledge of calculus and its applications. You'll use mathematical software and learn how to typeset mathematics. To study this module, you should have a sound knowledge of relevant mathematics, in particular basic calculus.

Students without computer access cannot undertake some activities in this module but alternative assessment questions are available and can be provided by tutors on request. Please read the Module Information Sheet (see page 21) and get in touch with your OU contact who will go through your options with you.

Introducing statistics (M140)

Credits:	30 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024 1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This module teaches you how to use basic statistical tools and quantitative methods useful in business, government, industry, medicine, the economy, and most academic subjects. Topics include summarising data, examining relationships, randomness and sampling distributions, probability, testing hypotheses, and estimation. Using data from various applications, you'll learn practical statistical techniques and fundamental principles and analyse data using software and a calculator. The skills introduced are ideal if you plan to study mathematics further or encounter data in another subject or your daily life.

Students no longer need access to minitab to complete this module, however, students will not be able to fully meet the module aims without access to this software and may struggle with further statistics modules.

OU level 2

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt please ask your education department or learning centre.

Analysing data (M248)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	MST124 and M140 (both recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module explores the fundamental statistical techniques and ideas used for analysing and interpreting data, covering models for data, estimation, confidence intervals, hypothesis testing and regression. The emphasis is on the practical side, although some of the underlying theory is also included. The statistical software package Minitab is supplied with the module and use of a computer with Windows OS is essential: you'll receive detailed guidance for all the computer activities. This module is ideal if you would like to develop the skills to make sense of data. It also provides the necessary foundations required for studying further modules in statistics.

Students without computer access cannot use the software needed for this module, therefore it is not available to those students. Please read the Module Information Sheet (see page 21) and get in touch with your OU contact who will go through your options with you.

Mathematical methods (MST224)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	MST124
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module teaches you mathematical methods used in modelling through their application to solving real-world problems. These methods include differential equations, linear algebra and vector calculus. You'll become familiar with new mathematical skills mainly by using pencil and paper, and thinking. The module will give you a good foundation for further study and provides important preparation for higher-level mathematics, statistics or physics modules.

To study this module, you should have a sound knowledge of algebra, calculus, and geometry as provided by the appropriate OU level 1 study.

Mathematical methods, models and modelling (MST210)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	MST124 and MST125
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Solve real problems by discovering how they're transformed into mathematical models and learning the solution methods. This module covers classical mechanical models and non-mechanical models such as population dynamics, methods including vector algebra, differential equations, calculus (including several variables and vector calculus), matrices, methods for three-dimensional problems, and numerical methods. Teaching is supported and enhanced by the use of a computer algebra package.

Students without full online access cannot undertake the group work activity of this module and may lose marks in part of the assessment as a result. However, please read the Module Information Sheet (see page 21) and get in touch with your OU contact who will go through your options with you.

Practical modern statistics (M249)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	M248 or M140 and MST124 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

The module introduces four major topics of modern applied statistics: medical statistics, time series, multivariate analysis, and Bayesian statistics. It's ideal if you've already studied a general introductory statistics module and wish to broaden your knowledge of the field. The module emphasises underlying principles and practical applications rather than technical details. Use of a computer is an essential component – the module includes SPSS and WinBUGS software, which you'll use to analyse data and develop your understanding of statistics. To study this module, you should have a sound knowledge of basic mathematics as provided by the appropriate OU level 1 module, and statistical competence at the level developed by the appropriate OU level 2 study.

This module is best studied after, or with, Analysing data (M248).

Students without computer access cannot use the software needed for this module, therefore it is not available to those students. Please get in touch with your OU contact who will go through your options with you.

Pure mathematics (M208)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	MST125
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Pure mathematics is one of the oldest creative human activities and this module introduces its main topics. *Group Theory* explores sets of mathematical objects that can be combined – such as numbers, which can be added or multiplied, or rotations and reflections of a shape, which can be performed in succession. *Linear Algebra* explores 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional space and systems of linear equations, and develops themes arising from the links between these topics. *Analysis*, the foundation of calculus, covers operations such as differentiation and integration, arising from infinite limiting processes. To study this module, you should have a sound knowledge of relevant mathematics as provided by the appropriate OU level 1 study.

OU level 3

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Applications of probability (M343)

Credits:	30 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	M248 and all other OU level 2 modules
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module introduces models to describe patterns of events that occur in time (such as earthquakes) and space (for instance, the occurrence of a plant species). You'll study situations that occur only at discrete time points, including the gambler's ruin, and develop probability models for situations where events may occur at any time, such as the spread of an epidemic. The module ends with other situations involving probability, including genetics and changes in stock market prices.

Applied statistical modelling (M348)

Credits:	30 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	M248 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

What do wage rates depend on? How many medals is a nation predicted to win at the next Olympics? Can we predict an OU student's exam score based on their age and which qualification they're studying? You can explore questions like these using the statistical modelling techniques in this module. It takes a practical approach with an emphasis on the fitting of models and the interpretation of results. Also, depending on your interests, you'll study topics related to econometrics (statistics applied to economics) or data science.

Students without computer access cannot use the software needed for this module. Please read the Module Information Sheet and get in touch with your OU contact who will go through your options with you.

Complex analysis (M337)

Credits:	30 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	M208 or MST224 or MST210
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Complex analysis is a rich subject that is of foundational importance in mathematics and science. This module develops the theory of functions of a complex variable, emphasising their geometric properties and indicating some applications. In studying the module, you will consolidate many of the mathematical ideas and methods that you have learned in earlier modules, and it will set you in good stead for tackling further fields of study in mathematics, engineering and physics.

Deterministic and stochastic dynamics (MS327)

Credits:	30 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	MST210 (recommended) or MST224
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module is an accessible introduction to the study of applied mathematics at OU level 3. It introduces core topics in applied mathematics at this level and is structured around three books: *Fundamental concepts of dynamics*, *Deterministic dynamics* and *Stochastic processes and diffusion*. The module uses the Maxima computer algebra system to illustrate how to explore the properties of dynamical systems with a computer. To study this module, you should have a good prior knowledge of applied mathematics, including differential equations, and some knowledge of mechanics, as provided by the appropriate OU level 2 study.

Students without computer access cannot use the software needed for this module, therefore it is not available to those students. Please get in touch with your OU contact who will go through your options with you.

Further pure mathematics (M303)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	M208
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module covers important topics in the theory of pure mathematics, including number theory, the algebraic theory of rings and fields, and metric spaces. You will develop your understanding of group theory and real analysis and see how to apply some of these ideas to cryptography and fractals. To successfully study this module, you must have an interest in pure mathematics and ideally should already have studied pure mathematics at OU level 2 as provided by *Pure mathematics* (M208).

Graphs, games and designs (MST368)

Credits: 30 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: MST124 or MST125 (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module is about discrete mathematics and its applications to modelling and solving real-world problems. Applications include the famous Travelling Salesman Problem, assigning junior doctors to hospitals and storing/transmitting data resilient to errors. You'll also see some recreational applications, e.g. how to always win at simple games and the mathematics of Sudoku. At the heart of all these problems is pure mathematics – in the form of graph theory, game theory, coding theory and design theory.

Mathematical methods and fluid mechanics (MST326)

Credits: 30 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: MST210 (recommended) or MST224

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Half of this module is about modelling simple fluid flows; the other half is about mathematical methods. You'll learn how to solve ordinary and partial differential equations such as: Laplace's equation, the wave equation and the diffusion equation; some vector field theory; and Fourier analysis. The fluid mechanical aspects of the module will give you a good understanding of modelling in the context of fluids. To study this module, you should have a sound knowledge of ordinary differential equations, vector calculus, multiple integrals, basic particle mechanics and some knowledge of partial differential equations and Fourier series as provided by the appropriate OU level 2 study.

Mathematical statistics (M347)

Credits: 30 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: M248; one of M208, MST210 or MST224; and all other OU level 2 and level 3 statistics modules

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module provides the mathematical underpinning for statistical methods in general and further statistics modules. You'll study distribution theory, leading to statistical inference theory developed under classical and Bayesian approaches. In the classical case, you'll focus on maximum likelihood estimation. You'll also explore the development of these ideas in the context of linear modelling (regression and extensions).

To study this module, students should have a sound knowledge of basic statistical ideas and competence in calculus, algebra and matrices, as provided by the appropriate OU level 1 and 2 study.

Psychology and Counselling

Psychology pervades all aspects of our everyday lives, which means that a basic grounding in psychology can enrich our understanding of our personal, professional and social lives.

Our more general modules in psychology will appeal to those seeking to work in a diverse range of areas, as well as to those considering a qualification in psychology and wishing to explore the subject a little first.

OU level 1

Encountering psychology in context (D120)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024
	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This module offers an accessible and engaging introduction to classic and contemporary psychological theory and research applied to a broad range of contexts. You'll encounter core areas of psychology as set out by the British Psychological Society (e.g. social, cognitive, developmental, biological) and applied aspects of professional practice (e.g. forensic, counselling). You'll learn how psychologists have studied topics that directly affect people's lives, in areas such as criminal justice, family life, ageing, and brain injury. You'll also explore how psychology can inform our understanding of magic and misdirection, performance, and how people develop across the lifespan.

Exploring psychological worlds: thinking, feeling, doing (D110)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024
	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

On this module you'll take your first steps into the worlds of psychology and counselling. You'll learn how these distinct but related disciplines can be applied to address many real-world problems. The problems covered on the module come from a wide variety of contexts, including families, crime, activism, mental health, and education itself. You'll also learn how to evaluate claims and evidence, developing a critical approach to the topics that you can take on to later modules, and apply in your own life outside of studying.

OU level 2

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Exploring mental health and counselling (D241)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module locates counselling within the broader field of mental health and provides a comprehensive and engaging introduction to the often controversial debates around mental health/illness and the main theories and practices in counselling. The module will critically examine the definitions and understandings of mental health issues and the ways they are treated in the related fields of practice, especially in counselling and psychotherapy. You'll be presented with recent theoretical debates and contemporary international research to inform and help you develop a critical understanding of the themes and issues related to mental health and counselling.

Living psychology: from the everyday to the extraordinary (DD210)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module draws on classic and contemporary theory and research in psychology and applies them to a broad range of contexts. You'll learn how psychologists have studied both practical and theoretical issues, such as nationalism or sexuality, with a particular emphasis on understanding and solving problems that directly affect people's lives. You'll explore core academic areas of psychology as set out by the British Psychological Society (e.g. social, cognitive, developmental) and applied aspects of professional practice (e.g. clinical, forensic, counselling). You'll also develop your understanding of psychological research methods, along with other useful academic and employability skills.

OU level 3

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Advancing social psychology (DD317)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	DD210 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Social psychologists study people as social beings, looking at their relationships and shared experiences in context. This module discusses social psychology's insights into life and people in a globalised and fast changing twenty-first century world. The module explores current issues in contemporary UK society, including gender, multiculturalism, immigration, global conflicts and work. You'll learn about recent research findings and different social psychological theories and approaches, including a critical approach towards psychology itself. As preparation for future study, work and life activities, you'll develop the academic and communication skills you need to study independently and follow your own interests.

Counselling and forensic psychology: investigating crime and therapy (DD310)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	DD210 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module draws on recent theoretical debates and research to critically explore the fascinating relationship between counselling and forensic psychology. You'll learn about media representations of crime and therapy and the role of sociocultural issues in both forensic and therapeutic work. You'll be introduced to the most common and effective therapeutic approaches for working with offenders/victims of crime, and explore therapeutic and forensic aspects around sex and sexuality. You'll develop an understanding of the dichotomies and emerging themes in this area and the challenges of providing therapy in a forensic setting.

Please note that this module discusses themes of a sexual nature that may not be appropriate for certain individuals or institutions, please get in touch with your OU contact if this is a concern.

Science

The more you look into science, the more fascinating it becomes. It's all about creativity, discovery and problem solving. Science is all around us, continuously unfolding and giving us the chance to improve our world's future.

Advances in areas such as communications, food production, healthcare and transport all depend on fresh knowledge emerging from science's many disciplines.

Study science with the OU and you'll enhance your understanding of the world and enrich your intellectual and personal development.

If you want to explore a science subject without committing yourself to an undergraduate qualification, some of the following modules could be of interest. Please note that the OU level 2 and OU level 3 modules described are not intended for those new to university-level study.

OU level 1

Questions in science (S111)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	12 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024
	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This introductory science module encompasses astronomy and planetary science; biology; chemistry; Earth and environmental sciences; and physics. A series of questions, starting with 'Can you make a hole in water?' and 'How do you know what is alive?', demonstrates the interdisciplinarity of the sciences and teaches scientific thinking. You'll undertake a number of practical experiments. This module is the entry point for the natural sciences degree, and develops generic study skills, maths skills and investigative skills alongside key concepts in science.

Science and health: an evidence-based approach (SDK100)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2023 – register by 5 Sep 2024
	25 Jan 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This module introduces the science of human health and covers eight globally important health topics, from nutrition and infectious diseases to pain and breast cancer screening. Each topic integrates biological, chemical and physical sciences concepts with psychology and health statistics to illuminate the causes of disease and disability and the consequence for individuals and populations. You'll also develop skills for further study of health sciences, including evaluating evidence, handling numbers, presenting data, writing, and using information technology.



Science: concepts and practice (S112)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	S111 or SDK100 (recommended)
Start:	12 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

In this module, you'll explore the ideas that underpin the study of science disciplines. Following a week exploring scale, each subsequent week focuses on a particular area – biology, chemistry, Earth science, environmental science and physics. You'll develop practical skills throughout and in two distinct blocks – focusing on observation and control of variables, where you'll choose where you will choose the activities best suited to your qualification and your own interests. In the final five weeks, you will be able to choose at least one science discipline to study in more detail, the choice of which will be guided by your qualification and own interests.

OU level 2

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Astronomy (S284)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	S111, S112 and MST124
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module covers fundamental astronomy with a modern observational approach. It encompasses two broad themes of 'Stars and Galaxies' and 'Multiwavelength Astronomy'. Starting from cosmic length scales, you'll learn how astronomers measure the Universe – through spectroscopy, imaging and time-variability. You'll also learn about the constituents of stars and galaxies, and study their formation, evolution and rebirth through energetic processes. To finish, you'll revisit the Universe from the perspective of cosmic time scales. Throughout, alongside astronomy, you'll develop your computing, maths and physics skills.

There are some activities which are not available to students in secure environments due to Ministry of Justice restrictions and wherever possible we have provided an alternative activity. However, this will require access to interactives and videos on a disc and access to spreadsheet software (e.g. Microsoft Excel). We estimate that you will need to use a computer for at least six hours a month.

If you encounter problems accessing the alternatives get in touch with your OU contact who will go through your options with you.

Brain, mind and mental health (SK298)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	S111 or S112 or SDK100 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Through a scientific approach, learn to understand the brain, mind and mental health, from childhood through early adulthood and into old age. You'll study eight topics, including brain development, autism, mood disorders and dementia. You'll also develop your science communication skills, numeracy skills and your understanding of research methods. This module is relevant for those with an interest in mental health or who work in health and social care or other professions allied to medicine. You will need some knowledge of biology or health science.

Chemistry in life: food, water and medicines (S248)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	S111 or S112 or SDK100 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Explore how fundamental chemistry relates to food, water and medicines – all key to modern life. You'll learn by developing your problem-solving skills in chemistry and through experimental investigations. Learn about the role chemists play in developing a more sustainable future and how they solve problems related to human health. By the end, you'll understand the structures and roles of food components, how drinking water is purified, and how drug molecules are designed and function.

Energy and sustainability (T213)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	U116, S111 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Are fossil fuels running out? Can nuclear power, carbon capture or renewable energy solve global warming? How can we provide clean, safe, sustainable energy supplies despite increasing population levels and affluence? In this module, you'll examine the principles underlying the design and efficient use of energy and energy supply systems and learn to use the appropriate scientific and mathematical techniques and apply them to energy-related issues.

There are some activities which are not available to students in secure environments because of Ministry of Justice restrictions (e.g. Forum discussions) and wherever possible we have provided an alternative activity.

Students without internet access are provided with interactives and videos on a disc. If you encounter problems accessing the disc, alternatives are provided wherever possible. Get in touch with your OU contact who will go through your options with you.

Environmental science (S206)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	S111 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module spans biology, chemistry, Earth science and physics, drawing them together in a holistic approach to studying the environment. You'll investigate air, water, Earth, life and cycles and explore the processes, interactions and feedback mechanisms operating within different environments. This module will allow you to develop skills and apply your learning. By the end, you will be able to critically analyse environmental processes and structures, e.g. landforms, soils, water flows and habitats of flora and fauna, and comment on anthropogenic influences and their likely consequences.

This module will be available for the last time in October 2024.

Human biology (SK299)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	S111 or S112 or SDK100 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module teaches human biology in an interdisciplinary context, relatable to various backgrounds, including science, technology, humanities and health. You'll learn about human body systems (cardiovascular, respiratory, excretory, endocrine, nervous, digestive and reproductive) and their major dysfunctions and examine multifactorial conditions related to lifestyle choices. While teaching the science, the material also emphasises the richness of interactions between the individual and their environment. It lets you appreciate how such knowledge is relevant to issues in health and disease.

Investigating human health and disease (S290)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	S111, S112 or SDK100
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

You will study the cellular and molecular science underlying health and disease, including genetics, biomedicine, immunology and microbiology. Experience laboratory approaches used to study and diagnose conditions such as cancer and autoimmune disorders. Through guided investigations, you will collect, analyse, and interpret data, and generate a summary report of your findings. You will learn how health research is communicated through scientific literature. Finally, you'll encounter people who work in different aspects in the broad health sciences sector, from clinical sciences to publishing and industry, and who will explain their remit, skills and experience.

Investigative approaches in biology and chemistry (S285)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	S111 or S112
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This practical science module explores investigative biology and chemistry skills and techniques. You'll study four interdisciplinary topics; the investigative scientist, food safety, pesticides and drug metabolism, cover core concepts commonly met in biology and chemistry and develop your practical and investigative skills through a series of investigations and experiments. As well as studying key investigative skills and techniques related to biology and chemistry you'll develop your skills for further study of biology and chemistry including numeracy, problem solving, collaboration and communication.



Physics: from classical to quantum (S217)

Credits: 60 at OU level 2

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: S111 (recommended) and MST124 (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module teaches general physics with an emphasis on the important concepts, their basic mathematical description, and their application. After a brief maths revision unit, the module covers classical mechanics; electric and gravitational fields and potentials; electromagnetism and relativity; waves and optics; thermal and statistical physics; quantum physics and an introduction to its applications to solids, atoms and nuclei. You'll also develop your problem-solving skills throughout.

This module will be available for the last time in October 2024. A replacement module will be available in future.

Planetary science and the search for life (S283)

Credits: 30 at OU level 2

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: S111 (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module tackles fundamental questions about our Solar System. How did it form and how has it evolved? Why aren't all the planets like Earth? How and why did life arise on Earth? Has life appeared elsewhere in the Solar System or beyond, and could it be intelligent? You'll look at the exploration of the Solar System by spacecraft; planetary processes such as volcanism and impacts; the structure of planets and their atmospheres; and asteroids, comets and meteorites. Although the module is intended for a wide range of people, a background in science is required.

Students without internet access are provided with interactives and videos on a disc. If you encounter problems accessing the disc, alternatives are provided wherever possible. Get in touch with your OU contact who will go through your options with you.

OU level 3

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt please ask your education department or learning centre.

Electromagnetism (SM381)

Credits: 30 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 31

Prior study: MST224 or MST210 (essential) and S217 (recommended)

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Electricity and magnetism are familiar phenomena, but they are not independent. In this module, you'll discover how a single consistent theory known as electromagnetism unifies electricity and magnetism – one of the greatest achievements of classical physics. You'll learn about Maxwell's equations and how they describe the fundamental physics of electromagnetism using the mathematical language of vector calculus. Additionally, you'll study the application of these equations to understand electric and magnetic fields in the world around us, including phenomena such as light. Along the way, you'll gain an appreciation for the role of symmetry in physics.



Infectious disease and public health (SK320)

Credits:	30 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	See below
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Infectious disease affects all our lives to varying degrees, often making front-page news: 'New resistant strain of TB', 'Will bird flu cross over to humans?' 'Hospital infections reach epidemic proportions', etc. This module approaches infectious disease from several perspectives – exploring the underlying biology, epidemiology, ecology and evolution of pathogens in relation to the extraordinary immune defences of their human hosts. You'll learn how infections are diagnosed, how to study changes in the incidence of diseases and investigate strategies for treatment and control through detailed case studies. You'll also explore disease or disease-related topic in detail.

It is essential that you establish whether or not your prior study gives you a sound basis on which to tackle the module. The Science Faculty has produced a booklet: 'Are you ready for SK320?' to help you to decide whether you already have the recommended background knowledge or experience to start the module or whether you need a little extra preparation. Get in touch with your OU contact who will request the booklet from the OU.

Quantum physics (SM380)

Credits:	30 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	MST224 or MST210 and S217
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module takes you on a journey from the fundamental concepts of quantum physics through to contemporary applications in quantum systems and quantum computing. You'll gain a thorough understanding of quantum mechanics' core principles, formalisms, and mathematical techniques. Building on this understanding, you'll discover how quantum mechanics is used to model and control the behaviour of complex physical systems, from atoms to molecules and lattices of atoms.

Signals and perception: the science of the senses (SD329)

Credits:	30 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	OU level 1 and 2 study in appropriate subjects
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This sensory neuroscience module uses fundamental concepts from biology, chemistry, physics and psychology to explain how we interact with our environment through the senses. For each of the senses, you'll investigate how sensation begins with a stimulus that is converted into an electrical impulse, how that is transmitted to the brain, and how the brain combines these messages – to arrive at a 'perception of the stimulus'.

Terrestrial ecosystems (S397)

Credits:	30 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	S206 or S111/ S112/ U116 and another OU level 2 science module (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module considers the interactions between terrestrial organisms and their environments forming ecosystems, ranging from simple microbial communities to tropical rainforests. We could even consider Earth as a whole ecosystem. The module will introduce you to key ecosystem concepts and develop your understanding of the stability and resilience of ecosystems to disturbances such as disease and pollution. You'll learn how ecosystem function depends on exchanges of water, energy and nutrients; and gain practical experience with current research techniques, including real-time monitoring and computer modelling. Finally, you'll gain experience in writing professional-style reports on ecological systems.

Social Sciences

The social sciences curriculum offered by the OU is vibrant and topical. You can study modules that specialise in the various disciplines of the social sciences, including criminology, economics, geography, politics, social policy and sociology.

We also offer a number of innovative interdisciplinary modules based on the perspectives of a number of disciplines that provide you with a wide contextual understanding of social problems. Whichever module you choose you will be equipped with skills and knowledge that will be of value to your personal development and career.

OU level 1

Economics in context (DD126)

Credits:	30 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024
	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

Why are markets so powerful in most economies today? What is the role of the government in different economies, and how does this role shape opportunities of different people and firms? What explains global inequalities? Why is economic growth such a key economic goal in most countries today? Are there other goals economies could pursue? You'll unravel these and similar questions using insights from recent history, key economic thinkers, and drawing on economic perspectives and examples. This module is a building block towards a critical perspective on economics and economic choices for our daily lives.

Global challenges: social science in action (D113)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	DD102 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module investigates some of the major challenges facing the world today. Packed with engaging teaching material, thought-provoking interactive tasks and engrossing examples, it explores how social science helps us understand and respond to the climate crisis, the legacies of colonialism and enslavement, and the challenges posed by digital technology. Whether you take it as your first or second module, it is designed with you in mind. You'll have lots of support and be introduced to or have a chance to recap basic study skills.

Introducing the social sciences (DD102)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024
	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This OU level 1 module provides an ideal introduction to the social sciences – psychology, social policy and criminology, geography and environment, politics and international studies, economics and sociology. You'll explore a wide range of topics which shape the nature of contemporary UK society; from questions of identity, inequalities and differences to consumerism and environment, and issues of social order, disorder and governance. Using a blend of text, audio and video and materials, you'll be equipped with a range of skills for independent study and for your personal and working life.

Introduction to criminology (DD105)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024
	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This module is an ideal introduction to one of the key areas of social sciences as it offers you an informed understanding of how criminal law is applied and its connection to social order/disorder, as well as criminal justice. On a week-by-week basis, you are introduced to different case studies encouraging you to think critically about the relationship between state, power and crime and the factors influencing the definition, contestation and deconstruction of crime in modern societies. Your studies are integrated with a range of skills that'll also provide a solid basis for progression to an OU level 2 module in this subject.

You and your money (DB125)

Credits:	30 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024
	1 Feb 2025 – register by 9 Jan 2025

This innovative module sets personal finance against its wider social, economic and political background. You'll be provided with a gentle introduction to aspects of economics, while also gaining practical tools and ideas on how to manage your own money effectively. The module is structured around four themes: the changing economic, political and social context; individuals, households and other relationships; economics and the real world; and the life course and financial planning. You'll study income, expenditure, debt, savings and investments, housing, insurance, pensions and caring, critically appraising the balance between personal and social responsibility for financial well-being.

OU level 2

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Changing geographies of the United Kingdom (D225)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module explores change in the contemporary United Kingdom and how a geographical perspective can help us to make sense of this change. At the heart of this exploration is the idea that the United Kingdom exists as a contested geographical entity, marked by shifting borders and boundaries, and patterns of local and global circulation and connection. From connections to an ancient British past to contemporary relations with Europe, you'll develop geographical skills to help you consider how places are made, re-made and understood. You'll also consider how change has occurred within Geography as a discipline.

Economics in practice (DD226)

Credits:	30 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This is an introduction to the way that the theories and tools of economics are used in the workplace and everyday life. Using interviews with working economists and real-world examples, such as tackling flood risk, planning for climate change and using sugar taxes to improve public health, it demonstrates how economics is used and embedded in the lives that we lead. Moreover, it'll give you a taste of what it might be like to work in one of the many careers where aspects of economics would be utilised on a daily basis.

Environment and society (DD213)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module starts with investigating how social science perspectives change the way we understand and respond to the major environmental challenges of our time. You'll explore how understandings of environment and society had profound and unequal consequences for people and ecosystems across the planet, in the age of the Anthropocene. You'll also explore ways of understanding environmental and societal issues that are entangled in cultural, economic, social, and political terms and look at how these can provide the resources required to value environments differently and to build new models of responsibility required to navigate the Anthropocene.

Essential economics: macro and micro perspectives (D217)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module provides an introduction to the intermediate development of economics, a fascinating and important discipline that can also be controversial. You'll learn about the mainstream theories that are central to policymaking and business decision-making. You'll also explore ideas from some of the competing schools of thought that make up the economic pluralism for which The Open University is renowned. The topics, ideas and theories covered are essential to a wider understanding of the world in which we all live and aim to thrive.

Introducing global development: poverty, inequality, sustainability (D229)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

What is global development in the 21st century? Where does development now take place? How does development take place? How can we reflect on our own understanding of the world to change it? Drawing on case studies and thinkers from across the globe, this module answers questions like these. It explores how power and politics shape the globally interlinked nature of development challenges. Using a range of study materials, including bespoke documentary films made in Scotland and Guyana, you will explore the interconnections and interrelationships between poverty, inequality, and sustainability in the rapidly changing context of development. You'll learn key practical skills for undertaking academic research in this field and in development practice, including constructing arguments, examining data sets and writing effective advocacy and campaign material.

Investigating philosophy (DA223)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Philosophers like to ask deep and penetrating questions. What does it mean to be moral? Would a perfect God let evil exist in the world? When, if ever, is it acceptable to disobey the law? Is the mind distinct from the brain? What is knowledge? Is race 'socially real' and what does that mean? In this module, you will investigate these questions and many more, through six topics central to philosophy. The study materials will guide you to learn how to analyse texts, construct arguments and evaluate philosophical theories, while leaving space for independent study and reflection.

Social research: crime, justice and society (DD215)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

In this module, you'll take a journey across the social research process, exploring what social research is, how it's conducted, and why it's important. Social research forms a crucial part of efforts to shape and improve societies, and you'll consider the many different ways that social researchers use their research to make a difference. You'll also learn about gender, race and social class, which are core themes throughout. The module has been designed to leave you feeling curious, inspired, and empowered to think critically about the process of producing knowledge about the social world.

Understanding criminology (DD212)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module introduces you to the many ways criminologists seek to explain crime, victims of crime and the role of criminal justice. Through the use of engaging topics, each study week begins with examples of crimes or criminal justice problems that you may recognise from the news, other media outlets and popular culture. It will gently introduce you to different criminological concepts and theories and you'll actively engage and explore these using virtual learning environment activities and written assessment. You'll become equipped with the skills needed to understand theories and concepts about crime and will advance your understanding of everyday social issues that may influence crime and victims of crime.

Understanding digital societies (DD218)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Technology has always been a part of society but the digital revolution of recent decades means that we are living through a period of particularly rapid change. This module is for anyone curious about the societal impacts of digital technology. Throughout the module you'll learn core sociological theory that will help you unpack and understand societal, political and environmental impacts of digital technology. You'll consider digital societies in relation to three broad themes: individuals and society, power and inequality and, people and things.

Understanding politics: ideas and institutions in the modern world (DD211)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	DD102 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

What is politics? Who is engaged in politics locally, nationally and internationally? How do we study politics? This online module answers questions like these and explores how political ideas, institutions and processes help govern our world. Using a range of study materials, you'll explore the interrelationships between politicians, pundits and publics. You'll learn the key practical skills that are used to explore and explain the ways in which politics, in all its forms, helps order the social world and provide for the governance of persons and the administration of things.



OU level 3

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Crime, harm and the state (DD311)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

The central question you'll explore in this module is why some events which cause harm, of various kinds, are formally labelled and treated as crimes when others are not, and how and why this can vary by region and over time. You'll focus on constructions of 'harm' or 'social harm', and how these are intimately linked to the state, as the key source of definitions of crime through law. Through a variety of engaging and thought-provoking case studies, you will explore processes of criminalisation and definitions of crime, harm and justice, as well as relationships between the Global North and the Global South. You'll also critically consider the role and function of criminological theory and its proximity to state power, and have an opportunity to develop your own criminological imagination and identity through a range of virtual learning environment activities and assessments.

Doing economics: people, markets and policy (DD309)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module teaches economic theories that explain the behaviour of people in households, firms, markets and governments. You'll be presented with alternative economic explanations, enabling you to make your own critical judgements of which theory serves which purpose best. You'll also gain the research skills to conduct your own project on a topic you want to know more about. At the end of the module, you should have developed a more critical view of the socio-economic world in which you live.

This module will be available for the last time in October 2024.

Economics for a changing world (DD321)

Credits: 60 at OU level 3

Study weeks: 30

Prior study: None

Start: 5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

Looking through the lens of competing economic theories and policies, you will learn how economics can help analyse the current challenges facing the global economy. This will include how to manage a country's economic growth in a globalised world; the socio-economic impacts of international trade; how multinational companies influence the distribution of wealth through global value chains; the role of finance for economic development; the causes and consequences of financial crises and how to address the challenge of climate change.

Modern political ideas (DD316)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	DD211 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

In this module you'll be investigating what political ideas are, how they are generated and the impact they have locally, nationally and internationally in shaping our world. You'll see how political ideas are studied, assess their significance and discover which thinkers and theorists best help us explore and understand the modern political world. In doing so, you'll be encouraged to draw on your own independent study of political ideas and political thinkers. You'll become equipped with the key practical skills needed to carry out research, draw on critical reflection and learn more of the writing and evaluative skills used to explore and evaluate political ideas.

Researching current issues in criminology (DD315)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	DD215
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module provides you with a unique opportunity to undertake an independent research-based 7000-word dissertation. It'll equip you with the knowledge, skills and tools to investigate a criminological issue of your choice using a secondary research approach. Underpinned by the module themes of legitimacy, denial and accountability, this module showcases diverse meanings, issues and settings of criminological research. You'll be guided through each stage of your research process and be encouraged to reimagine current understandings and responses to crime, harm and injustice.

Please note that this module can only be studied as part of a degree.

Social theory: changing social worlds (DD318)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	30
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

In this module, you'll explore the most influential and innovative sociological theories and the ever-changing social worlds that they respond to. You'll examine how transformations across four key areas of concern – work, culture, life, and control – have been accompanied by both significant social struggles and associated innovations in social theory and analysis. The range of topics covered includes racial capitalism, social reproduction, precarious work, new nationalisms, class and taste, urban cultures, body projects, everyday life, intersectionality, mediated lives, prisons and policing, biopolitics and health, digital surveillance, the climate crisis.



QUEEN ELIZABETH II AD 2000 THIS GREAT COURT GALLERY

Charmed
lives
in Greece
Ghika,
Craxton,
Laigh
Fermor



Rodin and the
art of
ancient
Greece



and let thy feet
millenniums hence
be set in midst of knowledge.



Sport, Fitness and Coaching

Our sport, fitness and coaching modules are suitable for sports coaches, fitness instructors, personal trainers, and aspiring managers. You'll develop a more sophisticated insight into the scientific, instructional and management principles that underpin sport and fitness leadership roles and the importance of interpersonal skills and customer care.

OU level 1

Introduction to sport and fitness (E117)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This introductory module builds on your general or professional interest in sport, recreation and fitness. The underpinning concepts covered include the organisation of sport and fitness provision in the UK; the benefits of physical activity; fitness training principles; nutrition; and a range of other contemporary issues. You'll be able to apply your understanding to your own participation in sport or fitness, or to careers such as exercise instruction or sports coaching.

This module will be available for the last time in October 2024.

Working with people in sport and fitness (E119)

Credits:	60 at OU level 1
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This is a work-related module that's invaluable if you work, or are intending to work, in sport and fitness. It will be of particular value to sports coaches, fitness trainers and aspiring PE teachers who are interested in developing their personal skills and becoming more effective as practitioners. The module uses a reflective approach to developing personal skills such as communication, motivation, team working and leadership, and learning physical skills.

OU level 2

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Sport and exercise: psychology in action (E235)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	E117 and E119 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module explores topics associated with sport and exercise psychology and introduces you to their relevance to a range of roles, such as coach, athlete, fitness participant or health professional. You'll learn knowledge and skills that can be applied to situations you're familiar with, can inform your practice, and can help you develop both yourself and those you work with.

Applying sport and exercise sciences to coaching (E236)

Credits:	60 at OU level 2
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	E117 and E119 (recommended)
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

This module is for sports coaches, exercise professionals and sports enthusiasts. Develop your scientific knowledge, analysis skills, coach-athlete relationships and reflective practice in sport and exercise settings. By investigating and applying aspects of sports science – including physiology, movement analysis, and strength and conditioning training methods – you'll enhance your understanding of human movement and performance. Applying sport and exercise science principles to case studies allows you to develop your reflective practice and become a more effective coach. Some of the options built into the module let you explore areas of interest in greater depth.

OU level 3

You must be suitably prepared for study at this level. If in doubt, please ask your education department or learning centre.

Athletic development: a psychological perspective (E312)

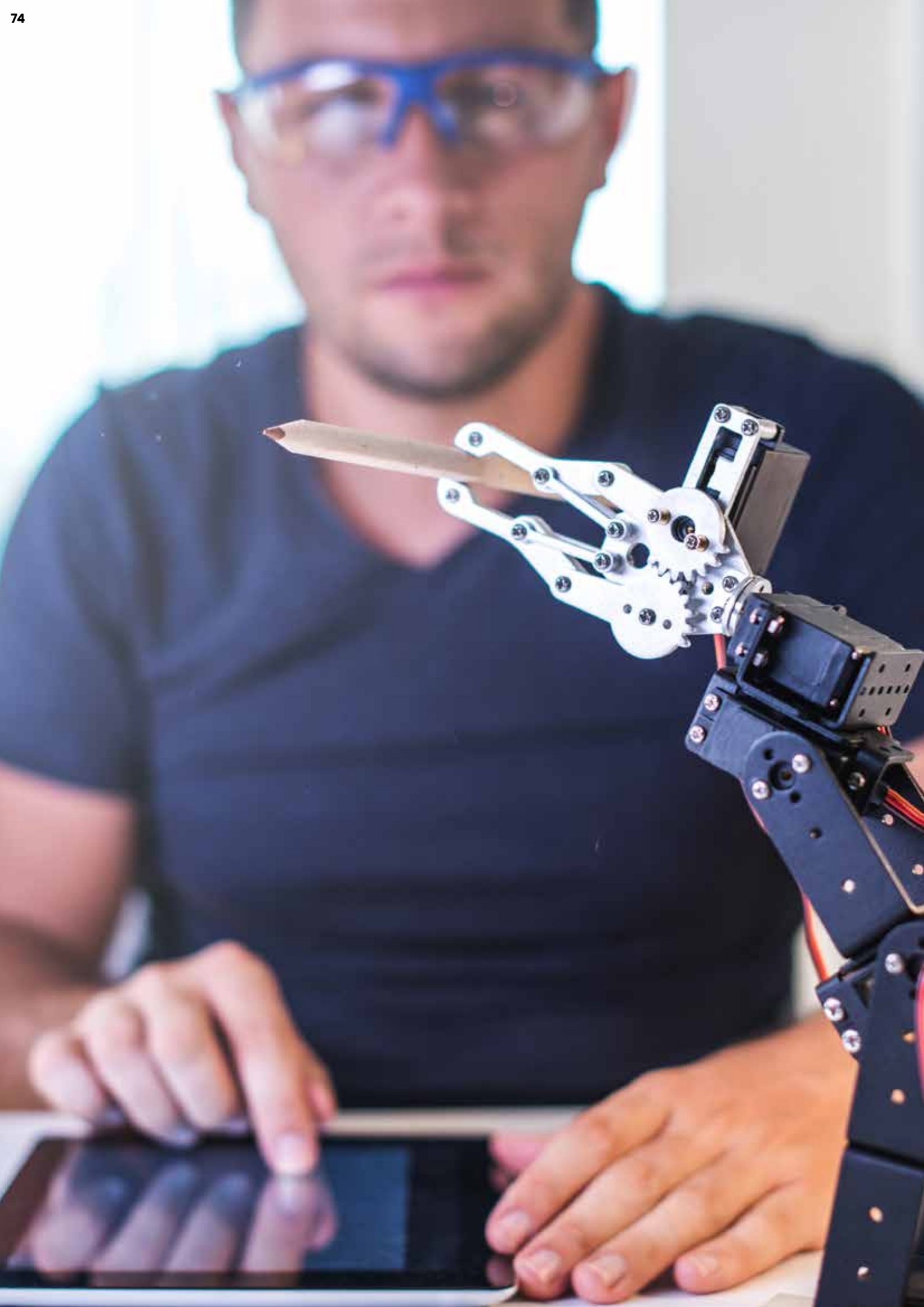
Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	E235 or any OU level 2 psychology module
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

In this module you'll explore some of the most significant psychological factors influencing participants' development in sport. Through critical analysis of relevant research and psychological theories and concepts you will consider the developmental influences of factors such as families, coach-athlete relationships, mental health, and transitional experiences on individuals' pathways in sport. This module is suitable for you if you have an interest in sport and exercise psychology and/or are working in the field in a coaching or related role. Whilst the module is focused predominantly on sports performance, it does also consider some aspects of exercise participation.

Contemporary sport and exercise issues (E315)

Credits:	60 at OU level 3
Study weeks:	31
Prior study:	None
Start:	5 Oct 2024 – register by 5 Sep 2024

In this engaging module you'll explore the research behind a range of contemporary sport and exercise issues. Through critical analysis of the interaction between academic and media sources you will investigate fascinating questions within topics such as nutrition, gender, recovery and youth sport. You'll also undertake a detailed investigation on one contemporary issue that you will select from a range of options. This module is suitable if you have a broad interest and an inquisitive nature regarding contemporary issues in sport, or work practices in the sector.



Find an undergraduate course

You may be looking for a flexible approach to getting a qualification in which case you'll find our Open qualifications provide you with a unique way to tailor study to your needs and interests.

Or, if you'd like to focus on a subject you can choose from a wide range of named qualifications.

Undergraduate courses	
Open qualifications	76
Arts and Humanities	82
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Health and Social Care	118
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Sport, Fitness and Coaching	180



BA/BSc (Hons) Open

This flexible honours degree, also known as the Open degree, gives you the freedom to study modules from across all our subject areas. It's your qualification; study at your own pace and choose the modules that interest you most.

Why choose an Open degree?

Our BA/BSc (Hons) Open, or Open degree, is multidisciplinary which means it allows you to combine different subjects. It can help you gain valuable skills you need for today's competitive job market. Studying in this way, across subjects, shows employers that you are flexible and adaptable. We can support and guide you to help you build a degree that's unique to your career aspirations or personal interests.

Choose the qualification that's right for you

If you're keen to experience university study but aren't ready to commit to a degree, you have the option to study towards a certificate or diploma of higher education.

These qualifications take less time to study - as they require fewer credits - but still offer you the opportunity to design a flexible and multidisciplinary qualification. You can also progress to a degree at a later date, if you decide that's what you want to do.

On completion

When you've achieved 360 credits you'll be awarded either a Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BSc) honours degree. Whether you qualify for a BA (Hons) or a BSc (Hons) Open will be determined by the number of credits you have from modules suitable for a BA or for a BSc.

Have you studied before?

If you've studied at university level before, you might be able to count that towards your BA/BSc (Hons) Open. This could save you time and money by reducing the number of modules you need to study with us to complete your qualification.



My afternoons studying on the education wing became the highlight of my week. I started off with an Access module on the environment. The subject matter was engaging, the study materials were great, and the assignments were challenging. The feedback I got from the OU tutors was encouraging. The education staff provided ideas for further courses. I felt like I was part of something.

Jon
HMP Usk

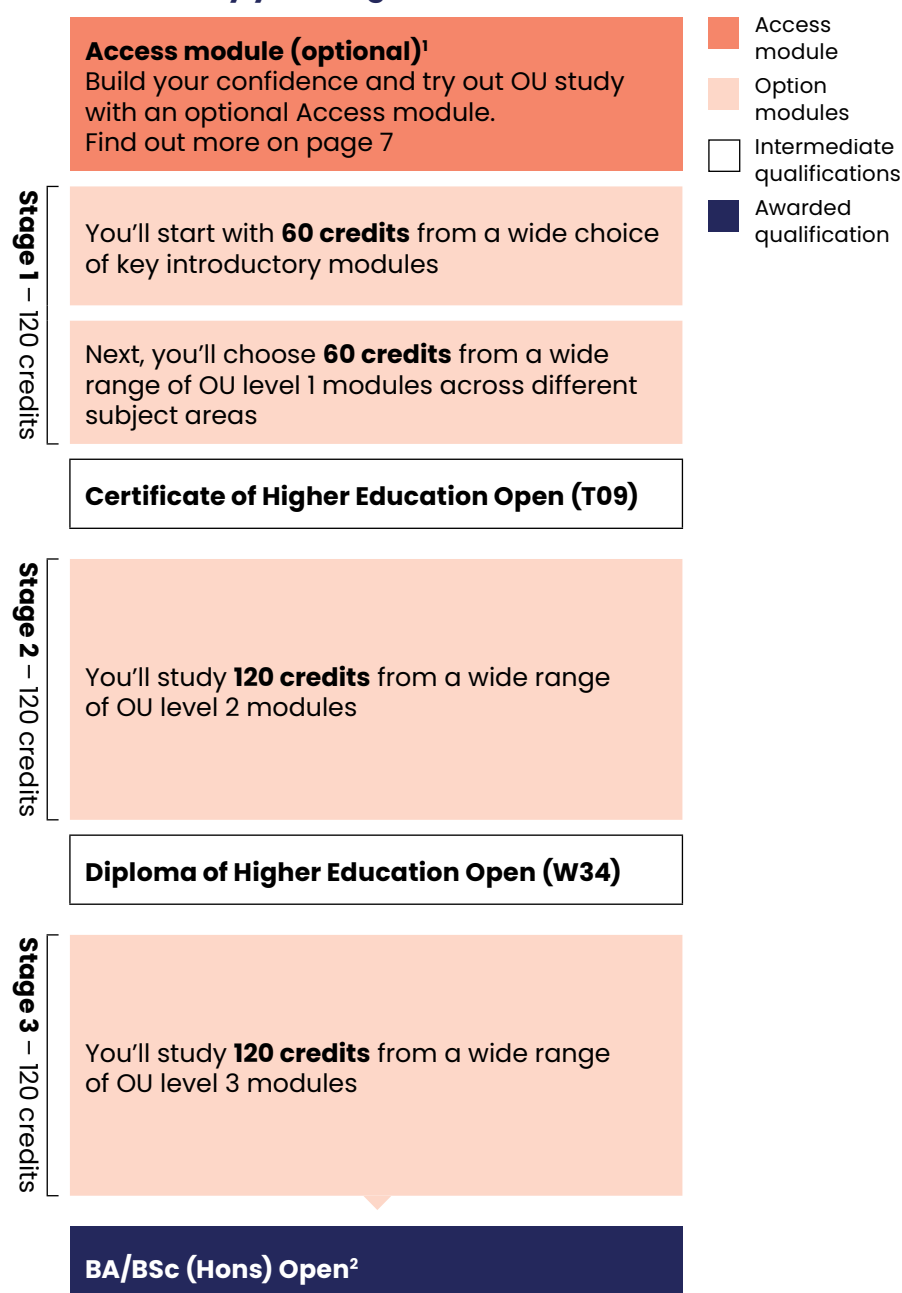


Qualification structure

Like most OU degrees, the BA/BSc (Hons) Open has three stages and each stage is made up of 120 credits. But with an Open degree you can choose modules from any of the following subject areas:

- **Arts and humanities**
- **Business and management**
- **Computing and IT**
- **Design**
- **Education, childhood and youth**
- **Engineering**
- **Environment and development**
- **Health and social care**
- **Health and wellbeing**
- **Languages**
- **Law**
- **Mathematics and statistics**
- **Psychology and counselling**
- **Science**
- **Social sciences**
- **Sport and fitness.**

You'll study your degree like this:



¹ Only available in the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Ireland.

² Whether you qualify for a BA or BSc (Hons) Open will be determined by the number of credits you have from modules suitable for a BA or for a BSc.

At a glance

Course code QD

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Depending on the modules you choose to study, you may be assessed in any or all of the following ways:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education Open (W34)

Certificate of Higher Education Open (T09)

Building your BA/BSc (Hons) Open

As an Open degree student, you get to choose from a vast range of different modules. We know that with so much choice available, you may need some help deciding which modules to study. We're here to help guide you through planning your qualification and selecting your modules.

Planning your studies

Studying more than one subject as part of your Open degree provides an exciting opportunity to think about the ways in which those subjects intersect and influence each other.

Before you start considering which modules to register for, think about:

- the subjects that interest you
- the skills you already have
- the subjects and/or skills that will help you fulfil your career or personal ambitions
- subjects you may have studied before
- how much time you have available to study
- when you want to start studying.

Stages in the Open degree

Stage 1

Your first modules will provide you with a foundation in your chosen subject(s) and help develop general study skills. You may want to focus on one subject – such as science or the humanities – but there's nothing to stop you studying modules from entirely different areas.

For certain subjects areas, such as biology, economics, or psychology, you may need to include particular modules at Stage 1, or have previous study, so that you're prepared for Stage 2 and 3. But don't worry, we can help you choose the right module at the right stage.

Stage 2

After Stage 1, you may have some ideas about the subjects you want to follow. You can start to focus on one or two, or choose different subjects that reflect your wider interests.

Stage 3

Stage 3 is focused on the study of specialist topics. Remember that the modules you select at Stage 2 and Stage 3 should ideally build on your studies at previous levels. We recommend you carefully plan your Stage 1 and 2 modules to prepare you for your chosen Stage 3 study.

You may want to think about the modules you're interested in at Stage 3 and work backwards.

Suggested subject routes

You don't have to build your qualification from scratch if you don't want to.

We've developed over 40 optional suggested subject routes you can follow. Each subject route is worth 180 credits, the equivalent of half a degree.

These routes guide you through a specific subject area so that you complete the right modules at Stage 1 to help prepare you for Stage 2 and 3 study.

For example, if you know you want to study **Psychology and Business & Management** you could follow the routes below:

	Business and Management	Psychology and Counselling
Stage 1	<i>An introduction to business and management (B100)</i>	<i>Exploring psychological worlds: thinking, feeling, doing (D110)</i>
Stage 2	<i>Shaping business opportunities (B207)</i>	<i>Living psychology: from the everyday to the extraordinary (DD210)</i>
Stage 3	<i>Strategic management (B302)</i>	<i>Counselling and forensic psychology: investigating crime and therapy (DD310)</i>
BA/BSc (Hons) Open (360 credits)		



BSc (Hons) Combined STEM

This flexible honours degree combines science, technology, engineering and mathematics subjects, also known as STEM.

Our BSc (Hons) Combined STEM lets you create a specialist degree from a wide range of modules and study routes, building a qualification that's unique to you.

The flexibility of this degree makes it relevant to a wide range of jobs and industries – many of which require proficiency in a range of STEM-based skills. It can help you start a new career.

Why this qualification?

- Tailor your qualification to suit your needs.
- Choose modules from across STEM subjects or focus on one or two specific areas.
- Be supported by our team of advisers, who'll help you make the best choice of modules.
- Study to fit evolving career ambitions or personal interests.
- Open up your career prospects.
- Flexibility to include up to 60 credits of non-STEM modules such as in business or a language in each of the first two stages.

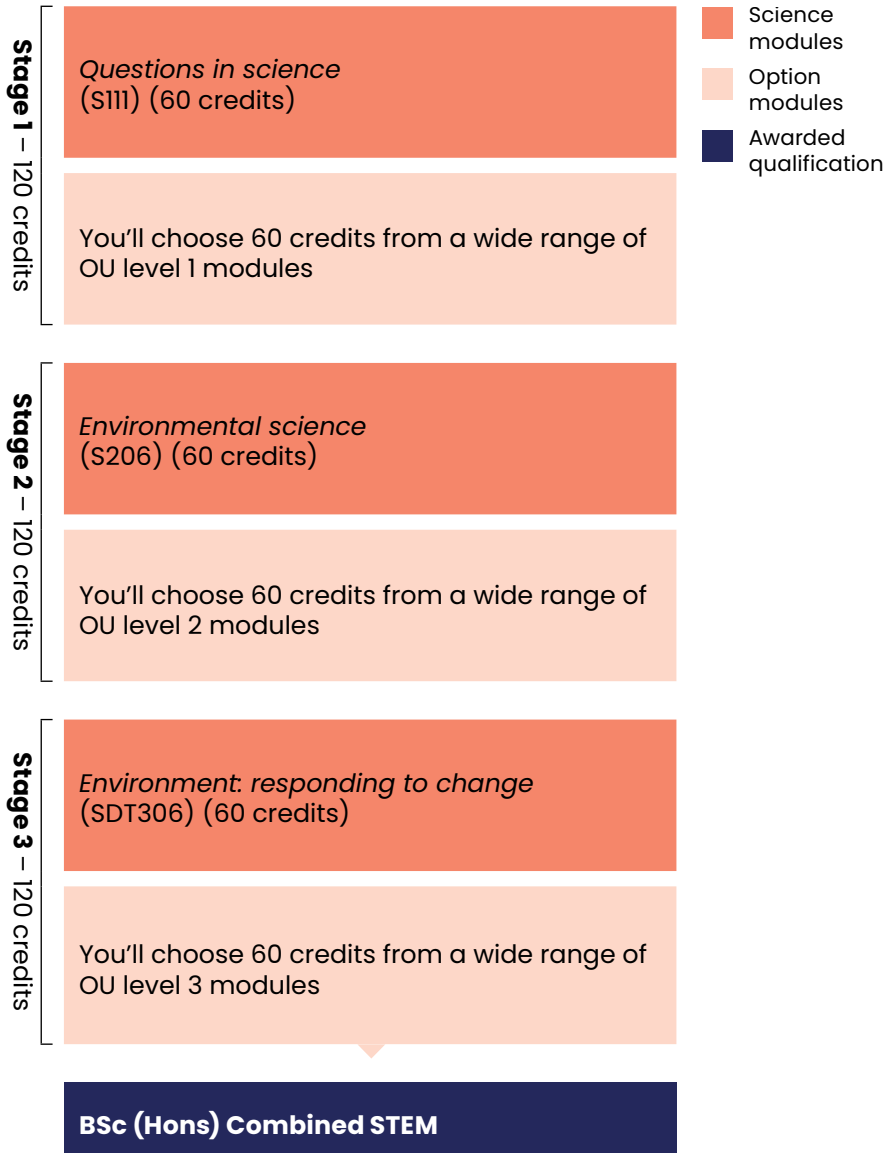
Student loans for degree holders

You could be eligible for a student loan even if you have a degree already.

You can apply if you want to re-skill or up-skill in a STEM subject, like Computing and IT, and live in England or Wales.

How you can focus your combined STEM degree on environmental science

This selection of modules shows how you can focus on science, in combination with other STEM subjects that are of particular interest to you. However, this is just one example of the many combinations you can study and you are not restricted to this route in any way.



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R28

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Depending on the modules you choose to study, you may be assessed in any or all of the following ways:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

As the BSc (Hons) Combined STEM degree can be made up of a range of different modules, the learning materials provided, use of online forums and inclusion of collaborative work will depend on the modules you choose to study. Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

BA (Hons) Arts and Humanities

This degree gives you the freedom to combine the study of different subject areas in the arts and humanities. You can develop specialisms and build up a broad portfolio of interests.

The course offers a deep understanding of the world we live in today, drawing on the perspectives of art history, classical studies, creative writing, English language and English literature, history, modern languages, philosophy and religious studies.

Why this qualification?

- Study a wide range of subjects; choose to specialise in one or two areas and tailor the degree to your interests or needs.
- Explore new ways of thinking about the arts and humanities and their relevance in contemporary societies and cultures.
- Develop a range of skills, including effective communication, critical thinking, analysis and self-directed work.
- Enrich your knowledge, prepare yourself for further study, or improve your employability in a range of careers.

Routes through this degree

You can choose a specialist route through the degree by focusing on one or two of the following subjects in a number of combinations: art history, classical studies, creative writing, English language, English literature, history, philosophy, religious studies, French, German, or Spanish. Alternatively, you can study a range of modules from arts and humanities subjects.

Your choice of specialism will be included in the name of your degree, for example:

- with one specialism – Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Arts and Humanities (Art History)
- with two specialisms – Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Arts and Humanities (Art History and Religious Studies).

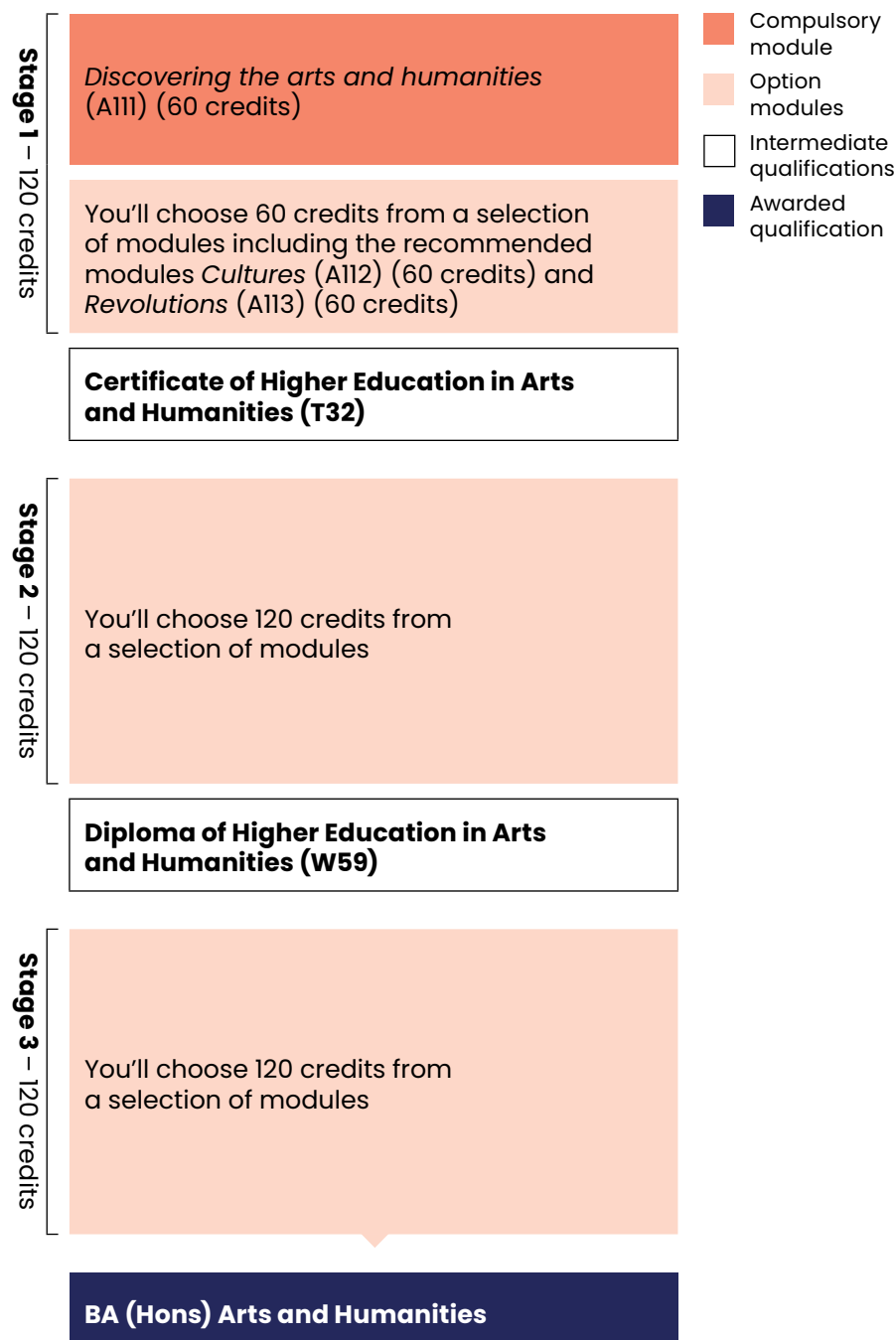


Qualification structure

You can choose a specialist route through the degree by focusing on one or two of the following subjects in a number of combinations:

- **Art History**
- **Classical Studies**
- **Creative Writing**
- **English Language**
- **English Literature**
- **History**
- **Philosophy**
- **Religious Studies**
- **French**
- **German**
- **Spanish**

Broad route



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R14

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3–4 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Arts and Humanities (W59)

Certificate of Higher Education in Arts and Humanities (T32)

Art History

Classical Studies

- Compulsory modules
- Option modules
- Awarded qualification

Stage 1 – 120 credits

Discovering the arts and humanities (A111) (60 credits)

Discovering the arts and humanities (A111) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules that includes the recommended module *Cultures* (A112) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules that includes the recommended module *Cultures* (A112) (60 credits)

Stage 2 – 120 credits

Art and visual cultures in the modern world (A236) (60 credits)

Exploring the classical world (A229) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

Stage 3 – 120 credits

Art and its global histories (A344) (60 credits)

Greek and Roman myth: stories and histories (A350) (60 credits) OR
The Roman empire (A340) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

BA (Hons) Arts and Humanities (Art History)

BA (Hons) Arts and Humanities (Classical Studies)

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Creative Writing

English Language

	Creative Writing	English Language	
Stage 1 – 120 credits	<i>Discovering the arts and humanities</i> (A111) (60 credits)	<i>Discovering the arts and humanities</i> (A111) (60 credits)	Compulsory modules
	You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules that includes the recommended module <i>Cultures</i> (A112) (60 credits)	You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules that includes the recommended module <i>Introducing English language studies</i> (L101) (60 credits)	Option modules
Stage 2 – 120 credits	<i>Creative writing</i> (A215) (60 credits)	<i>English in the world</i> (L201) (60 credits)	Compulsory modules
	You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules	You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules	Option modules
Stage 3 – 120 credits	<i>Advanced creative writing</i> (A363) (60 credits)	<i>Language, literature and childhood</i> (L301) (60 credits) OR <i>Language and creativity</i> (E302) (60 credits)	Compulsory modules
	You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules	You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules	Option modules
	BA (Hons) Arts and Humanities (Creative Writing)	BA (Hons) Arts and Humanities (English Language)	Awarded qualification

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

English Literature

French

- Compulsory modules
- Option modules
- Awarded qualification

Stage 1 – 120 credits

Discovering the arts and humanities (A111) (60 credits)

Discovering the arts and humanities (A111) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules that includes the recommended module *Cultures* (A112) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules that includes the recommended modules *Cultures* (A112) (60 credits) *Introduction to French studies (beginners)* (L102) (30 credits) *French studies 1 (intermediate)* (L112) (30 credits)

Stage 2 – 120 credits

Telling stories – the novel and beyond (A233) (60 credits)

French studies 2: language and culture of the French-speaking world (L222) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

Stage 3 – 120 credits

Literature in transition: from 1800 to the present (A335) (60 credits)

French studies 3: language and culture of the French-speaking world (L332) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

BA (Hons) Arts and Humanities (English Literature)

BA (Hons) Arts and Humanities (French)

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

German

History

- Compulsory modules
- Option modules
- Awarded qualification

Stage 1 – 120 credits

Discovering the arts and humanities (A111) (60 credits)

Discovering the arts and humanities (A111) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules that includes the recommended modules
Cultures (A112) (60 credits)
Introduction to German studies (beginners) (L103) (30 credits)
German studies 1 (intermediate) (L113) (30 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules that includes the recommended module
Revolutions (A113) (60 credits)

Stage 2 – 120 credits

German studies 2: language and culture of the German-speaking world (L223) (60 credits)

Early modern Europe: society and culture c.1500–1780 (A223) (60 credits) OR
The British Isles and the modern world, 1789–1914 (A225) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

Stage 3 – 120 credits

German studies 3: language and culture of the German-speaking world (L333) (60 credits)

Empires: power, resistance, legacies (A328) (60 credits) OR
Europe 1914–1989: war, peace, modernity (A327) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

BA (Hons) Arts and Humanities (German)

BA (Hons) Arts and Humanities (History)

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Philosophy

Religious Studies

- Compulsory modules
- Option modules
- Awarded qualification

Stage 1 – 120 credits

Discovering the arts and humanities (A111) (60 credits)

Discovering the arts and humanities (A111) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules that includes the recommended module *Cultures* (A112) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules that includes the recommended module *Cultures* (A112) (60 credits)

Stage 2 – 120 credits

Investigating philosophy (DA223) (60 credits)

Exploring religion: places, practices, texts and experiences (A227) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

Stage 3 – 120 credits

Key questions in philosophy (A333) (60 credits)

Why is religion controversial? (A332) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

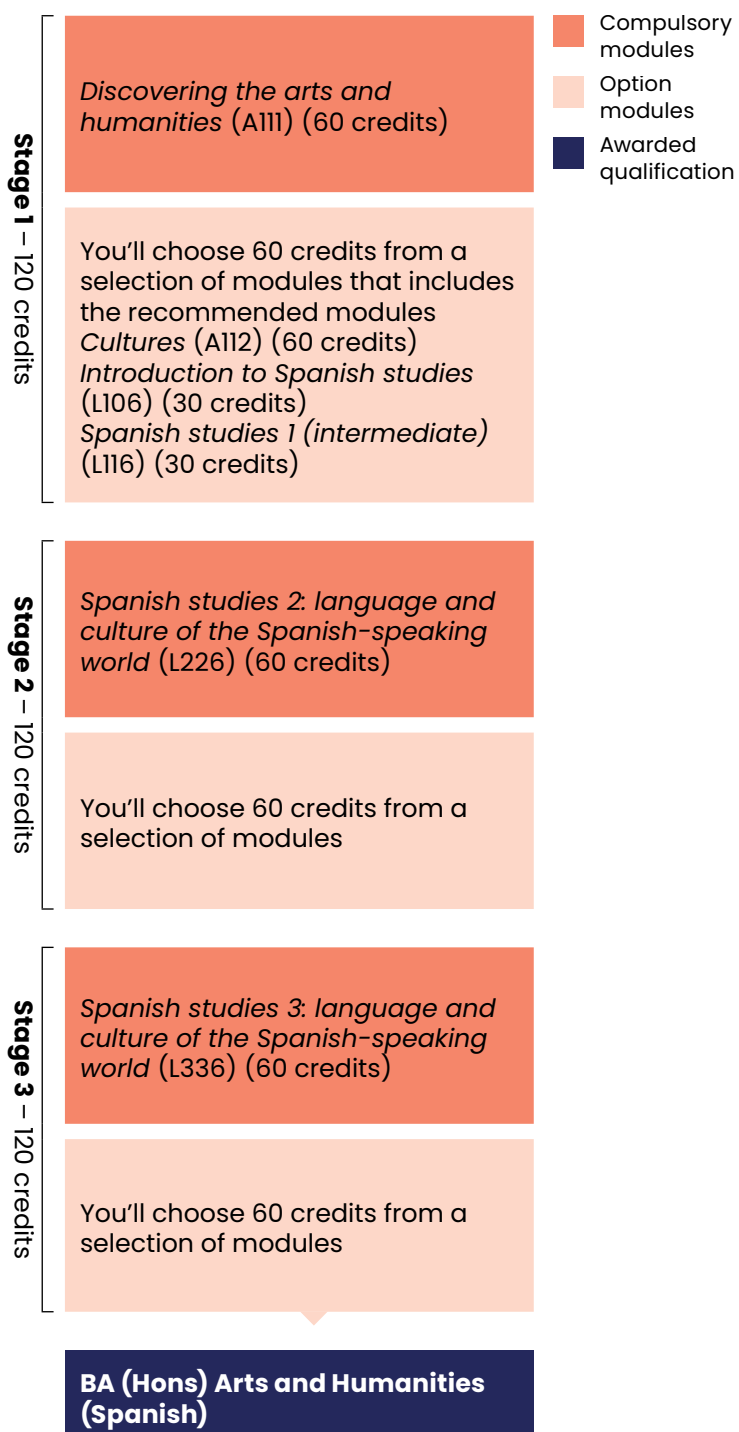
BA (Hons) Arts and Humanities (Philosophy)

BA (Hons) Arts and Humanities (Religious Studies)

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Spanish



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.



Diploma of Higher Education in Art History and Visual Cultures

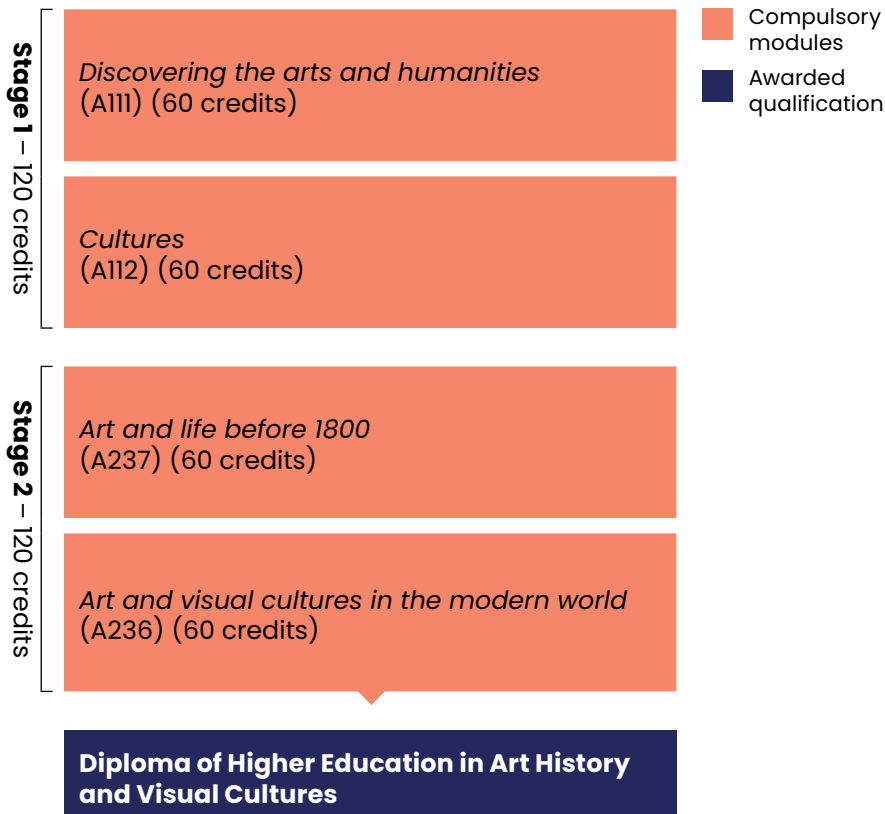
This diploma will equip you with the knowledge and critical skills to understand the part that art, architecture and design have played in everyday life.

You'll discover the ways that images, environments and artefacts communicate meaning and value through being looked at and handled in both past and present. You'll explore the power of images to influence debates, both historically and in the present day, and develop transferable skills in visual literacy, critical thinking and communication.

Why this qualification?

- Explore images, artefacts and architecture from a broad range of periods and places.
- Become aware of different approaches to studying art, design and material culture.
- Gain skills in visual literacy, criticism, analysis and communication that will make you highly employable.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code W72

Total credits 240

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
Register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignment
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 4 years
Full-time study: 2 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus



BA (Hons) Classical Studies

This fascinating degree will develop and deepen your understanding of the ancient Greek and Roman worlds through study of ancient literature, language, history, culture, philosophy, art, archaeology and the reception of the ancient world.

You'll encounter a range of periods and places, including Classical Athens and Imperial Rome and key sites such as Pompeii and those within Roman Britain.

You'll develop skills in critical reasoning, research, analysis, interpretation and communication, all of which are valued in the workplace.

A degree in classical studies will also enhance your understanding of many aspects of the modern world, by providing perspectives on how ancient Greek and Roman societies have influenced and been interpreted in contemporary societies and cultures.

Why this qualification?

- Explore themes such as classical myth and Roman imperialism through primary sources and scholarly criticism.
- Gain valuable perspectives on the origins and development of ancient Greek and Roman societies, and their cultural legacy.
- Pursue an independent research project driven by your own interests.
- Develop skills in critical reasoning, research, analysis, interpretation and communication – all much prized in the workplace.

Qualification structure

	Compulsory modules	Option modules	Awarded qualification
Stage 1 – 120 credits	<i>Discovering the arts and humanities</i> (A111) (60 credits)		
	You'll choose either the recommended module <i>Cultures</i> (A112) (60 credits) OR <i>Revolutions</i> (A113) (60 credits)		
Stage 2 – 120 credits	<i>Exploring the classical world</i> (A229) (60 credits)		
	You'll choose one from: <i>Art and life before 1800</i> (A237) (60 credits) <i>Art and visual cultures in the modern world</i> (A236) (60 credits) <i>Early modern Europe: society and culture: c1500–1780</i> (A223) (60 credits) <i>Exploring religion: places, practices, texts and experiences</i> (A227) (60 credits) <i>Investigating philosophy</i> (DA223) (60 credits) <i>Literature matters</i> (A240) (60 credits) <i>The British Isles and the modern world, 1789–1914</i> (A225) (60 credits)		
Stage 3 – 120 credits	<i>Greek and Roman myth: stories and histories</i> (A350) (60 credits)		
	<i>The Roman empire</i> (A340) (60 credits)		
BA (Hons) Classical Studies			

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q85

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignment
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualification

Certificate of Higher Education in Arts and Humanities (T32)

BA (Hons) English Language and Literature

This degree gives you the opportunity to investigate how the English language is used in a variety of global contexts, and to study literature from different historical periods and in diverse cultural settings.

You'll begin by studying interdisciplinary themes, before exploring writing and speech in a wide range of forms and develop your skills in the interpretation of both literary and non-literary texts.

You'll be able to choose modules from across the field of English, such as creative writing or literature from 1800 to the present.

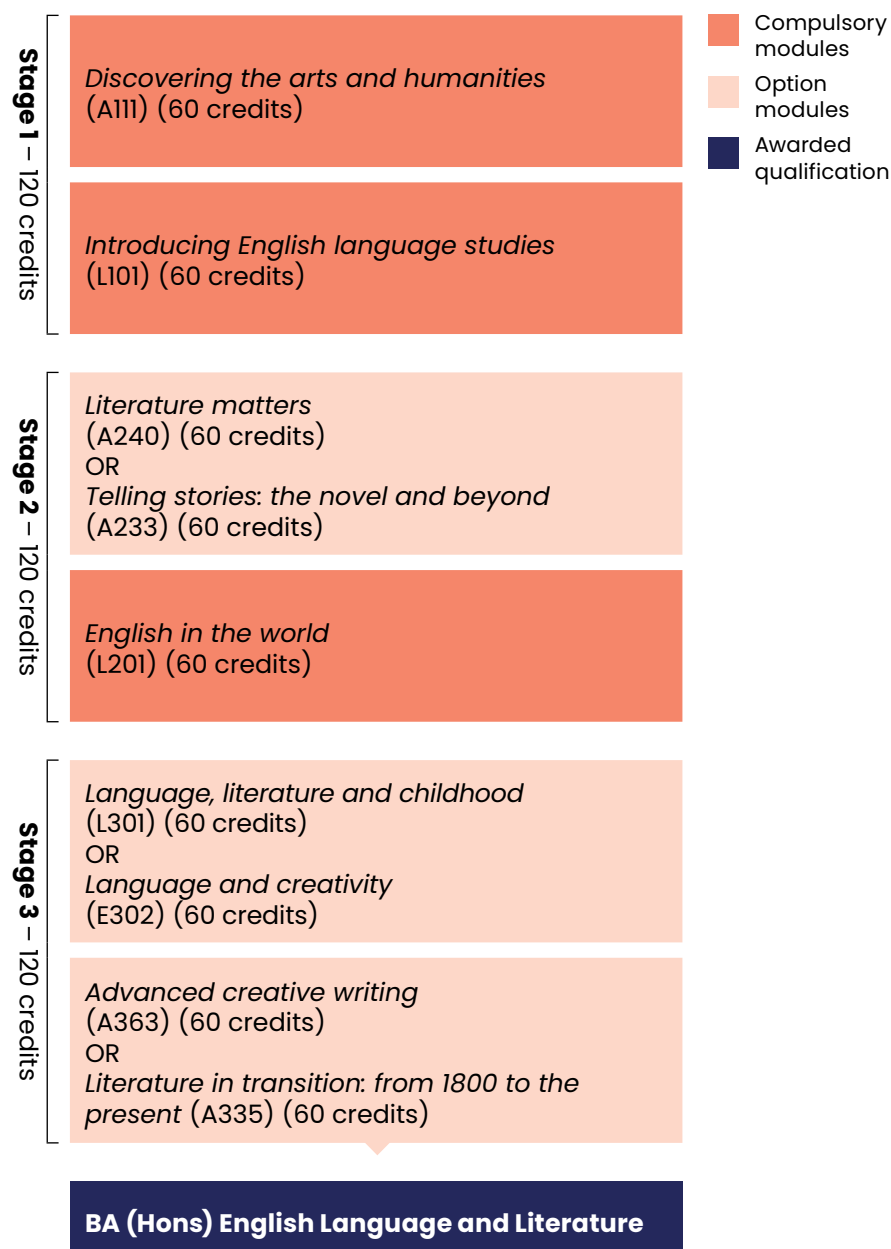
As you progress, you'll acquire skills of analysis and the ability to comment critically on different kinds of writing and you'll learn to develop and sustain complex arguments.

Why this qualification?

- Learn how to analyse a wide range of texts including novels, poetry and drama.
- Explore the history of the English language and how it has become a global language.
- Learn the skills of critical thinking and analysis that are highly valued in the workplace.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q39

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignment
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in English (W61)

Certificate of Higher Education in Arts and Humanities (T32)



BA (Hons) English Literature

English literature is a broad and accessible subject that is important in its own right and offers connections to many other kinds of cultural enquiry.

This wide-ranging and fascinating degree draws on a rich variety of texts and approaches, helping to reveal the extraordinary scope of English literature, from Shakespeare to science fiction, and its importance in today's world. You'll encounter texts from many different historical and cultural settings in genres from novels to drama and poetry.

At first, your studies will take an interdisciplinary approach. Later, more focused modules will help you consolidate your understanding of literary history and critical approaches to all the major literary genres. You can also choose creative writing and English language options.

As you progress, you'll become a more reflective reader of all kinds of writing, and acquire advanced skills in analysis, evaluation and communication.

Why this qualification?

- Learn how to analyse a wide range of texts including novels, poetry and drama.
- Explore the work of famous authors alongside equally fascinating, lesser-known writers.
- Choose between options in creative writing or English language.
- Develop advanced skills in analysis, evaluation and communication that are highly valued in the workplace.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q66

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignment
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in English (W61)

Certificate of Higher Education in Arts and Humanities (T32)

BA (Hons) English Literature and Creative Writing

This degree offers you the opportunity to study and interpret literature from different historical periods and diverse cultural settings and to develop your writing skills in all major genres, while reflecting on the creative process.

Your early studies will be framed within interdisciplinary themes. You'll then move onto more focused modules in English literature and creative writing, finishing with wide-ranging study of various literary genres from different periods.

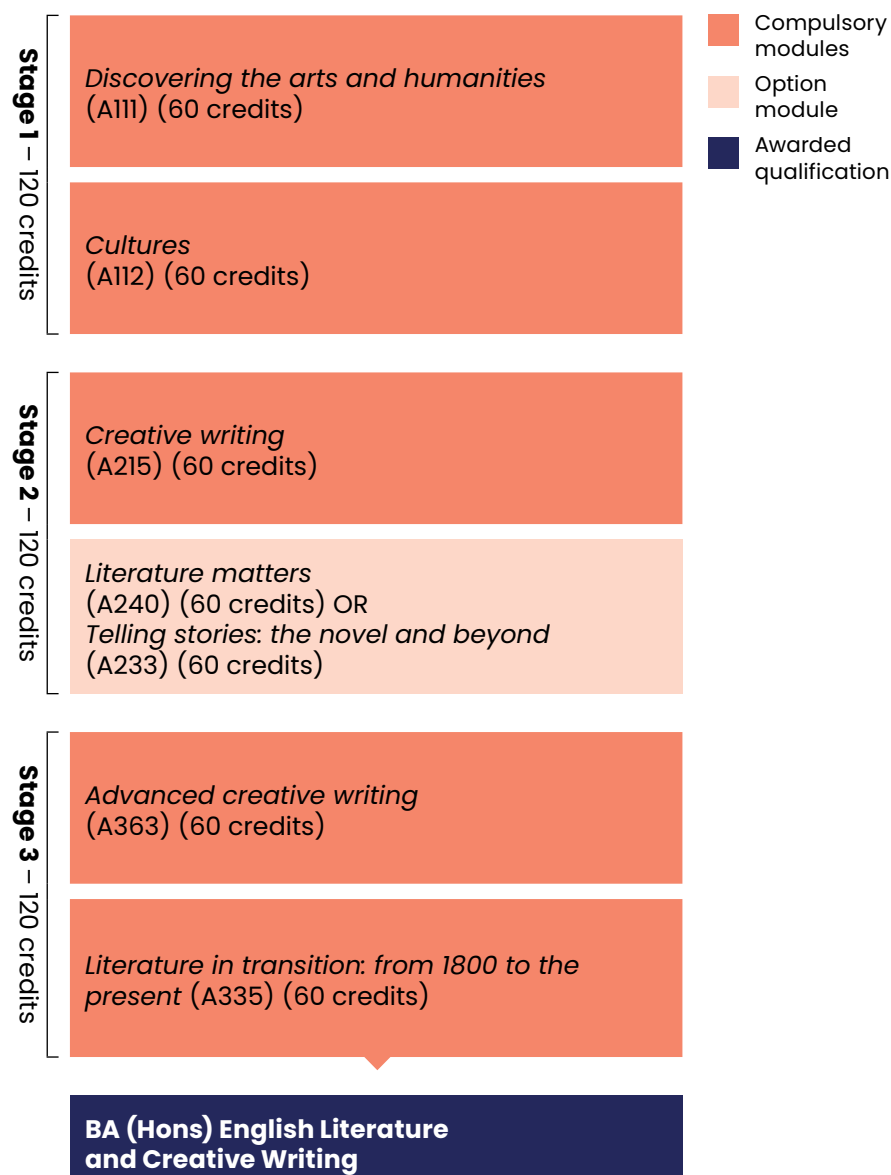
You'll also expand your writing range by exploring fiction, poetry, life writing and scriptwriting for film, radio and stage; and learn to develop and sustain complex arguments, comment critically on different texts, and reflect on your own writing practice.

Why this qualification?

- Learn how to analyse a wide range of texts including novels, poetry and drama.
- Develop and reflect on your own writing and editing practice in several genres.
- Introduces the world of publishing and the requirements for a professional presentation.
- Gain the skills of complex argument and critical commentary, which are highly valued in the workplace.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q86

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignment
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in English (W61)

Certificate of Higher Education in Arts and Humanities (T32)



BA (Hons) History

This wide-ranging course will develop and deepen your knowledge of different periods of history from around 1500 to the late twentieth century.

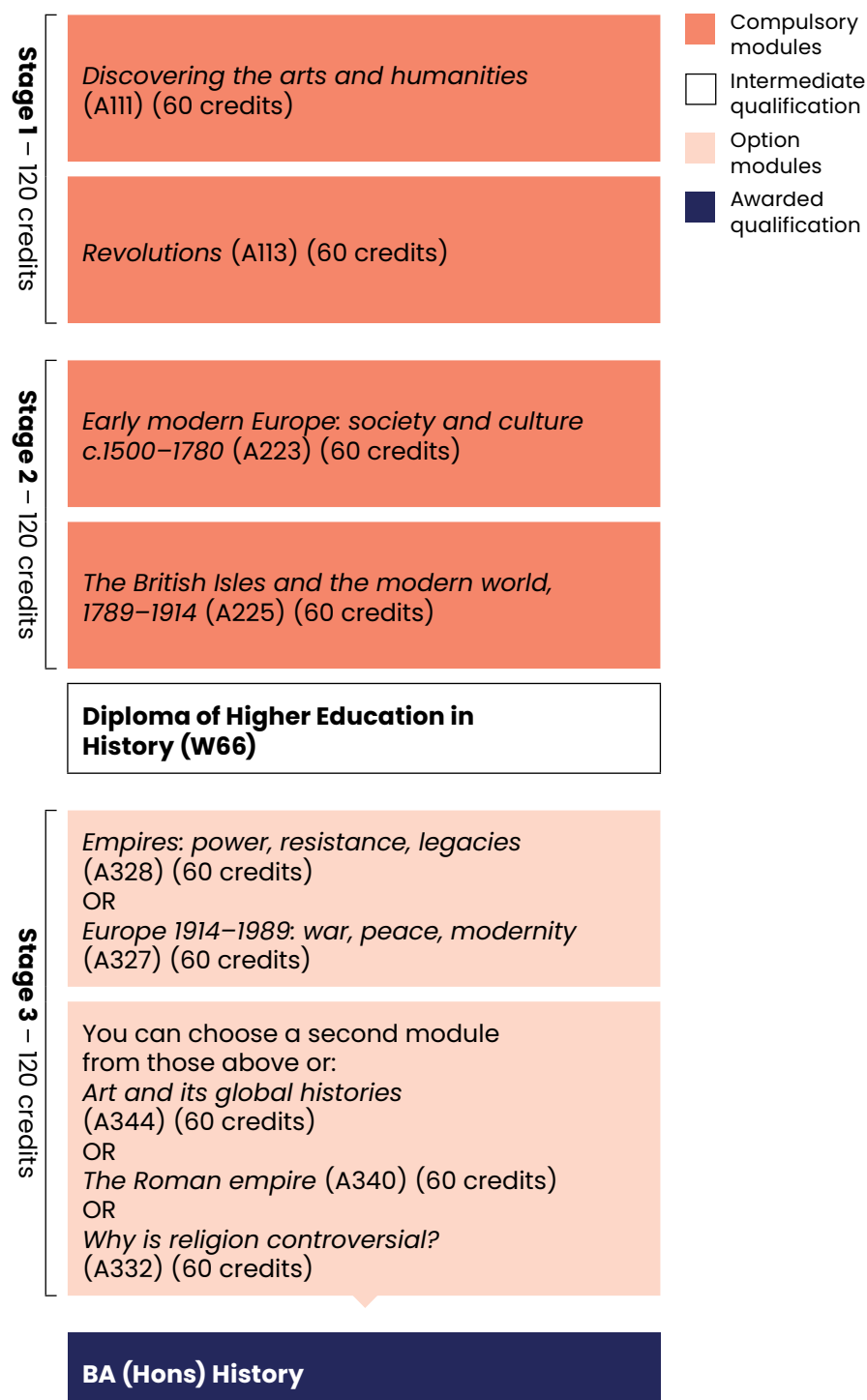
You'll tackle exciting and challenging issues such as power and warfare, culture and beliefs, medicine, imperialism, race, class and gender, looking at Britain and Ireland, Europe, the United States and the wider world.

This course helps you develop skills that are crucial to the historian and in many other contexts: studying evidence; exploring how we understand, interpret and debate past events; thinking critically; communicating your ideas and arguing your case.

Why this qualification?

- Explore a wide range of historical topics, periods and places.
- Find out what it means to be a historian.
- Have the opportunity to develop a project based on independent study.
- Study with up-to-date teaching materials created by experts in the field.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q01

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignment
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3–4 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in History (W66)

Certificate of Higher Education in Arts and Humanities (T32)



BA (Hons) History and Politics

This degree will develop and deepen your knowledge of different periods of history while providing a critical understanding of political ideas, institutions, issues and theories.

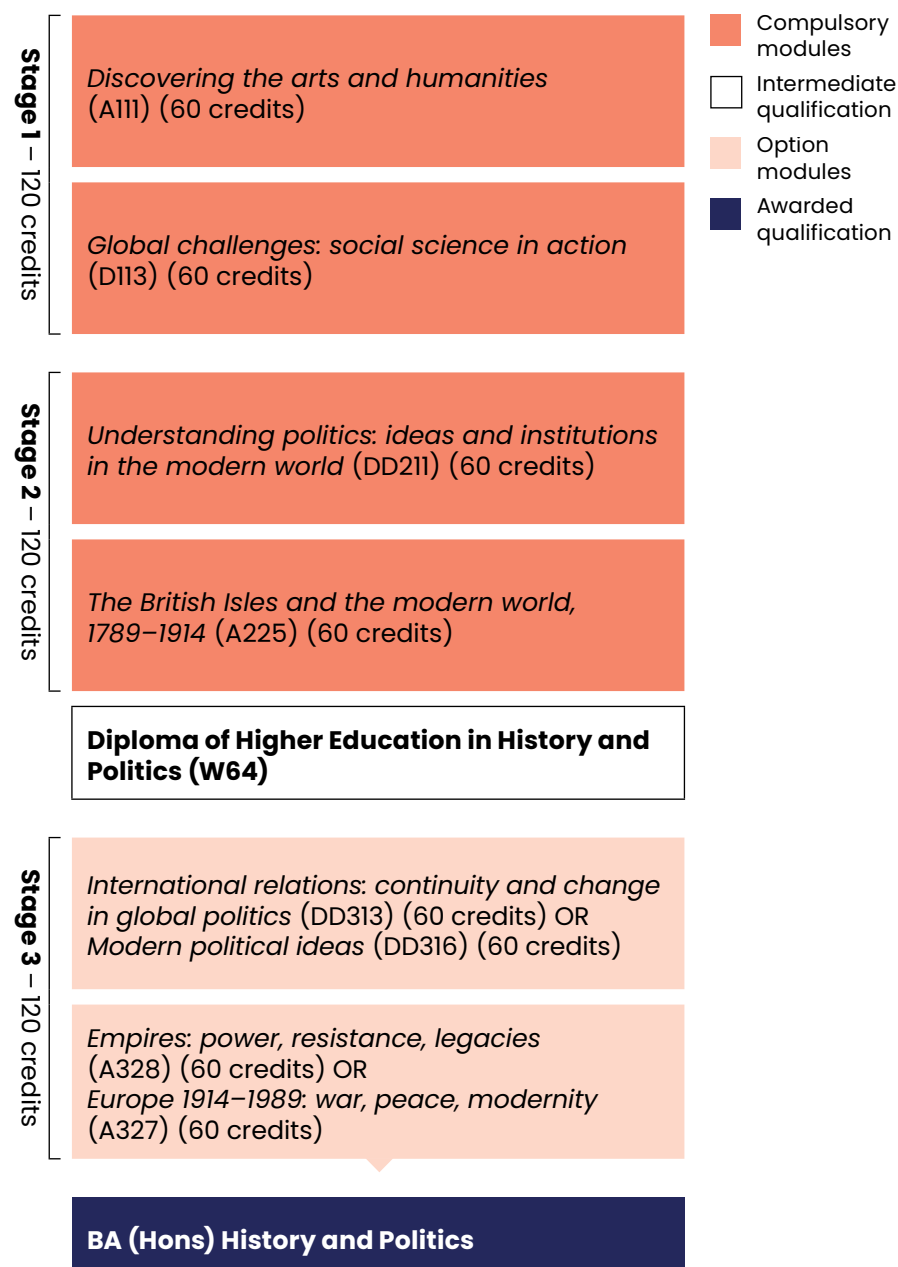
You'll tackle challenging issues such as power and warfare, security and insecurity, global justice, culture and beliefs, health and medicine, imperialism and resistance, and class and gender. You'll learn the skills of both the political scientist and the historian: studying historical and contemporary problems as well as future trends.

You'll also gain an adaptable set of skills that includes critical thinking, and analysis and communication, which can lead in many directions and are greatly valued by employers.

Why this qualification?

- Study a range of periods and societies from 1750 onward using social scientific theories and historical analysis.
- Offers a choice of modules in each subject to match your interests or requirements.
- Develop skills relevant to political and historical research and writing directed to a range of audiences.
- Gives you the opportunity, tools and guidance to develop an independent project on a subject of your choice.

Qualification structure



- Compulsory modules
- Intermediate qualification
- Option modules
- Awarded qualification

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q97

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignment
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials

Disc-based media

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in History and Politics (W64)

Certificate of Higher Education in Arts and Humanities (T32)



BA (Hons) Religion, Philosophy and Ethics

A good knowledge and appreciation of ethical and philosophical issues, and how they relate to different religious traditions and societies, is crucial in making sense of the world today.

In this qualification you'll explore human systems of thought and practice, both 'secular' and 'religious', in ways which allow you to engage with wide-ranging and often controversial issues affecting different cultures and societies across Africa, the Americas, Asia and Europe.

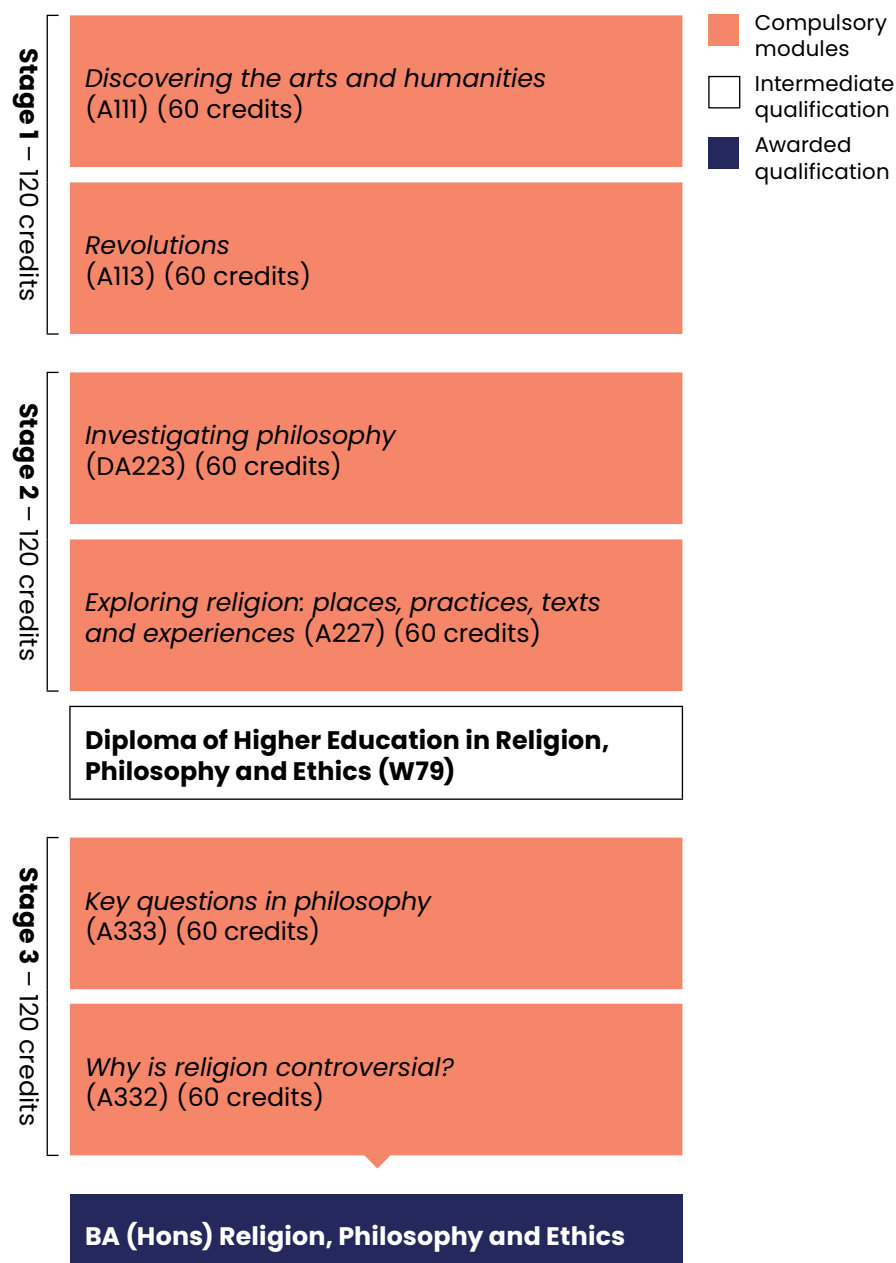
You'll investigate a wide range of current questions and themes in these disciplines from both historical and contemporary perspectives. This includes the ethics of war, political justice, multiculturalism, racism, religious nationalisms, the 'sanctity of life' and pilgrimage.

In engaging with the core disciplines of religious studies and philosophy, you'll develop critical skills and expertise in a range of key approaches and methodologies.

Why this qualification?

- Engage with key philosophical debates about ethical and other fundamental questions.
- Learn about the traditions of Christianity, Islam and Hinduism as they relate to various cultures and societies.
- Investigate selected classic and contemporary philosophers and a range of religious practices and beliefs.
- Develop skills of critical analysis, empathy and communication relevant to a wide range of careers.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R45

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Religion, Philosophy and Ethics (W79)

Certificate of Higher Education in Arts and Humanities (T32)

BA (Hons) Business Management

Discover how businesses develop strategies, handle risk and take decisions. See what's involved in essential business functions such as marketing, accounting and finance.

This degree in business management provides an innovative and accessible introduction to the world of business, and will help you relate your studies directly to your own workplace. You'll investigate how organisations work, how they're managed, and the external world in which they operate.

You'll also gain a general understanding of business organisations and their key elements; wider considerations such as environments, markets and processes; and how all these work together.

Why this qualification?

- Develops your understanding of business organisations and their key elements.
- Explores wider considerations such as environments, markets and processes; and how these work together.
- Equips you for a wide range of employment opportunities across all sectors.
- Helps you relate your studies to your own experience.
- Offers a choice of specialist routes.

Accreditation

The Open University Business School is one of the few institutions worldwide that are triple accredited by the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) the European Quality Improvement System (EQUIS), and Association of MBAs (AMBA). These are internationally recognised quality standards which independently validate the quality of the School's teaching, research and operations. The School undergoes regular reviews to ensure that standards are maintained and has successfully retained its triple accredited status since 2004. This qualification is accredited through inclusion in these reviews.

Routes through this degree

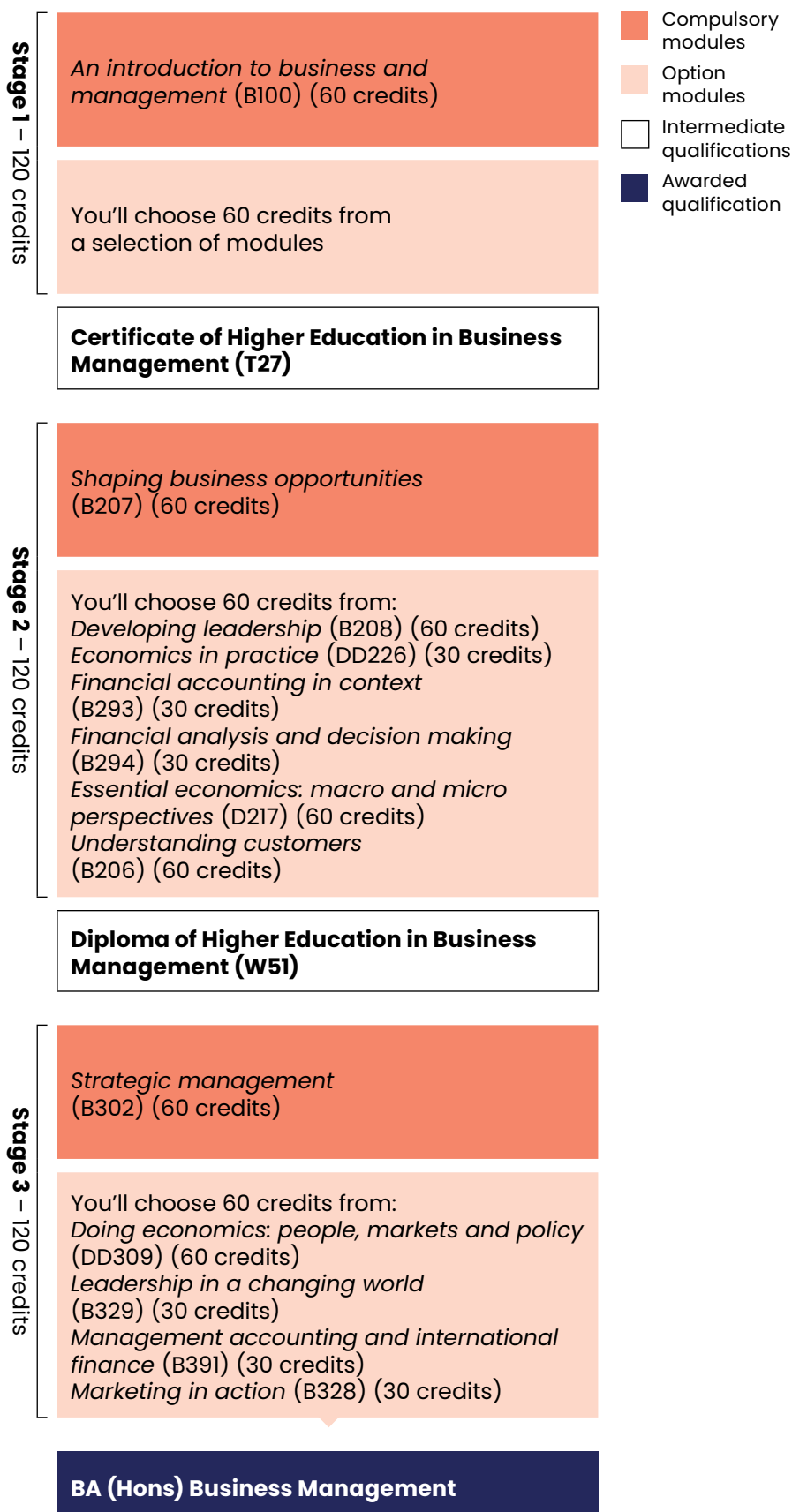
You can choose between a broad-based degree in business management or study business in combination with another specialist option, choosing from accounting, economics, leadership practice or marketing. Your choice of specialism will be included in the name of your degree, for example, BA (Hons) Business Management (Accounting).



Qualification structure

You can choose a broad study of business management or to specialise in accounting, economics, leadership practice or marketing.

Broad study of Business Management



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q91

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Business Management (W51)

Certificate of Higher Education in Business Management (T27)

Accounting

Economics

- Compulsory modules
- Option modules
- Awarded qualification

Stage 1 – 120 credits

An introduction to business and management (B100) (60 credits)

An introduction to business and management (B100) (60 credits)

Fundamentals of accounting (B124) (30 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules

You and your money (DB125) (30 credits)

Stage 2 – 120 credits

Shaping business opportunities (B207) (60 credits)

Shaping business opportunities (B207) (60 credits)

Financial accounting in context (B293) (30 credits)

Essential economics: macro and micro perspectives (D217) (60 credits)

Financial analysis and decision making (B294) (30 credits)

Stage 3 – 120 credits

Strategic management (B302) (60 credits)

Strategic management (B302) (60 credits)

Management accounting and international finance (B391) (30 credits)

Doing economics: people, markets and policy (DD309) (60 credits)

Leadership in a changing world (B329) (30 credits)
OR
Marketing in action (B328) (30 credits)

BA (Hons) Business Management (Economics)

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

BA (Hons) Business Management (Accounting)

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Leadership practice

Marketing

	Leadership practice	Marketing
Stage 1 – 120 credits	An introduction to business and management (B100) (60 credits)	An introduction to business and management (B100) (60 credits)
	You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules	You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules
Stage 2 – 120 credits	Shaping business opportunities (B207) (60 credits)	Shaping business opportunities (B207) (60 credits)
	Developing leadership (B208) (60 credits)	Understanding customers (B206) (60 credits)
Stage 3 – 120 credits	Strategic management (B302) (60 credits)	Strategic management (B302) (60 credits)
	You'll choose two from: Leadership in a changing world (B329) ¹ (30 credits) Management accounting and international finance (B391) (30 credits) Marketing in action (B328) (30 credits)	Marketing in action (B328) (30 credits) Leadership in a changing world (B329) (30 credits) OR Management accounting and international finance (B391) (30 credits)
	BA (Hons) Business Management (Leadership Practice)	BA (Hons) Business Management (Marketing)

- Compulsory modules
- Option modules
- Awarded qualification

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

¹ We recommend that you choose *Leadership in a changing world* (B329) for this route.



BA (Hons) Business Management and Languages

This degree combines business management with French, German or Spanish. You'll divide your time equally between business management and one modern language.

You'll explore how businesses develop strategies, handle risk and take decisions. You'll see what's involved in functions such as marketing, accounting and finance. Combining this with a modern language opens doors to other cultures and communities. It can provide a key to the global workplace.

Why this qualification?

- Develop your understanding of business organisations and their key elements.
- Explore wider considerations such as environments, markets and processes; and their relationships.
- Become a proficient user (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages level C1) of your chosen language.
- Develop advanced knowledge of the cultures that use your chosen language.
- Extend your competence in intercultural communication.

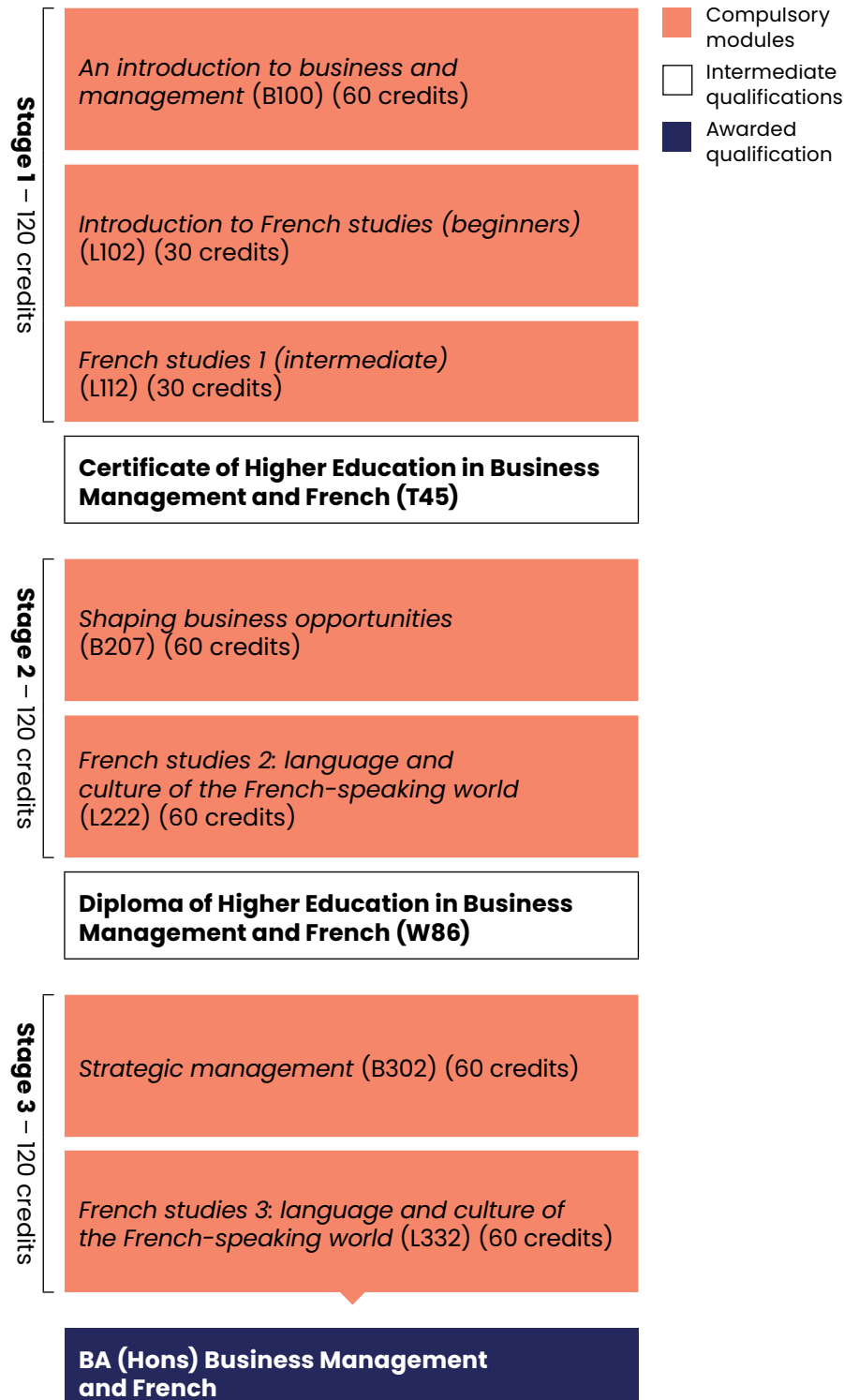
Qualification structure

You'll choose one of three routes:

- **business management and French**
- **business management and German**
- **business management and Spanish**

The name of your degree will include your chosen language. For example, BA (Hons) Business Management and French.

Business management and French



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R55

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3–4 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Business Management and Languages (W86)

Certificate of Higher Education in Business Management and Languages (T45)

Business management and German

Business management and Spanish

- Compulsory modules
- Intermediate qualifications
- Awarded qualification

Stage 1 – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to business and management</i> (B100) (60 credits)
<i>Introduction to German studies (beginners)</i> (L103) (30 credits)
<i>German studies 1 (intermediate)</i> (L113) (30 credits)

<i>An introduction to business and management</i> (B100) (60 credits)
<i>Introduction to Spanish studies (beginners)</i> (L106) (30 credits)
<i>Spanish studies 1 (intermediate)</i> (L116) (30 credits)

Certificate of Higher Education in Business Management and French (T45)

Certificate of Higher Education in Business Management and Spanish (T45)

Stage 2 – 120 credits

<i>Shaping business opportunities</i> (B207) (60 credits)
<i>German studies 2: language and culture of the German-speaking world</i> (L223) (60 credits)

<i>Shaping business opportunities</i> (B207) (60 credits)
<i>Spanish studies 2: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world</i> (L226) (60 credits)

Diploma of Higher Education in Business Management and German (W86)

Diploma of Higher Education in Business Management and Spanish (W86)

Stage 3 – 120 credits

<i>Strategic management</i> (B302) (60 credits)
<i>German studies 3: language and culture of the German-speaking world</i> (L333) (60 credits)

<i>Strategic management</i> (B302) (60 credits)
<i>Spanish studies 3: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world</i> (L336) (60 credits)

BA (Hons) Business Management and German

BA (Hons) Business Management and Spanish

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.



BA (Hons) Environmental Studies

This innovative degree combines the social and natural sciences to offer a truly interdisciplinary understanding of contemporary environmental issues.

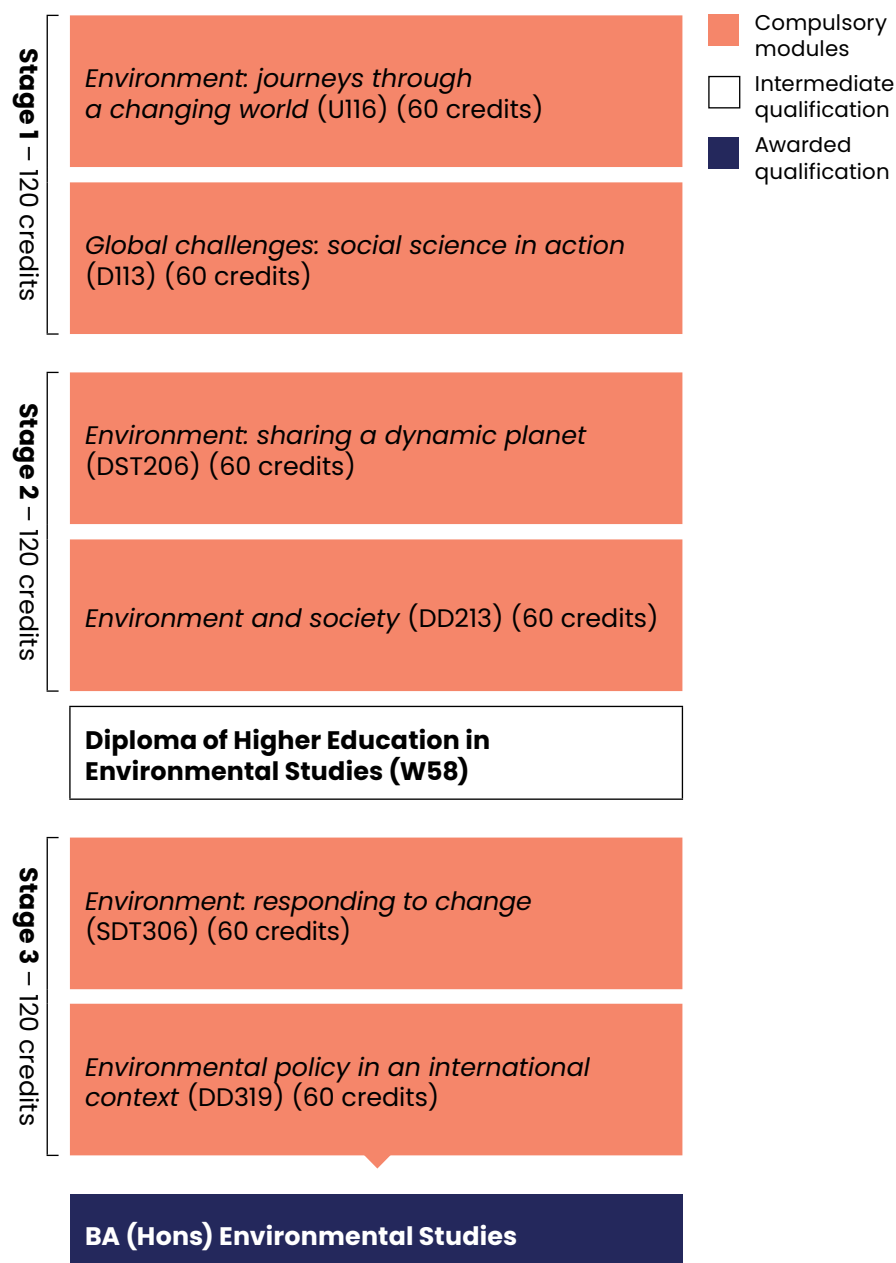
The necessity of taking seriously the complex connections between the human and biophysical dimensions of environments is now clear. This qualification explores the socially uneven ways in which the consequences of environmental change are felt, the political factors that influence whose environmental concerns get addressed, and the cultural shifts required for sustainable solutions to environmental problems.

Amongst the environmental issues explored on this degree are climate change, biodiversity conservation, renewable energy, sustainable development and deforestation.

Why this qualification?

- Equips you to actively engage with some of the most significant issues in the world today.
- Combines a thorough interdisciplinary grounding in environmental change with a distinctive social science approach to environmental issues.
- Enhances your employability through a highly valued combination of social science and natural science knowledge and skills.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q99

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- Tutor-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Environmental Studies (W58)

Certificate of Higher Education in Environment (T16)

Certificate of Higher Education in Environment

Natural and built environments support many aspects of our lives and livelihoods, but they're under threat from climate change, biodiversity loss and resource depletion.

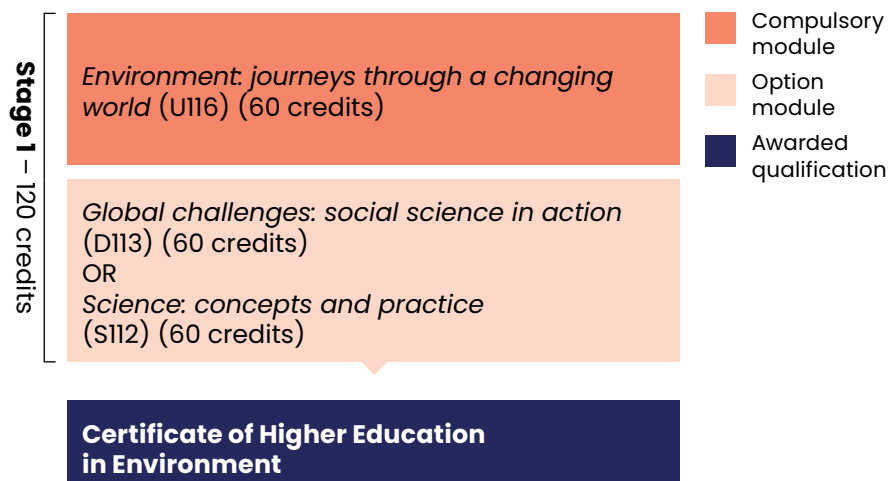
This certificate combines aspects of science, technology and social science to help you understand the environments in which we live and work; how our activities influence them; how they influence what we do; and how can we live sustainably within them.

Why this qualification?

- Develops the knowledge and skills needed to understand and interpret local and global environmental problems.
- Equips you to contribute positively to debates in this field.
- Builds a solid foundation for further study.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code T16

Total credits 120

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examination

Study duration

Part-time study: 2 years
Full-time study: 1 year

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus



BA (Hons) Health and Social Care

This degree provides you with the sound and critical understanding of health and social care that is essential in today's fast-changing care sector.

Health and social care professionals at all levels need to be proactive and flexible to succeed. With this degree you'll gain the skills you need for effective practice in a diverse, multidisciplinary environment.

It'll help you build a foundation for effective management and leadership in the health and social care sector.

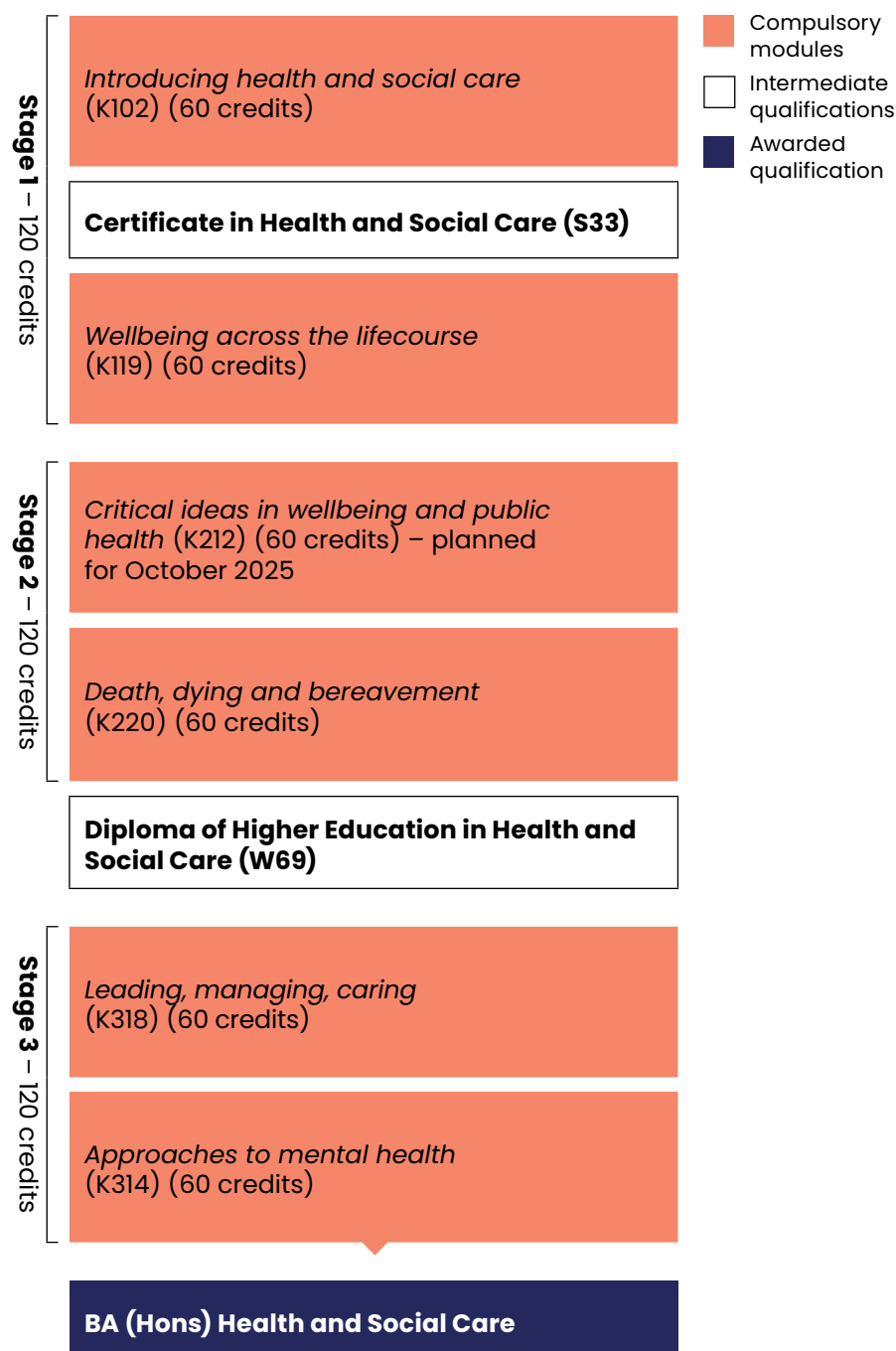
Throughout your studies you'll learn how ethical, legal, social, economic and political factors influence the provision and development of services. You'll develop the critical and analytical skills that underpin evidence-based practice. You'll also explore new theories examining health and wellbeing in the 21st century, learning to challenge concepts you may have previously taken for granted.

By the end of your studies, you'll be able to evaluate your own and others' roles in the context of policy developments; assess emerging strategic solutions; and recognise and value diversity and difference.

Why this qualification?

- Encounter exciting new ideas and apply them to real life issues and situations that affect us all.
- Teaching based on our internationally-recognised research into care issues across the lifecourse.
- Explore the context and processes of change and new ways of working across agencies and professional boundaries.
- Develop as an independent and reflective learner.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R26

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials

Disc-based media

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Health and Social Care (W69)

Certificate in Health and Social Care (S33)

Certificate of Higher Education in Healthcare with Health Science

This certificate is relevant to employment in healthcare and health science.

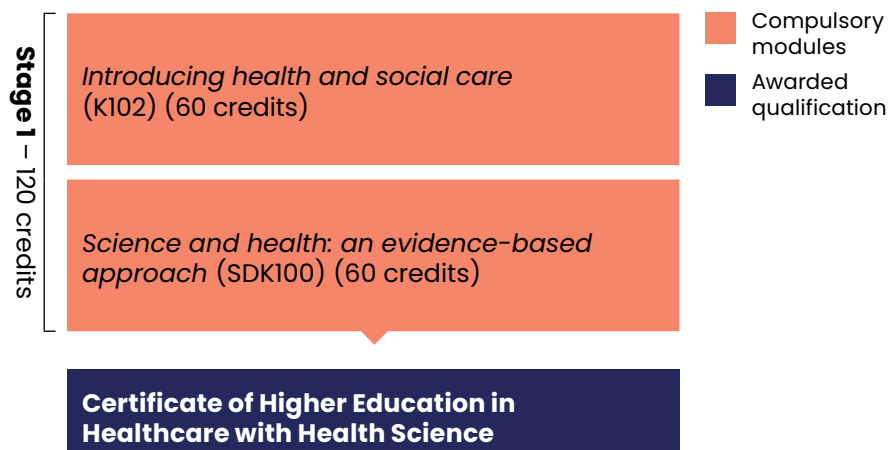
You'll explore the experience of receiving care and working in the care services, as well as investigating particular health conditions. Using science, mathematics, psychology and epidemiology, you'll investigate the causes and distribution of ill health and disability and their impact on individuals and populations. By the end of the course, you'll have developed a range of employability and study skills and an understanding of many important health issues.

Why this qualification?

- Develops the skills required for working in health science.
- Enhances understanding of how evidence-based scientific methodology applies to health-related issues.
- Introduces the skills required to become a reflective practitioner in a range of health-related settings.
- Learn to interpret, generate, and present information and data using a unique range of sources.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code T28

Total credits 120

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 2 years
Full-time study: 1 year

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Certificate in Health and Social Care (S33)

Certificate in Health Sciences (S19)

BA (Hons) English Language

This degree explores the English language, its history, diversity and flexibility.

You'll learn what distinguishes machine language from human language, and how people adapt their ways of communicating in multilingual and multicultural contexts.

You'll investigate how language works at different levels, from words and sounds to text and conversation. You'll also explore English as a creative medium to express humour, thoughts and emotions. You can focus on communication in English or include French, German or Spanish. You may also include English literature and creative writing modules.

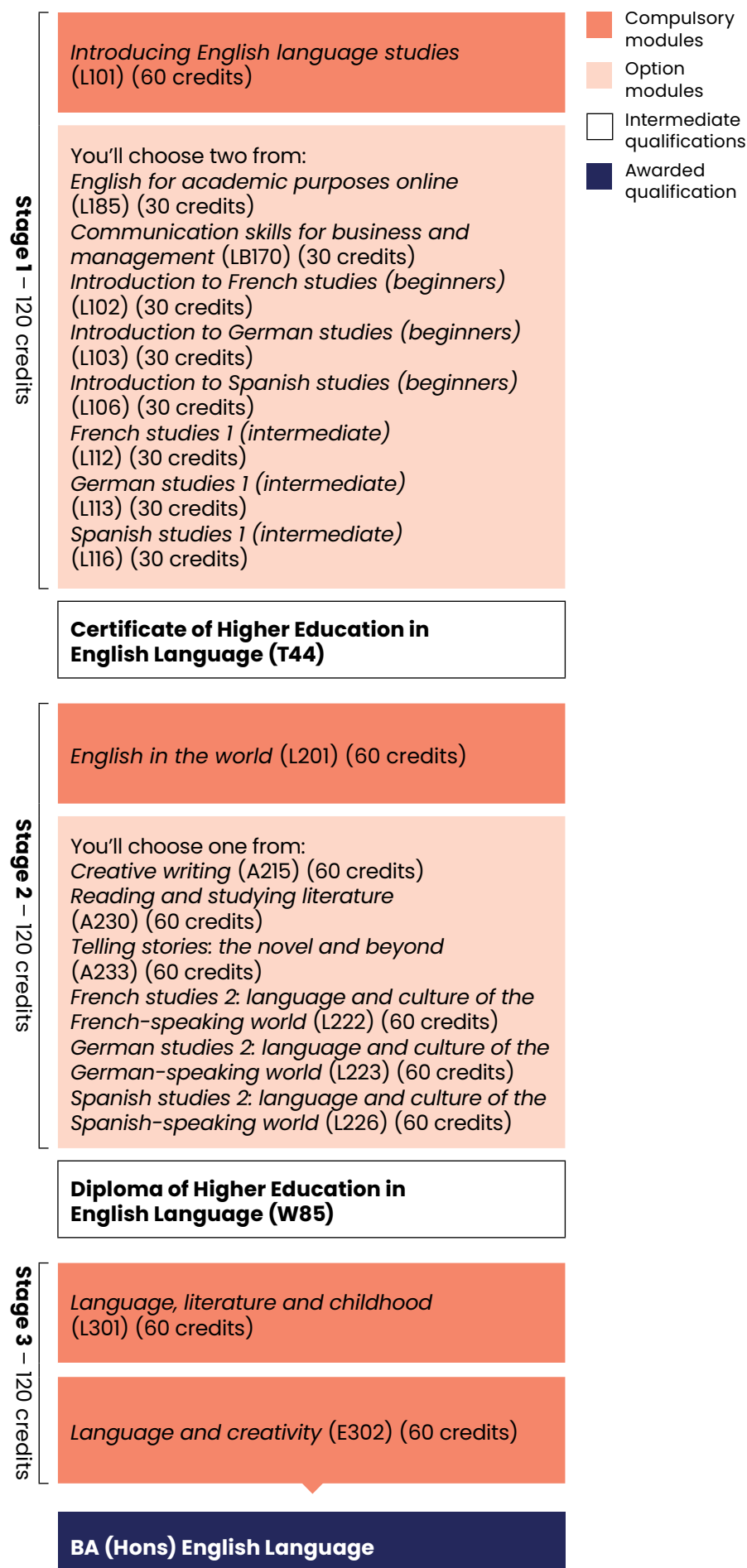
This degree is not designed to teach English to speakers of other languages.

Why this qualification?

- Explore the history of English, its modern diversity and its role as a global language.
- Engage in debates surrounding the position of English in relation to other languages.
- Examine how someone's choice of words and grammar affect their message.
- Learn strategies that promote critical evaluation of texts in relation to their contexts.
- Develop as a communicator who's able to synthesise information, assemble arguments and write coherently.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R54

Total credits 360

Start dates
Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements
No specific requirements

Assessment
Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration
Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study
The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in English Language (W85)

Certificate of Higher Education in English Language (T44)

BA (Hons) Language Studies

This flexible degree lets you learn two modern languages – choose from French, German and Spanish – or combine one with English language studies.

Learning a language and how languages work opens doors to other cultures and communities. It can provide a key to the global workplace. By the end of your studies, you'll be an effective and culturally aware communicator which is a valuable attribute in today's global environment.

Why this qualification?

- Become a proficient user (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages level C1) of at least one modern language.
- Develop advanced knowledge of the cultures that use your chosen languages.
- Extend your competence in intercultural communication.
- Understand language structure and use in different contexts.

Routes through the degree

You'll study two subjects: either English language studies with a modern language (French, German or Spanish), or two of these modern languages. Your degree will reflect your choice, for example, BA (Hons) Language Studies with English and German.

You can either:

- study **both subjects** at the same time, working through Stages 1, 2 and 3.
- study **one subject** first, completing these modules at each Stage, then repeating the route for your second subject.

For **modern languages**, unless you have prior knowledge of your chosen language(s) equivalent to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) Level A2, we recommend you start Stage 1 with a beginners' module.

As intermediate modules follow on from beginners' modules, you should not study them in the same language concurrently unless you already have significant knowledge of the language.

If you study two modern languages and are a beginner in both, you will study an additional 30-credit module at Stage 1 (i.e. a total of 150 credits at Stage 1) and your degree will take at least four years to complete.

At a glance

Course code Q30

Total credits 360

Start date

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- Tutor-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3–4 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Language Studies (W41)

Certificate of Higher Education in Language Studies (T21)

Qualification structure

You'll choose **one** of these six routes:

- **English and French**
- **English and German**
- **English and Spanish**
- **French and German**
- **French and Spanish**
- **German and Spanish.**

	English and French	English and German	
Stage 1 – 120 credits	<i>Introducing English language studies</i> (L101) (60 credits)	<i>Introducing English language studies</i> (L101) (60 credits)	Compulsory modules
	You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules	You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules	Option modules
	Certificate of Higher Education in Language Studies (T21)	Certificate of Higher Education in Language Studies (T21)	Intermediate qualifications
Stage 2 – 120 credits	<i>French studies 2: language and culture of the French-speaking world</i> (L222) (60 credits)	<i>German studies 2: language and culture of the German-speaking world</i> (L223) (60 credits)	Compulsory modules
	<i>English in the world</i> (L201) (60 credits)	<i>English in the world</i> (L201) (60 credits)	Option modules
	Diploma of Higher Education in Language Studies (W41)	Diploma of Higher Education in Language Studies (W41)	Intermediate qualifications
Stage 3 – 120 credits	<i>French studies 3: language and culture of the French-speaking world</i> (L332) (60 credits)	<i>German studies 3: language and culture of the German-speaking world</i> (L333) (60 credits)	Compulsory modules
	<i>Language, literature and childhood</i> (L301) (60 credits) OR <i>Language and creativity</i> (E302) (60 credits)	<i>Language, literature and childhood</i> (L301) (60 credits) OR <i>Language and creativity</i> (E302) (60 credits)	Option modules
	BA (Hons) Language Studies with English and French	BA (Hons) Language Studies with English and German	Awarded qualification

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

English and Spanish

French and German

Stage 1 – 120 credits	<p><i>Introducing English language studies (L101) (60 credits)</i></p>	<p><i>Exploring languages and cultures (L161) (30 credits) – planned for October 2025</i></p>
	<p>You'll choose 60 credits from a selection of modules</p>	<p>You'll choose 90 credits from a selection of modules</p>
<p>Certificate of Higher Education in Language Studies (T21)</p>		<p>Certificate of Higher Education in Language Studies (T21)</p>
Stage 2 – 120 credits	<p><i>Spanish studies 2: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world (L226) (60 credits)</i></p>	<p><i>French studies 2: language and culture of the French-speaking world (L222) (60 credits)</i></p>
	<p><i>English in the world (L201) (60 credits)</i></p>	<p><i>German studies 2: language and culture of the German-speaking world (L223) (60 credits)</i></p>
<p>Diploma of Higher Education in Language Studies (W41)</p>		<p>Diploma of Higher Education in Language Studies (W41)</p>
Stage 3 – 120 credits	<p><i>Spanish studies 3: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world (L336) (60 credits)</i></p>	<p><i>French studies 3: language and culture of the French-speaking world (L332) (60 credits)</i></p>
	<p><i>Language, literature and childhood (L301) (60 credits)</i> OR <i>Language and creativity (E302) (60 credits)</i></p>	<p><i>German studies 3: language and culture of the German-speaking world (L333) (60 credits)</i></p>
<p>BA (Hons) Language Studies with English and Spanish</p>		<p>BA (Hons) Language Studies with French and German</p>

- Compulsory modules
- Option modules
- Intermediate qualifications
- Awarded qualification

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

French and Spanish

German and Spanish

	French and Spanish	German and Spanish
Stage 1 – 120 credits	<p><i>Exploring languages and cultures (L161) (30 credits) – planned for October 2025</i></p>	<p><i>Exploring languages and cultures (L161) (30 credits) – planned for October 2025</i></p>
	<p>You'll choose 90 credits from a selection of modules</p>	<p>You'll choose 90 credits from a selection of modules</p>
	<p>Certificate of Higher Education in Language Studies (T21)</p>	<p>Certificate of Higher Education in Language Studies (T21)</p>
Stage 2 – 120 credits	<p><i>French studies 2: language and culture of the French-speaking world (L222) (60 credits)</i></p>	<p><i>German studies 2: language and culture of the German-speaking world (L223) (60 credits)</i></p>
	<p><i>Spanish studies 2: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world (L226) (60 credits)</i></p>	<p><i>Spanish studies 2: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world (L226) (60 credits)</i></p>
	<p>Diploma of Higher Education in Language Studies (W41)</p>	<p>Diploma of Higher Education in Language Studies (W41)</p>
Stage 3 – 120 credits	<p><i>French studies 3: language and culture of the French-speaking world (L332) (60 credits)</i></p>	<p><i>German studies 3: language and culture of the German-speaking world (L333) (60 credits)</i></p>
	<p><i>Spanish studies 3: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world (L336) (60 credits)</i></p>	<p><i>Spanish studies 3: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world (L336) (60 credits)</i></p>
	<p>BA (Hons) Language Studies with French and Spanish</p>	<p>BA (Hons) Language Studies with German and Spanish</p>

- Compulsory modules
- Option modules
- Intermediate qualifications
- Awarded qualification

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

BA (Hons) History and Languages

The study of History with French, German or Spanish offers insight into aspects of history, cultures and societies in a global context.

You'll gain an understanding of what studying history is all about and how it differs from 'popular history' seen on TV or in books. You'll be made aware of the discipline and sub-disciplines of history, such as political, economic and social history, and of their distinctive approaches and methods. You'll also get a good grounding in the history of the British Isles and Continental Europe from the later Middle Ages to the present.

At the same time you'll be developing your proficiency and cultural understanding in your chosen language and will have opportunities to benefit from intercultural encounters to help you develop language proficiency and cultural understanding. The study of a modern language can be the key to the global workplace.

For modern languages, unless you have prior knowledge of your chosen language equivalent to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) level A2, we recommend you start Stage 1 with a beginners' module.

As intermediate modules follow on from beginners' modules, you should not study them in the same language at the same time unless you already have significant knowledge of the language.

The name of your degree will include your chosen language. For example, BA (Hons) History and French.

Why this qualification?

- Allows you to explore a wide range of historical topics, periods and places.
- Gives you an understanding of what it means to be a historian, understanding history as a systematic and reflective discipline.
- Develops you into a proficient user of your chosen language, reaching level C1 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages.
- Develops your knowledge of the cultures that use your chosen language.
- Improves your competence in intercultural communication.

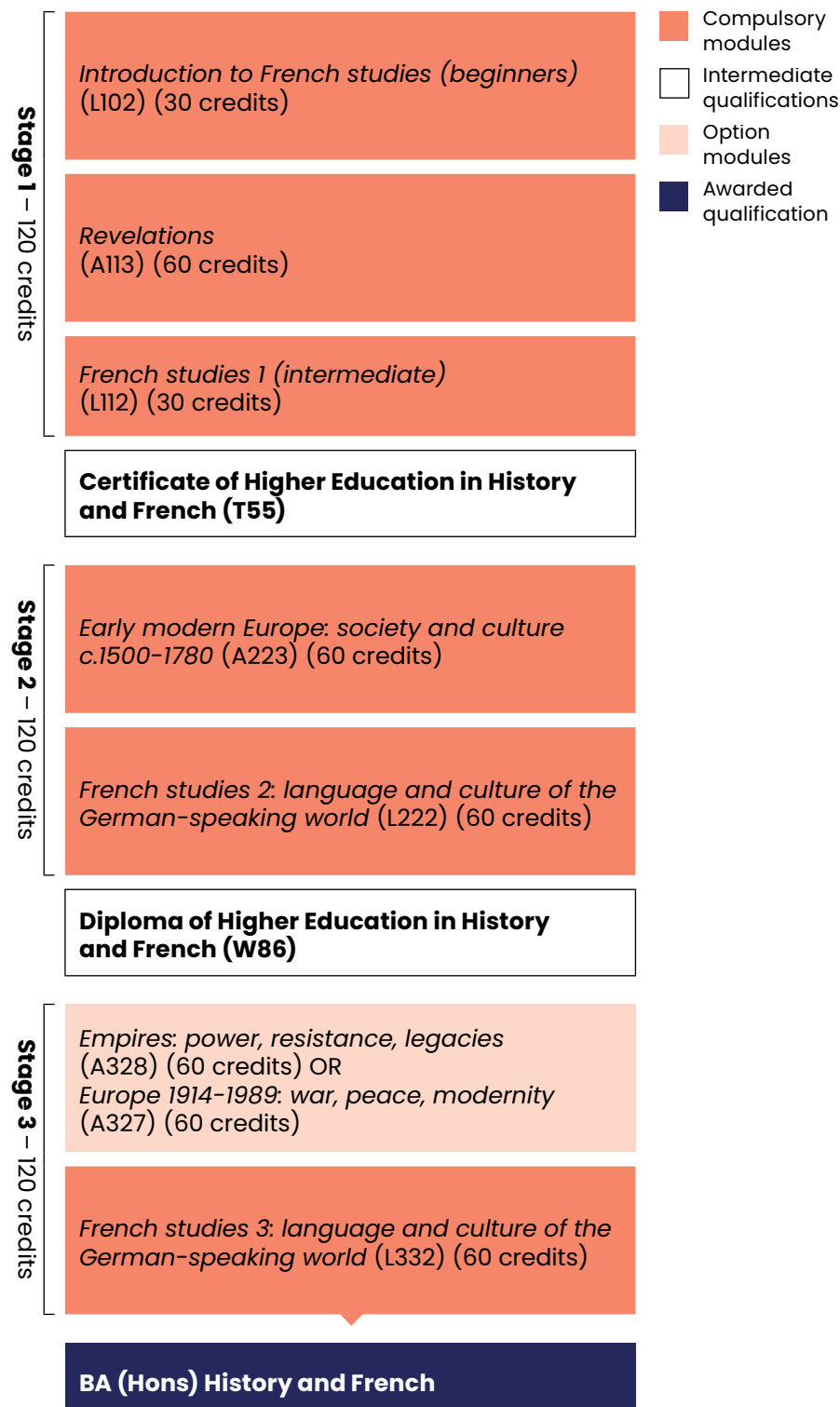


Qualification structure

You'll need to choose one of three routes:

- **history and French**
- **history and German**
- **history and Spanish.**

History and French



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R65

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
Register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
Register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in History and Languages (W96)

Certificate of Higher Education in History and Languages (T55)

History and German

History and Spanish

	History and German	History and Spanish	
Stage 1 – 120 credits	<i>Introduction to German studies (beginners)</i> (L103) (30 credits)	<i>Introduction to Spanish studies (beginners)</i> (L106) (30 credits)	Compulsory modules
	<i>Revelations</i> (A113) (60 credits)	<i>Revelations</i> (A113) (60 credits)	Intermediate qualifications
	<i>German studies 1 (intermediate)</i> (L112) (30 credits)	<i>Spanish studies 1 (intermediate)</i> (L116) (30 credits)	Option modules
	Certificate of Higher Education in History and German (T55)	Certificate of Higher Education in History and Spanish (T55)	Awarded qualification
Stage 2 – 120 credits	<i>Early modern Europe: society and culture c.1500-1780</i> (A223) (60 credits)	<i>Early modern Europe: society and culture c.1500-1780</i> (A223) (60 credits)	
	<i>German studies 2: language and culture of the German-speaking world</i> (L223) (60 credits)	<i>Spanish studies 2: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world</i> (L226) (60 credits)	
	Diploma of Higher Education in History and German (W86)	Diploma of Higher Education in History and Spanish (W86)	
Stage 3 – 120 credits	<i>Empires: power, resistance, legacies</i> (A328) (60 credits) OR <i>Europe 1914-1989: war, peace, modernity</i> (A327) (60 credits)	<i>Empires: power, resistance, legacies</i> (A328) (60 credits) OR <i>Europe 1914-1989: war, peace, modernity</i> (A327) (60 credits)	
	<i>German studies 3: language and culture of the German-speaking world</i> (L333) (60 credits)	<i>Spanish studies 3: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world</i> (L336) (60 credits)	
	BA (Hons) History and German	BA (Hons) History and Spanish	

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.



BA (Hons) Law and Languages

This degree combines law with French, German or Spanish.

Dividing your time equally between law and languages, this degree lets you raise your legal awareness while opening the door to other cultures, communities and the global workplace through the study of a modern language.

You'll develop a range of legal and academic skills and will have a choice between studying the criminal or civil justice system at Stage 1, followed by a variety of modules exploring other interesting areas of law. At the same time, you'll be developing your proficiency and cultural understanding in your chosen language.

We recommend you start Stage 1 with a beginners' module unless you have prior knowledge of your chosen language equivalent to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR) level A2.

As intermediate modules follow on from beginners' modules, you should not study them in the same language concurrently unless you already have significant knowledge of the language.

The name of your degree will include your chosen language. For example, BA (Hons) Law and French.

Why this qualification?

- Develop your understanding of the role of law in society.
- Gain legal awareness and the skills of legal analysis and methods.

- Become a proficient user (Common European Framework of Reference for Languages level C1) of your chosen language.
- Develop advanced knowledge of the cultures that use your chosen language.
- Improve your competence in intercultural communication.

Please note that this degree does not cover all seven Foundations of Legal Knowledge. If you want to become a barrister in England and Wales or a solicitor or barrister in Northern Ireland, you will need to complete a conversion course before starting your professional training.

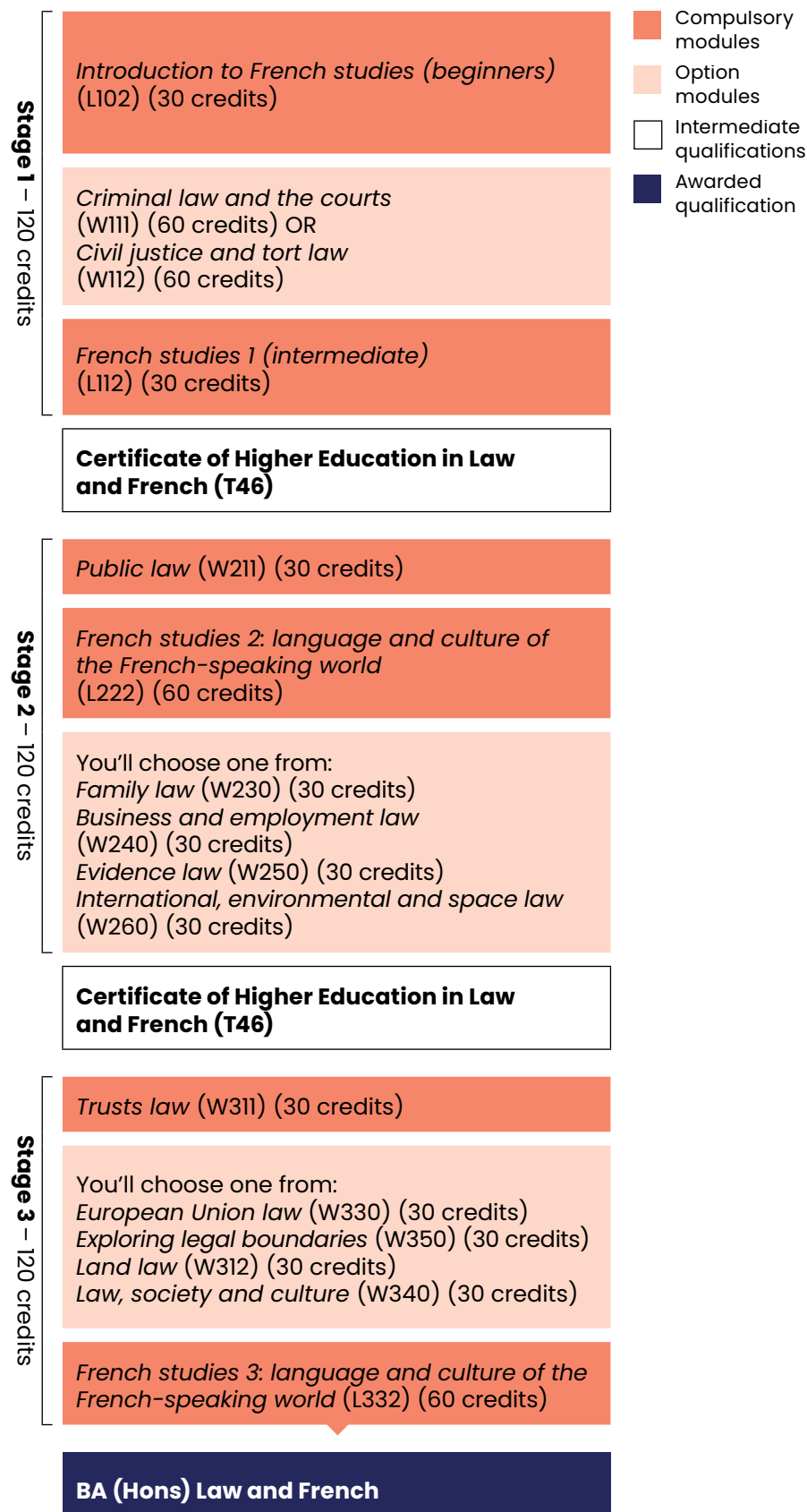


Qualification structure

You'll choose **one** of three routes:

- **law and French**
- **law and German**
- **law and Spanish.**

Law and French



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R56

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
Register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3–4 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Law and Languages (W87)

Certificate of Higher Education in Law and Languages (T46)

Law and German

Law and Spanish

	Law and German	Law and Spanish	
Stage 1 – 120 credits	Introduction to German studies (beginners) (L103) (30 credits)	Introduction to Spanish studies (beginners) (L106) (30 credits)	Compulsory modules
	Criminal law and the courts (W111) (60 credits) OR Civil justice and tort law (W112) (60 credits)	Criminal law and the courts (W111) (60 credits) OR Civil justice and tort law (W112) (60 credits)	Option modules
	German studies 1 (intermediate) (L112) (30 credits)	Spanish studies 1 (intermediate) (L112) (30 credits)	Intermediate qualifications
	Certificate of Higher Education in Law and German (T46)	Certificate of Higher Education in Law and Spanish (T46)	Awarded qualification
Stage 2 – 120 credits	Public law (W211) (30 credits)	Public law (W211) (30 credits)	
	German studies 2: language and culture of the German-speaking world (L222) (60 credits)	Spanish studies 2: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world (L222) (60 credits)	
	You'll choose one from: Family law (W230) (30 credits) Business and employment law (W240) (30 credits) Evidence law (W250) (30 credits) International, environmental and space law (W260) (30 credits)	You'll choose one from: Family law (W230) (30 credits) Business and employment law (W240) (30 credits) Evidence law (W250) (30 credits) International, environmental and space law (W260) (30 credits)	
	Diploma of Higher Education in Law and German (W87)	Diploma of Higher Education in Law and Spanish (W87)	
Stage 3 – 120 credits	Trusts law (W311) (30 credits)	Trusts law (W311) (30 credits)	
	You'll choose one from: European Union law (W330) (30 credits) Exploring legal boundaries (W350) (30 credits) Land law (W312) (30 credits) Law, society and culture (W340) (30 credits)	You'll choose one from: European Union law (W330) (30 credits) Exploring legal boundaries (W350) (30 credits) Land law (W312) (30 credits) Law, society and culture (W340) (30 credits)	
	German studies 3: language and culture of the German-speaking world (L333) (60 credits)	Spanish studies 3: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world (L336) (60 credits)	
	BA (Hons) Law and German	BA (Hons) Law and Spanish	

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.



Bachelor of Laws (Hons) (LLB)

Studying law is stimulating in its own right and knowing how laws are made, the importance of legal rights and duties and how law impacts upon society will help you to understand society and your own role within it.

You'll study for a law degree which includes the seven Foundations of Legal Knowledge to become a barrister in England and Wales or a solicitor or barrister in Northern Ireland.

You'll begin by focusing on a range of criminal offences as well as addressing themes of law reform, human rights and issues relevant to the Criminal Justice System of England and Wales. You'll progress to study the law of relations between individuals and the state. You'll also learn how contracts are formed, their contractual terms and how they end, and you'll choose two further modules that focus on particular aspects of law that are of the most interest or relevance to your career.

By the end of your degree, you'll have the legal knowledge to understand and apply the law, together with skills of legal analysis. This law degree will be valuable preparation to enable you to acquire the knowledge and skills needed for a legal career.

Why this qualification?

- Gives you an understanding of the role and place of law in society today.
- Offers the opportunity to cover all of the Foundations of Legal Knowledge.
- Helps develop key legal skills with identifying legal issues and applying legal principles.
- Can assist your career development by demonstrating your academic ability to potential employers.

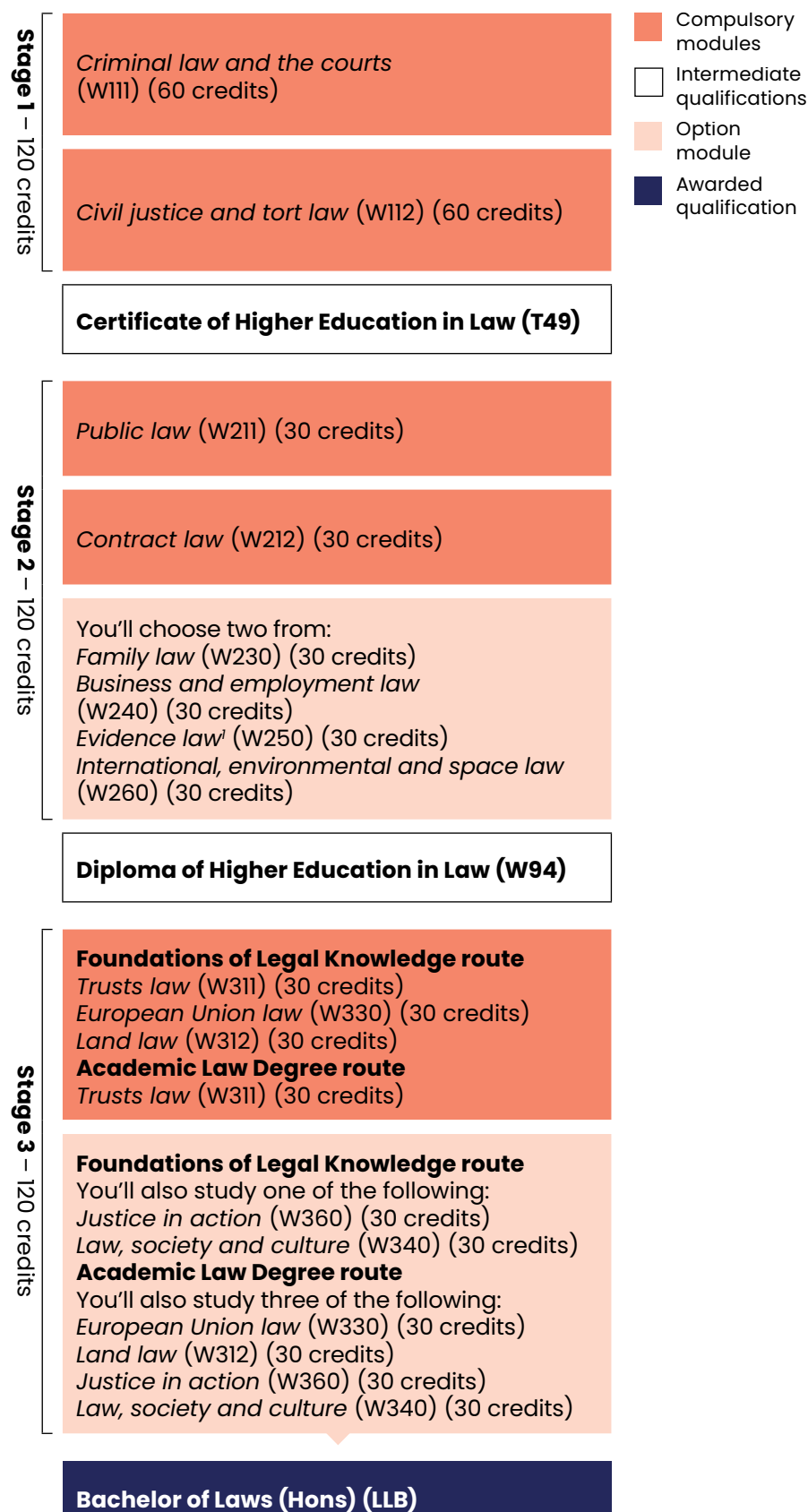
Accreditation

This degree will cover all of the foundational subjects required by the Bar Standards Board and the Council of Legal Education (Northern Ireland).

If you complete the degree within six years, this will exempt you from the academic stage of training for barristers in England and Wales, and for solicitors and barristers in Northern Ireland. Aspiring solicitors and barristers in Northern Ireland must study *Evidence law* (W250) at Stage 2.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

¹ This module is compulsory for students in Northern Ireland.

At a glance

Course code R81

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025

Register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years

Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Law (W94)

Certificate of Higher Education in Law (T49)



BSc (Hons) Mathematics

Take your understanding of the concepts, theories and applications in pure and applied mathematics to graduate level. You can also include statistics or theoretical physics.

You'll cover various topics and develop an understanding of mathematical problems and approaches. You'll get plenty of practice with essential methods and tools and increase your familiarity with mathematical software. You'll gain an appreciation of the role and construction of rigorous proof. And build experience of communicating mathematical arguments and conclusions.

A mathematics degree can let you access professional training or entry-level roles in a vast range of career areas, such as data or actuarial science, and information services.

Why this qualification?

- Start at a point that suits your level of mathematical knowledge.
- Choose pure and applied mathematics modules that fit your needs and interests.
- Include statistics or physics options.
- Develop your experience with mathematical methods and software.
- Move to a different mathematics/statistics degree, if your aspirations change, even after you've started.

Accreditation

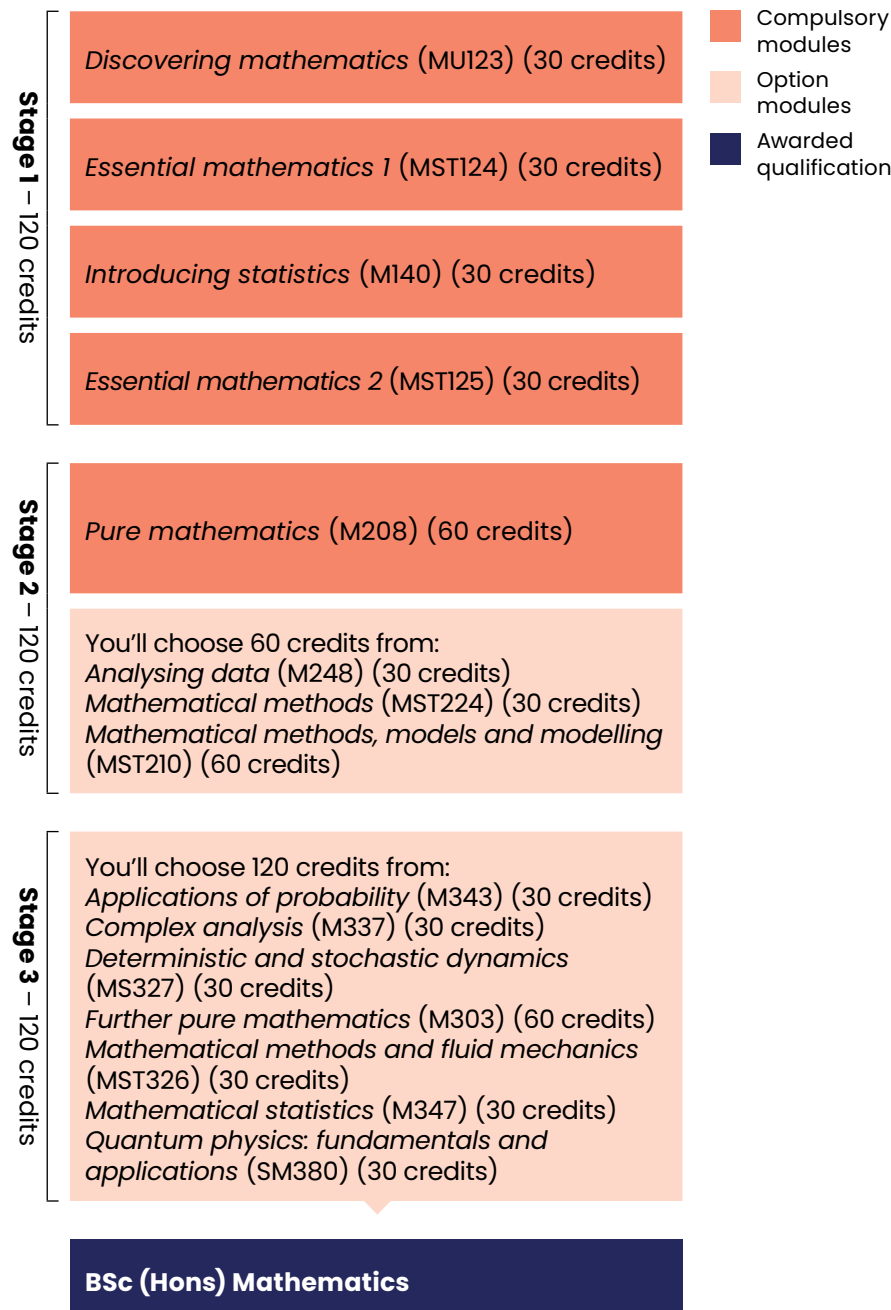
Accredited by the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA).



Some secure environments are unable to provide the software for some of the mathematics modules. This means the BSc (Hons) Mathematics will not be available to some students – please check with your OU contact.

Qualification structure

The structure shown below is for the default start. If you're confident about studying mathematics at university level and, in particular, have a good understanding of algebra and trigonometry, you can choose the intensive start which begins at a higher level and at a faster pace.



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q31

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6–8 years
Full-time study: 3–4 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus



BSc (Hons) Mathematics and Physics

Develop your knowledge and understanding of theoretical physics and the underpinning mathematics.

This degree will teach you how to use essential techniques and relevant software. You'll explore fundamental physics concepts, including Newtonian mechanics, special relativity, electromagnetism and quantum mechanics. You'll have the opportunity to practice with applied mathematics tools, including mathematical methods, modelling and numerical analysis. You'll also learn skills in communicating clear and concise arguments and conclusions.

A mathematics and physics degree can gain you access to professional training or entry-level roles in a wide range of career areas, such as data analysis, research and development, and science communication.

Why this qualification?

- Combine the concepts of modern theoretical physics with applied mathematics.
- Develop your critical thinking and problem-solving skills.
- Engage with our award-winning OpenSTEM labs to control remote experiments.

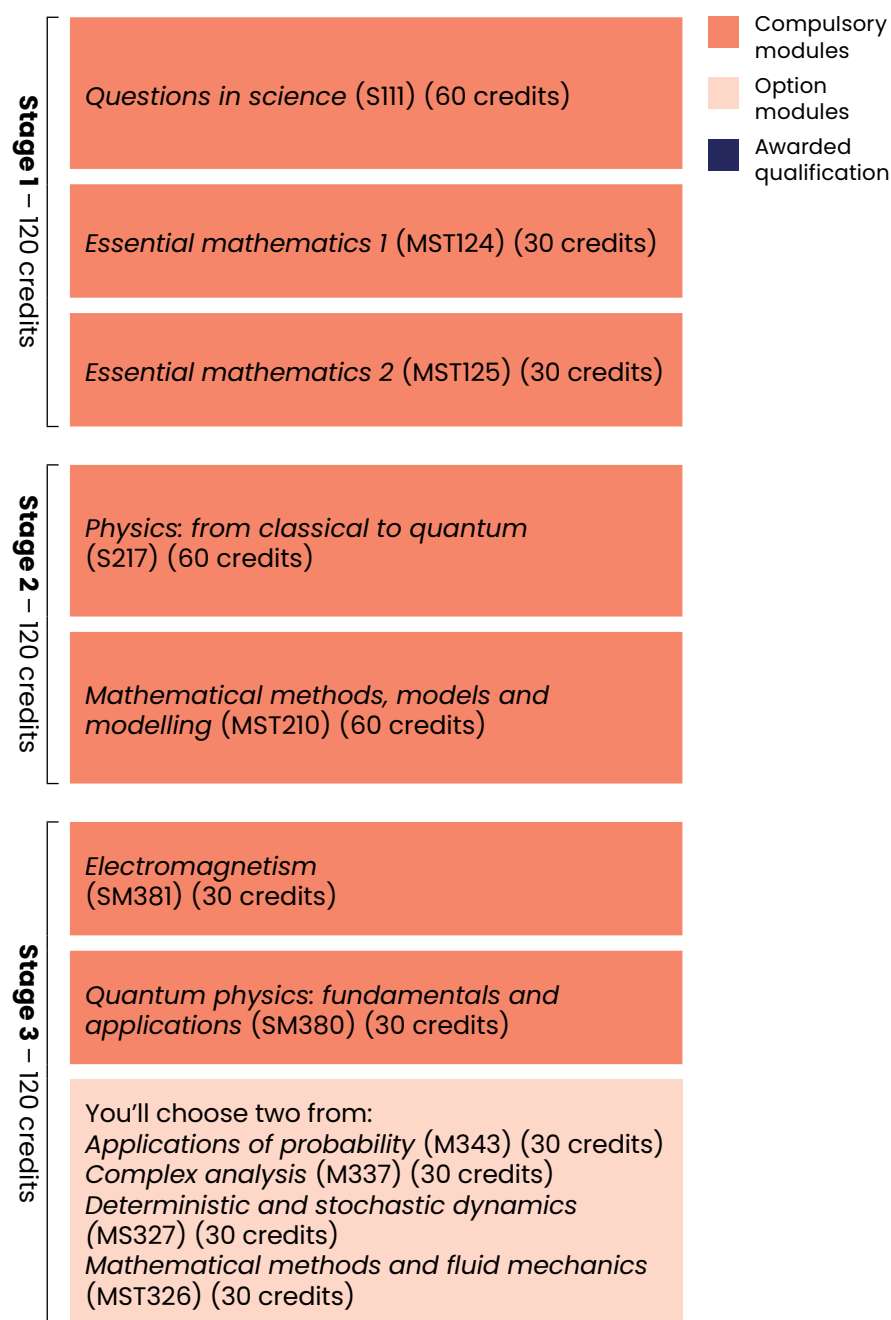
Accreditation and recognition

- Accredited by the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA).
- Recognised by the Institute of Physics (IOP).



IOP Institute of Physics

Qualification structure



BSc (Hons) Mathematics and Physics

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q77

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6–8 years
Full-time study: 3–4 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

BSc (Hons) Mathematics and Statistics

Gain extensive knowledge of probability and statistics. Combine this with pure mathematics or applied mathematics.

This degree will equip you with problem-solving and decision-making tools. You'll experience using statistical software and practise conducting and communicating statistical investigations. You'll develop your understanding of big data, multivariate data analysis, regression analysis and hypothesis testing, plus explore classical and Bayesian statistics.

A mathematics and statistics degree can let you access professional training or entry-level roles in various career areas, such as data analysis, finance, and statistics.

Why this qualification?

- Build expertise in analytical approaches, classical and Bayesian statistics, and the underpinning mathematical theory.
- Complement statistics with pure or applied mathematics to fit your needs and interests.
- Practise conducting and communicating statistical investigations and using professional software.
- Move to a different mathematics degree if your aspirations change, even after you've started.

Accreditation

Accredited by the following professional institutions:

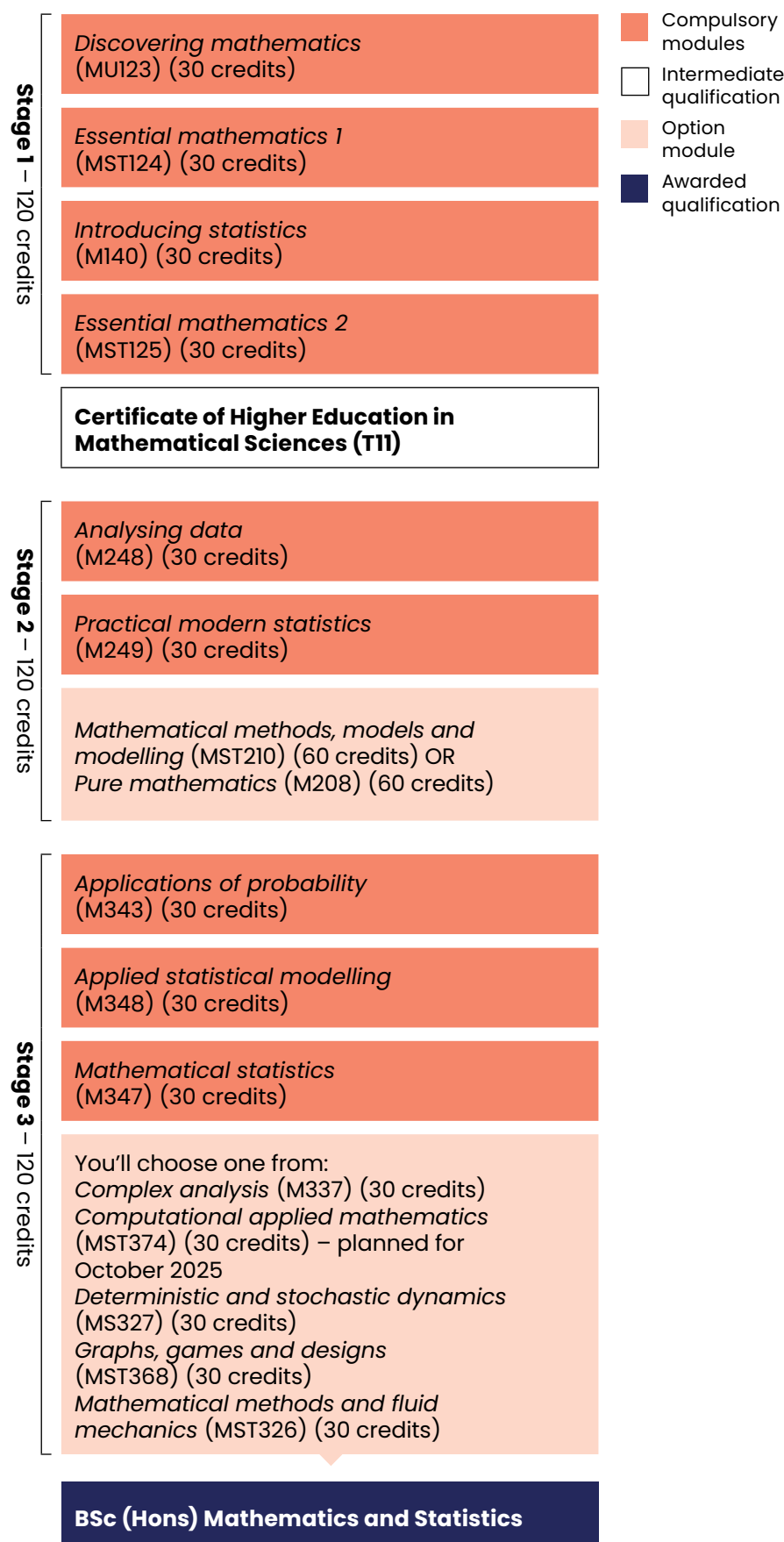
- Institute of Mathematics and its Applications (IMA)
- Royal Statistical Society (RSS).



Some secure environments are unable to provide the software for some of the mathematics modules. This means the BSc (Hons) Mathematics and Statistics will not be available to some students – please check with your OU contact.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q36

Total credits 360

Start dates
 Oct 2024
 register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
 register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements
 No specific requirements

Assessment
 Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration
 Part-time study: 6–8 years
 Full-time study: 3–4 years

Mode of study
 The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Mathematical Sciences (W43)

Certificate of Higher Education in Mathematical Sciences (T14)



BA (Hons) Criminology and Psychology

Criminology and psychology help make sense of crime, criminalisation, criminals and victims. This qualification will provide you with a critical understanding of both subjects.

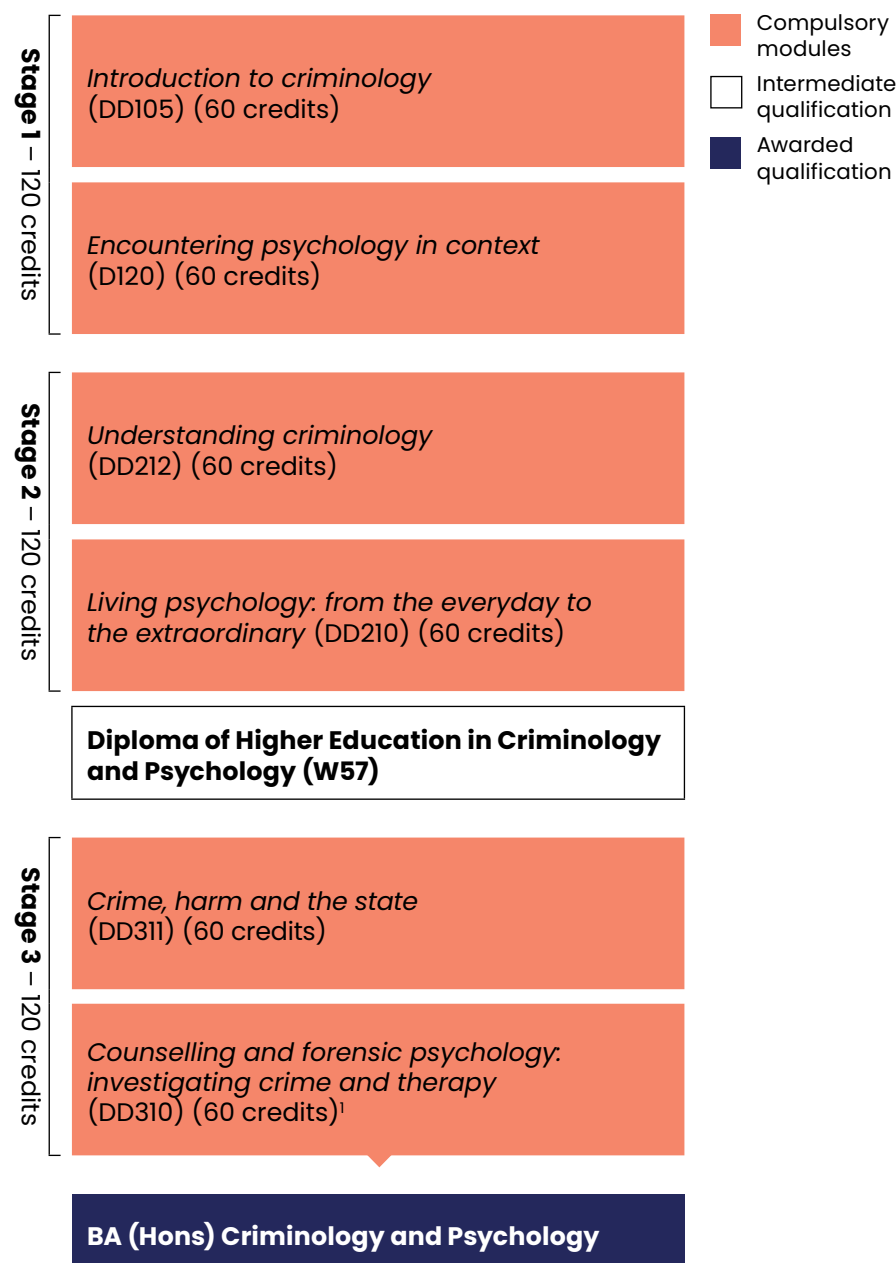
You'll become able to question and develop your own beliefs and understandings about crime and harm. You'll consider criminal acts and human motivations, but also look beyond them by examining the social conditions in which crime occurs. You'll relate this to the exercise of power in response to crimes, the nature of conflicts when people interact (individually, in groups and as nations) and how and why societies determine what they will and won't tolerate.

Why this qualification?

- Helps you understand how criminology makes sense of crime, harm, criminal justice and criminalisation.
- Shows how psychology explains human interaction and conflict and interprets crime and victimisation.
- Takes a distinctive and original approach to teaching criminology and psychology.
- Enhances your employability in areas such as the criminal justice system and social services.

Please note that this degree is not accredited by the British Psychological Society.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

¹ This module discusses themes of a sexual nature that may not be appropriate for certain individuals or institutions. Please get in touch with your OU contact if this is a concern.

At a glance

Course code Q98

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examination

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualification

Diploma of Higher Education in Criminology and Psychology (W57)

BA (Hons) Philosophy and Psychological Studies

Philosophy and psychology seek to answer profound questions about ourselves, our minds, our behaviour and our place in the social and physical universe.

This degree addresses a range of philosophical questions, including questions about ethics, politics, science, religion, art, and the self. You'll cover the core approaches to social, cognitive and developmental psychology, and applied aspects of professional practice.

You'll learn to read and understand scientific and philosophical texts; to use different research methods; to communicate clearly and logically; and to work and think independently.

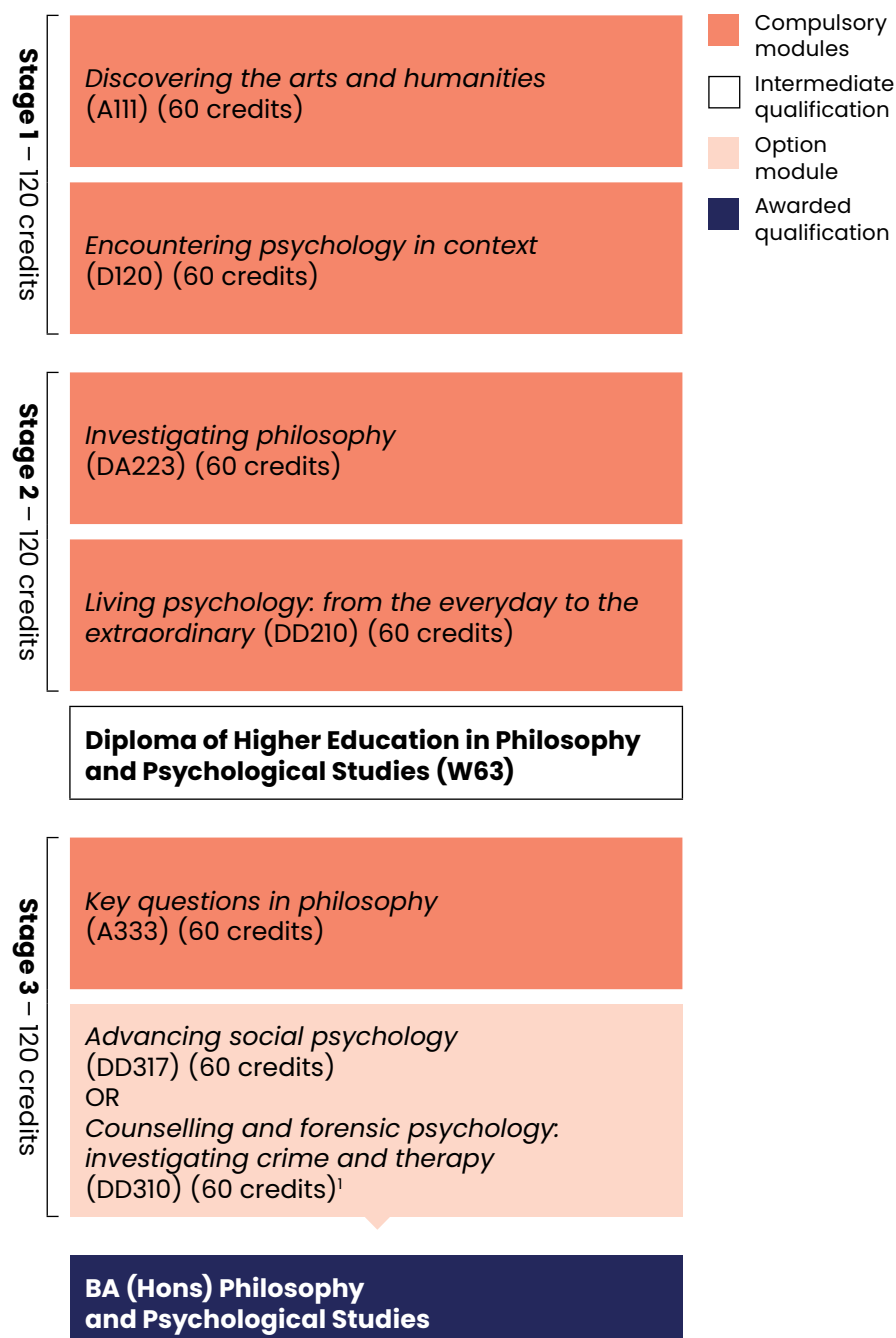
Why this qualification?

- Investigate profound questions about human minds and behaviour from two complementary perspectives.
- Develop clear, logical thinking and communication skills.
- Learn to construct and analyse informed, reasoned arguments.
- Understand and use a range of research methods.

Please note that this degree is not accredited by the British Psychological Society.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

¹ This module discusses themes of a sexual nature that may not be appropriate for certain individuals or institutions. Please get in touch with your OU contact if this is a concern.

At a glance

Course code Q43

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualification

Diploma of Higher Education in Philosophy and Psychological Studies (W63)

Certificate in Astronomy and Planetary Science

This OU level 2 certificate covers fundamental astronomy and planetary science. You'll study the Solar System, stars, galaxies, exoplanets and the search for life in the Universe.

Learn how astronomers "measure" the Universe using spectroscopy, imaging, and time-variability as observational tools. You'll study the physical processes that drive the birth and evolution of stars and galaxies.

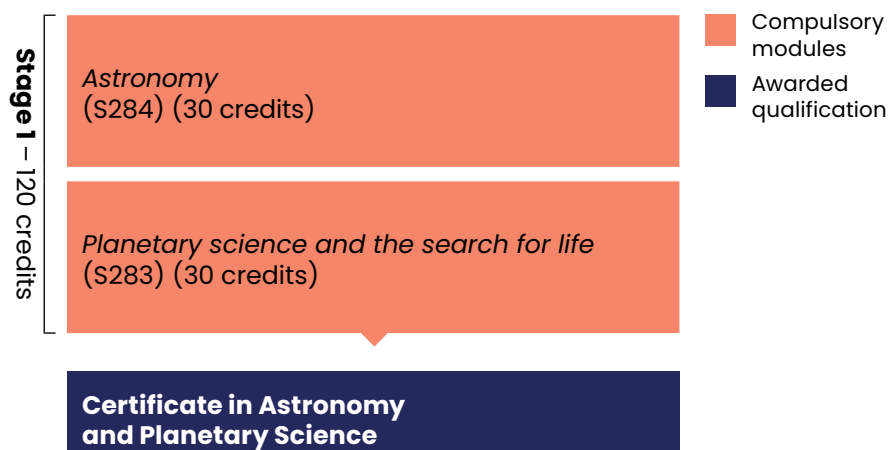
You'll also learn about the formation and development of the Solar System and other planetary systems. You'll consider how life arose on Earth, and whether life has arisen beyond Earth. You'll look at planetary processes such as volcanism and impacts in the Solar System; the structure of planets and their atmospheres; and asteroids, comets and meteorites.

Why this qualification?

- Gain a good scientific foundation in astronomy and planetary science.
- Develop skills of reason and logic that are highly prized in the workplace.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code S10

Total credits 60

Start date

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Entry requirements

None; however, having studied physics and maths to A-level standard would significantly improve your readiness

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 1 year

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus



BSc (Hons) Geography and Environmental Science

This degree will help you understand and consider responses to urgent environmental challenges, including climate change, globalisation, development, biodiversity loss, migration and urbanisation.

It takes a holistic approach, combining geography and environmental science. You'll discover the complexities of our relationship with the natural environment by exploring topics such as deforestation, sustainable water-resource management, pollution control, conservation and governance.

You'll examine the consequences and implications of environmental change for sustainability and learn about the social and natural processes and interactions operating in different environments.

Why this qualification?

- Develop your understanding of the interrelationships between human activity and environmental change.
- Use geography and science concepts and theories to make sense of environmental challenges.
- Enhance your employability by working between the social and natural sciences.
- Build analytical and reasoning skills needed for assessing environmental evidence.

Accreditation

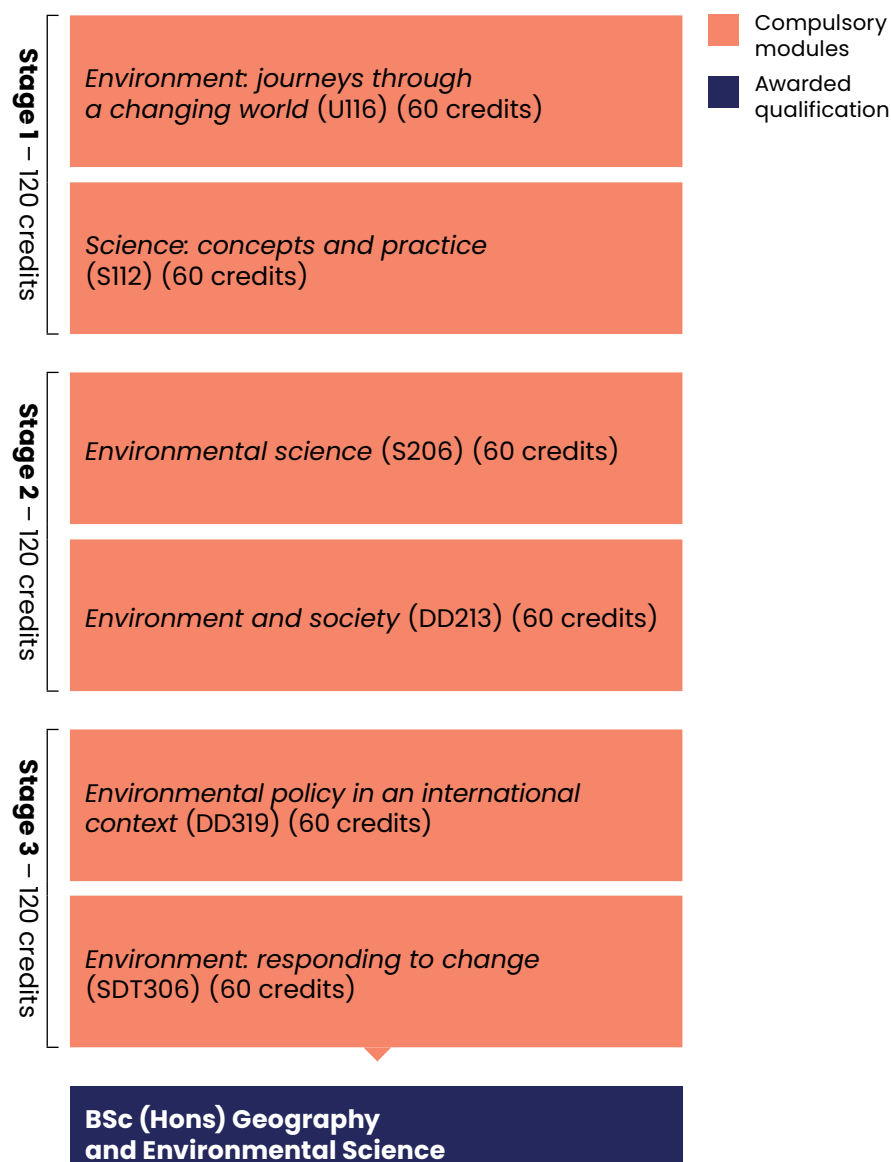
- Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM).
- Institution of Environmental Sciences (IES).

CIWEM Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management

Accredited Course



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R16

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualification

Certificate of Higher Education in Environment (T16)

Diploma of Higher Education in Natural Sciences

This diploma is ideal if you're curious about the world we live in and enjoy delving into a broad range of scientific topics.

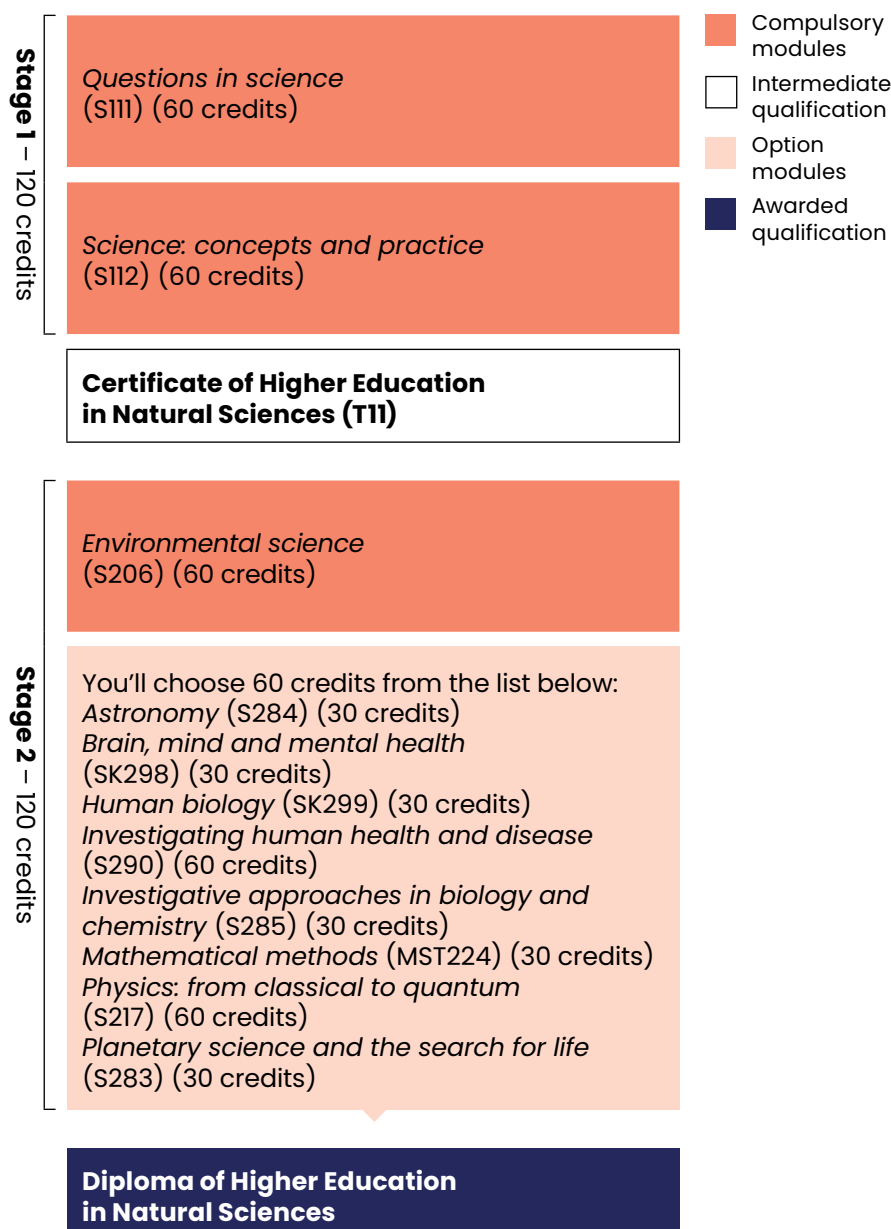
You'll explore aspects of biology, chemistry, Earth sciences, environmental sciences, physics, astronomy and planetary science – while developing critical thinking, data analysis and problem-solving skills.

Why this qualification?

- Starts with an introduction to topical areas of modern science, giving you a good grounding in each.
- Allows you to pick modules from across a wide science curriculum.
- Develops skills of reason and logic that are highly prized in the workplace.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code W37

Total credits 240

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 4 years
Full-time study: 2 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualification

Certificate of Higher Education in Natural Sciences (T11)



Certificate in Health Sciences

If you're interested in the scientific and social aspects of disease and disability, this certificate is for you.

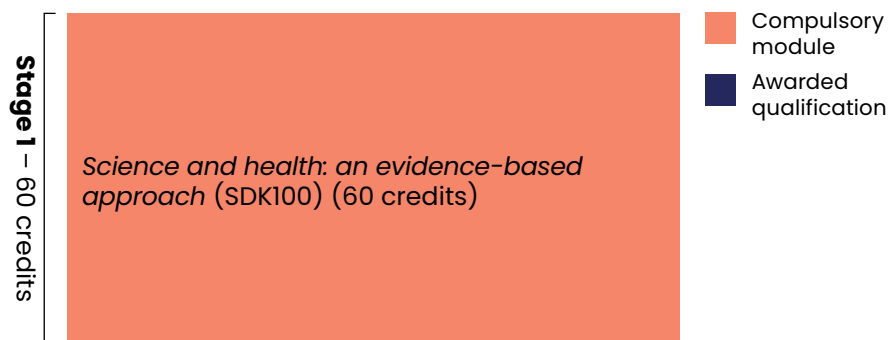
It integrates biological, chemical and physical sciences with psychology, health statistics and social sciences to investigate the underlying causes and solutions in a range of conditions. These include infectious disease; nutrition; pain; alcohol; screening for cancer; chronic lung disease; trauma; and visual impairment.

Whilst exploring the science, psychology and social issues underlying the management of health and disease, you'll also develop communication, computer and numeracy skills.

Why this qualification?

- Explore a range of health topics in their wider personal, cultural and social contexts.
- Learn to evaluate evidence; understand and use scientific terms and concepts; handle numbers; and interpret graphs and tables.
- Enhance your employability in healthcare and other settings.
- Builds a solid foundation for further study.

Qualification structure



Certificate in Health Sciences

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code S19

Total credits 60

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
Register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessment

Study duration

Part-time study: 1 year

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus



BA (Hons) Criminology

Our degree in criminology focuses on cutting edge, topical and often contentious criminological issues. You'll develop an understanding of the important role that criminological theory can play in viewing the social world in new and exciting ways.

You'll be introduced to criminology and the social sciences using themes such as power, inequality and social harm to explore key topics including victimology, abolitionism and state violence.

With an appreciation of criminological theorising and evidence, you'll develop the skills to understand issues of crime and victimisation from new perspectives. You'll also develop a critical appreciation of the problems with conventional responses to crime and deviance, including policy questions, at national, international and global levels.

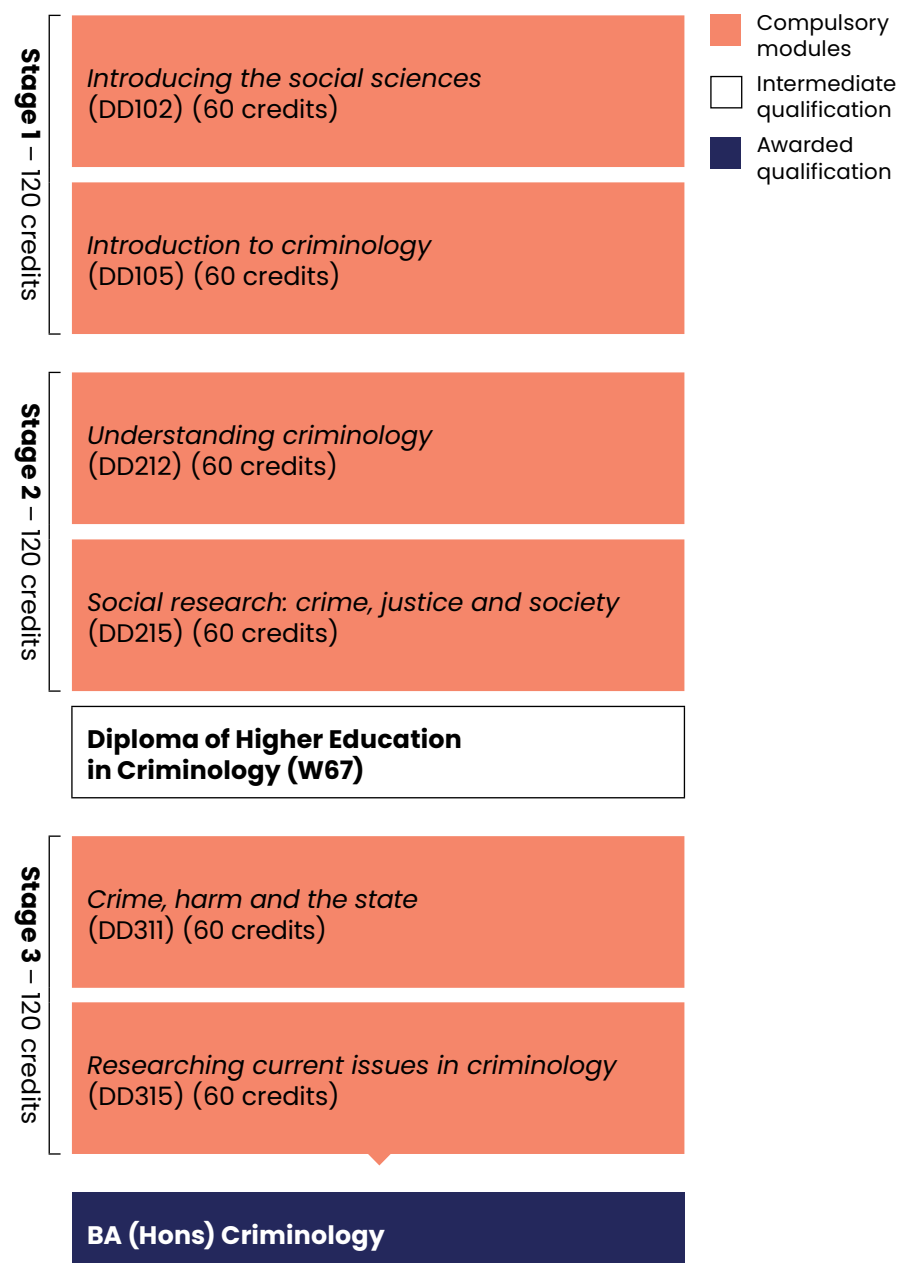
You'll learn about a range of research methods and to apply research tools, to help you access and evaluate qualitative and quantitative data on crime, victimisation and the societal responses to them.

You'll also be able to enhance your independent study skills by completing a project on a criminological topic that interests you most.

Why this qualification?

- Explore a wide range of contemporary and pressing criminological topics.
- Develop your understanding of the role criminological theory can play in seeing the social world in fresh and exciting ways.
- Develop your competence and confidence in using qualitative and quantitative research methods.
- Enhance your independent study skills by exploring a criminological topic of your own choice.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R21

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
Register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
Register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualification

Diploma of Higher Education in Criminology (W67)



BA (Hons) Criminology and Law

Crime, justice and the workings of the law are matters that affect us all and often dominate the news. This degree takes a critical and analytical view of the role and functions of the legal system, and examines its relationship with crime, criminal behaviour and criminal justice.

With an appreciation of criminological theorising and evidence, you'll develop the skills to comment on crime and responses to crime and deviance, including policy questions, at national, international and global levels.

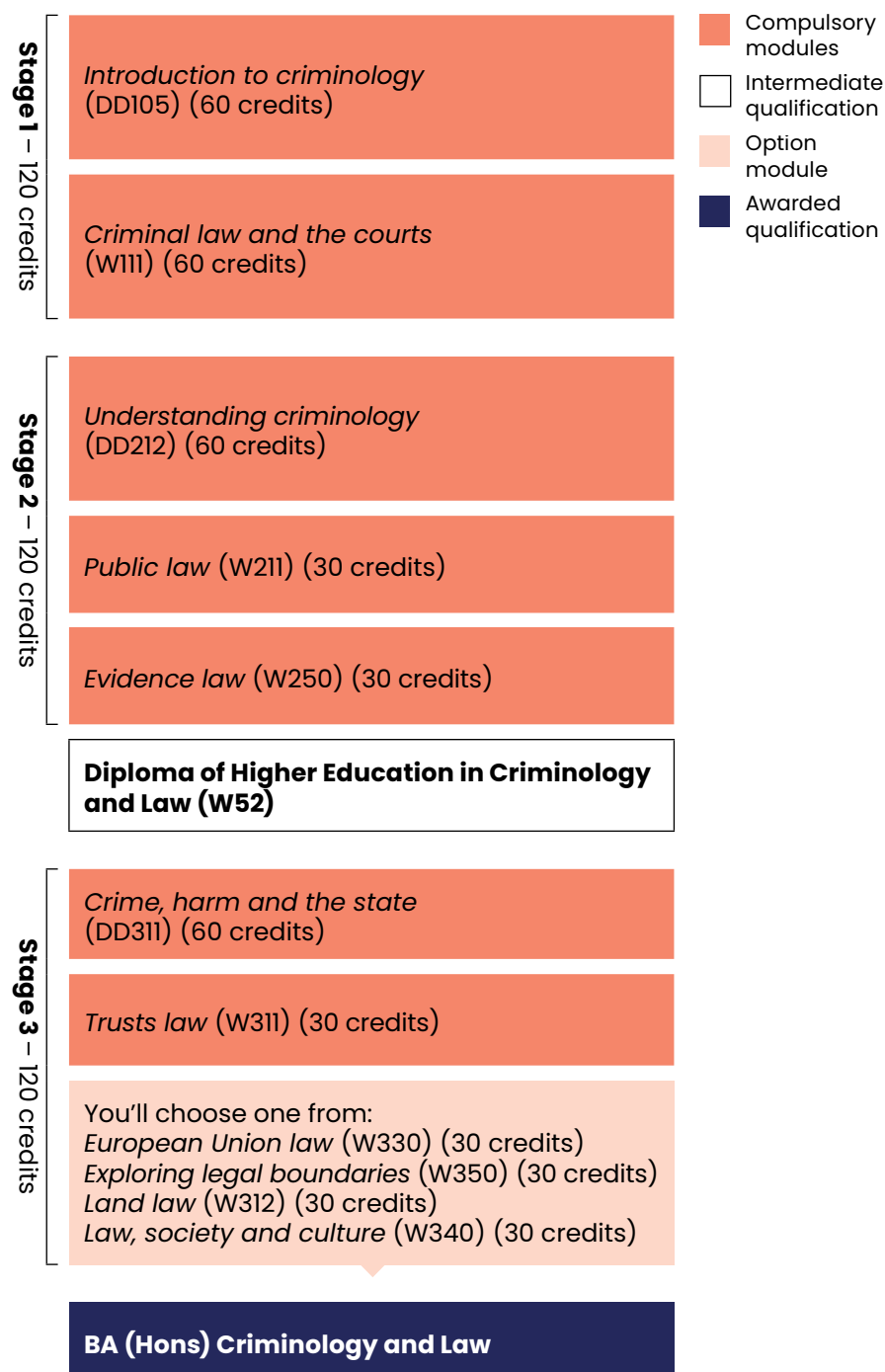
You'll gain the ability to critically assess everyday understandings of crime, harm and criminal justice, the social, political, economic, historical and ethical dimensions of law, as well as gain knowledge of the key institutions which make up criminal justice and legal systems.

Why this qualification?

- Explore the complex issues behind today's headlines about crime, law and justice.
- Understand, interpret and apply concepts about crime and law to 'real world' problems.
- Develop transferable employability skills to support career progression.
- Identify where criminal justice and law is failing to provide social justice, fairness and equal opportunities in society.

Please note that this degree does not cover all seven Foundations of Legal Knowledge. If you want to become a barrister in England and Wales or a solicitor or barrister in Northern Ireland, you will need to complete a conversion course before starting your professional training.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q92

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025

Register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years

Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualification

Diploma of Higher Education in Criminology and Law (W52)

BA (Hons) Criminology and Sociology

By combining these subjects, you'll gain an understanding of the issues and concepts surrounding questions of criminalisation and justice, and how social worlds are made.

Building on the OU's reputation for cutting-edge criminological and sociological teaching and research, this joint degree offers you the chance to study lively, topical and sometimes controversial subject matter.

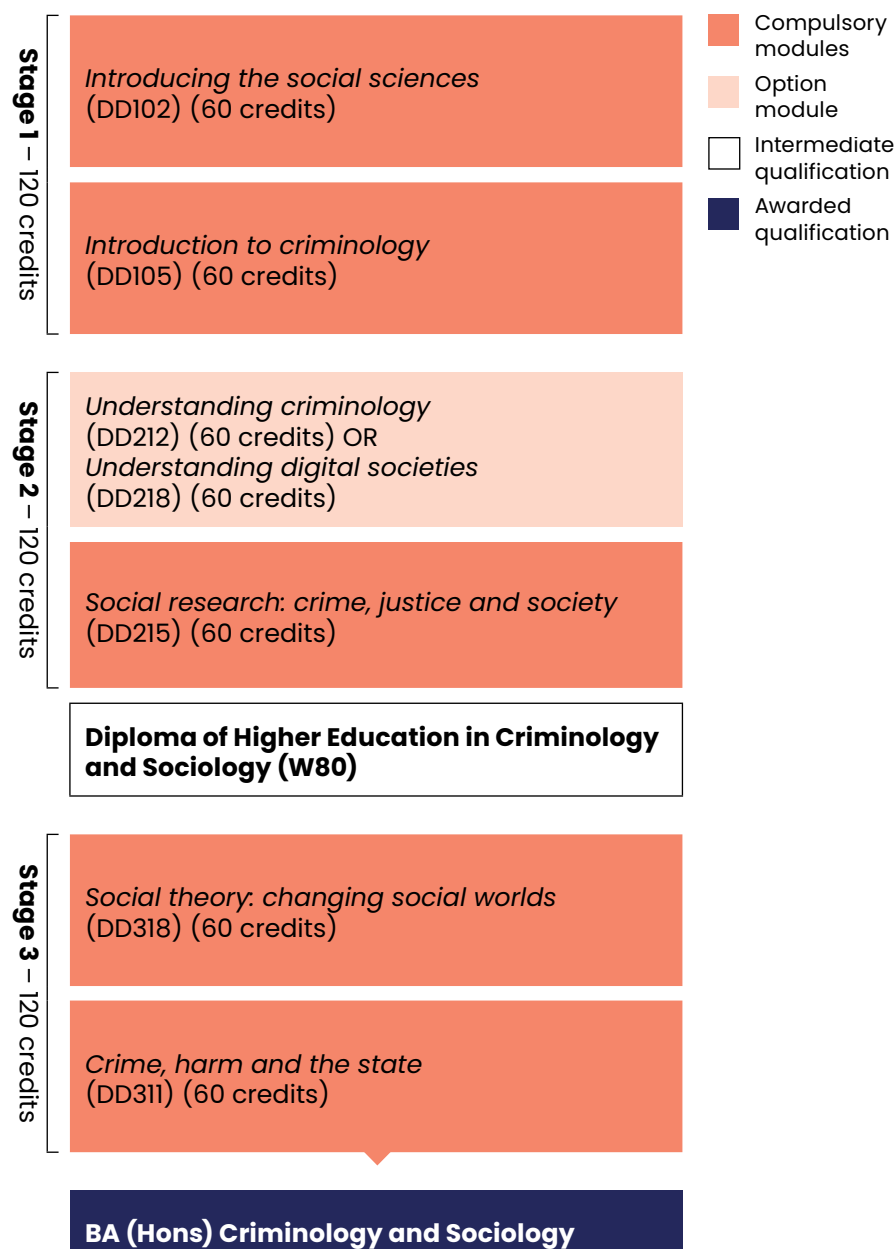
You'll investigate questions of crime, criminalisation and social harm to determine whether society's responses to these questions are adequate and appropriate. You'll also explore how social worlds are made and how we, as individuals, are shaped by the societies in which we live.

Why this qualification?

- Explore lively and topical issues about contemporary social life and about crime, harm and criminal justice.
- Learn to evaluate evidence critically and understand criminological and sociological problems better.
- Examine the role of both theory and research in shaping knowledge about crime, justice and the wider social world.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R46

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualification

Diploma of Higher Education in Criminology and Sociology (W80)



BA (Hons) Economics

Economic considerations play an important role in our personal lives and influence key social and political issues such as government policy, international trade, business decisions, work and climate change.

By studying this degree, you'll learn macro and microeconomic concepts, theories and techniques that will enable you to understand real world problems and help you make more informed decisions in your own life.

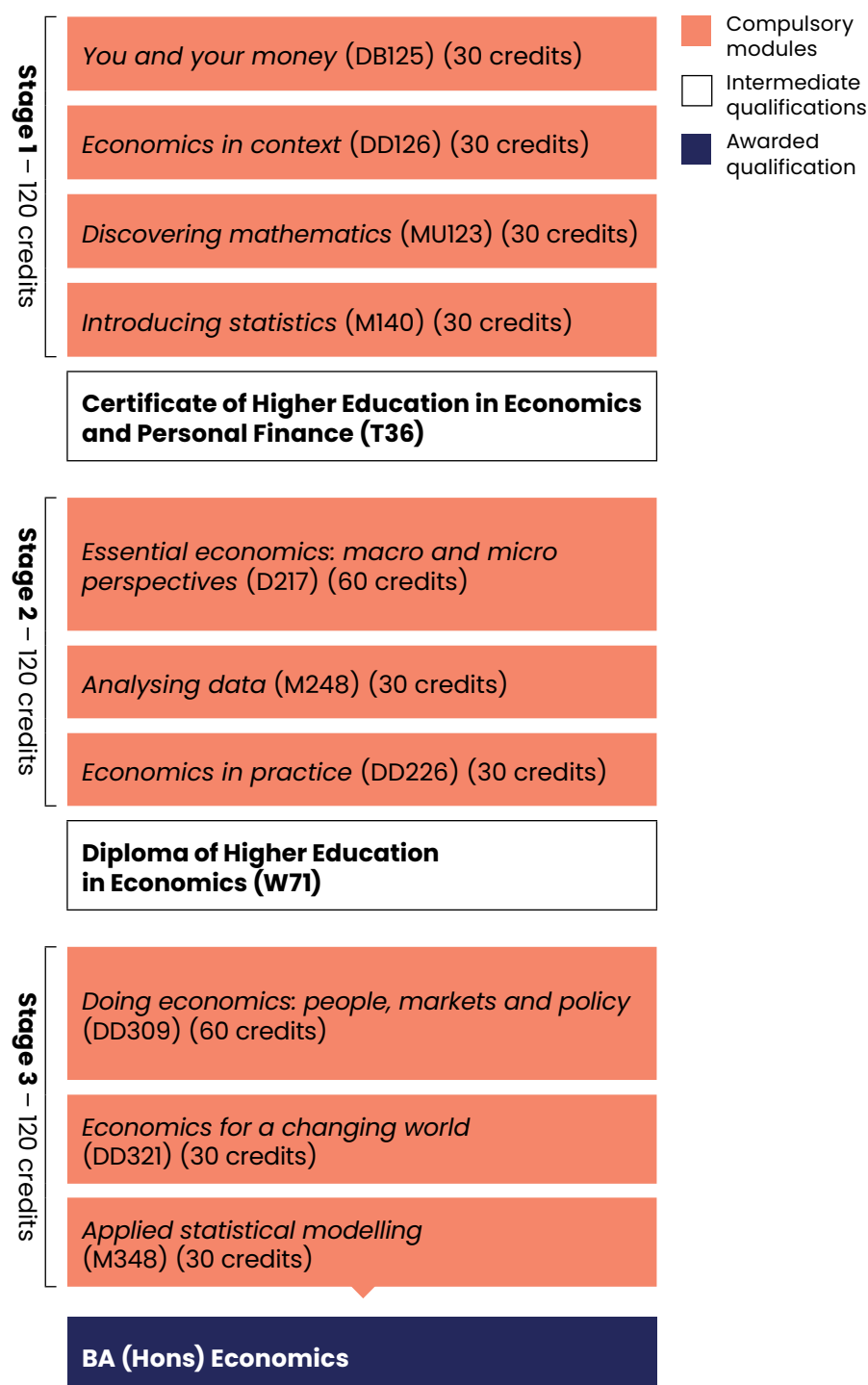
You'll be able to specialise in an area of economics and carry out a project on a topic of your choice. The analytical skills and statistical techniques that this degree develops are highly valued by employers.

Why this qualification?

- Analyse key real-world topics in society, such as employment, markets, finance, technology and government policy.
- Study econometrics, applying statistical methods to real economic problems using specialised software.
- Develop skills in analytical thought, research, numeracy and data analysis that make economists highly sought after.
- Carry out an economic research project on a topic of your own choice.

Some secure environments are unable to provide the software for some of the mathematics modules. This means the BA (Hons) Economics will not be available to some students – please check with your OU contact.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R30

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements. It is essential to ensure your mathematical level is appropriate.

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

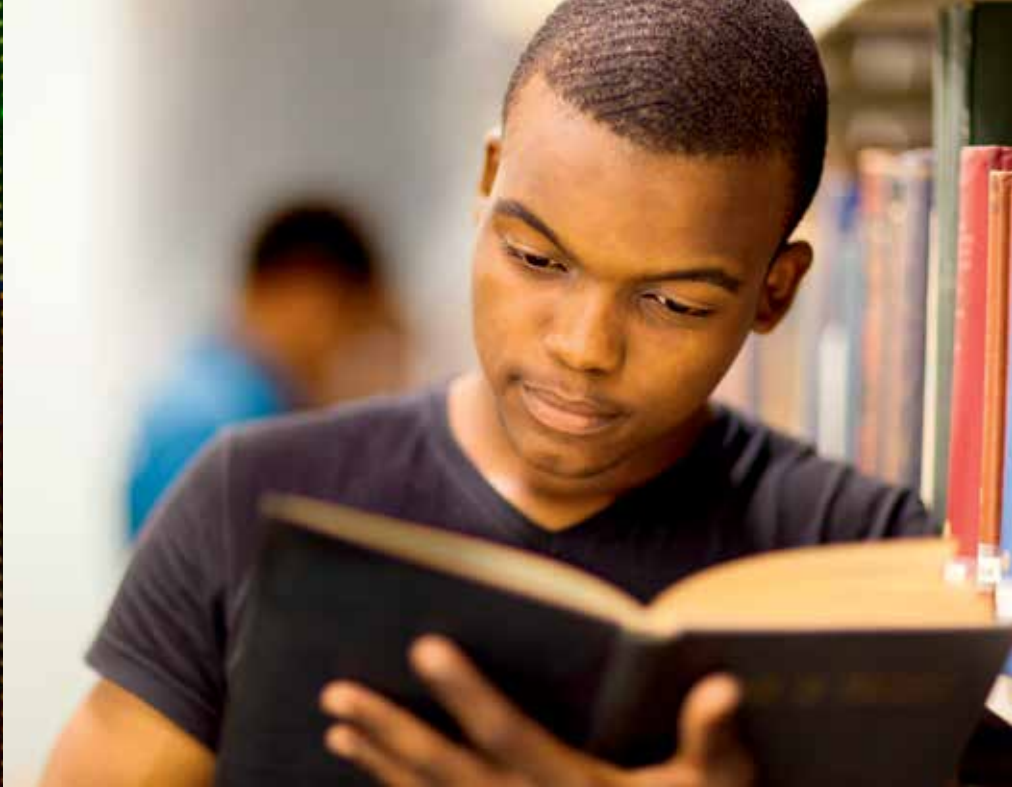
Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Economics (W71)

Certificate of Higher Education in Economics and Personal Finance (T36)



BSc (Hons) Economics and Mathematical Sciences

If you enjoy solving problems and you're interested in the practical application of economics and mathematics, this degree is for you.

It will give you a thorough grounding in a broad range of mathematical, statistical and computational skills, and a sound knowledge of both macroeconomic and microeconomic theories together with a good understanding of economic issues.

You'll develop analytical and model building skills that can be applied in a variety of contexts, engage in economic debate, and assess different kinds of evidence and their usefulness in relation to economic theories.

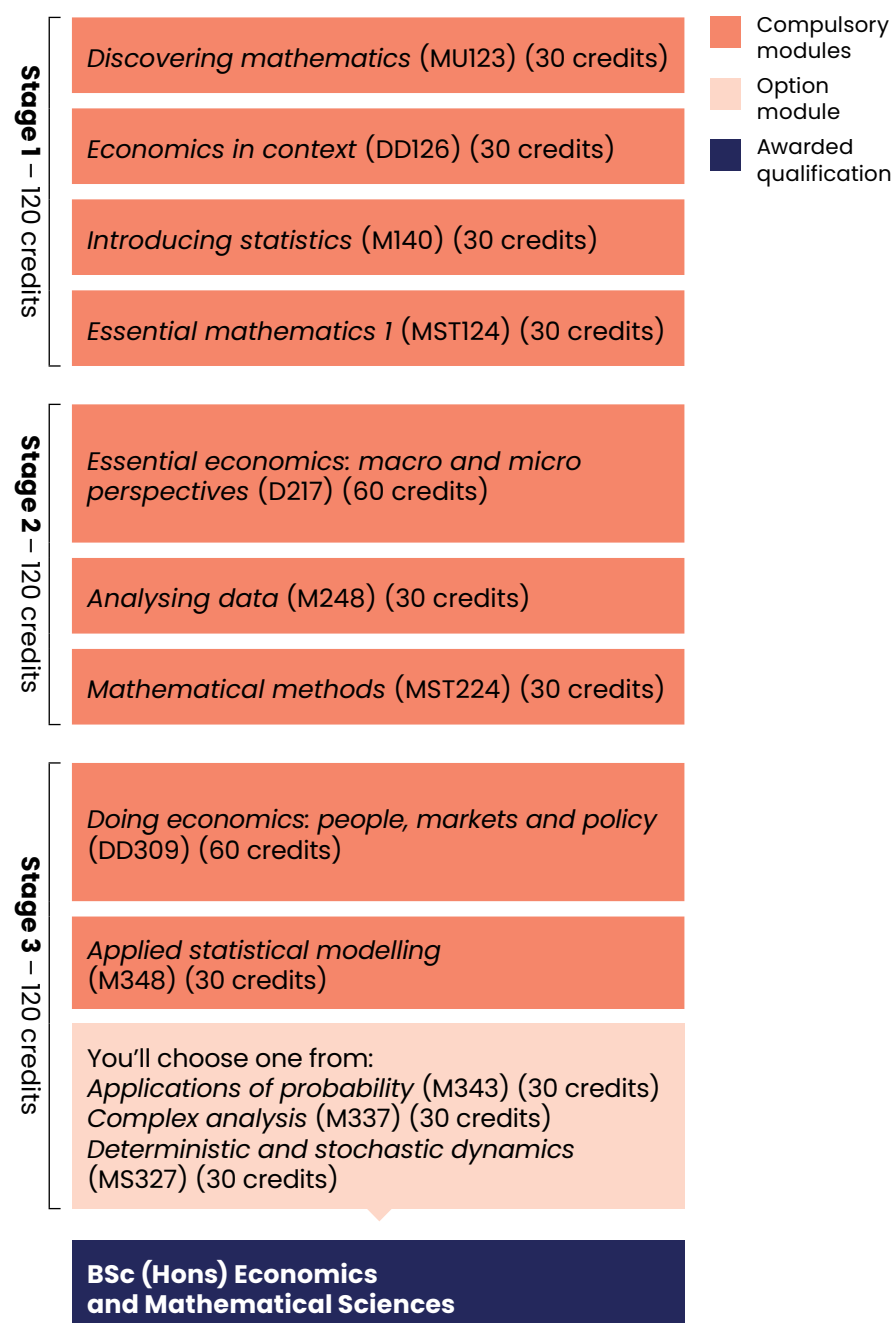
By the end of your studies, you'll be equipped with the knowledge and skills needed for a range of roles in business management, accountancy, banking, investment analysis, risk analysis and market research.

Why this qualification?

- Explore fundamental questions about our physical and economic world.
- Learn analytical and model building skills applicable to a variety of contexts.
- Develop essential skills for solving real problems and making sound judgments – from your personal finances to high-level strategic decisions.
- Broaden your experience of using mathematical and statistical software.

Some secure environments are unable to provide the software for some of the mathematics modules. This means the BA (Hons) Economics will not be available to some students – please check with your OU contact.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q15

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Diploma in Economics

Explore contemporary socio-economics issues by learning to apply economic theories and techniques to real world situations.

You'll learn macro and microeconomic theories; to use specialised software; to apply statistical concepts to economic data (econometrics), and to carry out your own research project. The analytical skills you'll learn are greatly valued by employers.

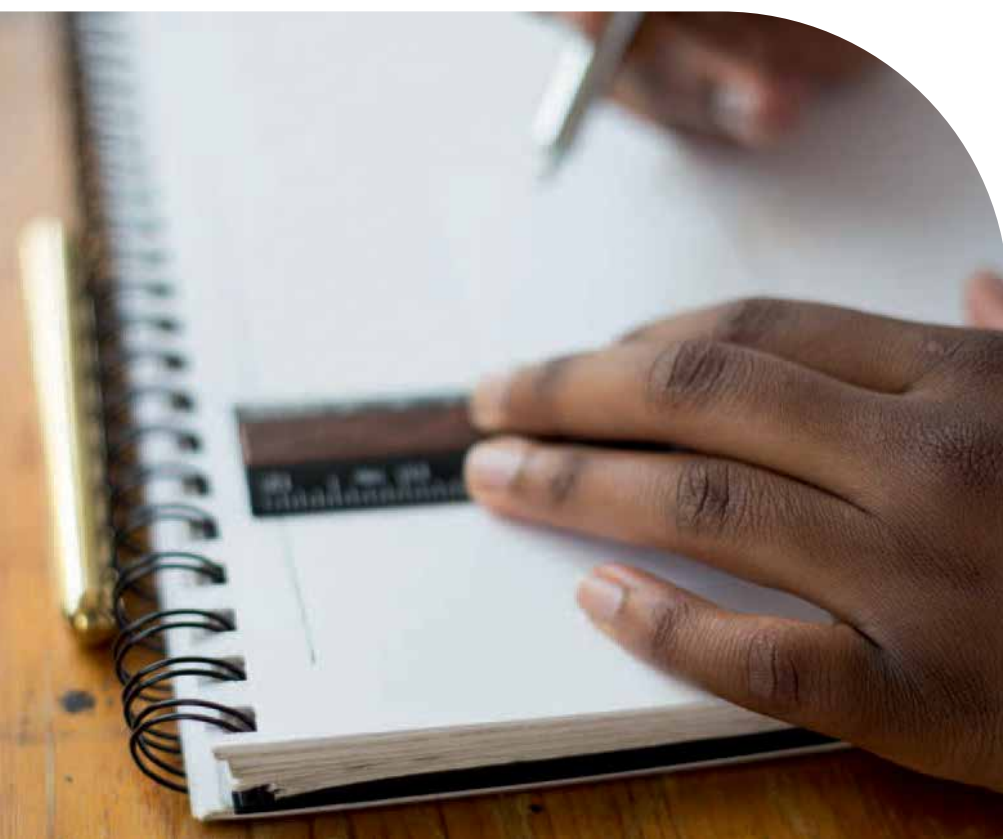
This diploma is ideally suited to a graduate in any discipline and can be completed in as little as two years. You'll have evidence of a systematic study of economics without having to complete a full degree.

If you later wish to study our BA (Hons) Economics, you'll be able to count the credit gained from this diploma.

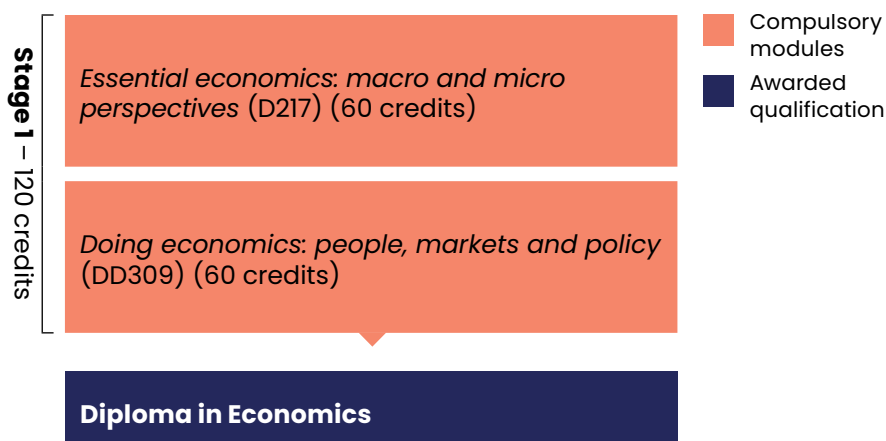
Why this qualification?

- Gain core knowledge of economic theory and an understanding of economic issues.
- Analyse some of the most compelling challenges facing us today, such as inequality and unemployment, and issues facing business.
- Engage in economic debate and assess different kinds of evidence, both qualitative and quantitative, and their usefulness in relation to economic theories and issues.
- Learn to analyse economic data using statistical techniques and how to apply the knowledge and skills learnt by carrying out your own project work.

The Diploma in Economics is comprised of modules at OU levels 2 and 3. Therefore we strongly recommend you discuss your preparedness to study this qualification, particularly your English language and mathematics skills, with your education department.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code V13

Total credits 120

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Entry requirements

No specific requirements. You must be suitably prepared to study at OU level 2

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 2 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

BA (Hons) Geography

Geographical thinking offers vital insights into how we interpret and respond to the most pressing issues of the twenty-first century such as climate change, migration, inequality and urbanisation.

By studying how places, policies and landscapes are being made and reinvented in a changing world, this degree will equip you with a deep understanding of the social, cultural, economic and political processes transforming our human and natural environments.

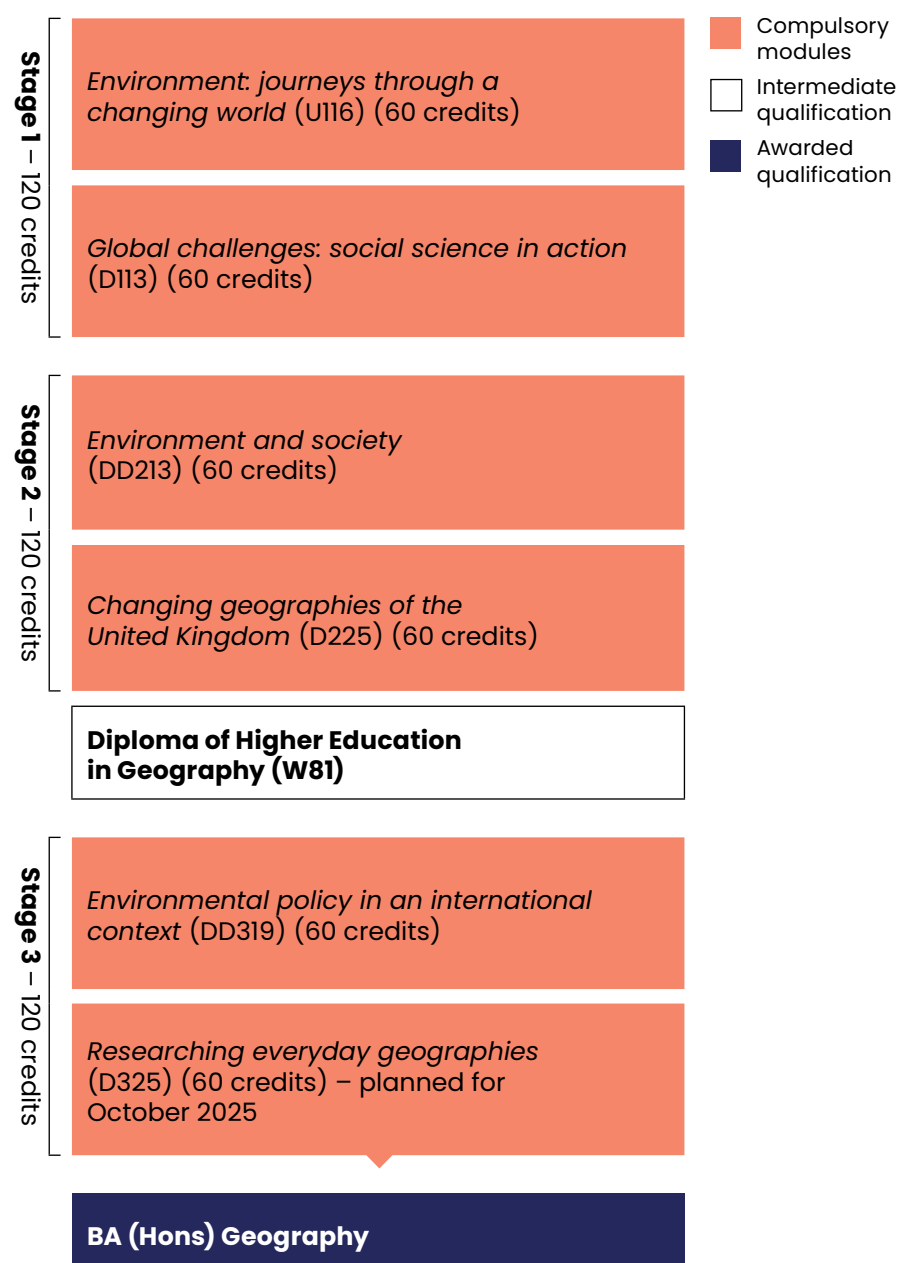
Developing your 'geographical imagination' through innovative fieldwork, you'll gain the knowledge and skills to investigate, analyse and communicate how geography matters in our everyday lives. You'll complete your degree with an independent research project.

Why this qualification?

- Develop an advanced understanding of the dynamic relationships between human and natural environments in a changing world.
- Understand innovative fieldwork to open up new perspectives on how the world is made and the possibilities for how it could be remade differently.
- Learn to generate, analyse and evaluate quantitative and qualitative geographical information to make connections across a wide range of local and global issues.
- Gain vital transferable skills to undertake independent research and communicate effectively with a range of different audiences to support career progression.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R44

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Geography (W81)

Certificate of Higher Education in Environment (T16)

BA (Hons) Politics, Philosophy and Economics

Politics, philosophy and economics (PPE) are central to understanding how modern societies are organised and governed. Studying them together gives you a combination of skills that's in high demand across the private, public and non-profit sectors.

PPE is sometimes described as 'the degree that runs Britain' because of the number of politicians that studied it, and this combination gives excellent preparation for other careers in the public and private sectors or for further study.

You'll explore and analyse how countries are run, what motivates and constrains their rulers and residents, and what is required for a society to become prosperous and stable.

All three disciplines are presented in an up-to-date form, covering alternative as well as 'mainstream' approaches and firmly rooted in the real world.

Why this qualification?

- Gain insight into debates that dominate the news, and underlying issues.
- Learn skills and techniques to help you analyse and contribute to the discussion.

- Explore how arguments (and public policies) are constructed in theory and tested in practice.
- Increase your employability across the private and public sectors.



Qualification structure

	Option modules	Compulsory modules	Awarded qualification
Stage 1 – 120 credits	<i>Global challenges: social science in action</i> (D113) (60 credits) OR <i>You and your money</i> (DB125) (30 credits) AND <i>Economics in context</i> (DD126) (30 credits)	<i>Understanding politics: ideas and institutions in the modern world</i> (DD211) (60 credits)	
Stage 2 – 120 credits	<i>Essential economics: macro and micro perspectives</i> (D217) (60 credits)	<i>Investigating philosophy</i> (DA223) (60 credits)	
Stage 3 – 120 credits	You'll choose two from three PPE subjects: Politics <i>Modern political ideas</i> (DD316) (60 credits) OR <i>International relations: continuity and change in global politics</i> (DD313) (60 credits) Philosophy <i>Key questions in philosophy</i> (A333) (60 credits) Economics <i>Doing economics: people, markets and policy</i> (DD309) (60 credits)		
BA (Hons) Politics, Philosophy and Economics			

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q45

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examination
- Project or dissertation

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 4 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

BA (Hons) Social Sciences

The social sciences seek answers to the big questions we face as a society in a fast-changing world. Those answers inform the work of anyone who needs to base their decisions on the best available evidence – civil servants, policy makers, business executives and many more.

Designed to be flexible, this degree will teach you the tools of the social scientist's trade. You'll study core modules in social science and sociology, giving you a firm grounding in knowledge and ideas central to the social sciences.

In the rest of your degree, you can specialise in criminology, economics, geography, politics, psychology, religious studies, or sociology, or you can choose a combination of modules that most suits your interest.

Whatever path you take, you'll acquire valuable transferable skills opening up employment opportunities in private, public and voluntary sector organisations.

Why this qualification?

- Get to grips with the complex issues behind today's headlines.
- Understand social scientific ideas and insights and apply these to the real world.
- Learn the tools of the social scientist's trade.
- Increase your employability across a diverse range of careers.



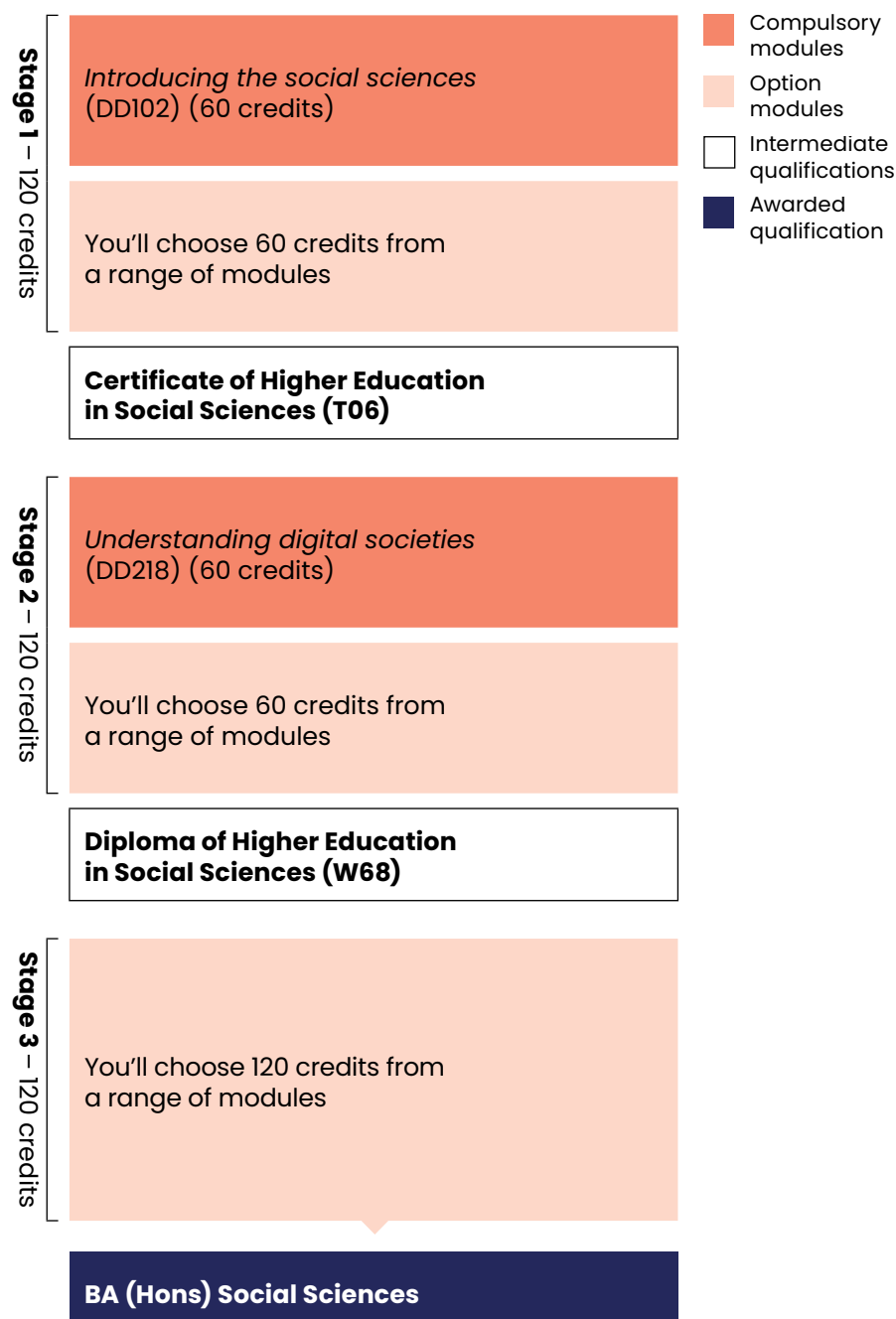
Qualification structure

You can choose to study a broad range of social science subjects or specialise in **one** of:

- **Criminology**
- **Economics**
- **Geography**
- **Philosophy**
- **Politics**
- **Psychology**
- **Religious Studies**
- **Sociology**

Your choice of specialist option will be included in the name of your degree, for example, BA (Hons) Social Sciences (Criminology).

Broad-based study of Social Sciences



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code R23

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments
- Examinations

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Social Sciences (W68)

Certificate of Higher Education in Social Sciences (T06)

Criminology

Economics

	Criminology	Economics	
Stage 1 – 120 credits	Introducing the social sciences (DD102) (60 credits)	Introducing the social sciences (DD102) (60 credits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compulsory modules Option modules Awarded qualification
	Introduction to criminology (DD105) (60 credits)	Economics in context (DD126) (30 credits) You and your money (DB125) (30 credits)	
Stage 2 – 120 credits	Understanding digital societies (DD218) (60 credits)	Understanding digital societies (DD218) (60 credits)	
	Social research: crime, justice and society (DD215) (60 credits) OR Understanding criminology (DD215) (60 credits)	Essential economics: macro and micro perspectives (D217) (60 credits)	
Stage 3 – 120 credits	Crime, harm and the state (DD311) (60 credits)	Doing economics: people, markets and policy (DD309) (60 credits)	
	You'll choose 60 credits from a range of modules	You'll choose 60 credits from a range of modules	
	BA (Hons) Social Sciences (Criminology)	BA (Hons) Social Sciences (Economics)	

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Geography

Philosophy

- Compulsory modules
- Option modules
- Awarded qualification

Stage 1 – 120 credits

Introducing the social sciences
(DD102) (60 credits)

Introducing the social sciences
(DD102) (60 credits)

*Global challenges:
social science in action*
(D113) (60 credits)

*Discovering the arts and
humanities* (A111) (60 credits) OR
Revolutions (A113) (60 credits)

Stage 2 – 120 credits

Understanding digital societies
(DD218) (60 credits)

Understanding digital societies
(DD218) (60 credits)

*Changing geographies of
the United Kingdom*
(D225) (60 credits) OR
Environment and society
(DD213) (60 credits) OR
*Environment: sharing a dynamic
planet* (DST206) (60 credits)

Investigating philosophy
(DA223) (60 credits)

Stage 3 – 120 credits

*Environmental policy in an
international context*
(DD319) (60 credits)

Key questions in philosophy
(A333) (60 credits)

You'll choose 60 credits from a
range of modules

You'll choose 60 credits from a
range of modules

**BA (Hons) Social Sciences
(Geography)**

**BA (Hons) Social Sciences
(Philosophy)**

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Politics

Psychology

	Compulsory modules	Option modules	Awarded qualification
Stage 1 – 120 credits	<i>Introducing the social sciences</i> (DD102) (60 credits)	<i>Introducing the social sciences</i> (DD102) (60 credits)	
	<i>Global challenges: social science in action</i> (D113) (60 credits)	<i>Encountering psychology in context</i> (D120) (60 credits)	
Stage 2 – 120 credits	<i>Understanding digital societies</i> (DD218) (60 credits)	<i>Understanding digital societies</i> (DD218) (60 credits)	
	<i>Understanding politics: ideas and institutions in the modern world</i> (DD211) (60 credits)	<i>Living psychology: from the everyday to the extraordinary</i> (DD210) (60 credits)	
Stage 3 – 120 credits	<i>International relations: continuity and change in global politics</i> (DD313) (60 credits) OR <i>Modern political ideas</i> (DD316) (60 credits)	<i>Advancing social psychology</i> (DD317) (60 credits) OR <i>Counselling and forensic psychology: investigating crime and therapy</i> (DD310) (60 credits) ¹	
	You'll choose 60 credits from a range of modules	You'll choose 60 credits from a range of modules	
	BA (Hons) Social Sciences (Politics)	BA (Hons) Social Sciences (Psychology)	

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

¹This module discusses themes of a sexual nature that may not be appropriate for certain individuals or institutions. Please get in touch with your OU contact if this is a concern.

Religious studies

Sociology

	Compulsory modules	Option modules	Awarded qualification
Stage 1 – 120 credits	<i>Introducing the social sciences</i> (DD102) (60 credits)	<i>Introducing the social sciences</i> (DD102) (60 credits)	<div style="background-color: #002060; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> BA (Hons) Social Sciences (Religious Studies) </div>
	<i>Global challenges: social science in action</i> (D113) (60 credits) OR <i>Revolutions</i> (A113) (60 credits)	<i>Global challenges: social science in action</i> (D113) (60 credits) OR <i>Introduction to criminology</i> (DD105) (60 credits)	
Stage 2 – 120 credits	<i>Understanding digital societies</i> (DD218) (60 credits)	<i>Understanding digital societies</i> (DD218) (60 credits)	
	<i>Exploring religion: places, practices, texts and experiences</i> (A227) (60 credits)	<i>Exploring religion: places, practices, texts and experiences</i> (A227) (60 credits) OR <i>Understanding criminology</i> (DD212) (60 credits) OR <i>Social research: crime, justice and society</i> (DD215) (60 credits)	
Stage 3 – 120 credits	<i>Why is religion controversial?</i> (A332) (60 credits)	<i>Social theory: changing social worlds</i> (DD318) (60 credits)	
	You'll choose 60 credits from a range of modules	You'll choose 60 credits from a range of modules	
	<div style="background-color: #002060; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> BA (Hons) Social Sciences (Sociology) </div>		

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

Diploma of Higher Education in Sociology

As the world changes around us, this diploma offers you the chance to explore some of the major forces reshaping social life.

You'll have the opportunity to study a range of stimulating topics. Some of these will be part of the mainstream of sociological debate, including class, gender, race, and sexuality. You'll be introduced to sociological ways of understanding the world and will be challenged to think more deeply about contemporary social problems.

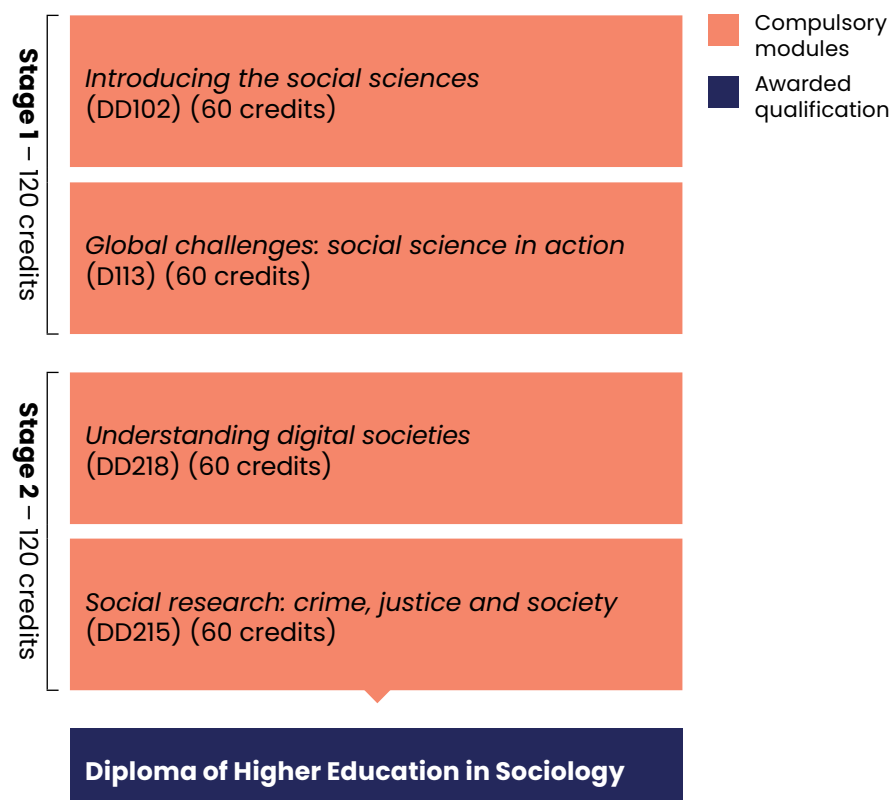
On completion, you'll have a well-developed understanding of the nature of society and will be in a position to make a positive difference to it.

Why this qualification?

- Explore lively, topical and sometimes controversial issues affecting society today
- Get to grips with key sociological questions, including those to do with class, gender, race and sexuality.
- Learn to evaluate evidence critically and understand sociological problems better and think like a sociologist.



Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code W88

Total credits 240

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Feb 2025
register by 9 Jan 2025

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 4 years
Full-time study: 2 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus



BSc (Hons) Sport, Fitness and Coaching

Are you an aspiring or practising leader of sport or fitness activities? Develop your skills and understanding of sports science, training, coaching and leadership with this degree.

It'll enhance your awareness of your role, increasing your effectiveness when at work in sport and fitness settings.

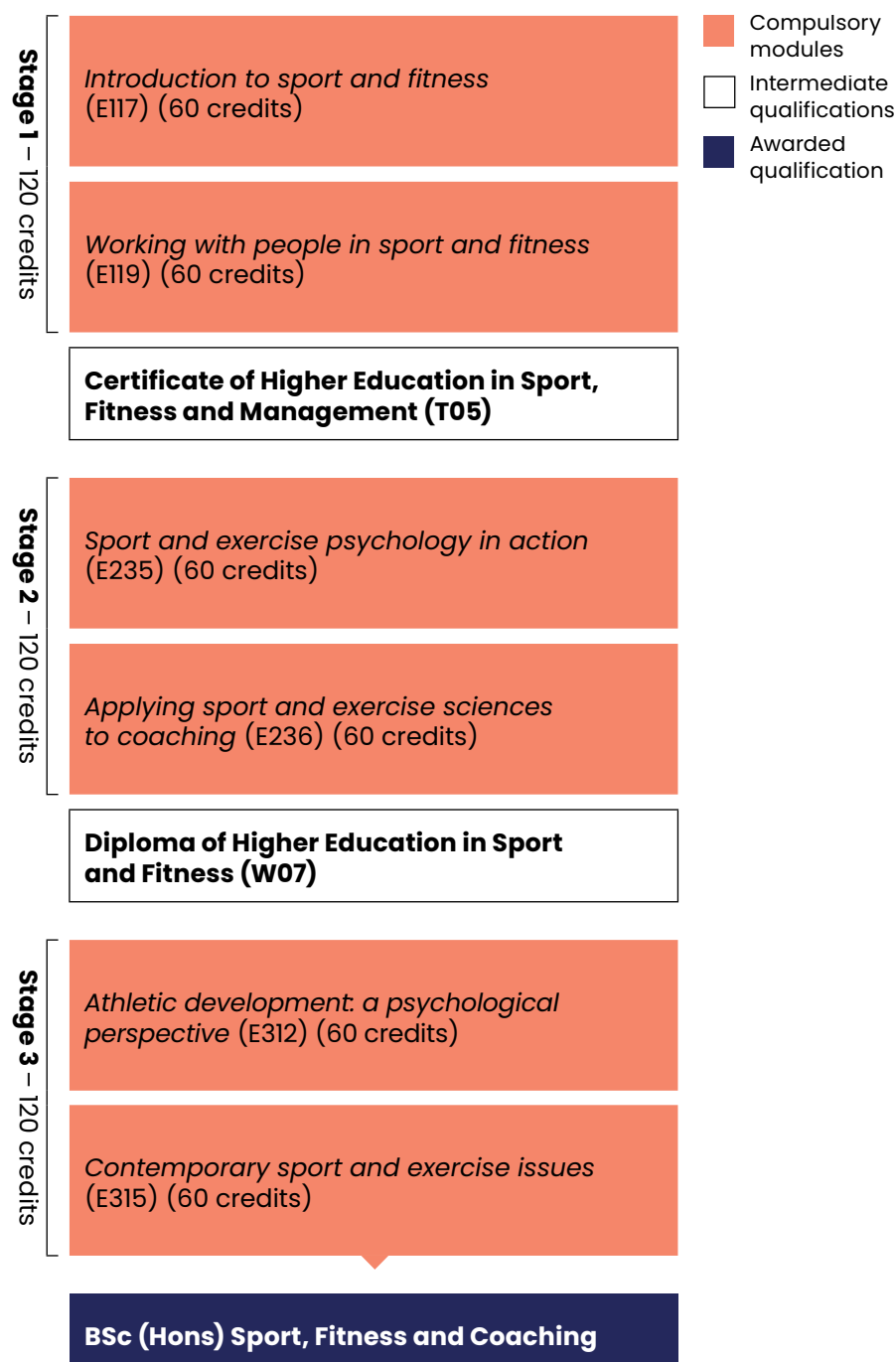
You'll apply science and theory to practice, reflecting on case studies and work situations, focusing on the all-round physical and psychological needs of sports and exercise participants.

You'll also develop your communication and analytical skills – further boosting your career prospects.

Why this qualification?

- Extensive use of audiovisual case studies.
- Uses innovative technology such as augmented reality to enhance your learning.
- Provides a preparatory step towards coaching physical education.

Qualification structure



Qualification delivery, module availability and qualification structure is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code Q76

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2024
register by 5 Sep 2024

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Based on a mix of:

- Tutor-marked assignments
- Interactive computer-marked assignments
- End-of-module assessments

Study duration

Part-time study: 6 years
Full-time study: 3 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are:

Printed materials ✓

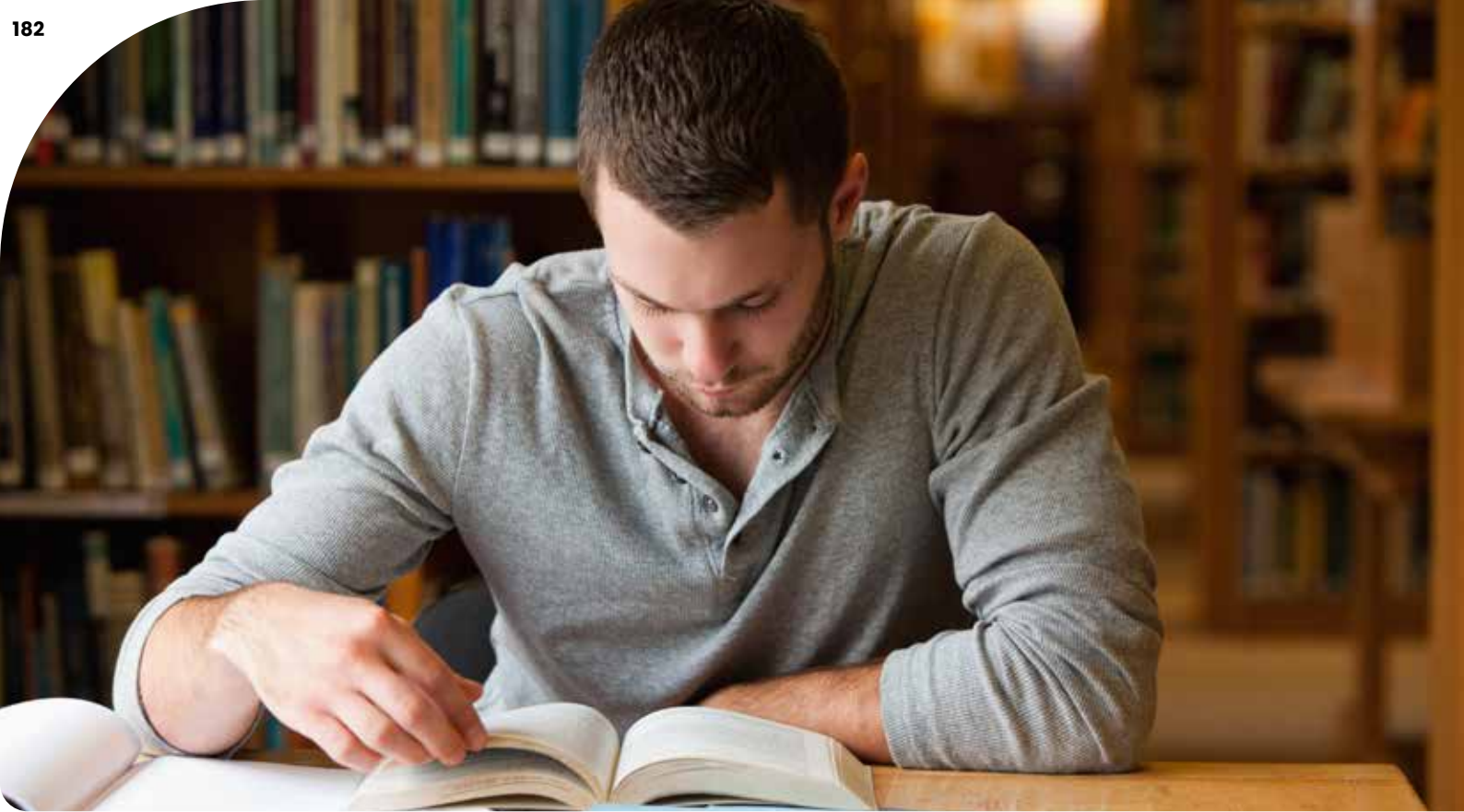
Disc-based media ✓

Some modules may be available on the Virtual Campus

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Sport and Fitness (W07)

Certificate of Higher Education in Sports, Fitness and Management (T05)



Find out more about postgraduate study

For students in England and Wales

Postgraduate study can develop valuable transferable skills such as project management, research skills and critical thinking. Some qualifications may allow you to take a more vocational or professional direction and add additional skills to improve your employability.

What postgraduate study is like

There are some distinct differences between undergraduate and postgraduate study, which include:

- level of proficiency and specialist knowledge
- career focus and relevance
- independent or self-directed study requirements
- demands on the student (time, organisation, motivation, commitment etc.)
- learning style and course materials (in many cases, predominantly online delivery)

- depth of enquiry, scholarship and communication
- organisation and assessment of coursework
- student cohort, peer and tutor interaction
- study intensity and workload.

To help you consider if taking the next step and embarking on postgraduate study is for you, we'd encourage you to complete both of our free OpenLearn courses: *'Succeeding in postgraduate study'* (24 hours) and *'Are you ready for postgraduate study?'* (20 hours, designed to be studied over two weeks). Please contact us for more information on how to access these free courses.

Find out more

If you're considering postgraduate study and would like further advice and guidance on your options, please get in touch. We'll send you our Postgraduate Enquiry Pack which provides further information and an application form to complete. It can take a considerable amount of time from the start of your enquiry for a decision to be made and for appropriate support and resources to be put in place for postgraduate study. To allow sufficient time, you should plan to submit your Expression of Interest Form no later than three months before the final enrolment deadline for the module.

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Ambitions Plans Goals

What's next?

Arrange an initial discussion with your education department or learning centre to discuss your options.

We have made all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information in this prospectus is accurate at the time of publication. However, we shall be entitled, if we consider it reasonably necessary (including in order to manage resources and improve student experience) to make changes, including to the availability of modules and qualifications, to qualification structure and to our regulations, policies and procedures. Please ask your education department or learning centre to email us at **SISE-General@open.ac.uk** for the latest information and if you'd like to find out more about the circumstances in which we may make changes.

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