



The Open
University

From a foundation degree to an honours degree



INSPIRING LEARNING

“ Congratulations on receiving your foundation degree! ”

Have you thought about topping up your foundation degree to an honours degree? If you want to carry on your studies to gain a BA or BSc honours degree, our Open degree might be just what you're looking for. This is one of the most flexible programmes of study in the UK, letting you build an honours degree that's right for you.

You can continue your studies by choosing options from a wide range of modules and you can use credit from your foundation degree to count towards your Open degree. To find out more about our Open degree click www.open.ac.uk/study-open.

Alternatively, you might prefer to use your credit towards one of our other honours degrees related to the subjects you've already studied. In fact some of our degrees are specifically offered as a 'top-up' to a foundation degree, for example, the BA (Hons) Early Years (B60) which is also offered as a bachelors degree without honours. To find out more about all our degrees click www.open.ac.uk/study.

Why choose The Open University (OU)?

We've inspired over two million minds in the last 40 years. Right now, we're helping a community of 250,000 students achieve their personal and professional goals.

We've taken distance learning to a whole new level with our uniquely flexible approach that fits around you. You'll get a world of support from your tutor and our vibrant student community, so you're never on your own. Innovative learning materials such as downloads, DVDs and podcasts bring learning to life in a compelling way, allowing you to study when and where you like – at home, at work or on the move.

If money's a concern, we'll help you find a way to pay. In 2009/2010 we helped around 42,000 students with the costs of their studies, and we can provide flexible payment options too.

So how about it? You've already proved you can study successfully at higher education level – why not take this further and discover for yourself what Britain's favourite university* can offer you!

* **For the fifth year running** The Open University has been ranked amongst the top three UK universities for student satisfaction according to the National Student Survey 2010.

Will my foundation degree count towards an honours degree?

You may be eligible for credit transfer for any formally assessed and successfully completed higher education study you have done for your foundation degree. You'll find more information about qualifications that can count on our credit transfer website at www.open.ac.uk/credit-transfer. For information on individual cases contact our Credit, Qualifications and Ceremonies Centre (contact details are on the back page of this leaflet).

How much work will I need to do?

Foundation degrees can vary in the amount and level of study depending on what and where you studied. Typically, to get an Open degree with honours, you will need to study an extra 120 credits at OU third level (FHEQ Level 6, the normal level of the final, third year of a full-time honours degree programme) in order to top up your foundation degree to an OU honours degree. This usually means studying at least two modules.

Which modules can I study?

An Open degree enables you to choose the modules you study, but we recommend you choose modules in subjects closely linked to your original foundation degree – bear in mind that academic work at this level will assume a substantial amount of relevant prior knowledge.

The OU offers a wide range of third level modules which may be appropriate for you if you want to top up from a foundation degree to a BA or BSc Open degree with honours. If you are thinking of topping up to one of our other degrees you will need to check the specific requirements for that degree before selecting your modules. You'll find a complete list of all our third level modules on our website at www.open.ac.uk/study/level3. (Modules with 'XR' in the code are residential school modules that also contain some preparatory work and assignments.)

We strongly advise you to choose a module within a subject area where you already have appropriate academic experience through previous study. Read the description of your chosen module carefully at www.open.ac.uk/study to ensure that you are sufficiently prepared for it and call our Student Registration & Enquiry Service for advice if you have any doubts about the suitability of a module.

The OU currently offers modules in the following subject areas:

- ▶ Arts and humanities
- ▶ Business and management
- ▶ Childhood and youth
- ▶ Computing and ICT
- ▶ Education
- ▶ Engineering and technology
- ▶ Environment, development and international studies
- ▶ Health and social care
- ▶ Languages
- ▶ Law
- ▶ Mathematics and statistics
- ▶ Psychology
- ▶ Science
- ▶ Social science

Contact us:

- ▶ For information about how your foundation degree or other qualifications can count towards an OU honours degree, contact the Credit, Qualifications and Ceremonies Centre:
 - **01908 653077**
 - **www.open.ac.uk/credit-transfer**
 - **email** credit-transfer@open.ac.uk
- ▶ To discuss studying with the OU, or preparing for study, contact our Student Registration & Enquiry Service:
 - **0845 300 60 90**
 - **email** general-enquiries@open.ac.uk
- ▶ For more details about our Level 3 (FHEQ Level 6) modules:
 - **www.open.ac.uk/study**
 - or the Student Registration & Enquiry Service* above.
- ▶ The OU validates foundation degrees for a number of institutions. For more details contact OU Validation Services:
 - **01908 332840**
 - **www.open.ac.uk/validate**
 - **email** ouvs-recep@open.ac.uk

* The lines to our Student Registration & Enquiry Service are open (UK time): Monday to Friday 08:00 to 20:00, Saturday 09:00 to 17:00. Calls to this line are charged at the UK local rate when calling from a UK landline.

While we have done everything possible to make sure the information in this publication is accurate, it may change due to regulations or policy, or because of financial or other reasons.