MASTER OF ARTS IN ONLINE AND DISTANCE EDUCATION

This is a credit-based qualification.
These regulations should not be read in isolation. It is important that you read them in conjunction with the Academic Regulations (Taught Courses).

MA–ODE 1 DEGREE NAME

MA–ODE 1.1 The University offers the Master of Arts in Online and Distance Education, referred to as the MA in Online and Distance Education. Prior to the end of 2004, this degree was approved with the title Master of Arts in Open and Distance Education. Holders of this qualification are permitted to use the letters MA (ODE) (Open) after their names.

MA–ODE 1.2 If you obtain a distinction grade for at least 120 credits from the compulsory and/or core option modules required for the degree, you will be awarded the degree with distinction.

MA–ODE 1.3 Approval has been given for this qualification to be withdrawn. The final date on which it will be awarded is 31 December 2021.

MA–ODE 2 REGISTRATION

MA–ODE 2.1 To register as a student, you must adhere to registration regulations in the Academic Regulations (Taught Courses) and show evidence of suitable preparation for postgraduate study. The minimum entry requirement is a bachelor’s degree conferred by a UK university or other recognised degree-awarding body, or an equivalent qualification.

MA–ODE 2.2 To be awarded the degree, you must declare it as an intended qualification and ensure that your credit is linked towards it.

MA–ODE 3 CREDIT REQUIREMENT

MA–ODE 3.1 If you qualified for the degree on or before 31 December 2011, the University would have awarded you the MA in Online and Distance Education if you had a minimum of 180 credits from approved modules, provided that:

(a) at least 120 credits were from specified core option modules, and
(b) no more than 60 credits were from other Open University postgraduate-level modules.

MA–ODE 3.2 If you qualified for the degree after 31 December 2011 and before 31 December 2014, the University would have awarded you the MA in Online and Distance Education if you had a minimum of 180 credits from approved modules, provided that either:

(a) 60 credits were from the compulsory module, and
(b) at least 60 credits were from the specified core option modules, and
(c) no more than 60 credits were from other Open University postgraduate-level modules.

Or
(d) 60 credits were from the compulsory module, and
(e) 60 credits were from the specified core option modules, and

(f) 60 credits were from the specified option modules

MA–ODE 3.3 If you qualify for the degree after 31 December 2014, the University will award you the MA in Online and Distance Education if you have a minimum of 180 credits from approved modules, provided that:

(a) 60 credits are from the compulsory module, and

(b) 60 credits are from the specified core option modules, and

(c) 60 credits are from the specified option modules

MA–ODE 3.4 The Senate may permit you to qualify for the degree if you have at least 180 credits, of which not less than 120 are from successfully completed specified modules and no more than 60 are transferred credit.

MA–ODE 3.5 The credit for this award must include from Open University modules a minimum amount of credit that meets the University’s unique study regulations, that minimum amount is 60 credits.

MA–ODE 4 CREDIT TRANSFER

MA–ODE 4.1 The credit transfer scheme for the MA in Online and Distance Education is governed by the Academic Regulations (Taught Courses).

MA–ODE 4.2 If your claim for credit transfer was received by the University on or before 8 April 2009 and you qualified for the degree on or before 31 December 2014:

(a) any award of credit transfer will have taken the form of general credit exemption against the specified core option modules

(b) no award of credit transfer was permitted against the other Open University postgraduate-level modules.

MA–ODE 4.3 If your claim for credit transfer was received by the University after 8 April 2009 and you qualified for the degree on or before 31 December 2014:

(a) any award of credit transfer will have taken the form of general credit exemption against the other Open University postgraduate-level modules

(b) no award of credit transfer was permitted against the specified core option modules

(c) no award of credit transfer was permitted against the compulsory module.

MA–ODE 4.4 If your claim for credit transfer was received by the University after 8 April 2009 and you qualify for the degree after 31 December 2014:

(a) any award of credit transfer will take the form of general credit exemption against the specified option modules

(b) no award of credit transfer is permitted against the specified core option modules or the compulsory module.

MA–ODE 4.5 If you commence study for the first time for this qualification in October 2012 or later, the study considered for an award of transferred credit must have been completed within the 16 years prior to the University receiving your complete application for credit transfer towards this MA degree.
MA–ODE 4.6 The maximum award of transferred credit allowed towards the MA degree is 60 credits.

MA–ODE 5 PROGRESS TOWARDS THE DEGREE

MA–ODE 5.1 In order to actively continue your studies, you must satisfy the assignment and examination requirements and make satisfactory progress as specified. If you fail to satisfy the assignment and examination requirements for the module for which you are registered or fail to make satisfactory progress, you will cease to be registered for the qualification and will have no more right to continue your studies than a new applicant.

MA–ODE 5.2 You may accumulate the credit required for the qualification over any number of years, not necessarily consecutive.

MA–ODE 5.2.1 Permission to retake a module or to continue to be registered after withdrawing from a module or after failing to register for any module in a particular year must be obtained from the Faculty Teaching Committee.