MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SCIENCE

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).

MSc–Sci 1 DEGREE NAME

MSc–Sci 1.1 The University offers the Master of Science in Science, referred to as the MSc in Science. Holders of the qualification are permitted to use the letters MSc (Science) (Open) after their names.

MSc-Sci 1.2 The University previously offered the Master of Science under different structures. Regulations for these previous versions are held on a separate document and may be requested from the Academic Policy and Governance office.

MSc–Sci 1.3 The degree can be awarded with pass, merit or distinction.

MSc–Sci 1.4 If you qualify for the degree and obtain at least a merit grade in at least 120 of the postgraduate credits required for the degree, you will be eligible for the degree with merit. The undergraduate science modules in MSc-Sci 3.1 a) i) cannot be used in classification.

MSc–Sci 1.5 If you qualify for the degree and obtain a distinction grade in at least 120 of the postgraduate credits required for the degree, you will be eligible for the degree with distinction. The undergraduate science modules in MSc-Sci 3.1 a) i) cannot be used in classification.

MSc–Sci 1.6 Approval has been given for this qualification to be withdrawn. The final date on which it will be awarded is 31 December 2022.

MSc–Sci 2 REGISTRATION

MSc–Sci 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 an honours degree conferred by a UK university or other recognised degree-awarding body in a science or science-related subject.

MSc–Sci 2.2 If you do not satisfy regulation MSc–Sci 2.1 but can satisfy the Senate that your qualifications or other evidence of competence are an adequate preparation for the programme of study, your application may, in certain circumstances, be considered.

MSc–Sci 2.3 To be awarded the degree, you must declare it as an intended qualification and ensure that your credit is linked to it.
MSc–Sci 3  CREDIT REQUIREMENT

MSc–Sci 3.1  To be awarded the degree you must obtain a minimum of 180 credits by successfully completing:

(a)  At least 120 credits drawn from the following:

i) up to 30 credits from a specified list of undergraduate science modules

ii) a minimum of 60 credits and a maximum of 120 credits from a specified list of postgraduate core science modules

iii) up to 60 credits from a specified list of postgraduate option modules

and

(b)  60 credits from the postgraduate compulsory project module.

MSc–Sci 3.2  In order to be eligible for the award of the degree, at least 150 credits must be obtained from postgraduate modules (of which at least 60 credits must be from the postgraduate core science modules, and 60 credits from the postgraduate compulsory project module).

MSc–Sci 3.3  The Senate may permit you to qualify for the degree if you satisfy the other requirements of the regulations, and you have 180 credits, of which not less than 90 are from MSc in Science modules and not more than 90 are transferred credit.

MSc–Sci 3.4  If you are able to claim transferred credit and count a module towards the MSc as specified in MSc–Sci 3.1 a) i), or the postgraduate core science modules in MSc–Sci 3.1 a) ii) . No credit transfer is permitted against the postgraduate option modules in MSc–Sci 3.1 (a) iii) or the postgraduate compulsory project module in MSc–Sci 3.1 (b).

MSc–Sci 3.5  The credit for this qualification 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.

MSc–Sci 4  CREDIT TRANSFER

MSc–Sci 4.1  The credit transfer scheme for the MSc in Science is governed by the Academic Regulations (Taught Courses) and regulation MSc–Sci 3.3.

MSc–Sci 4.2  Any award of transferred credit must take the form of general credit exemption and/or module exemption against the undergraduate science modules in MSc-Sci 3.1 a) i), or the postgraduate core science modules in MSc-Sci 3.1 a) ii) . No credit transfer is permitted against the postgraduate option modules in MSc-Sci 3.1 (a) iii) or the postgraduate compulsory project module in MSc-Sci 3.1 (b).

MSc–Sci 4.3  The maximum award of transferred credit allowed towards the MSc degree is 90 credits: half the credit requirement of the degree.

MSc–Sci 5  PROGRESS TOWARDS THE DEGREE

MSc–Sci 5.1  In order to actively continue your studies, you must satisfy the assessment requirements and make satisfactory progress as specified for the qualification. If you fail to satisfy the assessment requirements for the qualification for which you are registered or 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.

MSc–Sci 5.2  You are expected to complete the programme within seven years. Any exceptions to this must be approved by the Faculty Teaching Committee.

MSc–Sci 5.3  The postgraduate compulsory project module may only be taken after completing a minimum of 120 credits of required study from MSc–Sci 3.1(a).
MSc–Sci 5.4 The postgraduate compulsory project module must be related to the study taken within the postgraduate core science modules.