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–ES 1 DEGREE NAME**

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

**MSc–ES 1.2** The degree is offered with distinction or with merit.

**MSc–ES 1.2.1** If you obtain a distinction grade in at least 120 credits from the postgraduate-level modules specified for the degree, you will be eligible for the award of the degree with distinction.

**MSc–ES 1.2.2** If you obtain at least a merit grade in at least 120 credits from the postgraduate-level modules specified for the degree, you will be eligible for the award of the degree with merit.

**MSc–ES 2 REGISTRATION**

**MSc–ES 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) an honours degree in science, conferred by a UK university or other recognised degree-awarding body

or

(b) other study or experience approved by the MSc Science Admission Panel.

**MSc–ES 2.2** To be awarded the degree, you must declare it as an intended qualification and ensure that your credit is linked to it.

**MSc–ES 3 CREDIT REQUIREMENT**

**MSc–ES 3.1** To qualify for the degree, you must obtain 180 credits by the successful completion of:

(a) 30 credits from a specified compulsory postgraduate level module

(b) 120 credits from other compulsory postgraduate level modules

and

(c) 30 credits from the core option modules at OU (undergraduate) third level.

**MSc–ES 3.2** 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 120 are taken from MSc in Earth Science modules and not more than 60 are transferred credits.

**MSc–ES 3.3** 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–ES 4 CREDIT TRANSFER

MSc–ES 4.1 The credit transfer scheme for the MSc in Earth Science is governed by the Academic Regulations (Taught Courses).

MSc–ES 4.2 Any award of transferred credit against the 30-credit compulsory postgraduate level module specified in regulation MSc–ES 3.1 (a) must take the form of module exemption.

MSc–ES 4.3 Any award of transferred credit against the 30 credits of core option modules will take the form of general credit exemption.

MSc–ES 4.4 No award of credit transfer is permitted against the postgraduate-level compulsory modules specified in MSc–ES 3.1 (b).

MSc–ES 4.5 The maximum award of transferred credit allowed towards the MSc is 60 credits.

MSc–ES 5 PROGRESS TOWARDS THE DEGREE

MSc–ES 5.1 The credit from modules or any credit transfer permitted towards the MSc in Earth Science must be obtained during a period not exceeding ten years. Modules do not need to be studied consecutively.

MSc–ES 5.2 Credit from particular modules may cease to be countable towards the MSc in Earth Science at a specified point in time after their final presentation.