



Your 2025/2026

Design, Engineering and Technology Prospectus



**The Open
University**

**The future is
open**



The future is open

There's no limit to what you can achieve with The Open University. Unlock a world of possibilities – wherever you are and wherever you want to go.

- Gain a globally recognised, high-quality university education.
- Develop the skills and confidence employers are looking for.
- Get a step closer to your dream career.
- Explore your passion and what you're capable of.
- Start the next chapter in your learning journey.

Over two million people have already transformed their futures with us. Now it's your turn.



Welcome to the home of distance and online learning

Achieve a career-boosting qualification with the experts in bringing university to you. For over 50 years, we've pioneered a more flexible way to learn and are a world leader in high-quality distance education.

Studying with the OU means you have the freedom to achieve a respected university qualification on your terms. You can learn whenever suits you, fitting study around your job, family, and social life. Plus, you'll get expert support from a dedicated tutor at every step, free careers advice, and be part of the UK's biggest student community.

When it comes to course quality, you'll be learning from the best. Named 'University of the Year for Teaching Excellence 2025' (Daily Mail University Guide), we're proud to be globally recognised for our teaching and part of an elite group of universities to achieve overall Gold in the Teaching Excellence Framework. So whatever your goals, we're here to help you make them a reality.

Reasons to choose the OU

- Tried and trusted – join the largest UK university for undergraduate education.
- Boost your career – 87% of our alumni say studying with us helped them achieve their career goals.
- Reach your potential – we produce more CEOs and managing directors than any other UK university.
- Invest in your future – we're rated as one of the top three universities for employability and can support you with careers guidance, networking and more.
- Learn and earn – 69% of our students are already in work, balancing their careers with their studies.
- Gain a qualification employers respect – 72% of FTSE 100 companies have sponsored their staff to study with us.
- Be inspired – our amazing academics power the latest co-productions with the BBC – including *The Secret Genius of Modern Life* and Sir David Attenborough's iconic nature series *Planet Earth*.

Rated **Gold** in the
Teaching Excellence
Framework



University of the
Year 2025 for
Teaching Excellence



Top 3 in the UK
for employability



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University that works for you

Our courses are designed to flex around your life, so you can study in a way that suits you best. It's just one of the reasons why we're the most popular university for undergraduate students in the UK.

Learn on your terms

OU study is truly flexible. You can access your course materials 24/7 and study anytime, anywhere you like.

You'll also have the support of a dedicated tutor, plus our student support and careers teams are ready to guide you as soon as you start studying.

- Decide when and where you learn.
- Fit study around the rest of your life.
- Fund your studies in a way that suits you.
- Keep on earning while you learn.

Learn from the best

You'll have access to top-quality course materials and be taught by our network of more than 4,500 expert tutors, who are subject specialists. Many combine their teaching work with academic or industry roles, which means you'll receive teaching that's innovative and inspired by the latest insights.

Spark your imagination

See your favourite subjects brought to life with the latest in learning innovation. From textbooks to virtual learning environments, from home experiments to award-winning state-of-the-art remote labs, you'll study using a variety of digital and physical resources. So however you learn best, we'll keep you inspired.

Additional study support




Did you know we support more disabled students than any other UK university? We'll provide access to tools and guidance, and ensure you get the appropriate level of support to make the best of your studies.

Connect with like-minded students

There are lots of ways to connect with our active student community, including online discussion groups and tutorials. You can also connect with us on social media or join one of the many informal social media groups set up by OU students.

When you register, you'll become a member of our Students Association. It's a great way to meet other students, take part in societies and help influence University decisions. See how to get involved at oustudents.com.

Get social with us

-  @OUstudents
-  @OUstudents
-  @OUstudentslive



OU study has changed me as a person. It's made me realise that you can actually do anything you want to.



Misty Crew
OU graduate

How do we compare with other universities?

An OU qualification is just as rigorous and respected as one from a campus-based university and is highly valued by employers. What's different is that the OU gives you the flexibility to study around your job or other commitments.

Bringing university to you, wherever you are

We've continuously developed our teaching methods for over 50 years so that you can fit a high-quality university education around your busy life.

We're dedicated to giving you the very best experience and are proud to be recognised for our teaching – we're the *Daily Mail* University of the Year for Teaching Excellence and were awarded overall Gold in the Teaching Excellence Framework.

We're respected by employers

An OU qualification is globally recognised and will give you the skills and confidence employers look for. Research shows that employers rate OU students as being work-ready, adaptable and self-starters – qualities that can help your CV to stand out from the crowd.

You can study around work and put what you learn into practice immediately, helping you to boost your career prospects long before you graduate. Plus, we'll help you to plan ahead with free careers advice, resources and networking opportunities as soon as you become an OU student.



We're open to all

We believe that with the right support, preparation and guidance, many people are capable of succeeding in higher education. That's why there are no formal entry requirements for most of our undergraduate courses.

Looking for postgraduate study? Find out the entry requirements at openuniversity.co.uk/pg-ready.

We're a thriving community

You'll be part of one of the most diverse, dynamic and inclusive student communities. Whatever your goals, we're here to help and champion you to fulfil your ambition.

More than 195,000 students study with us each year. Come and join them.

Get to know us

Find out what you can expect as an OU student.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/learning



Qualifications to suit you

With over 200 courses to choose from, whatever your goal, it's possible with The Open University. You can study towards a degree or start with a certificate or diploma and build on your studies as you go.

Undergraduate

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 skill set in a specialised area.

Foundation degree

Focus on a subject related to what you're doing now, in either paid or voluntary work.

Named degree

Complete modules in a specific subject to earn an honours degree and open doors to a new career or interest.

Open degree

Design your own honours degree and include modules from different subject areas to suit your needs and interests.

Integrated masters degree

An integrated masters is an undergraduate degree that combines undergraduate and postgraduate study, giving you a deeper understanding of your subject.

Postgraduate

Postgraduate certificate

Ideal for professional and career development, this is the first step towards a masters degree as well as being a valuable qualification in its own right.

Postgraduate diploma

Work towards a widely recognised qualification equivalent to two-thirds of a masters degree.

Masters degree

Study modules towards an internationally respected qualification while gaining specialist academic, professional, or technical skills.

Discover your ideal course

Find the course to match your ambition.



Visit
openuniversity.
co.uk/course-
types

Achieve your goals with us

We've been helping people like you realise their potential since 1969. Meet some of the incredible OU students and graduates who have used their studies to transform their futures.

There's lots of pressure to follow the same path as everyone else, but it's not the only way. The OU has helped me to achieve my career goals and given me the freedom to make my own decisions.

Eileanoir Blair
OU graduate



As a working mum, I knew that physically attending university wasn't possible – the OU is the perfect solution. I can get on with my life while I complete my studies.

Chido Manyande
OU student



I left school with few qualifications and, thanks to the OU, I'm on course to be a lawyer with a job offer from one of the best law firms in the world!

Thomas Barry
OU student



My career progression has been amazing – OU study equipped me for a successful career; I'd recommend it to anyone. If a CV came across my desk from someone with an OU degree, it would stand out straight away.

James Bransgrove
OU graduate



Chat with OU students

Find out more about the OU study experience by talking to some of our current students.



Visit
openuniversity.
co.uk/ask-a-
student



Welcome to Design, Engineering and Technology

We positively impact individuals, organisations, and communities that design, develop, build, and manage complex systems involving technologies of all kinds. Our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) faculty teaches over 40,000 students on around 180 modules. You could join them, benefitting from our broad, multidisciplinary approach to teaching and research.

By studying Design, Engineering or Technology with us, you could:

- ▶ **gain design thinking and practical skills, engineering skills and technical expertise, including hands-on practical and project experiences**
- ▶ **remotely operate research-grade equipment, gather and analyse your own data**
- ▶ **work individually and with others to develop creative responses to societal challenges**
- ▶ **acquire the knowledge and professional skills to work in STEM-focused careers and beyond, bringing problem-reframing perspectives to other sectors.**

Undergraduate

At undergraduate level, our subjects include:

- Design
- Engineering.

Student loans for degree holders

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

You can apply for a second loan if you live in England or Wales and want to re-skill or upskill in a STEM subject, such as Design or Engineering.

For more information and a list of eligible qualifications, go to openuniversity.co.uk/quals.

Postgraduate

At postgraduate level, our subjects include:

- Engineering
- Technology Management
- Systems Thinking.



Studying with the OU feels like an open chapter. It gives you a lot of confidence and improves your self-esteem. Not having a degree was always in the back of my mind. Designing is the dream – my degree will make it a reality.



Mica Fiedler
BA (Hons) Design and Innovation student

OpenSTEM Labs

Many of our courses use our state-of-the-art multi-award-winning OpenSTEM Labs – most recently gaining a prestigious Queen's Anniversary Award in 2023. The online laboratories include an array of remote and virtual experiments – from virtual microscopes and remote access wind tunnels on our Milton Keynes campus to optical telescopes on Tenerife. So you can get practical from almost anywhere at any time.

To find out more, visit openuniversity.co.uk/openstem-lab.

Professional accreditation

Our general engineering degrees are accredited by:

- Institution of Engineering Designers (IED)
- Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)
- Institute of Materials, Minerals & Mining (IOM3)
- Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE).



Boost your career prospects

Advances in new technologies, such as renewable energy, sustainability and nanotechnology have led to a growing demand for Design, Engineering and Technology graduates equipped with problem-solving and collaboration skills.

The scope of career options with the skills you will build with these qualifications is extensive. Graduates of our Design, Engineering and Technology courses find employment across various industries, such as food, materials, construction, transport and medical.

Robotics, AI development and digital applications are other areas where the skills and approaches gained from an OU Design, Engineering or Technology qualification are highly valued.

Award-winning teaching, world-leading research

The Open University has one of the UK's top materials engineering research centres, which has helped improve the economy, public safety, and society. You'll benefit from the most relevant and up-to-date teaching materials created by the academics responsible for this groundbreaking research.

To find out more about our research, go to openuniversity.co.uk/ourresearch.

Committed to equality

Our School of Engineering and Innovation's Athena Swan Bronze award recognises its gender equity efforts. AdvanceHE's Athena Swan Charter framework supports and transforms gender equality within higher education and research.

Additionally, the School works closely with the Women's Engineering Society (WES) as an Education Partner.



You're on your way

Take the next step by reading more about how you'll study, how long it takes and the support you'll receive.



Building your qualification

Undergraduate

You don't need to commit to a full degree. We offer certificates, diplomas and foundation degrees too. Each qualification is valuable in its own right, so you can complete a certificate and stop there or use it as a stepping stone to a diploma or degree.

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

Stages

You'll need to complete:

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

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

Credits

- You'll need at least 120 credits to complete each stage.
- You gain credits by passing modules.

Modules

- 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.

Access module¹

An optional module to build your confidence and prepare you for further study.

Stage 1

To complete Stage 1, you'll need 120 credits, studying modules worth 30 or 60 credits.

120 credits

Certificate of higher education

Stage 2

To complete Stage 2, you'll need a further 120 credits, studying modules worth 30 or 60 credits.

240 credits

**Diploma of higher education or
Foundation degree**

Stage 3

To complete Stage 3, you'll need a further 120 credits, studying modules worth 30 or 60 credits.

360 credits

Honours degree

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

Our integrated masters degrees have four stages. See page 30 for further details.

How does it work?

Watch our quick guide on how credits work and how you can build your undergraduate qualification.



Visit
openuniversity.
co.uk/ug-qual

Postgraduate

Postgraduate qualifications are made up of credits.

You'll need:

- 60 credits to gain a postgraduate certificate
- 120 credits to gain a postgraduate diploma
- 180 credits to gain a masters degree.

You build up credits by passing modules. These are either compulsory or chosen from a range of options.

Getting started

All you need to do is choose your qualification and register for a module that counts towards that qualification.

60 credits
at postgraduate level.

Postgraduate certificate

A further 60 credits at postgraduate level,
totalling **120 credits**.

Postgraduate diploma

A further 60 credits at postgraduate level,
totalling **180 credits**.

Masters degree



Learn more

Find out more about
postgraduate study at
the OU.



Visit
openuniversity.
co.uk/pg-qual

Prepare for study with an Access module

No matter your background or study experience, we're here to help you succeed. That's why we offer a choice of starting points depending on how confident you are in your study skills.

You can dive straight into a qualification or if you want to try out university study or feel you need to learn how to get back into studying again, 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.

Not sure where to begin? Find the best starting point for you by visiting **openuniversity.co.uk/ready**.

Access modules are only available to residents of the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and Ireland.

How Access modules work

Each week you'll work through a mix of online and printed module materials, including online quizzes and written assignments. At the end, you'll demonstrate your learning by completing a final written assignment. There's no exam.

You'll have a dedicated tutor who'll provide academic support via email and one-to-one phone tutorials. Your Student Support Team will be on hand to help with everything else, from study advice to guidance on fees and funding.

Access modules start in February and October and typically require around nine or ten hours of study per week over 30 weeks. In February and May, we also offer a fast-track option which allows you to complete your module in 18 weeks by increasing your weekly study time.

What you need

You'll need a phone and a computer with internet access. You'll get access to your module website, and your books and other printed materials will be posted to you.

Visit our website for more information on what you'll need for your chosen course.

What you can study

Each Access module explores key topics and develops the skills you'll need as you continue your chosen qualification.

Science, technology and maths Access module (Y033)

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

Also available as *Science, technology and maths Access module: fast track* (YXFT033).

We offer three other Access modules, which are more relevant to other subject areas:

- *Arts and languages Access module* (Y031) – also available as *Arts and languages Access module: fast track* (YXFT031)
- *Business and law Access module* (Y035) – also available as *Business and law Access module: fast track* (YXFT035) from February 2026
- *Psychology, social science and wellbeing Access module* (Y034) – also available as *Psychology, social science and wellbeing Access module: fast track* (YXFT034).



You could study for free

Depending on eligibility and availability of places, you could study your Access module for free.

To qualify, you must:

- be resident in the UK (excludes Channel Islands and Isle of Man) or have a British Forces Post Office address and
- meet the income threshold criteria, for more information visit openuniversity.co.uk/ug-access, and
- have not completed one year or more on any full-time undergraduate programme at FHEQ or CQFW level 4/ SCQF level 7 or above, and not completed 30 credits or more of OU study.

Once you've started the registration process, we'll contact you about your payment options. This will include instructions on applying to study for free if you are eligible and funded places are still available.

How much does an Access module cost?

The cost depends on where you are resident. If you live in:

- England, it's £973
- the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, it's £1,023
- Ireland, it's £917
- Northern Ireland, it's £310
- Scotland, it's £318
- Wales, it's £328.

You can pay upfront by debit or credit card or by bank transfer. You can also spread the cost with an Open University Student Budget Account – there's more about this on page 21.

If you're studying an Access module as part of an OU qualification and you live in England, Wales or Northern Ireland, you could cover the cost with a student loan – for more information, see pages 18–19.



If you haven't studied before, do an Access module. It gives you a chance to get a view of the subjects, and it will certainly help going forward.



Steven Sutherland
OU student



Students who start with an Access module are more likely to be successful when they advance to their next course.

Learn more about Access modules



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/ug-access

How long your qualification will take

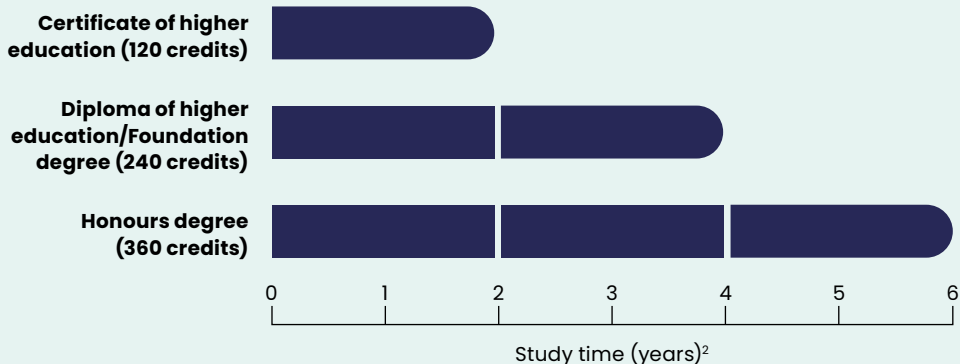
We give you the flexibility to choose the amount of study you want to take on each year. That means you can get the qualification you want in a timeframe that works for you.

Undergraduate qualifications

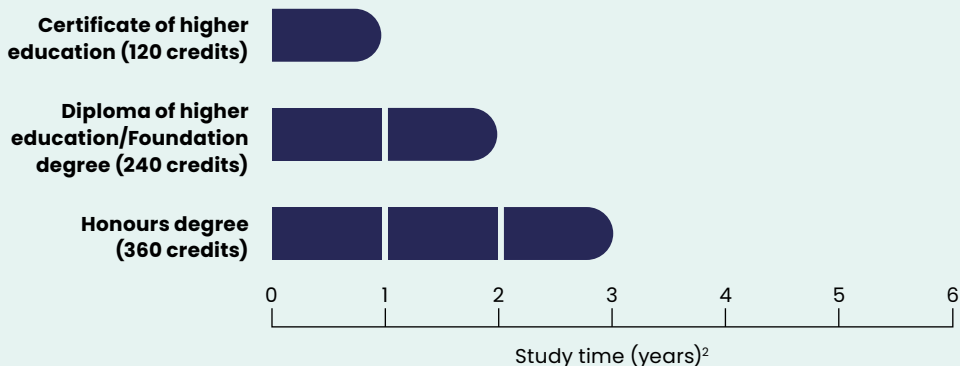
How long it will take to gain your qualification depends on the course you've chosen and the amount of credits you study each year. Studying 60 credits a year is half the rate of a full-time course at a campus-based university. To complete your studies at a pace equivalent to full-time, you'll need to gain 120 credits per year.

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

Part-time study | 60 credits a year | 16–18 study hours a week



Full-time study³ | 120 credits a year | 32–36 study hours a week



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 include the time we need to release your module result(s) or award your qualification.

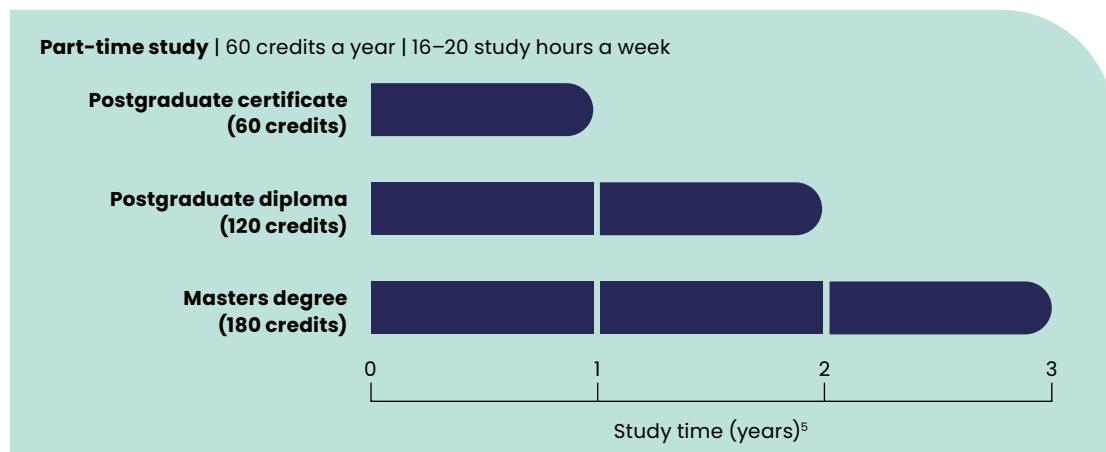
³ All OU students are considered part-time students. This remains the same even if you study at a pace that's equivalent to full-time.

Postgraduate qualifications

The time it takes to get your qualification depends on how it's structured and the number of credits required. All of our postgraduate courses are offered as part-time study, and the typical timescales for individual module completion are shown below.

- 15–30 credit module – five months.
- 60 credit module – nine months.

The guide below gives you an idea of how long your qualification could take.⁴



⁴ Some qualifications follow a different pattern of study. See individual descriptions on our website for more information.

⁵ Study time is the period between starting your first module and completing your last module. It doesn't include the time we need to release your module result(s) or award your qualification.

Have you studied before?

If you've studied at university level before, you could count this study towards an OU qualification. This could save you time and money by reducing the modules you need to study.

Visit openuniversity.co.uk/credit-transfer to find out more.

Plan your time

Find out more about the time you need to study.



Visit
**openuniversity.
co.uk/time**



Supporting you to succeed

You're never alone when you're studying with The Open University. You'll be part of our global community of students, expert tutors and advisers, all ready to help you get the most out of your journey.

For each module, you'll have a dedicated tutor who'll be your first point of contact for any queries. They'll lead regular tutorials, mark your assignments, provide detailed written feedback, and give study support through email, online, or over the phone. Expert advisers from your Student

Support Team can help with any other support needs you experience as an OU student.

Our Students Association, OU Community forums and range of societies and groups mean you're connected to one of the UK's largest student communities.

Your Students Association awaits

The Open University Students Association is a lot like a student union. It's run by students, for students, and can help you make the most of your OU experience. You'll automatically become a member and there's no fee. Here are just a few ways you can get involved:

- Find like-minded students by joining a club, society or support group.
- Meet other students online or at an in-person meet-up near you.

- Take part in our Welcome events where you'll meet other members of the OU community.
- Volunteer or become a student representative to have your say.

Your Association is led by a team of elected students and is supported by hundreds more, all dedicated to creating a wonderful community and representing all OU students.

To find out more, visit oustudents.com.



There is a community at The Open University. Everyone supports each other. One tutor that really inspired me was Michael. His words of encouragement gave me a confidence boost. My grades just kept on improving and improving.

Joe Acaye
OU student



Join our community

Find out more about how you'll be supported during your studies.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/community

How you'll learn

With regular tutorials and an online hub to manage your studies, you'll have everything you need to succeed.

Once you've registered, you'll have access to StudentHome where you'll be able to:

- see an overview of your course and the modules you're studying
- submit your assignments
- visit our Help Centre
- access your virtual learning environment
- choose and enrol on your next module.

The virtual learning environment or 'module website' contains all the online study resources you'll need, including:

- a week-by-week study planner
- an assessment section, giving details of your assignments and their due dates
- the tutorial booking system
- your online tutorial room
- module forums where you can discuss topics with other students and complete collaborative work
- PDF and accessible formats of your module materials and resources.

Our assessment methods

Depending on your course, we'll use a blend of written assignments, oral and practical assessments, projects, exams, dissertations and portfolios. For more on assessments, visit openuniversity.co.uk/assessment.

What you need

To study with us, you'll need:

- a computer with internet access. If you haven't got access to one right now, you could receive financial support to help buy one
- a basic level of digital skills, such as using a web browser or working with documents and applications. Find out more about the computing skills you'll need, visit openuniversity.co.uk/computer-skills
- a good grasp of the English language. We teach our courses in English. If you're not sure whether your English is at the right level, go to openuniversity.co.uk/englishlanguage for help and guidance.



Nearly there

Read on to discover more about how we can help you fund your studies and the qualifications you could achieve.

Undergraduate fees and funding options

How much does it cost?

You'll fund your studies on a module-by-module basis, so you won't have to pay for your whole qualification upfront.

FOR THOSE LIVING IN ENGLAND

Credits each year	Cost per year ¹
60	£3,892
120	£7,784

Based on today's prices, the total cost for a typical 360-credit honours degree is £23,352.

¹ 2025/26 prices (exceptions apply). Fees typically increase annually. In England, fees are subject to the part-time fee limit, as set out in section 5 of the University's Fee Rules (openuniversity.co.uk/fee-rules).

FOR THOSE LIVING IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Credits each year	Cost per year ²
60	£1,240
120	£2,480

Based on today's prices, the total cost for a typical 360-credit honours degree is £7,440.

² 2025/26 prices (exceptions apply). Fees typically increase annually. For further information about our fee policy, visit openuniversity.co.uk/fee-rules.

FOR THOSE LIVING IN SCOTLAND

Credits each year	Cost per year ³
60	£1,272
120	£2,544

Based on today's prices, the total cost for a typical 360-credit honours degree is £7,632.

³ 2025/26 prices (exceptions apply). Fees typically increase annually. For further information about our fee policy, visit openuniversity.co.uk/fee-rules.

FOR THOSE LIVING IN WALES

Credits each year	Cost per year ⁴
60	£1,312
120	£2,624

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

⁴ 2025/26 prices (exceptions apply). Fees typically increase annually. For further information about our fee policy, visit openuniversity.co.uk/fee-rules.

FOR THOSE LIVING IN IRELAND

Credits each year	Cost per year ⁵
60	£3,666
120	£7,332

Based on today's prices, the total cost for a typical 360-credit honours degree is £21,996.

⁵ 2025/26 prices (exceptions apply). Fees typically increase annually. For further information about our fee policy, visit openuniversity.co.uk/fee-rules.

FOR THOSE LIVING OUTSIDE THE UK AND IRELAND

Credits each year	Cost per year ⁶
60	£4,092
120	£8,184

Based on today's prices, the total cost for a typical 360-credit honours degree is £24,552.

⁶ 2025/26 prices (exceptions apply). Fees typically increase annually. For further information about our fee policy, visit openuniversity.co.uk/fee-rules.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

Our module fees include your module materials, tuition, assessment, and exams. However, there are some additional costs that aren't included.

- You'll need your own computer and internet access.

- For some modules, you may need to buy additional set books, such as fiction books or a language dictionary.
- A handful of our courses include a residential school. For these, there may be an additional cost. You'll also need to fund the cost of your travel.

Funding your studies

ENGLAND

Part-Time Tuition Fee Loan

The best way to fund your undergraduate studies, regardless of age or income, might be with a student loan. In fact, 85% of OU students in England fund their studies this way.

Key facts

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

Here's how your monthly student loan repayments could look:

Income each year before tax	Monthly repayment ⁷
Up to £25,000	£0
£27,000	£15.00
£30,000	£37.50

⁷ 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.

Already have an undergraduate degree?

You may still qualify for a student loan. You just need to be living in England or Wales and looking to study an eligible qualification.

NORTHERN IRELAND

Part-Time Tuition Fee Grant

You could be eligible for up to £1,230 a year. The money you receive isn't a loan – you won't need to pay any of it back. The amount you'll be awarded is determined by your household income and the rate at which you study.

Part-Time Tuition Fee Loan

If you're not eligible for the grant, or if it doesn't cover the full cost of your tuition fees, you can pay in full or in part using an alternative payment method, such as a Part-Time Tuition Fee Loan.

Course Grant

You may also be eligible for a non-repayable Course Grant of up to a maximum of £265 a year. It's intended to help with course-related costs, such as a computer, internet access or stationery.

SCOTLAND

Part-Time Fee Grant

You could qualify for a Part-Time Fee Grant and top-up funding to cover 100% of your course fees. You're likely to be eligible if your personal income is £25,000 or less, or you're on certain benefits, and you're studying at least 30 credits a year. The fee grant and top-up funding aren't loans, so you won't need to pay any of it back.

WALES

Part-Time Tuition Fee Loan

The best way to fund your undergraduate studies, regardless of age or income, might be with a student loan. In fact, 80% of OU students in Wales fund their studies this way.

Key facts

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

Here's how your monthly student loan repayments could look:

Income each year before tax	Monthly repayment ⁸
Up to £27,295	£0
£29,000	£12.79
£34,000	£50.29

⁸ 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.

Already have an undergraduate degree?

You may still qualify for a student loan. You just need to be living in Wales and looking to study an eligible qualification.

Maintenance grants

You could be eligible for up to £4,500 a year to help with living costs. The money you receive isn't a loan – you won't need to pay any of it back. The amount you'll be awarded is determined by your household income and the rate at which you study.

Maintenance loans

You'll also be eligible to apply for a non-means-tested maintenance loan, should you need it, to 'top-up' the financial support you've received from grants.

Self-funded study

If you're not eligible for student loan or grant funding, or you live outside the UK, we offer a range of other funding options.

OUSBA loan

Pay your fees in instalments with a loan from Open University Student Budget Accounts Ltd. See page 21 for more information.

Card payments

Pay for each module with a debit or credit card in one quick, simple payment.

Mixed payments

Combine your payment options to fund your studies the way you want.

Other support

Care Experienced Scholarship⁹

If you have been in the care of a Local Authority at any stage of your life and are 30 or under, you may be able to study a full undergraduate qualification for free.

Carers' Scholarship Fund⁹

If you are, or have recently been, an unpaid carer, you may be able to study a full undergraduate qualification for free.

Disabled Students' Allowance⁹

You could receive financial support to help with study costs associated with your disability.

Disabled Veterans' Scholarships Fund⁹

If you've been injured in, or due to, military service, you could be eligible for funding to complete a full undergraduate or postgraduate qualification.

Employer sponsorship

Your employer could partially or fully pay your module fees.

Sanctuary Scholarship⁹

If you've been displaced from your homeland for political, economic, ethnic, environmental, or human rights pressures, you could be eligible to study for free.

Scholarship for Black Students⁹

If you identify as being from a Black background, you could study a full undergraduate qualification for free.

Study-related costs⁹

If you're on a low household income or receive certain benefits, you might be eligible for additional funding for study-related costs, such as travel, internet access and stationery.

⁹ UK residents only.

Find out more

Find out more about undergraduate fees and funding.



Visit
openuniversity.
co.uk/ug-fees
Call
0300 303 5303

Postgraduate fees and funding options

How much does it cost?

You'll fund your studies on a module-by-module basis, which means you won't have to pay for your whole qualification upfront. To find the total fee for your qualification, visit our website.

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

Your module materials, tuition, assessment and exams are all included in our module fees.

There are some additional costs that aren't included.

- You'll need your own computer and internet access.
- For some modules, you may need to buy additional set books, such as fiction or theory books.
- A handful of our courses include a residential school. For these, you'll need to fund the cost of your travel.

Funding your studies

ENGLAND AND WALES

Postgraduate loan

You could be eligible for a maintenance loan of up to £12,858 from Student Finance England or up to £19,255 from Student Finance Wales.

- Loans are non-means-tested, so eligibility isn't based on your income.
- The money is paid directly to you.
- You'll get your first instalment after you've paid for your first module and started studying.
- Payments are spread across two or three years.
- Repayments only start when you earn more than the income threshold (currently, £21,000).
- You'll repay 6% of your income over £21,000. So, for example, if you earn £25,000, you'll repay only £240 that year (6% of £4,000). That's just £20 a month.
- Payments are deducted automatically from your salary.
- Any balance outstanding after 30 years is written off.

To be eligible you must:

- be resident in England or Wales
- be under 60 years old
- be studying a masters degree that can be completed in no more than three years
- not currently have a masters degree or equivalent
- be studying your qualification from the beginning.

NORTHERN IRELAND AND SCOTLAND

Postgraduate loan

You could be eligible for a tuition fee loan of up to £6,500 from Student Finance Northern Ireland or up to £7,000 from the Student Awards Agency Scotland.

- Loans are non-means-tested, so eligibility isn't based on your income.
- There's no upper age limit.
- Payments are spread over the duration of your studies.
- Repayments only start when you earn more than the income threshold (currently, £24,990 in Northern Ireland and £31,395 in Scotland).
- You'll repay 9% of your income over the threshold – so, for example, if you earn £35,000 and live in Scotland, you'll repay only £324.45 that year (9% of £3,605). That's just £27 a month.
- Payments are deducted automatically from your salary.

To be eligible, you must be:

- resident in Northern Ireland or Scotland
- studying for an eligible postgraduate qualification.

Self-funded study

If you're not eligible for loan or grant funding or you live outside the UK, we offer a range of other funding options.

OUSBA loan

Pay your fees in instalments with a loan from Open University Student Budget Accounts Ltd. See right for more information.

Card payments

Pay for each module with a debit or credit card in one quick, simple payment.

Mixed payments

Combine your payment options to fund your studies the way you want.

Other support

Disabled Students' Allowance¹

You could receive financial support to help with study costs associated with your disability.

Disabled Veterans' Scholarships Fund¹

If you've been injured in, or due to, military service, you could be eligible for funding to complete a full undergraduate or postgraduate qualification.

Employer sponsorship

Your employer could partially or fully pay for your module fees.

Grant funding

We offer access to a database of over 600 non-OU funding bodies offering grants for postgraduate students studying for or looking to study a masters, PGCE, or research degree.

Hayes Postgraduate Scholarship¹

If you're studying an Engineering or Computing masters degree, you could be eligible to complete it for free.

OU bursaries¹

If you've already completed an OU undergraduate degree, you could receive a bursary to help lower the cost of your postgraduate study.

Study related costs¹

If you're on a low household income, or receive certain benefits, you might be eligible for additional funding for study-related costs, such as travel, internet access and stationery.

¹ UK residents only.

Open University Student Budget Account (OUSBA)

Some students fund their studies through a loan from OUSBA. You'll be offered this option when you register with us, as long as you're a resident of the UK, European Union, Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, Andorra, Liechtenstein, Monaco, San Marino, or Vatican City State.

Here's how it works

OUSBA will pay your fees to The Open University. You can then choose to repay OUSBA:

- in a single sum before your course starts. There's no interest to pay with this option
- in monthly instalments of up to a year. With this option, interest does apply.

The interest rate is fixed for the duration of the course (representative APR 5.1%).

If you're worried about affordability or a poor credit history, you can apply for a joint loan application with a third party. This could be with a partner, sibling or friend, for example.

As a responsible lender, OUSBA carries out affordability checks as part of the application process.

To find out more about OUSBA, visit openuniversity.co.uk/ousba.

Find out more

Find out more about postgraduate fees and funding.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/pg-fees
Call
0300 303 5303



Find your undergraduate course

Design

Bachelor of Design (Hons) (R63)	24
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Engineering

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Open qualifications

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Bachelor of Design (Hons)

Design shapes our world. From the products and services we use to the systems that make up our society. Our design degree will nurture your creativity, develop your problem-solving and help you turn ideas into action.

You'll learn through practical projects that introduce you to the world of professional design across industries - from designing a humble T-shirt to tackling real-world problems facing our future. By the end, you'll have a respected degree, a professional portfolio and the technical and creative skills needed to launch you into your chosen career.

Why this qualification?

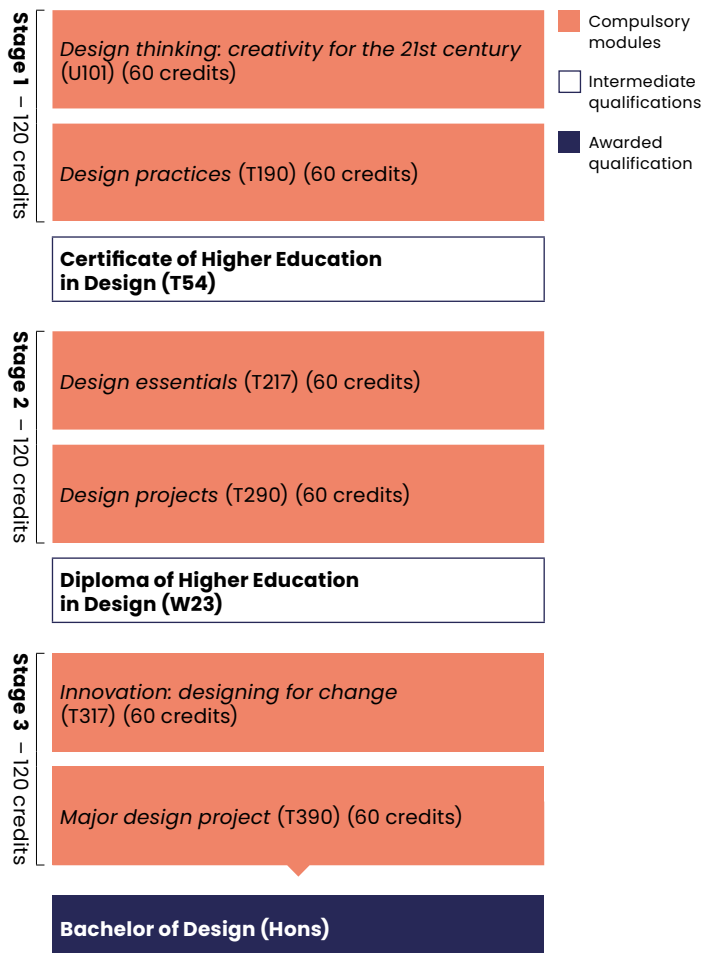
- Explore how design can be used as a catalyst for positive change for people, places and our planet.
- Build technical and creative skills needed to grow in a range of exciting careers and industries.
- Develop your own portfolio across a range of creative and design disciplines.
- Share ideas and collaborate with others through our online studio.

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Design (W23)
openuniversity.co.uk/w23

Certificate of Higher Education in Design (T54)
openuniversity.co.uk/t54

Qualification structure



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

At a glance

Course code R63

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2025

Register by 11 Sep 2025

Feb 2026

Register by 8 Jan 2026

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

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are **mostly online with some print**

Electronic versions of printed materials are available (e.g. PDF)

Online forum

Optional

Collaborative work

Compulsory

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/r63
Call
0300 303 5303



BA/BSc (Hons) Design and Innovation

This degree develops your creative thinking, problem-solving and design skills. At the same time, you'll study a complementary subject that suits your needs and interests, equipping you to generate ideas and address problems in various settings.

The design modules feature online studio spaces for sharing and networking alongside inspiring study materials and practical components. You'll follow either the BA or BSc route, depending on your interests and aspirations.

Why this qualification?

- Build a portfolio demonstrating your ability to engage creatively with design and innovation.
- Develop skills and knowledge in a second subject to complement your design learning.
- Learn about the process and application of design and innovation in diverse real-world contexts.

Routes through this qualification

There's a Bachelor of Arts (BA) route and a Bachelor of Science (BSc) route. For each, we've identified themes to help you plan your study.

BA (Bachelor of Arts)

- Culture and aesthetics
- Health and wellbeing
- Management
- Society
- Sustainability

BSc (Bachelor of Science)

- Energy
- Engineering
- Environment
- Interfaces and interaction

Related qualifications

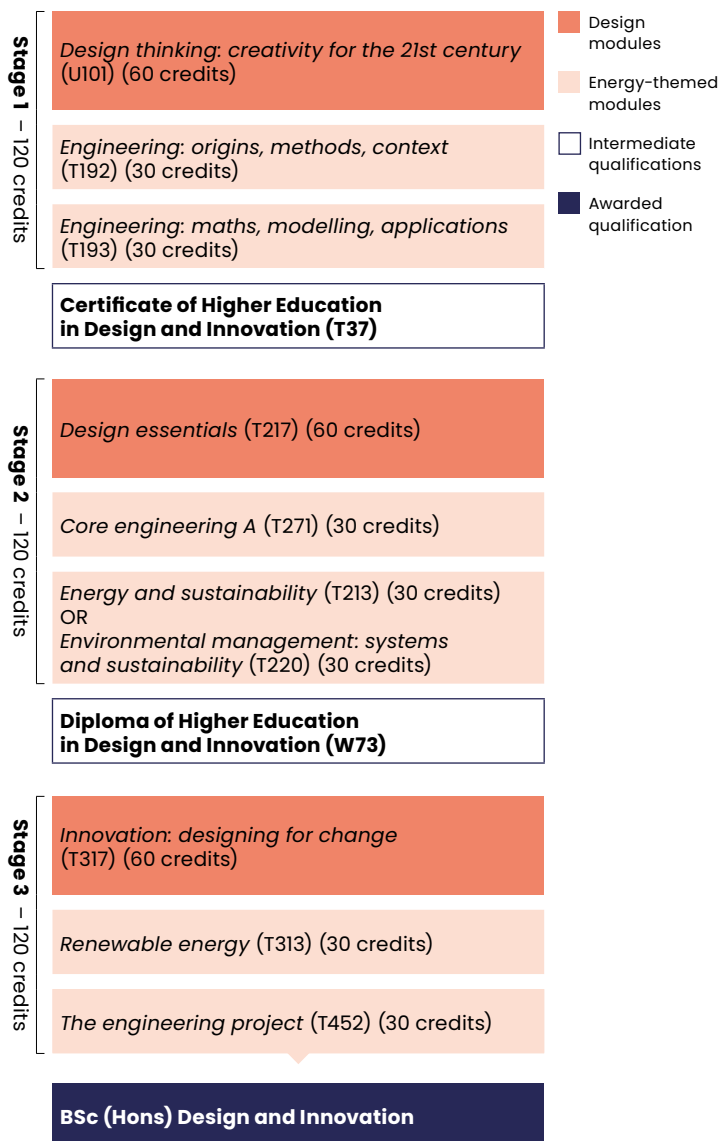
Diploma of Higher Education in Design and Innovation (W73)
openuniversity.co.uk/w73

Certificate of Higher Education in Design and Innovation (T37)
openuniversity.co.uk/t37

Qualification structure

The example below shows the **Energy theme (BSc route)**; other themes vary. Go to openuniversity.co.uk/q61 for details.

Example route



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

At a glance

Course code Q61

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2025

Register by 11 Sep 2025

Feb 2026

Register by 8 Jan 2026

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 **mostly online with some print**

Electronic versions of printed materials are available (e.g. PDF)

Online forum
Compulsory

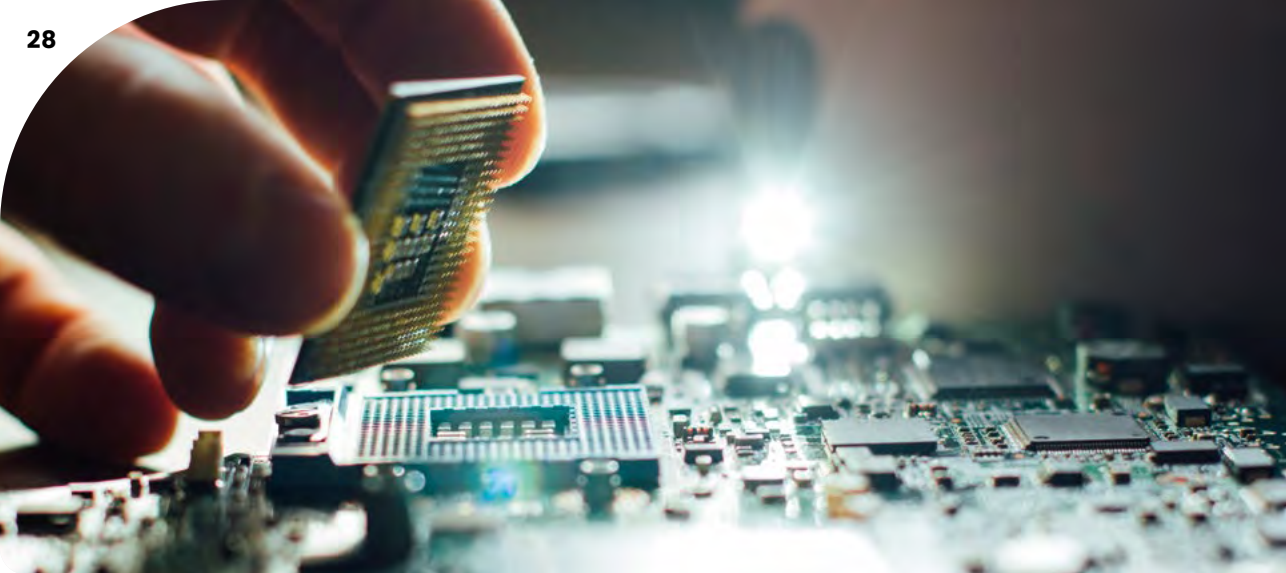
Collaborative work
Compulsory

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/q61
Call
0300 303 5303



BSc (Hons) Computing & IT and Design

This is one of several subject combinations available in our BSc (Hons) Computing & IT and a second subject. Computing & IT studied with design can open career opportunities in various sectors.

Develop creative design thinking to address computer-based technology problems, preparing you to contribute to the design of the digital applications of the future. We'll introduce user-centred design, sustainable design, and the design process, complementing the computing & IT skills and knowledge you'll develop.

Why this qualification?

- Combine complementary subjects – design and computing & IT.
- Choose from four focus options within the computing & IT strand.
- Build a portfolio of design work to show your ideas and skills.
- Use online design studios as part of your practical design work.

Accreditation

Accredited by BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT:

- meeting the academic requirement for Chartered IT Professional,
- and for the award of Euro-Inf Bachelor Quality Label on behalf of EQANIE.



Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Computing & IT and Design (W42)
openuniversity.co.uk/w42

Certificate of Higher Education in Computing & IT and Design (T13)
openuniversity.co.uk/t13

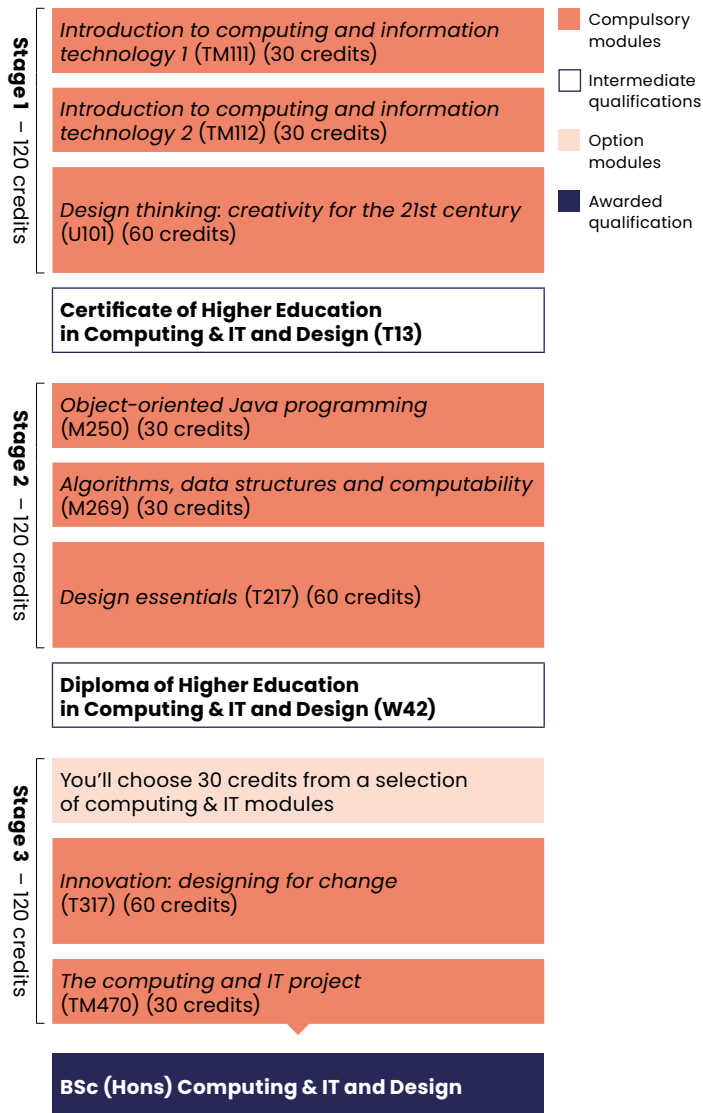
Qualification structure

You'll choose **one** computing & IT focus area from:

- **communications and networking**
- **computer science**
- **software development**
- **web development.**

The example below shows **computer science**; other routes vary.
Go to **openuniversity.co.uk/q67** for details.

Example route



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

At a glance

Course code Q67

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2025
Register by 11 Sep 2025

Feb 2026
Register by 8 Jan 2026

Apr 2026
Register by 12 Mar 2026

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 **a balance of print and online**

Electronic versions of printed materials are available (e.g. PDF)

Online forum

Compulsory

Collaborative work

Compulsory

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/q67
Call
0300 303 5303



Master of Engineering

An integrated masters is an undergraduate degree that combines undergraduate and postgraduate study. Our Master of Engineering (MEng) fulfils the educational requirements for Chartered Engineer status.

Engineering is a creative and analytical subject. You'll develop the skills, techniques, and knowledge professional engineers need and learn the underpinning science and mathematics. The course has a common core with routes to suit your interests. You'll work on real-life projects to create innovative solutions to challenging problems, teaming up with other students and working individually on projects.

Why this qualification?

- Gain the underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills for registration as a Chartered Engineer (CEng).
- Take part in individual and team-based projects, practical activities, remote access experiments and a UK-based residential school.
- Move to a different engineering qualification if your aspirations change, even after you've started.

- Choose from a broad engineering route and six specialist routes.
- Develop your employability skills, including personal and professional development planning.

Accreditation

The following professional institutions accredit this degree under licence from the UK regulator, the Engineering Council:

- Institution of Engineering Designers (IED)
- Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)
- Institute of Materials, Minerals & Mining (IOM3)
- Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE).



Are you ready?

Check you have the necessary skills at **openuniversity.co.uk/ready-for-engineering**

Related qualifications

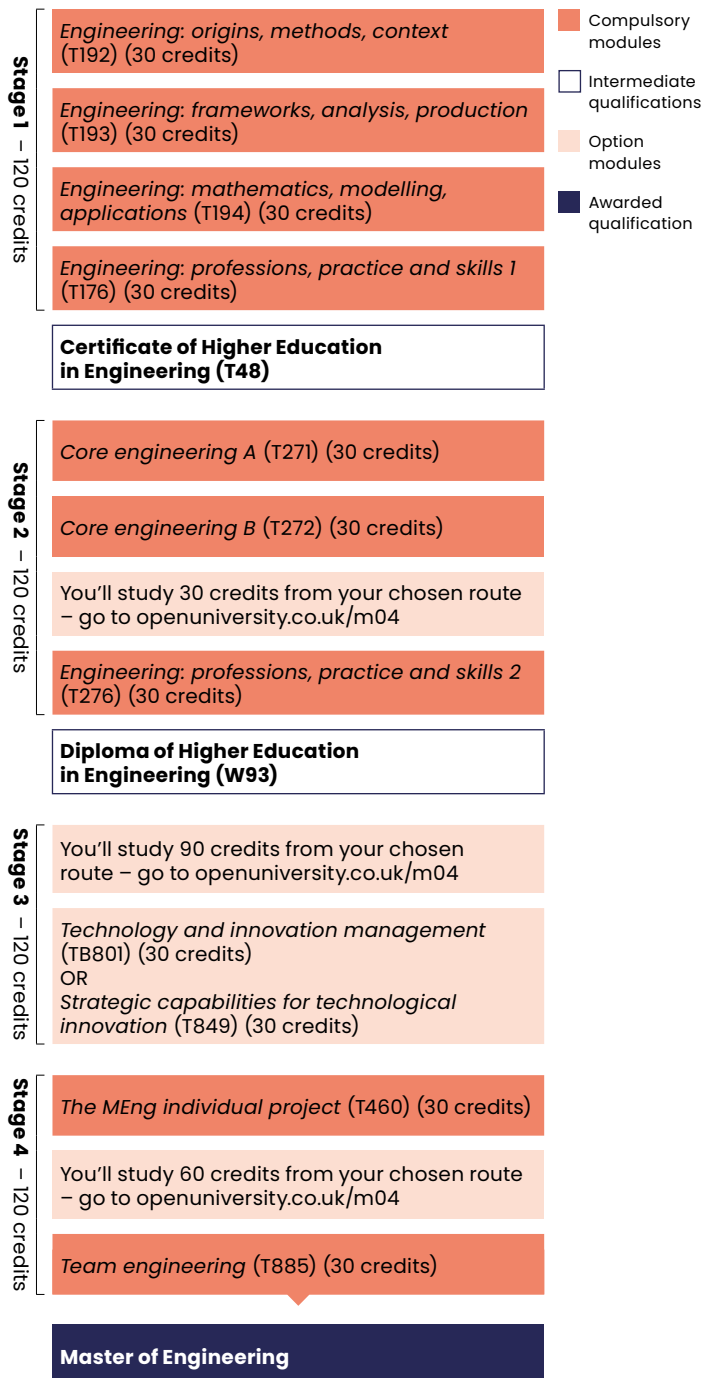
Diploma of Higher Education in Engineering (W93)
openuniversity.co.uk/w93

Certificate of Higher Education in Engineering (T48)
openuniversity.co.uk/t48

Qualification structure

You'll choose **one** route from:

- **broad engineering**
- **energy and sustainability**
- **engineering management**
- **environmental technologies**
- **materials and design**
- **mechanical engineering**
- **modelling and applications.**



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

At a glance

Course code M04

Total credits 480

Start dates

Oct 2025

Register by 11 Sep 2025

Apr 2026

Register by 12 Mar 2026

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: 8 years

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are **a balance of print and online**

Electronic versions of printed materials are available (e.g. PDF)

Online forum

Compulsory

Collaborative work

Compulsory

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/m04
Call
0300 303 5303



Bachelor of Engineering (Hons)

This general engineering qualification fulfils the educational requirements for Incorporated Engineer status. In addition, the combination of this degree and an accredited MSc meets the requirements for Chartered Engineer status.

Engineering is a creative and analytical subject. You'll develop the skills, techniques, and knowledge professional engineers need and learn the underpinning science and mathematics. The course has a common core with routes to suit your interests. You'll work on real-life projects to create innovative solutions to challenging problems, teaming up with other students and working individually on projects.

Why this qualification?

- Gain the underpinning knowledge, understanding and skills for registration as an Incorporated Engineer (IEng).
- Participate in individual and team-based projects, practical activities and remote access experiments.
- Move to a different engineering qualification if your aspirations change, even after you've started.

- Choose from a broad engineering route and six specialist routes.
- Develop your employability skills, including personal and professional development planning.

Accreditation

The following professional institutions accredit this degree under licence from the UK regulator, the Engineering Council:

- Institution of Engineering Designers (IED)
- Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)
- Institute of Materials, Minerals & Mining (IOM3)
- Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE).



Are you ready?

Check you have the necessary skills at openuniversity.co.uk/ready-for-engineering.

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Engineering (W93)
openuniversity.co.uk/w93

Certificate of Higher Education in Engineering (T48)
openuniversity.co.uk/t48

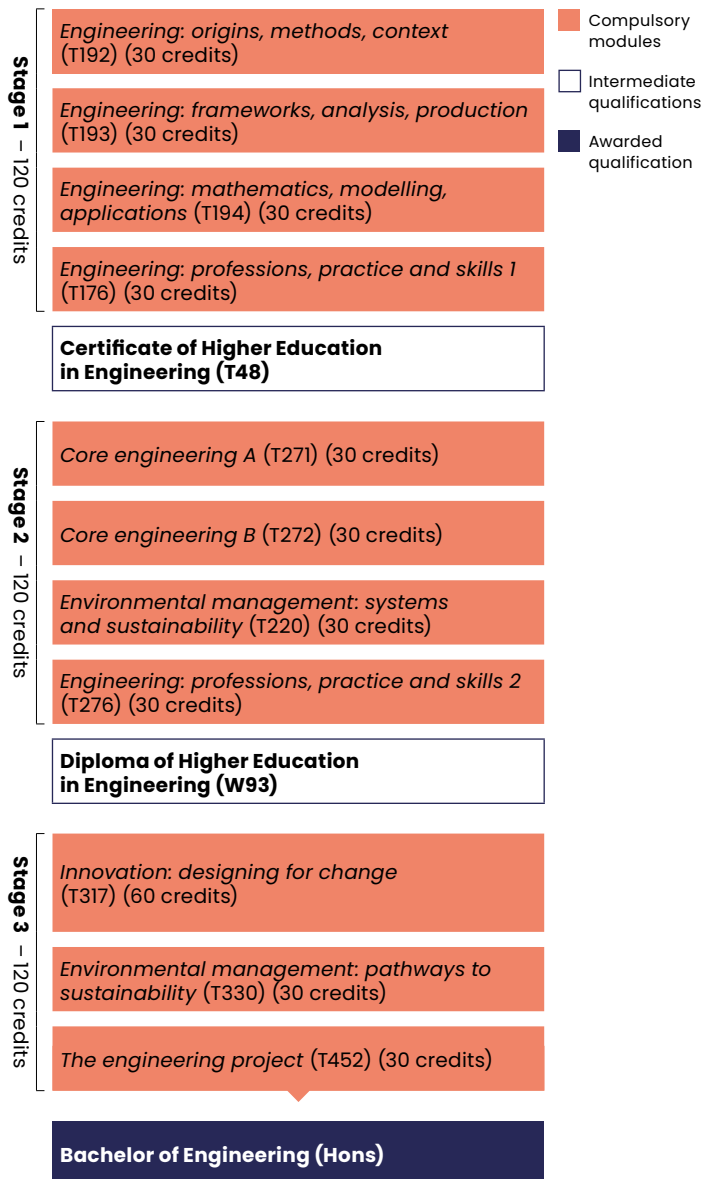
Qualification structure

You'll choose **one** route from:

- **broad engineering**
- **electronics**
- **energy and sustainability**
- **engineering design**
- **environmental technologies**
- **mathematical methods**
- **mechanical engineering**

The example below shows **environmental technologies**; other routes vary. Go to openuniversity.co.uk/q65 for details.

Example route



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

At a glance

Course code Q65

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2025

Register by 11 Sep 2025

Apr 2026

Register by 12 Mar 2026

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

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are **a balance of print and online**

Electronic versions of printed materials are available (e.g. PDF)

Online forum

Compulsory

Collaborative work

Compulsory

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/q65
Call
0300 303 5303



Foundation Degree in Engineering

This foundation degree combines academic skills with the needs of your workplace. Boost your career if you're working in an engineering-related job at a technical level.

Build on your existing skills and experience to support your professional development plans. You'll apply the study of engineering fundamentals to the solution of real-life problems. Topics include design, electronics, energy, manufacturing, materials, mechanics and structural analysis. It also develops your maths skills, crucial to successful engineering studies.

Why this qualification?

- Tackle real problems by applying your study of engineering fundamentals.
- Build on your existing skills and experience with two work-related modules.
- Gain a solid foundation for further study, with the option to top up to an accredited honours degree (see pages 36–37).

Are you ready?

Check you have the necessary skills at **openuniversity.co.uk/ready-for-engineering**.

Meet our academics

Helen Lockett, Professor of Digital Engineering specialising in engineering design and design for manufacture, works with industry and is an active researcher and key contributor to our teaching materials.

Find out more about Helen's research and teaching at **openuniversity.co.uk/hl**.

At a glance

Course code X11

Total credits 240

Start dates

Oct 2025

Register by 11 Sep 2025

Apr 2026

Register by 12 Mar 2026

Entry requirements

You must be in engineering-related employment

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

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are **a balance of print and online**

Electronic versions of printed materials are available (e.g. PDF)

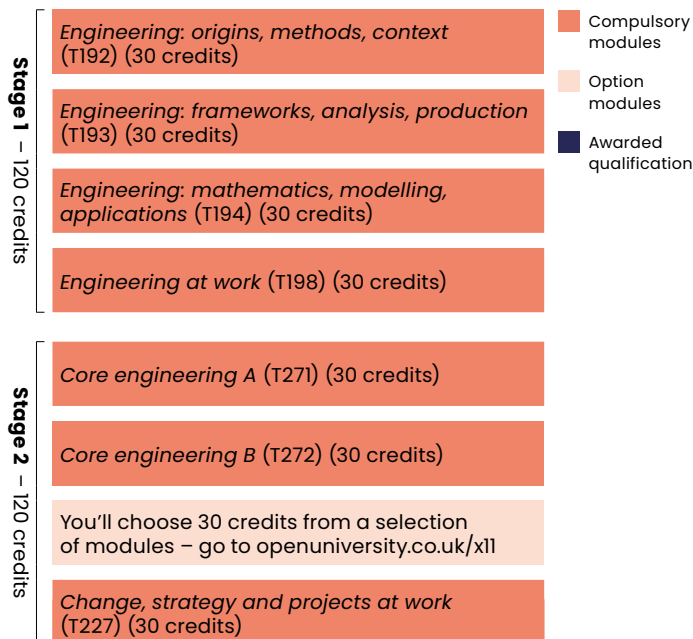
Online forum

Compulsory

Collaborative work

Compulsory

Qualification structure



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

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
**openuniversity.
co.uk/x11**
Call
0300 303 5303



Top-up Bachelor of Engineering (Hons)

Top up your existing qualification to an honours degree. You can add to your OU Foundation Degree in Engineering or an equivalent qualification from elsewhere.

Tailor your studies to suit your background and previous study. Develop your knowledge and skills and open up further career opportunities. Study choices include communications, design, electronics, environmental management, mathematics, mechanical modelling, nanoengineering, renewable energy, and structural integrity. You'll also complete an engineering project.

Why this qualification?

- Progress from your vocational qualification (e.g. HND) to an honours degree.
- Choose modules to fit with your previous study.
- Develop your analytical skills, key to successfully studying engineering.
- Prepare for further engineering study at postgraduate level.

Accreditation

The following professional institutions accredit this degree under licence from the UK regulator, the Engineering Council:

- Institution of Engineering Designers (IED)
- Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)
- Institute of Materials, Minerals & Mining (IOM3)
- Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE).



At a glance

Course code Q78

Total credits 120

Start date

Oct 2025

Apply by 14 Aug 2025

Entry requirements

Our Foundation Degree in Engineering (X11) or an equivalent qualification – apply at openuniversity.co.uk/q78

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 **mostly online with some print**

Electronic versions of printed materials are available (e.g. PDF)

Online forum

Compulsory

Collaborative work

Compulsory

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/q78
Call
0300 303 5303

Qualification structure

This qualification begins at Stage 3. Your existing qualification will make up Stages 1 and 2.

Stage 3 – 120 credits

You'll choose 90 credits from:

Communications technology (TM355) (30 credits)

Computational applied mathematics (MST374) (30 credits)

Deterministic and stochastic dynamics (MS327) (30 credits)

Electronics: signal processing, control and communications (T312) (30 credits)

Environmental management: pathways to sustainability (T330) (30 credits)

Graphs, games and designs (MST368) (30 credits)

Innovation: designing for change (T317) (60 credits)

Mathematical methods and fluid mechanics (MST326) (30 credits)

Mechanical engineering: computer-aided engineering (T329) (30 credits)

Nanoscale engineering (T366) (30 credits)

Renewable energy (T313) (30 credits)

Structural integrity: predicting and assessing performance (T367) (30 credits)

The engineering project (T452) (30 credits)

Option modules

Compulsory module

Awarded qualification

Bachelor of Engineering (Hons)

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



BSc (Hons) Computing with Electronic Engineering

Smart devices are now omnipresent; computing, electronics and telecommunications are integral to our everyday lives. This combined degree develops your understanding of computing and electronic engineering, emphasising practical knowledge and skills required by industry. It considers digital technologies, programming, networking, manufacturing methods related to product design, environmental sustainability, and the legal requirements to promote good practice.

Gain a sound grasp of the principles of hardware-based, software-based, or systems-based technologies. Developing computing skills alongside knowledge of electronics opens up exciting career opportunities.

You'll be able to apply your knowledge and skills in various industries and organisations. It also incorporates transferable skills applicable to professional development in the field.

Why this qualification?

- Practice electronics using our state-of-the-art multi-award-winning OpenSTEM Labs.
- Develop your programming and other computing skills.
- Choose from four focus options within the computing strand.
- Develop transferable skills applicable to both computing and engineering professions.

Are you ready?

Check you have the necessary skills at openuniversity.co.uk/ready-for-engineering.

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education in Computing with Electronic Engineering (W92)
openuniversity.co.uk/w92

Certificate of Higher Education in Computing and Engineering (T47)
openuniversity.co.uk/t47

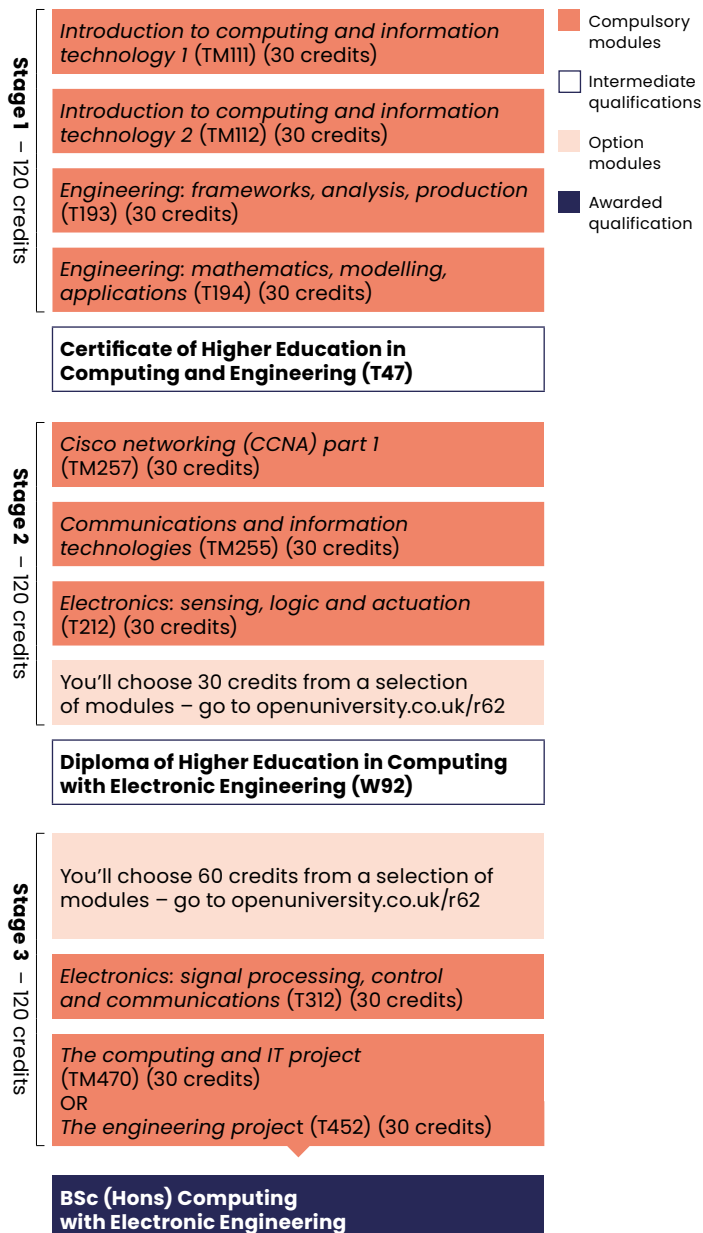
Qualification structure

You'll choose **one** focus area from:

- **communications and networking**
- **computer science**
- **software development**
- **web development.**

The example below shows **communications and networking**; other routes vary. Go to openuniversity.co.uk/r62 for details.

Example route



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

At a glance

Course code R62

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2025
Register by 11 Sep 2025

Apr 2026
Register by 12 Mar 2026

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

Mode of study

The learning materials provided are **a balance of print and online**

Electronic versions of printed materials are available (e.g. PDF)

Online forum

Compulsory

Collaborative work

Compulsory

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/r62
Call
0300 303 5303



BA/BSc (Hons) Open

Do you want the freedom to study a range of subjects that interest you? Then our Open qualifications are ideal.

Some of the key questions in the world today require expertise from a range of subjects. Multidisciplinary study has always been at the heart of The Open University and our Open qualifications allow you to bring together different areas of study in a completely flexible way to develop knowledge and skills.

The BA/BSc (Hons) Open allows you to choose modules from a wide range of subject areas so you can, for example, combine design and engineering modules with modules from other disciplines, such as science or humanities. It is a degree with a difference. Free from the restriction of a subject-specific specialism, you're in control of the direction of your learning.

Why this qualification?

- Adapt your study plans to match your evolving aspirations.
- Count previous university study towards your qualification.
- Tailor your qualification to suit your needs.
- Create your own unique multidisciplinary degree and skill set.
- self-management and resilience
- critical thinking
- analysis and problem solving.

Open qualifications and your career

Our Open qualifications equip you with a wide range of expertise, skills and capabilities through multidisciplinary study. These qualities are sought after in today's highly competitive job market. An Open qualification on your CV shows more than your level of knowledge about a subject; employers know that you are flexible and adaptable, potentially having studied across a range of topics. You'll have a highly employable set of skills and attributes, including:



The flexibility of the Open degree helped keep things new and exciting. Plus, studying all these different topics means I now have a skill set that's unique to me.



Luke Simmons
BSc (Hons) Open

Related qualifications

Diploma of Higher Education Open (W34)
openuniversity.co.uk/w34

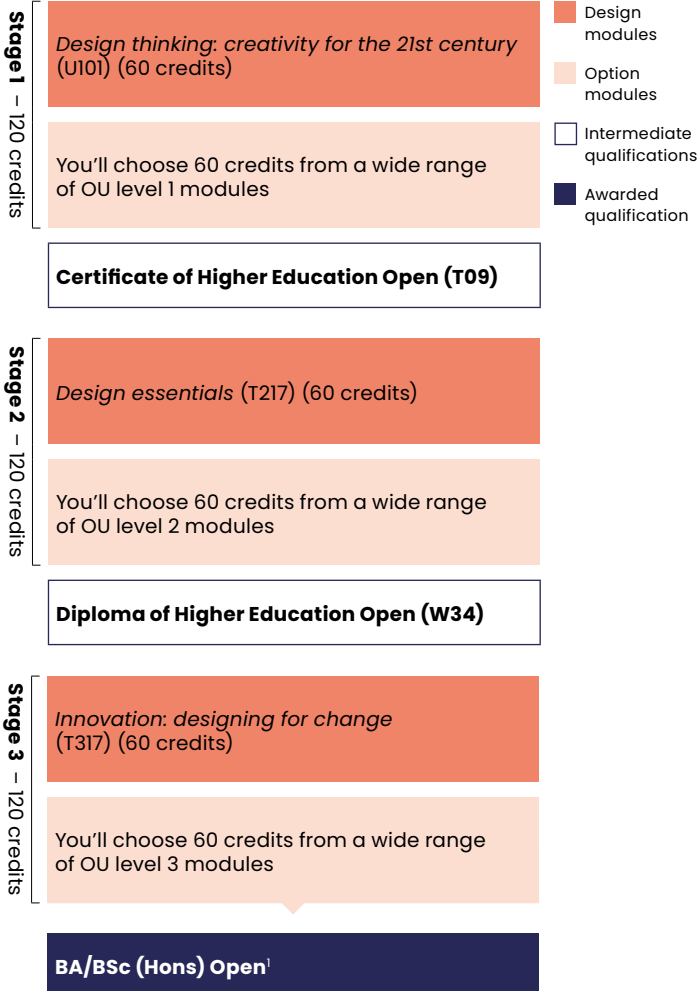
Certificate of Higher Education Open (T09)
openuniversity.co.uk/t09

How you can focus your Open degree on design

This selection of modules shows how you can focus on design in combination with other subjects that are of particular interest to you.

However, this is just one example of the many combinations you can study and you're not restricted to this route.

Example route



¹ 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 2025

Register by 11 Sep 2025

Feb 2026

Register by 8 Jan 2026

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 BA/BSc (Hons) Open 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

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/qd
 Call
0300 303 5303



BSc (Hons) Combined STEM

This flexible degree combines science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). Build your degree from a variety of STEM modules and study routes to create a unique qualification.

Our BSc (Hons) Combined STEM allows you to study more than just one STEM subject – to fit your personal and professional needs, interests and aspirations. 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 develop your existing career or start a new one.

Why this qualification?

- Choose modules from across STEM subjects or focus on one or two areas.
- Include up to 60 credits from other subjects such as business or a language at Stages 1 and 2.
- Switch direction if your needs or interests change.
- Count university-level credits you've gained from elsewhere.

Study routes if you want to focus on a subject related to design, engineering or technology

- Design
- Engineering
- Environmental technology.

Student loans for degree holders

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

You can apply for a second loan if you live in England or Wales and want to re-skill or upskill in a STEM subject, such as design or engineering.

For more information, go to openuniversity.co.uk/quals.

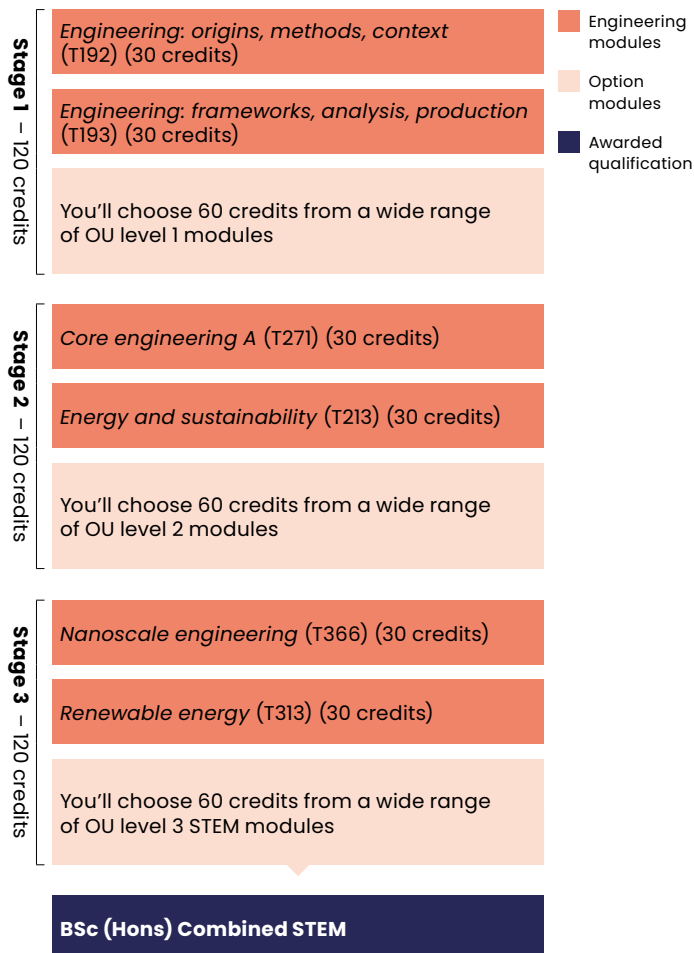
Are you ready?

Check you have the necessary skills at openuniversity.co.uk/ready-for-engineering.

How to focus your combined STEM degree on engineering

This selection of modules shows how you can focus on engineering. It's just one example of the many combinations you can study; you're not restricted to this route.

Example route



At a glance

Course code R28

Total credits 360

Start dates

Oct 2025

Register by 11 Sep 2025

Feb 2026

Register by 8 Jan 2026

Entry requirements

No specific requirements

Assessment

Depending on the modules you choose, we may assess you in some 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 can be made up of a range of modules, the learning materials provided, use of online forums and inclusion of collaborative work will depend on the modules you choose

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
**openuniversity.
co.uk/r28**
Call
0300 303 5303



Find your postgraduate course

Engineering

MSc in Engineering (F46)	46
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Technology management

MSc in Technology Management (F36)	48
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MBA (Technology Management) (F69)	50
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Systems thinking

MSc in Systems Thinking in Practice (F47)	52
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Open masters

MA/MSc Open (F81)	54
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MSc in Engineering

The MSc is a milestone to becoming a Chartered Engineer (CEng). You'll develop a professional approach to your work and extend your engineering skills.

You'll also develop a range of transferable skills, such as creative problem-solving, effective communication, project management and concept realisation. Choose option modules from applied mathematics, environmental management, innovation management and systems thinking. And, as part of a small project team, and during a UK-based residential school, design and present a solution to a real-world engineering problem and conclude with an in-depth investigation of a topic or problem of your choice.

Accreditation

The following professional institutions accredit this degree under licence from the UK regulator, the Engineering Council:

- Institution of Engineering Designers (IED)
- Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)
- Institute of Materials, Minerals & Mining (IOM3)
- Institution of Mechanical Engineers (IMechE).



Related qualification

Postgraduate Diploma in Engineering (E22)
openuniversity.co.uk/e22

Qualification structure

Modules	Credits	Code
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<i>Finite element analysis: principles and applications</i>	30	T808
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<i>Manufacture materials design</i>	30	T805
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You'll choose 30 credits from:

<i>Project management</i>	30	M815
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<i>Calculus of variations and advanced calculus</i>	30	M820
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<i>Deterministic and stochastic dynamics</i>	30	MS327
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<i>Mathematical methods and fluid mechanics</i>	30	MST326
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<i>Strategic capabilities for technological innovation</i>	30	T849
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<i>Environmental monitoring and protection</i>	30	T868
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<i>Making environmental decisions</i>	30	T891
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<i>Sustainable organisations</i>	30	T892
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<i>Technology and innovation management</i>	30	TB801
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<i>Making strategy with systems thinking in practice</i>	30	TB871
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<i>Managing change with systems thinking in practice</i>	30	TB872
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You'll study the following:

<i>Team engineering</i>	30	T885
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Postgraduate Diploma in Engineering (E22)

You'll choose either 60 credits from:

<i>Research project</i>	60	T802
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Or 60 credits from:

<i>Project management</i>	30	M815
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<i>MSc project: researching in context</i>	30	T803
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MSc in Engineering

☒ Compulsory modules

☐ Option modules

☐ Intermediate qualification

☒ Awarded qualification

Module availability is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code F46

Total credits 180

Start dates

Oct 2025

Register by 11 Sept 2025

Nov 2025

Register by 9 Oct 2025

May 2026

Register by 9 Apr 2026

Entry requirements

This qualification has no entry requirements. However, some option modules do – check the requirements online

Study duration

Part-time study: 3 years

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/f46
Call
0300 303 5303



MSc in Technology Management

This MSc provides the knowledge and skills to shape technology strategy, innovation and management decisions to make a real difference to your organisation.

First, you'll focus on the operational aspects of managing technological innovation and change, then explore a range of capabilities essential to technological innovation, strategic development and management. You'll choose option modules from business management, computing and IT, engineering, environmental management and systems thinking. Finally, you'll conclude with an in-depth investigation of a topic or problem of your choice.

Meet our academics

Dr Sally Caird was invited by New Cities Foundation, with partners Cisco, to write on the complex challenges facing cities in the 21st century.

"With the increase of smart city programmes around the world, it's become important to measure the impacts of smart city developments and prove their value. My research focused on identifying suitable measurement, evaluation and reporting to demonstrate that these developments are delivering the future cities we want."

Find out more about Sally's research at openuniversity.co.uk/sc.

Qualification structure

Modules	Credits	Code
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You'll study the following:

<i>Strategic capabilities for technological innovation</i>	30	T849
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<i>Technology and innovation management</i>	30	TB801
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You'll choose 60 credits from:

<i>Managing in a changing world</i>	30	B870
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<i>Creating and sustaining value</i>	30	B872
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<i>Sustainable creative management</i>	15	BB842
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<i>Entrepreneurship in context</i>	15	BB851
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<i>Leadership and management of public services</i>	15	BB852
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<i>Contemporary issues in organisations</i>	15	BB853
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<i>Information security</i>	30	M811
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<i>Digital forensics</i>	30	M812
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<i>Software development</i>	30	M813
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<i>Software engineering</i>	30	M814
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<i>Project management</i>	30	M815
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<i>Data management</i>	30	M816
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<i>Network security</i>	30	T828
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<i>Manufacture materials design</i>	30	T805
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<i>Making environmental decisions</i>	30	T891
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<i>Sustainable organisations</i>	30	T892
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<i>Making strategy with systems thinking in practice</i>	30	TB871
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<i>Managing change with systems thinking in practice</i>	30	TB872
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<i>Advance your independent learning</i>	30	YXM830
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Postgraduate Diploma in Technology Management (E08)

You'll choose either 60 credits from:

<i>Research project</i>	60	T802
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Or 60 credits from:

<i>MSc project: researching in context</i>	30	T803
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Plus, another 30 credits from the option modules

MSc in Technology Management

☒ Compulsory modules

☐ Option modules

☐ Intermediate qualification

☒ Awarded qualification

Module availability is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code F36

Total credits 180

Start dates

Nov 2025

Register by 9 Oct 2025

May 2026

Register by 9 Apr 2026

Entry requirements

This qualification has no entry requirements. However, some option modules do – check the requirements online

Study duration

Part-time study: 3 years

Related qualifications

Postgraduate Diploma in Technology Management (E08)
openuniversity.co.uk/e08

Postgraduate Certificate in Technology Management (C49)
openuniversity.co.uk/c49

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/f36
Call
0300 303 5303



MBA (Technology Management)

If you're looking for an MBA with a focus on the management of technology and technological innovation, then this qualification is for you.

After studying the first two modules in the standard MBA, you'll begin to focus on technology management by discovering the importance of strategically planning and managing resources to deliver technological innovation, which is central to the successful operation of any organisation. You'll examine innovation from a management perspective, enabling you to understand how to contribute to the process and management of technological innovation.

You'll also develop your ability to apply strategy-related concepts to real-life case studies by analysing the external and internal environment of organisations.

This specialist MBA lets you choose from a broader range of elective modules and microcredentials that have a greater connection to technology management. These include making environmental management decisions; systems thinking in practice; and managing technological projects.

The teaching methods combine distance learning with opportunities to attend face-to-face or online residential schools. These immersive sessions will help you work, network and learn alongside other students, in an international context.

Accreditation

Only 1% of all business schools are triple accredited. With accreditation from AACSB, AMBA and EQUIS, the OU Business School is one of them.



Related qualifications

Postgraduate
Diploma in Technology
Management (E08)
openuniversity.co.uk/e08

Postgraduate
Certificate in Business
Administration (C66)
openuniversity.co.uk/c66

Qualification structure

Modules	Credits	Code
<i>Managing in a changing world</i>	30	B870
<i>Creating and sustaining value</i>	30	B872
<i>Technology and innovation management</i>	30	TB801
<i>Strategic capabilities for technological innovation</i>	30	T849
<i>Finance for strategic decision making</i>	15	B874
<i>Technology Management MBA strategic management residential school</i>	N/A	BXR873
Plus at least 15 credits from the following elective modules and microcredentials ¹ :		
<i>Contemporary issues in organisations</i>	15	BB853
<i>Entrepreneurship in context</i>	15	BB851
<i>Leadership and management of public services</i>	15	BB852
<i>Supply chain management</i>	15	BB849
<i>Sustainable creative management</i>	15	BB842

Making environmental decisions 30 T891

Making strategy with systems thinking in practice 30 TB871

Managing change with systems thinking in practice 30 TB872

Project management 30 M815

Management of change: organisation development and design¹ 15 BZVM802

Management of uncertainty: leadership, decisions and action¹ 15 BZVM801

Leadership and management in intercultural contexts¹ – planned for October 2025 15 BZVM803

Plus 30 credits from the following compulsory module:

MBA project: leaders of change 30 B875

MBA (Technology Management)

Compulsory modules

Elective modules and microcredentials

Awarded qualification

Module availability is subject to change.

¹ Microcredentials are 12 week professional development courses. For more information, go to openuniversity.co.uk/counting-microcredentials.

At a glance

Course code F69

Total credits 180

Start dates

Nov 2025

Register by 16 Oct 2025

May 2026

Register by 16 Apr 2026

Entry requirements

See openuniversity.co.uk/f69 for details

Study duration

Part-time study: 3 years

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/f69
Call
0300 303 5303



MSc in Systems Thinking in Practice

This MSc has the development of holistic thinking skills and appreciation of multiple perspectives at its core. Systems thinking skills are relevant in many areas, such as business, development, engineering, environment, health, IT, and organisational change.

You'll gain insights into how other people think about situations and learn to apply concepts, tools and techniques developed by systems thinkers. You'll choose option modules from business management, development management, engineering, environmental management and innovation management. The final project extends your ways of thinking and acting in practice to improve a complex situation of interest to you.

Meet our academics

Water security is increasingly affected by climate change and population growth. Dr Natalie Foster, Lecturer in Systems, is using a systems approach to tackle this urgent problem. Her research leads to a better understanding of how we can govern this precious resource.

Discover more about this compelling topic with our free OpenLearn courses that apply systems thinking to a range of subjects, and explore systems as a subject in its own right at openuniversity.co.uk/systems-thinking.

Qualification structure

Modules	Credits	Code
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<i>Making strategy with systems thinking in practice</i>	30	TB871
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<i>Managing change with systems thinking in practice</i>	30	TB872
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Postgraduate Certificate in Systems Thinking in Practice (C72)

You'll choose 60 credits from:

<i>Financial markets and the financing of organisations</i>	30	B815
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<i>Managing in a changing world</i>	30	B870
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<i>Creating and sustaining value</i>	30	B872
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<i>Sustainable creative management</i>	15	BB842
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<i>Entrepreneurship in context</i>	15	BB851
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<i>Leadership and management of public services</i>	15	BB852
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<i>Contemporary issues in organisations</i>	15	BB853
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<i>Global development in practice</i>	60	D890
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<i>Principles of social and psychological inquiry</i>	60	DD801
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<i>Understanding global development</i>	60	DD870
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<i>Information security</i>	30	M811
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<i>Digital forensics</i>	30	M812
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<i>Software development</i>	30	M813
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<i>Software engineering</i>	30	M814
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<i>Project management</i>	30	M815
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<i>Data management</i>	30	M816
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<i>Network security</i>	30	T828
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<i>Manufacture materials design</i>	30	T805
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<i>Strategic capabilities for technological innovation</i>	30	T849
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<i>Making environmental decisions</i>	30	T891
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<i>Sustainable organisations: theory and practice</i>	30	T892
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<i>Technology and innovation management</i>	30	TB801
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<i>Advance your independent learning</i>	30	YXM830
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Postgraduate Diploma in Systems Thinking in Practice (E28)

You'll choose either 60 credits from:

<i>Research project</i>	60	T802
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Or 60 credits from:

<i>MSc project: researching in context</i>	30	T803
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Plus, another 30 credits from the option modules

MSc in Systems Thinking in Practice

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compulsory modules | <input type="checkbox"/> Intermediate qualifications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Option modules | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Awarded qualification |

Module availability is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code F47

Total credits 180

Start dates

Nov 2025

Register by 8 Oct 2025

May 2026

Register by 8 Apr 2026

Entry requirements

This qualification has no entry requirements. However, some option modules do – check the requirements online

Study duration

Part-time study: 3 years

Related qualifications

Postgraduate Diploma in Systems Thinking in Practice (E28)
openuniversity.co.uk/e28

Postgraduate Certificate in Systems Thinking in Practice (C72)
openuniversity.co.uk/c72

More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/f47
Call
0300 303 5303

MA/MSc Open

This innovative masters degree gives you the opportunity to create a personalised postgraduate qualification.

You'll expand your discipline-related knowledge at masters level, gain broader subject-specific knowledge and pursue further professional development in areas suited to your professional needs and personal interests.

To gain this qualification, you need **180 credits**.

Route 1: You can study **180 credits** and specialise within one of the following broadly related study areas:

- Arts, Humanities, Music and Language
- Education, Psychology, Health Science and Healthcare
- Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
- Business, Finance, Human Resources and Law.

Route 2: You can choose to study a **minimum of 120 credits** within one study area (chosen as your specialism) and take **up to 60 credits** from any other study area, including:

- Further professional development.

On completion

When you've achieved a minimum of 180 credits, you'll be awarded either a Master of Arts (MA) or Master of Science (MSc) degree. Whether you qualify for the MA Open or MSc Open will be determined by the number of credits you have from modules suitable for the MA or MSc.

Qualification structure

Route 1		Route 2	
Study 180 credits specialising within one of the following broad study areas		Study a minimum of 120 credits within one study area	60 credits from any other study area
Arts, Humanities, Music and Language		Arts, Humanities, Music and Language	Arts, Humanities, Music and Language
Education, Psychology, Health Science and Healthcare		Education, Psychology, Health Science and Healthcare	Education, Psychology, Health Science and Healthcare
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics		Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics	Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics
Business, Finance, Human Resources and Law		Business, Finance, Human Resources and Law	Business, Finance, Human Resources and Law
			Further professional development
MA/MSc Open		MA/MSc Open	

Planning your studies

Our online study plan can help you map your route through the MA/MSc Open. Find the modules and microcredentials that best suit your study interests and career objectives at openuniversity.co.uk/f81.

Some restrictions or prerequisites apply to particular modules and microcredentials within this qualification. Refer to their individual entry requirements and descriptions to ensure you're adequately prepared before registering.

Our Student Support Team can provide support and information to help you make an informed decision about your education and future career. Visit openuniversity.co.uk/contact.

Please note: module availability is subject to change.

At a glance

Course code	F81
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Total credits	180
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Start dates

Sep 2025
Oct 2025
Nov 2025
Feb 2026
May 2026

Entry requirements

Entry to this qualification will typically require a UK honours degree or equivalent qualification relevant to your intended specialist area of study.

If you have other study or experience that you believe equips you to take this qualification, you can still apply but must supply evidence of your study or experience.

Study duration

Part-time study: 2–3 years



More online

Find out more about this course, fees and funding, and how to register.



Visit
openuniversity.co.uk/f81
Call
0300 303 5303



Register for your course

We recommend registering as early as possible to secure your place. Once you're registered, you'll have access to our learning tools, materials and student support to help you get started.

Undergraduate study

1. Register

Go to your chosen qualification webpage, select your start date and click 'Register now'.

2. Choose your module(s)

Select the module(s) you want to study in your first year. Some may be compulsory, while you may select others from a list of options.

3. Organise your funding

Tell us how you'll be funding your chosen module(s). You'll find all your options at openuniversity.co.uk/ug-fees.

4. Complete your registration

Confirm your funding method.
That's it – you're ready to start learning.

Learn more about how to apply at openuniversity.co.uk/ug-apply.

Postgraduate study

To work towards a postgraduate qualification, register on a module that counts towards it.

1. Choose your qualification

Once you've decided on a qualification, go to our website for the full course details and entry criteria you'll need to meet.

2. Register on your first module(s)

Modules within postgraduate qualifications have more detailed entry requirements, so make sure you've read these before registering.

3. Arrange your funding

You'll find all your options at openuniversity.co.uk/pg-fees.

4. Send us evidence that confirms you meet the entry requirements

Once we've assessed and approved your evidence, your registration is complete

Learn more about how to apply at openuniversity.co.uk/pg-apply.

Have you studied before?

If you've studied at university level before, you might be able to count that study towards an OU qualification. This could save you time and money by reducing the modules you need to study with us.



Learn more at
[openuniversity.co.uk/
credit-transfer](https://openuniversity.co.uk/credit-transfer)

Useful information

Study from outside the UK

You could study with the OU wherever you are in the world.

Find out more by visiting **openuniversity.co.uk/international** or call **+44 (0)300 303 0266**.

Students with additional study needs

When you register, we'll ask if you have a physical or mental health disability, health condition, or specific learning difficulty (such as dyslexia) that could affect your study. If you do, we'll give you more detailed information about how we can help.

For more information, visit **openuniversity.co.uk/disability** or call **0300 303 5303**.

Equality and diversity

We're committed to creating an inclusive university community where everyone is treated with dignity and respect.

We do this by challenging inequality, celebrating diversity and ensuring everyone has the support needed to achieve their goals.

Find out more by visiting **openuniversity.co.uk/equality**.

Students under the age of 16

Very exceptionally, we accept applications from gifted students under 16.

Call **0300 303 5303** if you'd like to apply.

Sustainability and the OU

We embed sustainability across all aspects of your learning. Equipping you with science-based knowledge for social and environmental justice, transformational skills and the courage and confidence to be a force for regenerative practices in all areas of your life.

For more information, visit **openuniversity.co.uk/sustainability**.



Data protection

We record your personal information when you contact us. We use this to manage enquiries, registration, study, examination and other services. We may record calls to help us improve our service to you. When you contact us, we'll tell you more about how we treat your personal information.

For more information, visit **openuniversity.co.uk/privacy**.

Other ways to read this prospectus

You may find it easier to access information from our website at **openuniversity.co.uk**.

We can supply this prospectus as a printed booklet, PDF and in other formats.

Call **0300 303 5303** or email us from our website at **openuniversity.co.uk/contact**.

Explore our other prospectuses

Learn more about the qualifications we offer in other subject areas.

Subject-specific prospectuses

- Arts and Humanities
- Business and Management
- Computing and IT
- Education, Childhood, Youth and Sport
- Geography, Environment and Development
- Health and Social Care
- Languages and Applied Linguistics
- Law
- Mathematics and Statistics
- Psychology and Counselling
- Science
- Social Sciences

Other prospectuses

- Access Modules
- Open Qualifications
- Postgraduate Courses
- Undergraduate Courses

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. For current information, please refer to our online prospectus at **openuniversity.co.uk/courses**.

If you require further information about the circumstances in which we may make changes, please contact us or refer to the Academic Regulations on our website at **openuniversity.co.uk/academic-regulations**.

Request a prospectus

Download or order a prospectus.



Visit **openuniversity.co.uk/prospectus**

Get in touch

If you're in England, Scotland, Wales, the Channel Islands, the Isle of Man or have a British Forces Post Office address

- Email us from our website **openuniversity.co.uk/contact**
- Call our Student Recruitment team on **0300 303 5303**

Lines are open (UK time) Monday to Friday: 08:00–17:30

Calls are charged at the local rate when calling from a UK mobile phone or landline.

In Northern Ireland

- Email **northern-ireland@open.ac.uk**
- Call our Student Recruitment team on **028 9032 3722**

In Ireland

- Email **ireland@open.ac.uk**
- Call our Student Recruitment team on **(01) 6785399**

All other countries

- Go to **openuniversity.co.uk/contact**
- Call **+44 (0)300 303 0266**

I siaradwyr Cymraeg

Os ydych yn siarad Cymraeg a byddai'n well gennych drafod eich anghenion astudio drwy gyfrwng y Gymraeg, cysylltwch â:

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