

Time to Think

Open University Journeys in British and Irish prisons during the years of conflict, 1972-2000

Oral History interview clip transcript

Name of Interviewee: **Student F**
Interviewed by: **Joanna McMinn**
Date of interview: **09/11/2011**

Important

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Student F Clip

Clip title: Studying in Portlaoise Prison

Duration: 00:00:52

Clip start point in full interview: 00:09:58

Clip end point in full interview: 00:10:49

Interview identifier: 009_S_01

Description:

Student F looks back on studying with the Open University in Portlaoise prison during the 1990s, how the hours per week for study were underestimated and how it helped him get a job after prison.

Transcript:

So really, I just suppose you have answered this in a way, but if you had to assess your OU experience and study in prison on your life during and since, how would you sum it up?

At different times, very, very, stressful. Very hard to actually get the bit of time. If the OU told me it was going to be eight hours a week, I automatically doubled that and added another couple of hours [laughs]. Maybe I am a wee bit slower than the average person. But when I look back on it, I look back on it with great fondness because it has enabled me to get some sort of an almost normal employment. So I put it to use, it is not just to have it on my CV which was scanty enough without it [laughs]