



The Open  
University

50  
YEARS

SCOTLAND

# THE YOUNG APPLICANTS IN SCHOOLS SCHEME

A guide to studying university level courses in S6  
2019/20



Hello and welcome to the 2019 YASS guide. The Open University is the UK's largest university with around 174,000 students worldwide – 2019 is our 50th anniversary – and studying with us is a special experience.

I'm confident that you'll find something that appeals to you in the pages that follow, and I hope that you'll make the decision to join the more than 7,000 students from Scottish schools who have taken part in YASS since it began in 2007. If you do, I can't promise it'll be easy, but I can promise you'll learn a lot, you'll be challenged in new ways, and you'll get a real understanding of what it means to study at university level. What you choose to do with that is up to you. Good luck and happy studying.👏👏

**SUSAN STEWART**

Director of The Open University in Scotland

## **Student** Guide

Introduction.....	1
Being a YASS student .....	7
How YASS can help you in your next steps.....	9
YASS courses .....	13
Arts .....	14
Business and Management .....	16
Engineering, Computing and Technology .....	18
Health and Social Care.....	21
Law.....	32
Social Sciences .....	41
Sports and Exercise .....	43

## **Teacher** Guide

Welcome.....	49
Getting your school involved.....	53
Contact .....	55



**THE YOUNG  
APPLICANTS IN  
SCHOOLS SCHEME**  
**Student Guide**



# An **introduction** to The Open University in Scotland's Young Applicants in School Scheme

## Introduction

This guide is designed to introduce you to the Young Applicants in Schools Scheme (**YASS**), explain what you can study through YASS and how it can help develop some of the key skills you will need to succeed when you leave school.

## What is YASS?

YASS is The Open University (**OU**) in Scotland's national bridging programme for S6 pupils. It offers you the opportunity to study a university level course in school alongside your other S6 studies. It is designed to help develop a range of skills and knowledge that will help support your transition from school to university, college or the work place.

Because YASS is an OU programme, you can study with us no matter where you live or what school you go to.

Furthermore, if you are a pupil in a local authority school there is no cost to you or your school.

“ When I was in my final year of high school, I decided to challenge myself and take on a Mandarin course through YASS. I wouldn't have had the opportunity to do Chinese any other way. I enjoyed it so much I went on to study Chinese at university. I have just finished studying first year of International Business with Chinese at the University of Edinburgh, and my YASS course helped me greatly in my studies.”

**SABINA**

Former YASS student

## Who can study YASS?

YASS is open to all S6 pupils in full-time education in Scottish schools. Since the programme began, over 7,500 students from 250 schools across Scotland have studied a YASS course.

## How much does it cost to study a YASS course?

YASS is fully funded by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC) and is completely free for pupils in local authority schools. Pupils who attend independent schools can self-fund the course or be sponsored by their school.

## What can I study?

We offer 30 courses in a wide range of subject areas including: Maths; Science; Law; Sport and Exercise; Arts; Language and Health and Social Care.

The courses carry 10 or 30 credit points and are all university level 1, or SCQF level 7. This means they are equivalent to Advanced Higher level (for a full list of courses see pages 14 - 42)

## When should I start thinking about taking a YASS course?

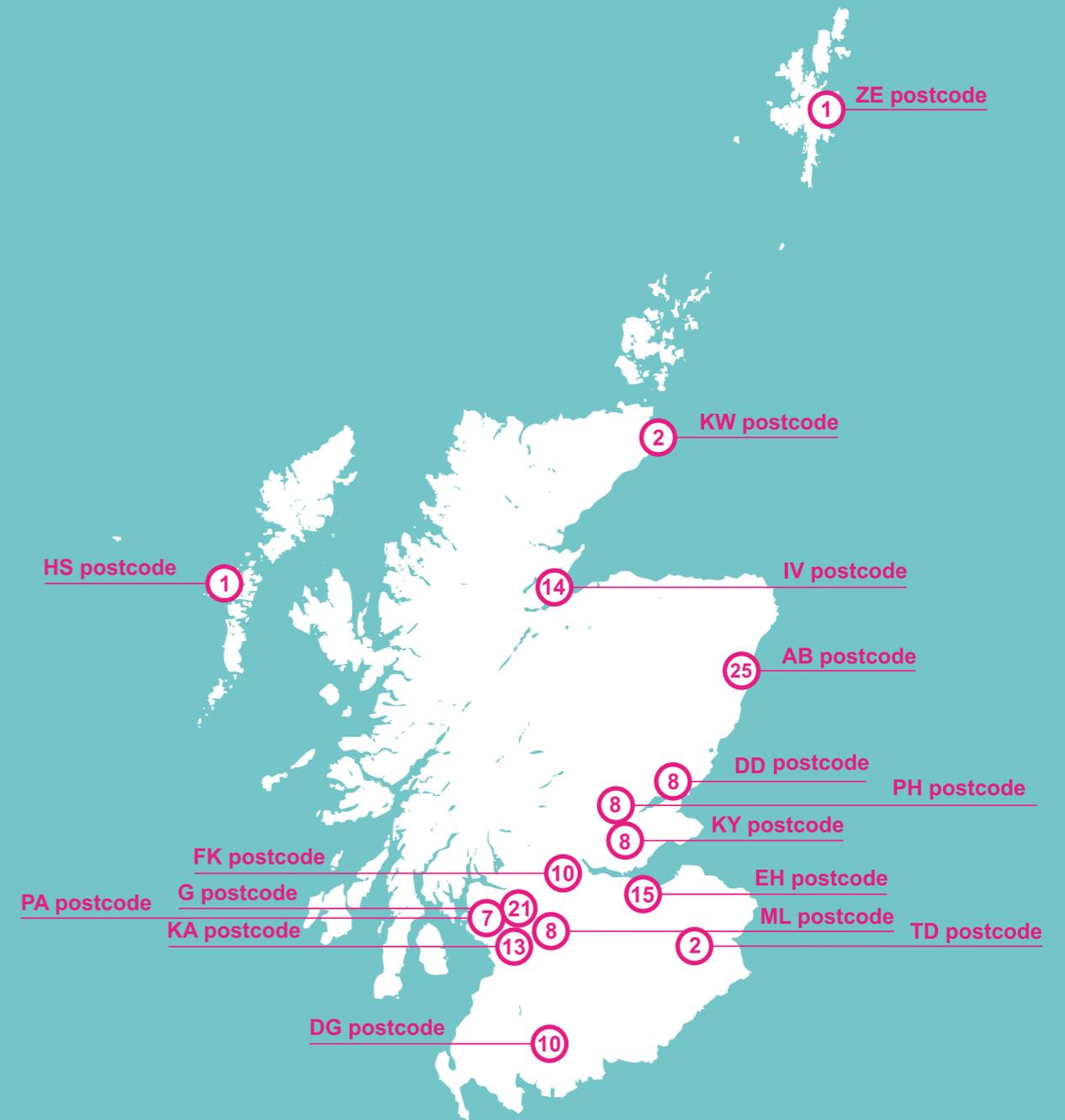
The best time to start thinking about taking a YASS course is in S5. This will give you time to look at the courses offered and think about how studying with YASS will fit around your other S6 studies. It is worth speaking to an advisor in your school about choosing YASS as one of your S6 study options.

Over  
**250**  
Schools have participated in YASS since 2007

Over  
**7,500**  
students have taken YASS modules since the programme started

All  
**32**  
Scottish education authorities have schools who have participated in YASS

Over  
**25**  
modules offered to students



Schools participating in YASS 2018/19



## How many hours a week will I need to set aside for YASS study?

Required study time depends on the size and length of the course. Generally, you will need between 4 - 6 hours a week for 10 point courses and between 8 - 14 hours for 30 point courses.

## How long do the courses last?

Most courses start in October and finish in March or June. 10 point courses finish in March and 30 point courses finish in June. There are exceptions to this and so you should always check the length of the course before deciding to register on it.

## How can I register for a YASS course?

If your school is participating in YASS, speak to your designated YASS co-ordinator who will arrange your registration. If your school does not currently participate in YASS, ask your school to contact the YASS team by email at **Scotland-YASS@open.ac.uk** to discuss how to register you on to a YASS course.

There is a dedicated section for teachers at the end of this guide which includes information on how to register pupils on a YASS course.

## What should I know about my course before I start?

Although most courses do not have entry requirements, you should make sure you are aware of the commitment needed to succeed. You can find this information on the YASS website at: **[www.open.ac.uk/scotland/study/young-applicants-schools](http://www.open.ac.uk/scotland/study/young-applicants-schools)**

## Key aspects to consider before deciding to take a YASS course are:

	<b>Entry requirements</b>
	<b>Start and finish dates</b>
	<b>Required study hours</b>
	<b>Exam dates</b>
	<b>Required collaboration via online forums</b>
	<b>What type of academic support is provided</b>
	<b>IT requirements</b>



## Being a YASS student: How this is **different** from school

### What does it take to become a YASS student?

Most YASS courses do not have entry requirements. However, all the courses are SCQF level 7 (university level 1). This means they are equivalent to an Advanced Higher level.

#### TO BECOME A YASS STUDENT YOU WILL NEED TO BE:

- Focused
- Motivated
- Interested in the subject
- Organised
- An independent learner
- Able to work online
- Committed and flexible
- Able to study up to 14 hours per week

### How is YASS different from school?

The key difference is you will be an independent learner. This means, you will be responsible for your own learning. You will also be expected to complete interactive activities, contribute to forums and participate in online tutorials in real time.

Because some courses run from October to June, you may find that you are working on your YASS studies when you are away from school.

### What kind of support will there be?

Depending on the type of course you take, you will either have a designated tutor or online study advisor to support you through your course. You will also be provided with an online weekly study planner to keep you on track.

YASS students also have access to the OU's team of education advisors. As well as this, there is tailored support and advice about study techniques, assignments and other study-related queries available via the OU Student Support Team.



# How YASS can help you in your next steps: Demonstrating the skills and attainment achieved through YASS study

## Next steps

A YASS qualification can widen your horizons, boost your prospects and build your career confidence. Universities, colleges and employers respect and value the skills, knowledge and personal strengths you gain by taking on OU study. It shows that you are up for a challenge, have initiative and can manage your time.

## Skills

YASS will help you develop the range of key skills that are illustrated here and many more. These will give you strong examples that you can use when completing applications for jobs and apprenticeships, or university and college.



**Commitment**



**Teamwork**



**Organisational skills**



**Resilience**



**Discipline**



**Increased confidence**



**Digital literacy/IT skills**



**Research skills**



**Communication skills**



**Working independently**



**Time management**



**Manage conflicting priorities**

## University

Studying a YASS course can prepare you for university by providing a choice of subjects which may not be offered at your school and might help when deciding what you want to study at university. YASS will also give valuable insight into the level and pace of university study and develop the ability to cope with different learning styles.

## YASS and UCAS

YASS courses can be added to the 'Other qualifications' section on your UCAS application form and can add valuable content to your UCAS personal statement.

## YASS and further OU study

Your completed YASS course could also contribute towards an Open University degree, either when you leave school or in future years.



 Studying with the OU gave me confidence when applying to universities, writing my personal statement and sitting my interview. 

**FORMER YASS STUDENT**  
**Banchory Academy**

## College

Much like students who are heading to University, taking a YASS course can help you prepare for taking SCQF Level 7 courses at college, such as HNC/HND programmes, by providing experience of studying at an advanced level and developing an ability to cope with different learning styles. YASS courses can also provide a taste of subjects not always on offer at school which might help with choosing a college course.

## Careers and Employability

As an S6 pupil you will already have careers information and support available to you in your school, supported by Skills Development Scotland. In addition, whilst you study with the OU you will also have full access to our Careers and Employability Services and for three years after you finish your OU studies. We can help you discover and connect with opportunities you may not even know opportunities exists.

## FURTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

The YASS website: [www.open.ac.uk/scotland/study/young-applicants-schools](http://www.open.ac.uk/scotland/study/young-applicants-schools)

The Open University Careers and employability website: [www.open.ac.uk/careers](http://www.open.ac.uk/careers)

## OU SUPPORT INCLUDES:

- Online webinars
- Downloadable guides and the career planning and job seeking workbook
- Online interactive career planning and cv building tools
- One-to-one guidance from experienced careers consultants
- Exclusive access to opportunityhub, the new online platform connecting OU students and graduates with employers



## YASS courses

### English for academic purposes

To succeed at university, you need to be able to read and think about a wide range of study materials, make useful notes, and write assignments. This course will help you to develop the skills and language to do this. You'll explore how university study materials are organised and how academic language is used in them.

The course is made up of 40% reading, 40% writing, 10% listening and 10% speaking. Your interactions with the study materials, your tutor and other students on the course will take place online. You'll complete interactive activities, contribute to forums and participate in online tutorials in real time.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/english-language/how-be-critical-reader/content-section-0](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/english-language/how-be-critical-reader/content-section-0)

### ARTS

Credits: 30

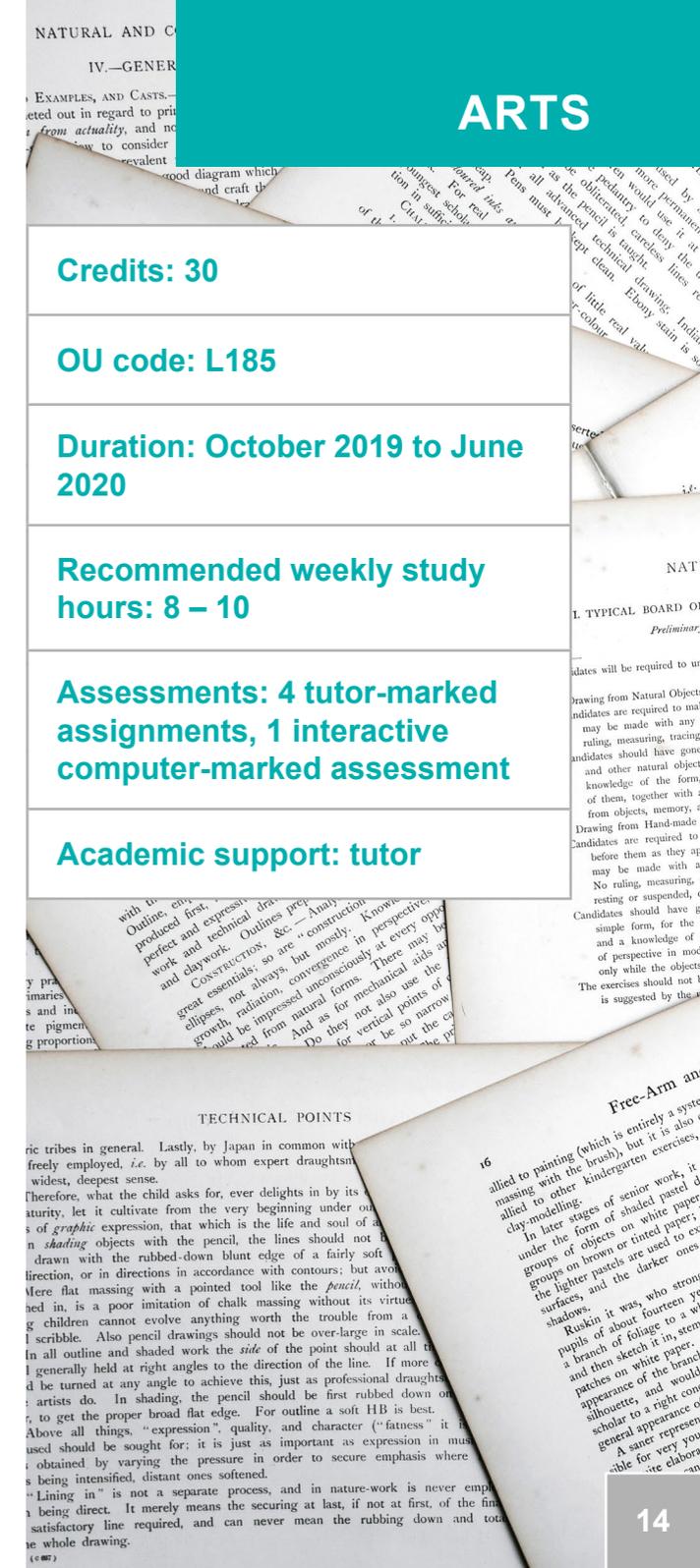
OU code: L185

Duration: October 2019 to June 2020

Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10

Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments, 1 interactive computer-marked assessment

Academic support: tutor



# ARTS

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: YXM130**

**Duration: October 2019 to May 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 1 tutor-marked assignment, 1 interactive computer-marked assessment**

**Academic support: tutor**

## Making your learning count - Arts

In this course you will reflect on your learning from a relevant Higher and study a range of selected Arts courses from our OpenLearn resources.

Throughout the course you will explore what happens when you bring different knowledge, skills and learning experiences together. You will discover the richness that comes from thinking about a topic from a variety of angles.

The assignments and tasks will help you develop your study skills, plan your learning, embed your learning, and finally reflect on your learning.

### What you will study

You will need to undertake 150 hours of learning for this course. An appropriate Higher you have studied will count as 50 hours and you will need to study a further 100 hours from The Open University's OpenLearn resources.

OpenLearn subject choices include:

- **Writing fiction**
- **Philosophy**
- **Design**
- **Music theory**
- **Latin**

**Early registration on this course will allow you to start working through your OpenLearn choices from June 2019.**

## Communication skills for business and management

This course enhances your language and communication skills needed in the world of business and management through the application of key business concepts and frameworks to real business case studies from various organisations. The activities you carry out will also raise awareness of your own use of language in business communication.

The course has three blocks:

1. **Analysing and Reporting**
2. **Influencing**
3. **Collaborating**

Throughout the course you will develop your skills of reflection through writing or speaking about your learning process. You will study this course mainly online. In addition, there are two printed resource books which contain case studies, useful tips on business communication skills and other reading texts.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/money-business/business-communication-writing-swot-analysis/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/money-business/business-communication-writing-swot-analysis/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab)

# BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

**Credits: 30**

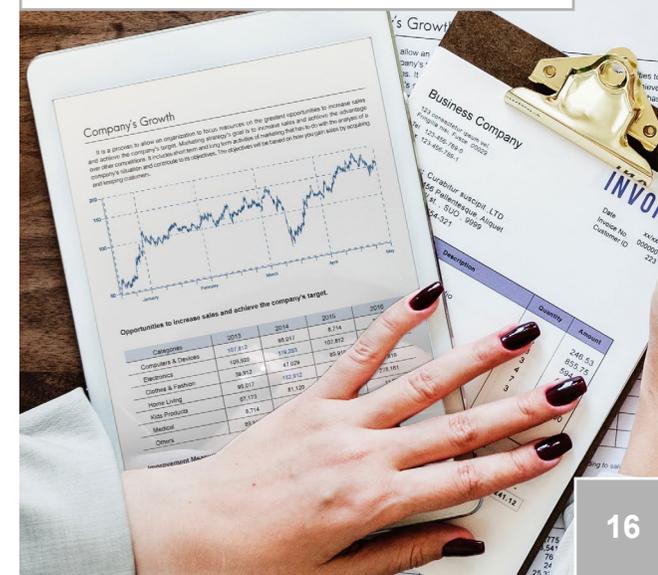
**OU code: LB170**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments which include: tutor group forum discussions; a recorded individual presentation; an essay and written reflection.**

**Academic support: Tutor**



# BUSINESS AND MANAGEMENT

Credits: 30

OU code: B124

Duration: October 2019 to June 2020

Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10

Assessments: 3 tutor-marked assignments and an exam in June

Academic support: tutor

## Fundamentals of accounting

This course covers the fundamentals of financial and management accounting as well as the essential skills, knowledge and ethics required to be a professional accountant. The accounting material covers measuring management performance and improving financial planning, control and decision-making. You will gain an understanding of financial reports through their preparation, based on the double-entry bookkeeping system which is essential for the management of any organisation.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/ocw/course/view.php?id=1712](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/ocw/course/view.php?id=1712)

## Engineering: origins, methods, context

This introductory course examines the range of human activity that is 'engineering', setting current practice in a historical context and looking forward to new developments that will help shape the future. Key scientific principles, mathematical techniques and design methodologies are introduced and explained, to equip you with a basic toolkit on which to build further study. Mathematics is presented in an engineering context to emphasise relevance and build your confidence in framing problems, addressing design challenges and formulating solutions. Reflective practice is encouraged throughout, and you will have the opportunity to share and discuss aspects of your work with other students.

### Preparatory work

To ensure you have the appropriate mathematical, technical and IT knowledge and experience you should do the pre-registration self-assessment quiz: [www.students.open.ac.uk/openmark/engineering.ayrf/](http://www.students.open.ac.uk/openmark/engineering.ayrf/)

# ENGINEERING, COMPUTING AND TECHNOLOGY

Credits: 30

OU code: T192

Duration: October 2019 to March 2020

Recommended weekly study hours: 14

Assessments: 3 tutor-marked assignments and 4 interactive computer-marked assessments

Academic support: tutor

Collaborative working: working with other students in a virtual engineering studio

Credits: 30

OU code: TM111

Duration: October 2019 to April 2020

Recommended weekly study hours: 14

Assessments: 3 tutor-marked assignments and 4 interactive computer-marked assessments

Academic support: tutor

## Introduction to computing and information technology 1

This course is presented in three blocks:

### The digital world

The digital technologies that pervade our home, work and social lives;

### Creating solutions

Programming skills for creating solutions to simple problems;

### Connecting people, places and things

The computer networks that allow us to interact with others.

Throughout the course, you will develop your study skills, digital and information literacy skills and employability skills.

Please see the course website for IT and computing requirements: [www.open.ac.uk/courses/courses/tm111](http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/courses/tm111)

## Technologies in Practice

This course provides an opportunity to sample some of the key areas in computing and information technology. You will be introduced to three topics as tasters for your future studies and career: **robotics**, **networking**, and **Linux**. Studying these topics will enable you to develop essential skills for future employment in the computing and IT industry. You will be applying what you learn by developing a portfolio to demonstrate your skills and understanding in these areas. By studying this OU level 1 course you can begin to explore where your future career ambitions or interests might lie.

This course requires that you have some experience of studying IT and for this reason you are expected to have studied computing at Higher level. If you haven't you may be interested in taking Introduction to computing and information technology (**TM111**).

Credits: 30

OU code: TM129

Duration: October 2019 to June 2020

Recommended weekly study hours: 8 - 10

Assessments: 3 tutor-marked assignments and a 2,000 word portfolio final assessment

Academic support: tutor

Entry requirement: Higher computing or related subject

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: YXM130**

**Duration: October 2019 to May 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 - 10**

**Assessments: 1 tutor-marked assignments, 1 interactive computer-marked assessment**

**Academic support: tutor**

## Making your learning count – Health and Social Care

In this course you will reflect on your learning from a relevant Higher and study a range of selected Health and Social Care courses from our OpenLearn resources.

Throughout the course you will explore what happens when you bring different knowledge, skills and learning experiences together.

The assignments and tasks will help you develop your study skills, plan your learning, embed your learning, and finally reflect on your learning.

### What you will study

You will need to undertake 150 hours of learning for this course. An appropriate Higher you have studied will count as 50 hours and you will need to study a further 100 hours from The Open University's OpenLearn resources.

OpenLearn subject choices include:

- **Psychology**
- **Autism**
- **Social work**
- **Forensic psychology**
- **Dementia**

**Early registration on this course will allow you to start working through your OpenLearn choices from June 2019.**

## Exploring languages and cultures

This introductory course is designed to introduce key concepts relating to languages, language learning, plurilingualism and intercultural communication. It will help you develop intercultural skills and language awareness to support and complement the language skills that are covered in language-specific courses. Study resources include printed materials and a dedicated website with online activities which support independent learning. Together, they will introduce you to some of the elements that define studying modern foreign languages and English language studies.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/exploring-languages-and-cultures/content-section-0](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/exploring-languages-and-cultures/content-section-0)

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: L161**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments including a final 1,500-word paper.**

**Academic support: tutor**

## LANGUAGES

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: L197**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments to develop speaking and writing skills.**

**4 interactive computer-marked assessments which cover reading and listening.**

**Academic support: tutor**

## Beginners' Chinese

第一步 Dì yī bù: beginners' Chinese will give you the skills you need to speak and understand simple Chinese (Mandarin) in everyday contexts. No previous knowledge of Chinese is required. This key introductory OU level 1 course will take you through a wide range of practical situations such as socialising, shopping and getting around. Study resources include printed materials and a dedicated website with a variety of online activities - which support independent learning. And while you're learning the language you'll explore aspects of Chinese society and culture, which will give you a real feel for the Chinese way of life.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/chinese/beginners-chinese/content-section-0](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/chinese/beginners-chinese/content-section-0)

## Bon départ: beginners' French

This introductory course is designed to develop the skills you need to speak and understand simple French in everyday contexts. It explores life in French-speaking countries and communities, introducing you to a wide range of practical situations such as travelling, shopping, working and eating out. Study resources include printed materials and a dedicated website with a variety of online activities which support independent learning. Together, they'll give you not just language skills but a real feel for French-speaking cultures too.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/french/beginners-french-food-and-drink/content-section-0](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/french/beginners-french-food-and-drink/content-section-0)

## LANGUAGES

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: L192**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments to develop speaking and writing skills.**

**4 computer-marked assessments which cover reading and listening.**

**Academic support: tutor**

## LANGUAGES

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: L112**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments to develop speaking and writing skills.**

**4 computer-marked assessments which cover reading and listening.**

**Academic support: tutor**

**Entry requirement: Higher French**

## French Studies 1: language and culture of the French-speaking world (Intermediate French)

This course takes you to an intermediate level of linguistic competence in French. You will develop your confidence in listening, reading, writing, speaking and interacting in French, as well as your knowledge and understanding of French-speaking societies and cultures. In addition, the course is designed to expand your academic, digital and employability skills in French contexts. You will have the option to study most activities in a book or as interactive online activities on the course website. The website uses authentic online resources in support of independent and collaborative learning.

You'll be asked to watch one French-language film that you'll need to source yourself. Suggestions for films and more information will be provided when you begin the course.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/intermediate-french-understanding-spoken-french/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/intermediate-french-understanding-spoken-french/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab)

## Rundblick: beginners' German

This introductory course is designed to develop the skills you need to speak and understand simple German in everyday contexts. It explores life in German-speaking countries and communities worldwide through topics relevant to adult learners – such as impressions of Germany, Austria and Switzerland; travelling; lifestyles; cultural events; and technology. Study resources include printed materials and a dedicated website with a variety of online activities – which support independent learning. Together, they'll give you not just language skills but a real feel for German-speaking countries and communities too.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/german/rundblick-beginners-german/content-section-0](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/german/rundblick-beginners-german/content-section-0)

## LANGUAGES

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: L193**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments to develop speaking and writing skills.**

**4 computer-marked assessments which cover reading and listening.**

**Academic support: tutor**

## LANGUAGES

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: L113**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments to develop speaking and writing skills.**

**4 computer-marked assessments which cover reading and listening.**

**Academic support: tutor**

**Entry requirement: Higher German**

## German Studies 1: language and culture of the German-speaking world (Intermediate German)

This course is based around six themes: Geography; Leisure, Culture and the media; Work and education; Traditions and celebrations; History; and Society. Through each theme, you will gradually develop your German knowledge and skills by:

- **Familiarising yourself with core vocabulary and grammar**
- **Learning about and reflecting on language, culture and intercultural communication skills**
- **Studying with audio recordings and videos featuring speakers of German and their lives and environments**
- **Practising direct translation to support your language learning**
- **Working independently and in collaboration with others**

The study materials are carefully structured and graded and provide opportunities to practise the language in realistic contexts.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/improve-your-understanding-spoken-german/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/improve-your-understanding-spoken-german/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab)

## Andante: beginners' Italian

This introductory course is designed to give you the skills you need to speak and understand simple Italian in everyday contexts. The course takes you through a wide range of practical situations such as travelling, shopping, working and eating out in Italy. Study resources include printed materials and a dedicated website with a variety of online activities which support your independent learning. Together, they'll give you not just language skills but a real feel for Italian society and culture too.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/beginners-italian-food-and-drink/content-section-0](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/beginners-italian-food-and-drink/content-section-0)

## LANGUAGES

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: L195**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments to develop speaking and writing skills.**

**4 interactive computer-marked assessments which cover reading and listening.**

**Academic support: tutor**

## LANGUAGES

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: L150**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments to develop speaking and writing skills.**

**4 interactive computer-marked assessments which cover reading and listening.**

**Academic support: tutor**

**Entry requirement: Higher Italian**

## Vivace: Intermediate Italian

*Vivace: intermediate Italian* follows on from *Andante: beginners' Italian* (L195). It revises and consolidates your knowledge of Italian and teaches more advanced language in the context of society and culture in Italian-speaking communities. It offers insights into many aspects of everyday life in modern Italy, so you'll have a better understanding of issues that concern Italian people. The study resources – including printed materials and a variety of online resources – are carefully designed to develop the four language skills of speaking, listening, reading and writing. They provide clear learning objectives, guidance and model answers. This key introductory OU level 1 course also teaches good study skills and language-learning strategies.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/intermediate-italian-describing-people/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/intermediate-italian-describing-people/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab)

## Portales: beginners' Spanish

This introductory course is designed to develop the skills you need to speak and understand simple Spanish in everyday contexts. It takes you through a wide range of practical situations such as travelling, shopping, working and eating out in Spanish-speaking countries. Study resources include printed materials and a dedicated website with a variety of online activities – which support independent learning. Together, they'll give you not just language skills but a real feel for Hispanic cultures as well.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/spanish/spanish-espacios-publicos/content-section-0](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/spanish/spanish-espacios-publicos/content-section-0)

## LANGUAGES

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: L194**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments to develop speaking and writing skills.**

**4 computer-marked assessments which cover reading and listening.**

**Academic support: tutor**

## Spanish Studies 1: language and culture of the Spanish-speaking world (Intermediate Spanish)

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: L195**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments to develop speaking and writing skills.**

**4 interactive computer-marked assessments which cover reading and listening.**

**Academic support: tutor**

This course takes you to an intermediate level of linguistic competence in Spanish, which is equivalent to B1 level of the Council of Europe’s Common European Framework of Reference. You will develop your confidence in listening, reading, writing, speaking and interacting in Spanish, as well as your knowledge and understanding of Spanish-speaking societies and cultures. In addition, the course is designed to expand your academic, digital and employability skills in Spanish contexts. You will have the option to study most activities in a book or as interactive online activities on the course website. The website uses authentic online resources in support of independent and collaborative learning.

You’ll be asked to watch one Spanish-language film that you’ll need to source yourself. Suggestions for films and more information will be provided when you begin the course.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/improve-your-understanding-spoken-spanish/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages/improve-your-understanding-spoken-spanish/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab)

## Law making in Scotland

This course consists of four badged courses from The Law in Scotland OpenLearn programme and an assessment course.

### The Law in Scotland OpenLearn programme

This considers the role of the Scottish Parliament and Scottish Courts. It explores the relationship between the law making power of the Scottish and Westminster (UK) Parliaments and the current debates over their respective roles. It also introduces specific legal skills and explores the role of Scotland in law making at the national, UK and international level.

The badged courses are in the following subject areas:

- **Scottish courts and the law**
- **The Scottish Parliament and law making**
- **Legal skills and debates in Scotland**
- **Society and the law: Scottish legal heroes**

You must complete at least 3 of these courses to qualify for the assessment course and gain credit.

### The assessment course

This builds upon and consolidates your knowledge gained through the OpenLearn courses. You will learn about legal argument, reading for academic purposes, academic writing skills, digital literacy and using evidence to develop a persuasive argument.

**Credits: 10**

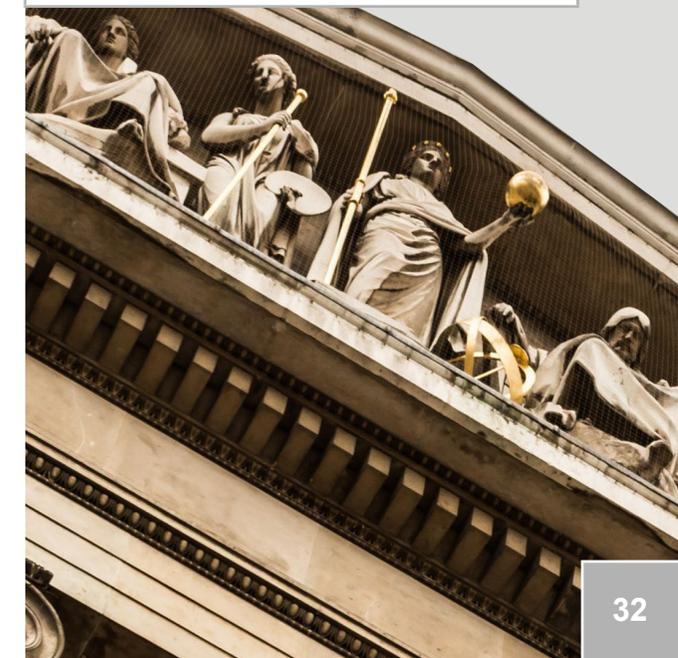
**OU code: WXM151**

**Duration: October 2019 to April 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 2 - 3**

**3 Badged Open Courses and 1 end-of-course written assessment**

**Academic support: online study advisers via an online forum**



Credits: 30

OU code: MU123

Duration: October 2019 to June 2020

Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10

Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments to develop speaking and writing skills.

4 interactive computer-marked assessments which cover reading and listening.

Academic support: tutor

## Discovering mathematics

This key introductory course provides a gentle start to the study of mathematics. It will help you to integrate mathematical ideas into your everyday thinking and build your confidence in using and learning mathematics. You'll cover statistical, graphical, algebraic, trigonometric and numerical concepts and techniques, and be introduced to mathematical modelling.

The course contains many real-world contexts such as journey planning, glaciers, supply and demand, depreciation, poverty levels, chance events, and medical conditions (such as cancer), to help illustrate mathematical topics.

### Preparatory work

Visit our MathsChoices website: [mathschoices.open.ac.uk/](https://mathschoices.open.ac.uk/). Here you will find advice about where to begin your study in maths and you can take a self-assessment quiz to help you decide if this is the right course for you.

## Essential mathematics 1

This course provides a broad foundation for university-level mathematics. It introduces essential ideas and techniques that underpin university-level study in mathematical subjects such as physics, engineering and economics. You'll use mathematical software to solve problems and develop your skills in communicating results and defining problems.

There are 12 study units. In the first two units you'll revise and extend the basic mathematical knowledge and skills in basic algebra and graphs. These will help you identify and fill any gaps in your knowledge and develop basic mathematical skills to the level needed in the rest of the course. These units also teach you about communicating mathematics and introduce you to the mathematical software that you'll use in the course.

In the remaining study units, you'll cover these topics:

- Functions
- Trigonometry
- Vectors
- Calculus
- Matrices
- Sequences
- Complex number

### Preparatory work

Much of the material in the first two units will be available online, so you can make a start on your revision before the course begins.

There is also an 'Are you Ready' quiz so you can check if this course is an appropriate level for study for you [mathschoices.open.ac.uk/are-you-ready-quizzes/mst124-quiz](https://mathschoices.open.ac.uk/are-you-ready-quizzes/mst124-quiz)

Credits: 30

OU code: MST124

Duration: October 2019 to April 2020

Recommended weekly study hours: 8 - 10

Assessments: 4 tutor-marked assignments, 4 interactive computer-marked assessments, exam

Academic support: tutor

Entry requirement: Higher Maths

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: M140**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 – 10**

**4 tutor-marked assignments, 4 interactive computer-marked assessments, end of course assessment**

**Academic support: tutor**

## Introducing statistics

This key introductory course is designed for people who have not studied statistics before. It focuses on the application of statistics, adopting the attitude that statistics is about solving problems. The methods that are covered are not specific to one field of application alone, but apply to all areas in which statistics is used which include: business; government; industry; medicine; the economy; and most academic subjects. Topics covered include: summarising data; examining relationships; randomness and sampling distributions; probability; testing hypotheses; and estimation.

A key element of this course will be the development of skills in interpreting and communicating results.

### Preparatory work

Before undertaking this course, we recommend that you work through courses 1 – 6 and course 8 on our Maths Help website: [mathshelp.open.ac.uk/](http://mathshelp.open.ac.uk/)

There is also a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/science-maths-technology/prices-location-and-spread/content-section-0?intro=1](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/science-maths-technology/prices-location-and-spread/content-section-0?intro=1)

## The frozen planet

This course explores the wonder of the polar world and explains how ice has shaped and controls our planet. It is about the physical controls on the shape and character of our planet over millions of years through to the climate we experience today. You will investigate the different environmental where wildlife flourishes, and the strategies some species have developed to exploit them. You will discover the influence of humans on the environment and the discoveries of the early polar explorers.

**Credits: 10**

**OU code: S175**

**Duration: October 2019 to March 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 4 - 6**

**Assessments: end of course written assessment**

**Academic support: online study advisers via an online discussion forum**

**Credits: 10****OU code: S177****Duration: October 2019 to March 2020****Recommended weekly study hours: 4 - 6****Assessments: end of course written assessment****Academic support: online study advisers via an online discussion forum**

## Galaxies, stars and planets

This course explains how the Sun gets its energy and how astronomers observe the Sun and its interior. You will be introduced to the planets, their satellites and the minor bodies of the solar system. The latest ideas about the life cycle of stars, from birth to death, and the cosmic re-cycling of their components are also explored.

You will learn to interpret and manipulate astronomical images from space telescopes and ground-based telescopes. These activities will help you make the transition from just appreciating astronomical images to doing quantitative science.

Through this course, you will also access astronomical images from some of the biggest telescopes on Earth and in space.

## Molecules, medicines and drugs: a chemical story

Molecules, medicines and drugs: a chemical story is a highly interactive online course that focuses on the chemistry that underlies medicines. After a brief introduction (which discusses the development and testing of drugs within a social and economic setting), you'll move on to explore the discovery and development of a range of drugs and medicines that relieve pain, effect cures and alleviate the symptoms of ill-health. You'll find out how drugs interact with and affect their target areas in the human body.

**Credits: 10****OU code: SK185****Duration: October 2019 to March 2020****Recommended weekly study hours: 4 - 6****Assessments: end of course written assessment****Academic support: online study advisers via an online discussion forum**

Credits: 30

OU code: SM123

Duration: October 2019 to June 2020

Recommended weekly study hours: 8 - 10

4 tutor-marked assignments and 3 hour exam in June

Academic support: tutor

Compulsory collaborative Working: study with other students via the course forums from the first month

Entry requirement: Higher Maths or Higher Physics

## Physics and space

In this course, delivered exclusively online, you'll examine fundamental concepts in physics and the space sciences. Its nine highly relevant topics and practical activities will help prepare you to study physics, astronomy or planetary science. You'll learn through solving physical science problems while acquiring computer programming knowledge and practising your existing maths skills.

### Topics

- Forces around you
- An introduction to energy
- Material worlds
- The quantum realm
- Energy in society
- Nuclei and particles
- Components of the Universe
- Exploring the Solar System
- How the Universe works

### Preparatory work

Before you can register on this course you must complete this self-assessment course: [www.open.ac.uk/courses/Courses/media/Courses/Qualification/Infographics/SM123\\_self-assessed-quiz.pdf](http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/Courses/media/Courses/Qualification/Infographics/SM123_self-assessed-quiz.pdf)

## Volcanoes, earthquakes and tsunamis

If you've ever been intrigued or affected by volcanic eruptions, earthquakes or tsunamis and want to find out more about why they happen and what they do, then this is the course for you.

The course covers:

- The basic plate tectonic structure of the Earth and its relationship to the global distribution and types of earthquakes and volcanoes
- The factors contributing to the origin and styles of eruption of magma from volcanoes
- The hazards posed to humans and the environment as a whole by volcanic eruptions, and the extent to which risk can realistically be mitigated
- The nature of ground motion during earthquakes, the hazards posed thereby, and ways to reduce vulnerability to earthquake damage
- The nature of tsunamis and the volcanic, seismic and other events that can trigger them
- The nature and outcome of some notable historic eruptions, earthquakes and tsunamis, and methods to predict and monitor these phenomena.

Credits: 10

OU code: S186

Duration: October 2019 to March 2020

Recommended weekly study hours: 4 - 6

Assessments: end of course written assessment

Academic support: online study advisers via an online discussion forum

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: DB125**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 - 10**

**Assessments: 3 tutor-marked assignments, end of course assessment**

**Academic support: tutor**

## You and your money

This course has three primary aims, to:

- **Give you the knowledge, skills, tools and confidence to manage your own money well**
- **Provide an introduction to the social sciences, especially economics, relating them to the real world in which we live**
- **Gently build and practise your study skills and employability skills.**

Throughout the online weeks, you'll share in the lives of 12 households, two each from the UK, USA, Germany, Sweden, Brazil and India, so you can compare financial experiences from across the globe and the factors that influence them.

You will need to use some basic mathematics (decimals, percentages, fractions, reading simple tables and charts). Week 1 of the course provides a self-test to help you refresh or develop these skills before you start your studies. A few further simple numerical techniques (such as averages) are fully taught in subsequent weeks.

### Preparatory work

There is a short taster course which might be helpful to look at: [www.open.edu/openlearn/money-business/personal-finance/you-and-your-money/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab](http://www.open.edu/openlearn/money-business/personal-finance/you-and-your-money/content-section-0?active-tab=description-tab)

## Economics in context

This module has three primary aims:

- **To provide you with foundations of economics and an initial set of skills and tools economists use**
- **To provide an insight into how economics and the economies have evolved over time**
- **To engage with a plurality of perspectives within the economics discipline and outside it, and embed standard economics in context.**

There are two main blocks of study. The first focuses on markets, how they operate, what drives their outcomes, and how economics analyses them from a microeconomic perspective. The second looks at key systems which interact with markets and define the economies in which they operate.

Throughout the module, we'll be making use of three interconnecting themes: agents, success, and change. What success means changes according to the agents and the context; the relative importance of different agents changes with the context and with what the prevalent measure of success is; and change through time depends on the relation between agents and success. This module is a building block towards a critical perspective on economics and economic choices for our daily lives.

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: DD126**

**Duration: October 2019 to June 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 - 10**

**Assessments: 3 tutor-marked assignments and a final exam**

**Academic support: tutor**

**Credits: 30**

**OU code: YXM130**

**Duration: October 2019 to May 2020**

**Recommended weekly study hours: 8 - 10**

**Assessments: 1 tutor-marked assignments, 1 interactive computer-marked assessment**

**Academic support: tutor**

## Making your learning count – Sport and Exercise

In this course you will reflect on your learning from a relevant Higher and study a range of selected Sport and Exercise courses from our OpenLearn resources.

Throughout the course you will explore what happens when you bring different knowledge, skills and learning experiences together.

The assignments and tasks will help you develop your study skills, plan your learning, embed your learning, and finally reflect on your learning.

### What you will study

You will need to undertake 150 hours of learning for this course. An appropriate Higher you have studied will count as 50 hours and you will need to study a further 100 hours from The Open University's OpenLearn resources.

OpenLearn subject choices include:

- **Sport coaching and psychology**
- **Sport media and culture**
- **Science and wheeled sports**
- **Motivation**
- **Nutrition**

**Early registration on this course will allow you to start working through your OpenLearn choices from June 2019.**





**THE YOUNG  
APPLICANTS IN  
SCHOOLS SCHEME  
Teacher Guide**

“ The pupils and staff at Doon Academy are grateful for the opportunities the YASS scheme provides.

For us, YASS ticks just about all of the boxes of a good widening access initiative: it fills a curricular gap; it provides opportunities to deepen and broaden learning; it provides routes into higher education; it encourages our young people to take responsibility for and be positive about their futures; and it limits the disadvantage faced by pupils from one of the most deprived parts of the country.”

**DOON ACADEMY**  
UCAS Adviser/Widening Access Coordinator





## Welcome to the Young Applicants in Schools Scheme (YASS)

### Welcome to the Young Applicants in Schools Scheme (YASS)

YASS is The Open University (OU) in Scotland's national bridging programme for S6 pupils. It offers your pupils the opportunity of studying Open University level 1 courses (SCQF level 7) in school alongside their other studies. The programme is designed to help develop a range of skills and knowledge that will support the transition from school to university, college or the work place.

#### National reach

YASS is uniquely placed as a bridging activity that has full geographical reach. It is open to every secondary school in Scotland and participation is not limited by minimum numbers.

#### Impact

Since it was launched in 2007, all 32 education authorities in Scotland have had schools participating in YASS and over 7,500 students have studied a YASS course.

YASS is also fully endorsed and funded by the Scottish Funding Council (SFC).

### External recognition

- You can include YASS attainment in your Scottish Government's INSIGHT reporting
- Pupils can add their YASS studies to their UCAS forms under 'Other Qualifications' section.

### Cost

There is no cost to the school or the pupil. YASS is fully funded by the SFC and is completely free for pupils in local authority schools. Pupils who attend independent schools can self-fund the course or be sponsored by their school.

### Eligibility

YASS is open to every S6 pupil in full-time study in Scottish schools.

The programme works best for students who are not only academically able, but who are motivated and committed too, and able to cope well with independent learning. Before they consider the scheme, pupils need to be aware of the extra study requirements. For example, a 30-point course runs from October to June and can demand up to 14 hours of independent study each week.

## When should I speak to my pupils about studying a YASS course?

The best time to start talking to pupils about taking a YASS course is in S5. This will allow enough time to look at the courses offered and think about how studying with YASS would fit around their other S6 studies. Participating schools often offer YASS as an option to their S5 pupils as part of the S6 course choice procedure.

## Roles and responsibilities of the school

All learning materials, teaching and academic support is provided by the OU. The main responsibility of the school is to be the link between the pupil and the YASS team. To do this your school will need to provide the YASS team with a named contact in your school. This person will take on the responsibility of being the YASS co-ordinator.



## The key responsibilities of the co-ordinator are to:



**Arrange in-school information sessions**

Welcome

**Introduce pupils to the YASS programme**



**Ensure all interested students use the YASS website and guide to research their course options before deciding which course to take**



**Undertake one-to-one interviews with prospective YASS students to help them make informed choices about their courses**



**Ensure pupils are aware of the commitment required to study a YASS course**



**Take responsibility for the administration of registering pupils on their courses**



**Provide appropriate in-school support for pupils throughout their course**



## Getting your school involved

The first step is to contact the YASS team by phone or email and we will be more than happy to answer any questions you might have. Alternatively, you can complete the 'School Interest Form' on the YASS website at [www.open.ac.uk/scotland/study/young-applicants-schools](http://www.open.ac.uk/scotland/study/young-applicants-schools), and we will get in touch with you.

### YASS in-school information sessions

Interested and participating schools can also request an in-school information session with the YASS team. These sessions can be arranged to suit you.

### To arrange a session, contact the YASS team.

We can:

- Come into your school for an informal discussion
- Deliver a presentation to your S5 year group
- Attend senior phase course choice events

### How to register your pupils

You can register your pupils on their YASS courses from 20 March 2019. Early registrations will allow:

- Pupils time to plan their S6 timetable
- Extra time to complete any pre-start preparatory work
- Pupils to start working though their course from June 2019
- Access to a range of induction materials and complete our 'Being an OU student' course

Registration should be processed via a registration form which is supplied to the co-ordinator by the YASS team.

Full details on how to register your pupils can be found on the YASS website. You can also contact the YASS team to discuss the registration process.

Registrations  
open  
March  
2019



## Contact and further information

### Further sources of information

The YASS website: [www.open.ac.uk/scotland/study/young-applicants-schools](http://www.open.ac.uk/scotland/study/young-applicants-schools)

The Open University in Scotland website: [www.open.ac.uk/scotland](http://www.open.ac.uk/scotland)

The Open University Careers and Employability website: [www.open.ac.uk/careers](http://www.open.ac.uk/careers)

### Contacting the YASS team

Email: [Scotland-YASS@open.ac.uk](mailto:Scotland-YASS@open.ac.uk)

Kitty Chilcott  
YASS Project Officer  
**0131 549 7982**

Ramin Soulghani  
YASS Co-ordinator  
**0131 549 7980**



The Open  
University

50  
YEARS

SCOTLAND



[Scotland-YASS@open.ac.uk](mailto:Scotland-YASS@open.ac.uk)



[www.open.ac.uk/scotland/study/young-applicants-schools](http://www.open.ac.uk/scotland/study/young-applicants-schools)



[@OUScotland](https://twitter.com/OUScotland)



[OU in Scotland on LinkedIn](https://www.linkedin.com/company/ou-in-scotland)



[www.facebook.com/OpenUniversityinScotland](https://www.facebook.com/OpenUniversityinScotland)

The Open University is incorporated by Royal Charter (RC 000391), an exempt charity in England and Wales and a registered charity in Scotland (SC 038302). The Open University is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority.

Image credits: Unsplash/Alexis Brown/Andrew Neel/Annie Spratt/ Brooke Cagle/Bruce Mars/ Campaign Creators/Eliabe Costa/ Louis Reed/ Miguel Henriques/ OscarNord/ RawPixel/ Ryoji Iwata/ Scott Webb/Sebastian Pichler/ Tommy Bebo/Stil/Nordwood Themes/ fabian-irsara.

All information in this guide is indicative and correct at the time of going to press.