Opportunities for language learning with The Open University

Joan Thomson, 
Learning & Teaching Co-ordinator 
The Open University in Scotland
OUr Mission

Widening access to education and participation
The Open University

The UK’s largest academic institution – c.200,000 students

Established in 1969

World leaders in distance learning – from short courses to Masters degrees

We provide:
- A unique model of supported open learning
- Scalable provision of education
- Constant pedagogic innovation
Open University Model

Open access
High quality learning materials
Blended learning
One-to-one support
Interactivity and feedback
Formative and summative assessment
Residential/day schools
Social networking
Languages @ the OU

For learners

Access

Informal learning

Module study

Tailored sessions
Access to Learning

Informal learning

http://www.open.edu/openlearn/languages

OpenLearn:
Free on-line learning
Access to Learning

Informal learning

Open Pathways to Higher Education

www.open.ac.uk/scotland/openpathways
Access to Learning

Informal learning

Open Pathways to Higher Education

Delve-deeper-arts-and-languages
Access to Learning

Informal learning

Gaelic in modern Scotland

By: The Open University

Duration 15 hours
Introductory level

Updated Thursday 10th March 2016
Posted under More Languages

Gaelic in modern Scotland

Introduction

Modern Scotland is a multi-lingual country. Gaelic, Scots and English, along with newer introductions from Europe and beyond, all influence the way Scotland's people now speak to each other and to the rest of the world.

Created with the positive encouragement of Bòrd na Gàidhlig and with support from BBC Alba, this course - available in both Gaelic and English - has been designed to provide a resource for people with a personal or professional interest in increasing their knowledge and understanding of the development and impact of Scottish Gaelic and its culture. It aims to surprise and challenge where necessary; to provide links and ideas for further research; and, for some, to kick-start a journey into learning a language which is integral to Scotland's national identity.

The course is made up of seven sections which can be studied in sequence or individually. The course is also available on our OpenLearn Works website, where you can download and customise these materials to use in your own teaching or staff development.

Contents

1. Gaelic as a national language of Scotland
   Here you will learn how Gaelic sits alongside Scots and English as one of Scotland's national languages. For example, by exploring the origin of place-names, you will learn about the influence of Gaelic right across Scotland.

2. Celtic roots and international reach
   This section provides an introduction to the origins and Celtic roots of Gaelic and its close linguistic relatives including Irish and Manx. You will also hear and see how emigration from Scotland took Gaelic to the Americas and how there are now learners of Gaelic across the world.

3. Gaelic in the modern era
   Provides an up to date picture of who is speaking Gaelic now. It will help you understand the reasons for the decline in the number of Gaelic speakers in Scotland in the 20th century and the work currently being done by government, educational institutions and independent agencies to support and grow Gaelic language acquisition. There are links here to where to go if you decide you want to take your study of Gaelic further.

4. Gaelic - the rationale
   Aids you to consider the value of bi-lingualism/multi-lingualism to individuals and society. It draws on the example of New Zealand to explore how other countries have sought to protect and celebrate the contribution of their indigenous minority languages.

5. How the Gaelic language works
   Hear Gaelic spoken and practice for yourself. Audio resources will give you an insight into how Gaelic spelling, grammar and pronunciation work.

6. Gaelic culture: a national asset
   Lots of pictures, clips and links to people, places and events will help you learn how Gaelic language and culture continue to

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Achievements

My statement of participation (in progress)

Administrative tools + −
Access to Learning

Informal learning

LORO
Languages Open Resources Online:
• a repository of language teaching materials
• Mainly for language teaching professionals

http://loro.open.ac.uk/
Access to Learning

Informal learning

Skills based; Future Learn

https://www.futurelearn.com/
Access module

http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/modules/y031
Module study

http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/find/languages

- **German:**
  - beginner
  - intermediate
  - advanced

- **French:**
  - beginner
  - intermediate
  - advanced

- **Spanish:**
  - beginner
  - intermediate
  - advanced

- **Chinese:**
  - beginner

- **Italian:**
  - beginner
  - intermediate

- **Discovering Wales and Welsh:**
  - short course
Module study

http://www.open.ac.uk/courses/find/languages

- Exploring languages and culture
- English for academic purposes online
- Professional communication skills for business studies
Tailored sessions

Working together to meet skills needs

- High quality learning materials
- Student support expertise
- Associate lecturer pool
- Workshop/day schools
- Blended learning
- One-to-one support
- Interactivity and feedback
Contact details

Joan Thomson
Learning & Teaching Co-ordinator, The OU in Scotland
Email: Joan.Thomson@open.ac.uk
Tel: 0141 549 7112

Languages @ the OU in Scotland
Email: Scotlandlanguages@open.ac.uk