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Today is the day to open up your future. To expand your horizons and gain new skills. To move your career to the next level – or start a new one. We’re here to help you do it all.
Whether your motives for study are personal or professional, or you are an employer considering the development of your workforce, there are many reasons to choose The Open University in Scotland.

Differences across the four nations in the issues and complexity of health and social care predate devolution within the United Kingdom. As the only university in the UK to have formal roles in each of the four nations, The Open University (OU) is acutely aware of the need to ensure that the education and ongoing development of professionals working in these fields is set within the appropriate context.

I am confident you will find that the qualifications and modules within this prospectus will meet your needs within the dynamic health and social care environment in which you work or are hoping to work. Our programmes help achieve the aims and ambitions of NHS Scotland's 2020 Vision for Health and Social Care and the 2020 Workforce Vision which supports it.

The integration of health and social care is a key challenge for public services in Scotland and we can help with the delivery of the intended benefits through both our credit-bearing and free educational materials.

We have a long and proud history of working with health and social care providers in Scotland to ensure that the content of our modules is relevant to practice, to the real issues faced by the professionals who deliver the services and is sensitive to the changing needs of those who receive them. Such an approach has resulted in our students rating us the top university in Scotland for overall satisfaction.

As you browse this guide you will hear from our students and how they have benefited from the qualifications and modules we offer. This is just a small sample from our students spread across Scotland, but they illustrate the ways in which the OU has provided a strong foundation for starting or enhancing your career in health and social care.

Best wishes

Susan Stewart
Director,
The Open University in Scotland

The beauty of the Open University route is the flexibility of the courses. Working within social care and also studying topics relating to my work, offered me a deeper understanding and enhanced my learning, linking theory to practice.”

Emma Govan,
BA (Hons) Social Work
Health and Social Care is a vast service sector undergoing radical and rapid change. The focus in frontline health and social care is giving service users more independence, choice and control.

This means there’s greater demand for well-trained and multi-skilled people across a range of rewarding employment opportunities. Providing help and care for those in need offers a unique sense of personal and career fulfilment. Through OU study you can become part of this essential and worthwhile sector, or build on your existing professional experience and progress your career in a particular area.

Our qualifications cover today’s most topical and important issues, such as mental health, children and families, end-of-life care, and dementia, and are designed to inspire and challenge you. Some explore broad principles and approaches to caring, while others offer a route to a professional qualification. All draw on the latest research and the experience of practitioners to provide you with valuable insight, skills and knowledge.

Each year around 9,000 people study health and social care with us. Our students are a mix of employees and employers working in this sector, as well as service users, and friends and families involved in their care. Students tell us how studying with the OU transforms their lives, practice and experience in relation to health and social care.

Most of our modules are available on a standalone basis or, alternatively, as part of a qualification. Our health and social care modules focus on practice and address issues such as:

- What makes an effective practitioner?
- How do policy and the law influence practice?
- What impact do health and social care services have on the people who use these services?

In considering these and many other issues, our modules include the views and voices of practitioners and people who use their services, and their carers. This way we keep learning current and relevant.

WHERE CAN YOU START?

Our popular module An introduction to health and social care (K101) is a very good place to begin study. Not only does it introduce students to key concepts in health and social care, but it also embeds study skills to support academic development.

We also offer more specialised modules which look at particular aspects of health and social care such as:

- Children and young people
- Dementia care
- Leadership and management
- Mental health
- Public health.
Whether you are responsible for a small specialist team or a large workforce, the OU has the expertise to support and develop your health and social care professionals and meet the needs of the integrated health and social care agenda in Scotland.

The OU is engaged in current priorities in the sector in Scotland and understands the need to develop interventions that make a difference to the lives of service users and patients. We are highly skilled at helping learners reflect and build on their knowledge and capabilities to become more effective in their workplace.

Across the UK, The Open University has an enviable reputation in learning, teaching and research that ensures our contribution to staff development is always informed by contemporary evidence and a desire to improve practice.

The OU helps organisations transform their health and social care workforce by developing the knowledge, skills and confidence of staff to ensure they are equipped to play their part delivering high-quality care.

“The collaborative management development programme also gives participants experience of working with others - people from different places doing different jobs. It gives them a network of professionals in other fields right across the area - it’s useful to have a contact, or a professional link with someone on, say, the other side of Edinburgh. If you know and have trained with that person it makes for a much more joined-up approach to service users.”

Sue Sloan,
Lead Practitioner
Leadership, NHS Lothian
BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYERS:
- The high quality of our learning and student support is endorsed by professional bodies and external quality reviewers.
- We have a strong focus on improving practice, the quality of care and service user experience.
- Our learning is delivered in a flexible and accessible way and supported largely without staff absence from the workplace – so it’s highly cost effective.
- Staff continue working while they learn and are able to apply their new knowledge and skills immediately.

Each year some 9,000 health and social care professionals across the UK study with the OU – leading to improved outcomes for the organisations they work for and their service users.

The following modules are a selection of those that are ideal for health and social care staff to study:
- Adulthood, ageing and the life course (K319)
- An introduction to health and social care (K101)
- Dementia care (K235)
- Leadership and management in health and social care (K313)
- Making a difference: working with children and young people (KE206)
- Managing across organisational and cultural boundaries (B325)
- Management practice (B123)

Enter module code into search box at openuniversity.co.uk/courses for module description.

WORKING WITH THE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SECTOR IN SCOTLAND
The OU works collaboratively with diverse organisations and employers across Scotland to help meet their workforce development needs and maximise the impact of learning in the workplace. This can range from enhancing the learning experience of employees studying OU modules, independently or in clusters, through to:
- delivery of information, induction and evaluation sessions
- working with line managers
- provision of additional in-house support sessions
- building collaborative teaching programmes into qualifications
- engaging key staff in the workplace to help contextualise learning.

If you would like to understand more about how the OU in Scotland works with employers, go to openuniversity.co.uk/scotland.

"There are so many advantages to OU study. It offers a flexibility you just don’t get from any other university. The quality of learning is fantastic. We are committed to giving our staff the best possible degree training available – and the combination of both those things mean that we can do just that."

Tony Mackie, Principal Officer Learning and Development, Glasgow City Council

SUPPORTING EMPLOYERS BY DELIVERING LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE WORKPLACE
We can offer a wide range of relevant and practice-related continuing professional development (CPD) opportunities for groups of staff in the health and social care sector. Programmes can be tailored for particular groups to address the priorities of your organisation or Scottish Government policy requirements, and are delivered by our specialist tutors across Scotland.

Group CPD opportunities can be delivered in the workplace or in a place of your choosing.

Examples of the work we’re currently delivering for a range of organisations include:
- working confidently with individuals with dementia
- working with local authority staff to become more confident and aware of the self-directed support agenda and legislation
- getting to grips with health and social care integration
- leading and managing an effective care service
- working with staff to become more effective at evaluating the impact of their own work
- working with organisations to develop a ‘community assets’ based approach to workforce development.
We continually review the opportunities on offer to workplace groups and are committed to providing a range of workshops and resources that respond to the latest developments in the sector.

For further information or an informal discussion in relation to your organisation, please email the OU Work-Based Learning Team in Scotland at r11-learning-development@open.ac.uk.

COLLABORATIVE TEACHING OF OU MODULES
The collaborative teaching scheme is an innovative initiative developed by The Open University School of Health, Wellbeing and Social Care. Through partnership, organisations and groups are able to deliver high-quality learning opportunities in their own setting. Teaching and learning can take place in workplaces and community settings in exciting and effective ways to meet the needs of individuals, employers, organisations and communities.

Running since 1997, the collaborative teaching scheme has a track record of developing people and helping management to meet strategic aims in a range of contexts across a range of sectors and settings.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR EMPLOYERS SPONSORING STUDENTS
Investing in CPD shows an employer’s commitment to staff, illustrates their expectations regarding service improvement and sends a clear message about an organisation’s vision for a well-developed workforce achieving high-quality care. Organisations support their staff in a variety of ways. Some employers are able to sponsor their employees by covering the full cost of their study. Other organisations reimburse employees for some or all of their study, perhaps on successful completion. Many organisations share the cost of study with employees, while others offer support, from providing a mentor or offering study leave to tailored delivery of a development programme for high-potential employees.

Visit openuniversity.co.uk/sponsorfees for the most up-to-date information on fees and funding for employers.

The Open University in Scotland is very much in the skills business. It is working to achieve the objectives of Skills for Scotland by providing part-time, flexible learning opportunities for people wherever they live in Scotland. This is equipping OU students with the higher level skills both they and the economy need.”

Scottish Government Skills Strategy Update
We offer nearly 200 highly-respected qualifications, including certificates, diplomas and degrees. Read the information below to help you decide which qualification is best for you.

**FOR UNDERGRADUATES**

You can study any of the following undergraduate qualifications.

- **A degree in a named subject** – Complete modules in a particular subject to earn an honours degree.
- **An Open degree** – Tailor an honours degree to your needs and interests across a number of subjects.
- **Diploma of higher education (DipHE)** – Expand your knowledge and improve your skillset. A diploma of higher education is equivalent to two-thirds of an honours degree.
- **Foundation degree** – Focus on a particular job or profession related to what you’re doing now, either in a work or voluntary setting. A foundation degree is equivalent to two-thirds of an honours degree.
- **Certificate of higher education (CertHE)** – Get a general grounding in a subject. A certificate of higher education is equivalent to one-third of an honours degree.
- **OU Certificates** – Develop and progress your knowledge and understanding of the subject area.

**FOR POSTGRADUATE**

You can study three types of postgraduate qualification:

- **Masters degree**
- **Postgraduate diploma**
- **Postgraduate certificate**

Whatever you choose, we’ll give you:

- the flexibility to fit postgraduate study around your other commitments
- the opportunity to improve your career
- freedom to follow your passions in depth.

To find out more about how you build your qualification and how long it takes, see pages 12–13
LEARN IN A WAY THAT SUITS YOU

We give you the flexibility to fit study around the other things going on in your life, whatever they may be.

SUPPORTED OPEN LEARNING
You’ll have more one-to-one contact that you have with other distance education providers and more flexibility than campus-based learning. We make sure that always have the help you need to learn in the best possible way. You get regular support from our tutors and access to all the materials and resources essential to your course.

We also put you in touch with a Student Support Team from the beginning. They’ll be there to help you on your learning journey.

HOW YOU WILL BE ASSESSED
You may be assessed in a number of different ways. We use a combination of written assignments, oral or practical assessments, projects, examinations, dissertations and portfolios. Check individual qualification descriptions for more detail.

PIioneerING TECHNOLOGY
We’ve been using innovative technology to connect with our students since we first started. We’ll make sure that you always have what you need and feel connected.

CONNeCT WITH OTHER STUDENTS
Use our module discussion groups to talk about subjects or study methods. Or you could join one of the informal Facebook groups set up by students.

Join the conversation on Facebook.com/OUstudents Twitter.com/OUstudents Instagram.com/OUstudentslive

STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
You’ll also gain automatic entry to our active Students Association – you can help influence University decisions, meet fellow students and develop new skills.

Find out more at openuniversity.co.uk/ousa.

DO YOU HAVE ADDITIONAL STUDY NEEDS?
The OU is committed to helping students with disabilities and additional needs – around 20,000 last year alone. We’ll give you the tools to overcome obstacles that may stand in the way of your learning – whatever your needs be.

For more information and to find out whether you may qualify for financial help with study and travel costs, call us on +44 (0)300 303 5303 or go to openuniversity.co.uk/disability.
IMPROVE YOUR CONFIDENCE WITH AN ACCESS MODULE

An Access module offers a great introduction to a range of subjects. Think of it as a taster to see if you want to delve in deeper. You don’t have to do one, but you may find it helpful if you don’t have much experience of university-level study or you haven’t studied in a while. You may even qualify for a free Access module – see page x for more details.

It will also:
- help improve your confidence
- give you a taste of something you may want to study in more detail
- provide an opportunity to brush up on your study skills.

Each module includes a selection of materials, online quizzes, and assignments that you complete over a period of 30 weeks. It takes around nine hours of study each week.

You’ll get:
- a personal tutor providing regular feedback with one-to-one telephone tutorials
- further support from a dedicated team throughout your study
- detailed written feedback
- an OU Access Module Certificate at the end of the course.

WHAT YOU CAN STUDY

The following Access modules can prepare you for one or more of the qualifications we offer in nursing and healthcare.

**People, work and society Access module (Y032)**
This is a multi-disciplinary module – you’ll be getting compelling insights into a wide range of areas, including social sciences; health; childhood studies; law; management and psychology. This will allow you to improve your subject knowledge in those areas particularly, but also prepare you for further study on a wide variety of qualifications.

**Science, technology and maths Access module (Y033)**
This module introduces you to a technically oriented range of subjects, including science; engineering and design; environment; mathematics; and computing and IT. As the foundation for further study in these fields, this is the ideal module to explore mathematical and scientific ideas and techniques.

We offer one further Access module which is more relevant to other subject areas:

**Arts and languages Access module (Y031)**

Students who prepare by taking an Access module are more likely to be successful in their future studies.
DO YOU QUALIFY FOR A FREE ACCESS MODULE?

YOU MAY QUALIFY FOR A FREE ACCESS MODULE
If you are resident in Scotland, your personal income is £25,000 a year or less (or you are in receipt of qualifying benefits) and you have no previous experience of university level education, you could be entitled to study an OU Access module for free.

IF YOU DON'T QUALIFY FOR A FREE ACCESS MODULE
The cost of an Access module in Scotland is £233.

NEXT STEPS
Order an Access Modules prospectus online at openuniversity.co.uk/ug-access or speak to our Student Recruitment team on +44 (0)300 303 0069.
HOW YOU BUILD YOUR QUALIFICATION

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

As an undergraduate student you will need to build up a set number of credits to gain your qualification. Here's how it works:

WHAT ARE STAGES, CREDITS AND MODULES?

STAGES
- You must complete three stages to gain an honours degree, two stages for a diploma of higher education, and one stage for a certificate of higher education.
- To complete each stage you must build up a set number of credits...

CREDITS
- You need 120 credits to complete each stage.
- You need a set number of credits to gain your chosen qualification e.g. you need 360 credits to gain an honours degree.
- You gain credits by successfully completing modules...

MODULES
- You choose the modules you want to study, year by year.
- Different modules are worth different amounts of credits, usually 30 or 60 credits.
- Modules are either compulsory or selected from a choice of options.
- Most students study 60 credits a year.

120 CREDITS
Certificate of higher education

240 CREDITS
Diploma of higher education

360 CREDITS
Degree with honours

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

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

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

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

You gain a postgraduate qualification by building up a set number of credits.

CREDITS
You need:
- 60 credits to gain a postgraduate certificate
- 120 credits to gain a postgraduate diploma
- 180 credits to gain a masters degree.
You gain credits by successfully completing modules.

MODULES
- You choose the modules you want to study year by year.
- With each module you successfully complete, you’ll earn a set number of credits, usually 30 or 60 credits.
- Modules are either compulsory or selected from a choice of options.

GETTING STARTED
All you need to do is choose which qualification you want to study and register on a module that counts towards that qualification. You can find out more about the postgraduate qualifications we offer in health and social care on page 20.
For more information on how long your qualification will take – see pages 14-15.
HOW LONG YOUR QUALIFICATION WILL TAKE

Exactly how long it takes to get your qualification depends on you – how many credits you study each year and which qualification you’re working towards. Most of our students study part time. The way we work gives you the flexibility to do this and get the qualification you want in a timeframe that’s right for you. If you want to study full time, you’ll need to plan your studies and keep a few things in mind. We recommend that you do no more than two modules at the same time.

UNDERGRADUATE QUALIFICATIONS

DEGREE (360 CREDITS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study hours per week</th>
<th>120 credits a year</th>
<th>Full time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study hours per week</th>
<th>60 credits a year</th>
<th>Part time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
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Years to complete

FOUNDATION DEGREE/DIPLOMA OF HIGHER EDUCATION (240 CREDITS)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study hours per week</th>
<th>120 credits a year</th>
<th>Full time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
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</table>

<table>
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<th>Part time</th>
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<td>18</td>
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</table>

Years to complete

CERTIFICATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION (120 CREDITS)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Study hours per week</th>
<th>120 credits a year</th>
<th>Full time</th>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
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</table>

Years to complete

Studying at a rate of 30 credits a year will require nine hours study per week. It will take double the time of studying 60 credits a year to complete your qualification.
Depending on your qualification, the required modules may not all be available within your study year or may not be studied together for academic reasons. If this applies to your qualification, you won’t be able to study full time. See below for a guide to how long it will take you to gain your qualification.

**POSTGRADUATE QUALIFICATIONS**

**MASTERS DEGREE (180 CREDITS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study hours per week</th>
<th>12–16</th>
<th>60 credits a year</th>
<th>Part time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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**POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA (120 CREDITS)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study hours per week</th>
<th>12–16</th>
<th>60 credits a year</th>
<th>Part time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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**POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE (60 CREDITS)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study hours per week</th>
<th>12–16</th>
<th>60 credits a year</th>
<th>Part time</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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</table>
WHEN AND HOW YOU CAN PAY

We offer great value for money, giving you an excellent standard of teaching at an affordable price. And we’ll always help you find a way of paying that suits your circumstances.

FOR POSTGRADUATE

You pay for postgraduate qualifications module by module. The total fee depends on what you choose to study.

FUNDING

You could be eligible for a fee loan of up to £2,750 a year, for up to two years, from the Student Awards Agency Scotland.

To be eligible you must:
- be resident in Scotland
- be studying for an eligible postgraduate qualification over two to four years.

IF YOU GET A LOAN
- you will receive up to £2,750 per year
- repayments are based on what you earn, not what you owe. You only start paying it back when you earn more than the income threshold (currently £17,495)

- the earliest you’ll start repaying your loan is the April after you’ve graduated or left the course (if you’re earning more than £17,495)
- payments are deducted automatically from your salary.

FOR EVERYONE

SELF-FUNDED STUDY

It’s easy to pay for your studies using a debit/credit card or by bank transfer. Or set up an Open University Student Budget Account (OUSBA) – see below for more information.

GET SPONSORED

See whether your company or organisation would want to help you learn and develop, it’s always worth asking.

FOR UNDERGRADUATE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CREDITS EACH YEAR</th>
<th>COST PER YEAR1</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>£479</td>
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<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>£958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>120</td>
<td>£1,916</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 2017/18 prices (exceptions apply): fees normally increase annually in line with inflation and the University’s strategic to fees.

The cost for a typical 360 credit honours degree based on today's prices is £5,748.

FUNDING

If your personal income is £25,000 or less, or you’re on certain benefits, and you’re studying at least 30 credits, you could qualify for a Part-Time Fee Grant to cover all your course fees.

STUDY SUPPORT AND DISCRETIONARY FUNDS

If your annual income is less than £25,000, you may be eligible for additional means-tested funding for study-related costs, such as travel, childcare and internet access.

OPEN UNIVERSITY STUDENT BUDGET ACCOUNTS LTD (OUSBA)

When you enrol with us, you’ll be offered the opportunity to pay your fees through a loan from OUSBA. OUSBA will pay your fees to The Open University, and you repay OUSBA either in a single sum or in monthly instalments.

You can repay OUSBA at any time before the course begins. In this case, there’s no interest.

Alternatively, you can repay OUSBA in monthly instalments payable over up to a year.

In this case, interest does apply. The interest rate is fixed for the duration of the course (current representative APR of 5.1%).

As a responsible lender every application must be made to OUSBA undergoes a credit and affordability check.

Find out more about OUSBA at openuniversity.co.uk/ousba.
UNDERGRADUATE COURSES

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Working in health and social care can be incredibly rewarding, both personally and professionally, but it is also challenging. Services and roles are changing, with more and more demands on staff to deliver high quality, safe and compassionate care, and to develop new skills and keep up to date.

Staff development plays a crucial role in supporting the delivery of high-quality care. Our curriculum focuses on meeting the needs of the health and social care sector by providing professionally relevant learning and developing high-calibre practitioners.

BA (HONS) HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (R26)

This degree provides a sound and critical understanding of health and social care policy, theory and practice, and will help you to develop as an independent and reflective learner. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/r26

BSc (HONS) HEALTHCARE AND HEALTH SCIENCE (Q96)

This degree will provide you with the skills required for working in health and health science settings and the ability to apply scientific-related theories and methods to health-related issues. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/q96

DIPLOMA OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (W69)

This diploma develops your critical understanding of health and social care policy, theory and practice, and the skills you need for effective practice in a diverse, multidisciplinary environment. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/w69

CERTIFICATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN HEALTHCARE WITH HEALTH SCIENCE (T28)

This certificate introduces a range of topics and knowledge about healthcare, and of ethical, social, economic and political issues that influence healthcare, as well as the skills required for progressing into a career in health science. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/t28

CERTIFICATE IN HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE (S31)

This certificate is focused on two things. It provides a valuable introduction to learning in higher education and it also provides an authoritative overview of health and social care. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/s31

CERTIFICATE IN PROMOTING PUBLIC HEALTH (S13)

This certificate enables you, whatever your background and expertise, to develop your knowledge, skills and understanding of multidisciplinary public health across the UK and internationally. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/s13
HEALTHCARE PRACTICE
Health services across Scotland have changed significantly over recent years and so has the healthcare support workforce. The number of healthcare support workers and assistant practitioners has grown and these staff are now working in highly diverse and often complex areas and performing increasingly specialist tasks.

CERTIFICATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (T01)
This certificate will enable healthcare support staff to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to underpin effective practice. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/t01

DIPLOMA OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (W16)
This qualification is designed to promote the development of healthcare career pathways, and to prepare healthcare assistants/healthcare support workers for the role of assistant/associate practitioner. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/w16

PRE-REGISTRATION NURSING
The OU works in partnership with healthcare organisations to deliver a part-time, flexible pre-registration nursing programme for employed healthcare support workers. In Scotland, the OU is currently working with Scottish Government Health Directorate, providing opportunities for healthcare support workers, employed by NHS Boards in remote and rural areas, to achieve their goal of becoming a registered nurse.

BSc (HONS) ADULT NURSING (Q73)/BSc (HONS) MENTAL HEALTH NURSING (Q74)
The BSc (Hons) Nursing degree is a unique flexible practice-based learning route to qualification as a registered nurse, in either adult or mental health nursing. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/q73 or openuniversity.co.uk/q74

POST-QUALIFYING NURSING
If you’re a registered nurse (but not a graduate), our BSc (Hons) Nursing Practice (Q53) offers a practical way to take your career forward by enabling you to step up to an honours degree while continuing to earn. Our post-qualifying curriculum offers a flexible, modular approach and is designed to meet the needs of nurses working across a range of settings and specialities, in both the NHS and independent sectors. Study options focus on service improvement, leadership, ageing and the life course and public health.

BSc (HONS) NURSING PRACTICE (Q53)
If you’re a registered nurse, but are not a graduate, this degree offers a practical way to take your career forward, by enabling you to work towards an honours degree while continuing to earn. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/q53

At Angus Council we sponsor two OU social work degree students at any one time. We also take a cohort of between 12 and 16 students enrolled on Introducing the social sciences (DD102) and/or An introduction to health and social care (K101) on a regular basis. We chose the OU because we receive very positive feedback from our students, among whom there is a high pass rate and the quality of the tutorials and the learning materials is second to none. We considered other local universities, but found they didn’t meet all our needs, neither could we release staff to attend university on a full-time basis. Although cost was not the main factor, the OU does offer value for money, consistently providing the quality we require.”

Karen O’Donnell, Angus Council
SOCIAL WORK

Social work is a challenging and rewarding career. If you think it is the career for you, The Open University in Scotland can help.

We are one of the largest providers of social work education in Scotland. We’ve been supporting students in Scotland to qualify and register as social workers since 1994. Most OU social work students are sponsored and supported by their employers to study for the BA (Hons) Social Work (Scotland) (Q41).

We’re currently working in partnership with employers such as Dundee City Council, Dumfries and Galloway Council, Glasgow City Council, Highland Council, NHS Highland and Angus Council, Barnardos and many other local authorities, third-sector and independent providers of social work services to train and develop their social work staff.

You can discuss your study plans with faculty staff in Scotland for guidance before you start – phone our Social Work Co-ordinator on 0131 226 3851 or email scotland@open.ac.uk. If you are working in social services it would be helpful if you could also discuss plans with your employer.

BA (HONS) SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND) (Q41)

The Open University offers a work-based distance learning route to the degree in social work and eligibility to apply for registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) upon successful completion. The programme is approved by the SSSC. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/q41

BA (HONS) SOCIAL WORK (SCOTLAND): GRADUATE-ENTRY ROUTE (Q50)

Students who have a degree in any subject from a UK university, no matter when it was achieved, can enter the programme at Stage 2. Further details about the graduate-entry route can be obtained from the Social Work Co-ordinator, Scotland (email Scotland@open.ac.uk or call 0131 226 3851). Or go to openuniversity.co.uk/q50

DIPLOMA OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN SOCIAL CARE (SCOTLAND) (W31)

This diploma will deepen your insight of social care and social work, and develop the knowledge and skills you need to support vulnerable adults and children effectively in multiple settings. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/w31

CERTIFICATE OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN SOCIAL CARE (SCOTLAND) (T03)

This certificate explores ideas about what social work is – using case studies with children, older people, mental-health communities, children with disabilities and people with learning disabilities to apply learning to practice contexts. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/t03
POSTGRADUATE COURSES

ADVANCING HEALTHCARE PRACTICE

This programme enables students with an interest in advancing healthcare practice to develop knowledge, understanding and skills relevant to meeting the challenges of delivering high quality, safe and compassionate care – and address increasingly complex and demanding healthcare needs.

MSC IN ADVANCING HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (F52)

You can claim this masters after successfully completing three module: Leading healthcare improvements (K827); Researching and evaluating healthcare practice (K828); and Transforming professional practice (K829). For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/f52

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN ADVANCING HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (E46)

You can gain this postgraduate diploma when you have successfully completed two modules from the masters degree: Leading healthcare improvements (K827); and Researching and evaluating healthcare practice (K828). For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/e46

POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ADVANCING HEALTHCARE PRACTICE (C92)

After successfully completing the compulsory module Leading healthcare improvements (K827), you can gain this postgraduate certificate. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/c92

NEW POSTGRADUATE SOCIAL WORK PROGRAMME

Focusing on children and families, adults and mental health social work, our new qualifications prepare you to work in a range of settings including local authorities, healthcare providers and the private, voluntary and independent sector.

MA IN SOCIAL WORK (F80)

This qualification features the Postgraduate Diploma in Social Care (E85) as an embedded qualification (see below). Over the course of this qualification you will learn about social work theory and legislation, apply your learning to practice, and then develop your critical and analytical skills as a qualified practitioner. For more information go to openuniversity.co.uk/f80

POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMA IN SOCIAL WORK (E85)

This is a professional qualification enabling registration as a social worker.\(^1\) It combines academic learning with practice-based learning.

\(^1\)Approved, subject to conditions, by the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC).

For more information go to open.university.co.uk/e85
We offer the following two courses:
- Improving dementia care (KG002)
- Improving diabetes management (KG003)

What’s good about the OU is that it’s an option for people who’re not ready for nursing or for studying when they leave school. It’s a good way to progress later on, once you’ve got some healthcare experience or if you’re a nursing assistant, even if you don’t have qualifications from school. I think the OU offers a unique and different way of qualifying, it’s a very positive way for me to become a registered nurse.”

Karen Beck, OU student

Education and training can play a vital role in transforming care by equipping staff with the knowledge, skills and confidence to provide high quality, person-centred and compassionate care. This suite of short courses was developed explicitly for a wide range of people – from support workers to senior practitioners.

TRANSFORMING CARE
SHORT COURSES
SELF-DIRECTED SUPPORT

Self-directed support gives people a range of options for how their social care is delivered, empowering people to decide how much ongoing control and responsibility they want over their own support arrangements.

The Self-Directed Support Act 2013 is transforming the way social care is commissioned and delivered in Scotland. Service users are now able to manage their own health and wellbeing by giving them choice, control and independence.

FOUNDATIONS FOR SELF-DIRECTED SUPPORT IN SCOTLAND (KG097)

Developed in collaboration with the Scottish Government, Foundations for self-directed support in Scotland (KG097) is a free online course which explores the development and impact of the changes in personalisation arising from this legislation.

Personalisation enables people to become active participants in selecting and shaping individual packages of health, social care and other services.

The course will help you understand the origins of the legislation in Scotland, the principles on which it is based and give you a broad grounding in personalisation. It will also explore some of the potential tensions and challenges of personalisation and its expression in self-directed support (SDS) for service users, carers and the health and social care workforce.

The course has a wealth of lively material exploring the implications of self-directed support through various life stages and transitions.

The focus is broad to address personalisation in relation to a diverse range of care contexts in the community. Topical issues including managing risk are also explored.
The course could be of interest to a wide range of groups such as service users, carers and people who are employed in health and social care including personal assistants, social care workers, nurses, social workers, doctors and allied health professionals.

You can start this course at any time and can study at your own pace of learning. The course could be completed in an intensive weekend of study or in short sessions over a number of weeks. Alternatively, you might decide to extract just one section that is of particular relevance to your personal situation or your work.

Employers and other organisations interested in staff development and training in this subject could use the course as a standalone online resource, or in conjunction with group study and/or face-to-face sessions covering topics within the course.

Although this course does not carry credits and cannot be used towards OU qualifications, successful completion results in a statement of course completion.

The OU in Scotland will provide free, companion workplace support materials to help you to embed SDS successfully in your organisation.

**YOUR NEXT STEP**

To find out more or get started, go to [www.open.edu/openlearn](http://www.open.edu/openlearn) and search for KG097.

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_This is a very interesting course. There is quite a lot of reading involved but this is interspersed with interesting and varied activities to get you thinking and actively learning. I started this unit with some familiarity of the topic, but I have already learned something new. A very good course for anyone who has any involvement at all with social care, or who is planning a career or further study in this field._

*Foundations for self-directed support in Scotland student*
Dementia is one of the foremost public health challenges worldwide. As a consequence of improved healthcare and better standards of living, more people are living for longer. This means in Scotland that the number of people with dementia is expected to double between 2011 and 2031.

Dementia is a health priority of the Scottish Government. Aligning with Scotland’s National Dementia Strategy, The Open University offers a range of resources and is committed to:

- supporting the needs of the workforce
- providing knowledge and skills to help carers to improve their ability to provide effective support
- working with communities and organisations to develop dementia-friendly initiatives where people with dementia can achieve a good quality of life and be valued members of their community.

DEMENTIA CARE MODULE

Dementia care (K235) is a flexible part-time undergraduate module which looks at the impact on society of the rising number of people with dementia. It covers the importance of understanding diversity, the latest thinking about possible causes and cures, how care is delivered in a residential setting and what it means to improve the management of care.

Students consider ethical dilemmas raised by caring for people with dementia including end-of-life decisions. Real accounts from people affected by dementia, their family members and carers enrich this highly interactive module.

This module has been comprehensively mapped to the Promoting Excellence Framework (NES/SSSC 2011).

“\n\nThe module gave me the confidence to challenge bad practice and model good practice for junior staff.”

Workshop Facilitator and OU Tutor
“

I feel better prepared to do my job - the more skills and knowledge I have, the better service I can provide to those whom I work with.”

Fife Council: Social Worker
(Social Work Department, Older People Team)

“Communication is the key, spend time finding out more about the person and document for later stages of dementia.”

Glasgow City Council:
Social Care Worker
(Care Home)
If you would like further information about our social work qualifications:
- Email scotland@open.ac.uk
  or call 0131 226 3851
For more information about any of the other qualifications featured in this prospectus:
- Click www.openuniversity.co.uk, email us from our website www.openuniversity.co.uk/contact or call: 0300 303 5303.