Presentation pattern   October to June

Programme information

Most of the MSc modules are based on guided reading of an individual set textbook. Students need to successfully complete six modules worth 180 points to be awarded the degree.

Module description

Number theory has its roots in ancient history but particularly since the seventeenth century, it has undergone intensive development using ideas from many branches of mathematics. In spite of the subject's maturity, many problems that are easy to state and understand still exist – for example, is there an even number > 2 that is not the sum of two primes? In this module students study number theory using techniques from analysis, such as contour integration and the calculus of residues. The module is based on readings from *Introduction to Analytic Number Theory* (T. M. Apostol, 1986, fourth edition, Springer-Verlag).

Person specification

The person specification for this module should be read in conjunction with the generic person specification for an associate lecturer at The Open University.
As well as meeting all the requirements set out in the generic person specification, you should:
- have a good honours degree in mathematics or subject directly relevant to the module contents, together with evidence of successful postgraduate study in mathematics, such as a higher degree in mathematics
- have evidence of having worked in an area directly relevant to the module content
- be able to provide evidence of a complete understanding of a large proportion of the material covered in the module (by, for example, successfully completing a pre-interview marking exercise) and demonstrate the ability and willingness to quickly develop an understanding of the remainder of the material
- have the ability to present mathematics electronically and annotate pdfs
- be willing to use e-learning facilities such as:
o the module website, and other University websites to download essential material and to retrieve other information
o the University systems for the purposes of monitoring students' progress
o email and University forums for asynchronous communication with students tutors, tutors and other staff
o the university's online tutorial software (training provided) to communicate with students where applicable
o on-screen marking of electronically submitted (in pdf format) student assignments (eTMAs)

It would be an advantage to have:

- a PhD in a relevant area

- experience of teaching and examining, particularly in distance education at postgraduate level

- teaching experience in the relevant specialist subject area at post graduate or third year level

You will be required to mark assignments electronically. This will be in pdf format

Module related details - a full explanation can be found on the website

Credits awarded to the student for the successful completion of a module:	30
Number of assignments submitted by the student:	4
Method of submission for assignments:	1b
Level of ICT requirements:	2
Number of students likely to be in a standard group:	15
Salary band:	2
Estimated number of hours per teaching week:	2.5