



The Open
University

50
YEARS

SCOTLAND

WORKING WITH

**THE OPEN UNIVERSITY
IN SCOTLAND**

AT A GLANCE...

There are
16,465

**OU STUDENTS
IN SCOTLAND**

The median
age of our
undergraduate
entrants is
27 YEARS OLD

Our students
are between
SCHOOL AGE
AND 92 YEARS OLD

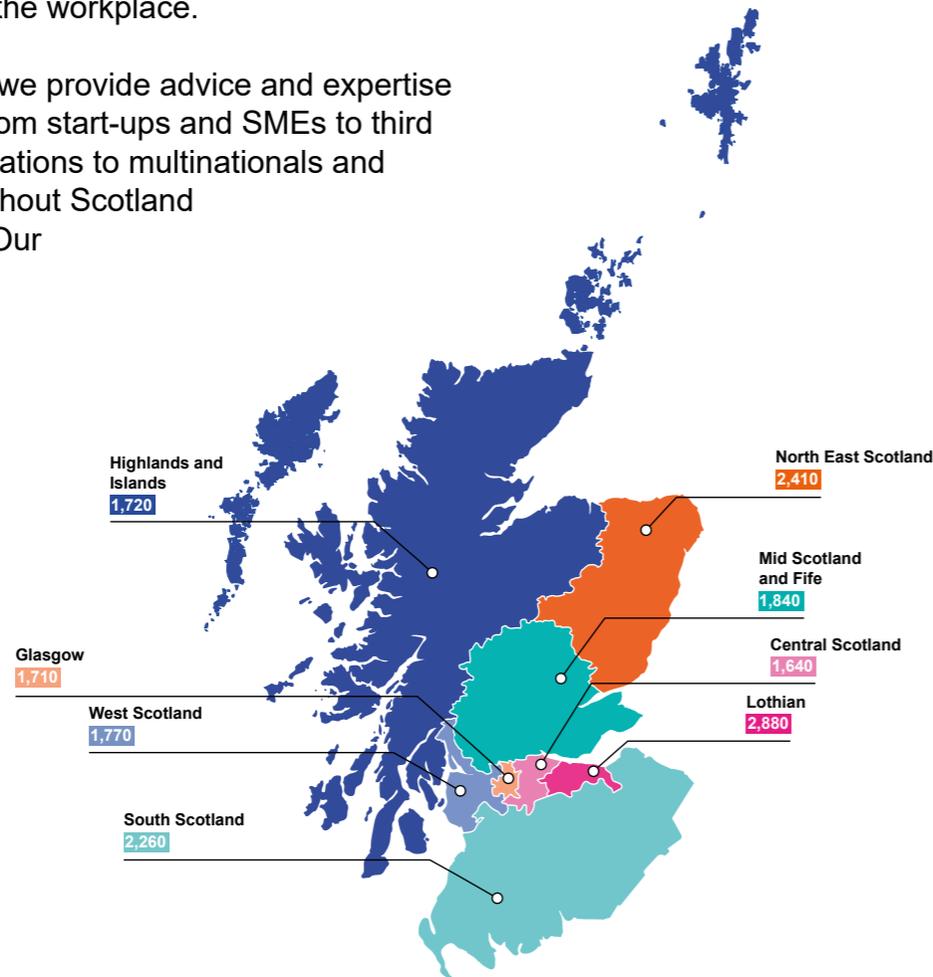
We offer over
450 MODULES



WORKING WITH US

At The Open University in Scotland, we're focussed on helping you develop your people and give them the skills your business needs now and for the future through our work-based learning approach. Our courses and qualifications are highly desirable across a wide range of employment sectors and are often designed in collaboration with employers and industry bodies, maximising their relevance in the workplace.

As the UK's largest university we provide advice and expertise to organisations of all sizes, from start-ups and SMEs to third sector and community organisations to multinationals and multi-site organisations throughout Scotland as well as the rest of the UK. Our online, distance-learning model minimises disruption to working hours and time out of work. Learning is delivered locally and nationally, irrespective of your number of employees. Our courses are designed for people with busy jobs and busy lives.



Open University student numbers by region

DEVELOPING YOUR PEOPLE AND THEIR SKILLS

From free short courses to undergraduate and postgraduate degrees, The Open University in Scotland can provide the learning and skills that your people need to make your business grow and succeed.

OpenLearn is the home of our free learning. We have hundreds of free short courses that you and your people can access at any time and at any pace which makes it an effective option for upskilling and continuous professional development.

Using different learning options we can recommend a selection of short courses, accredited modules or a combination of the two to help address any skills gaps that you might have in your business or help your people advance in their careers.

The Open University in Scotland also offers a suite of Graduate Apprenticeships in computing at both undergraduate and postgraduate level which help organisations plug crucial digital skills gaps and ensures that you have the talent to manage future technological changes.

As our Apprenticeships are delivered online, apprentices can flex their learning around their schedule, reducing time away from the workplace. Skills developed throughout the programme are immediately embedded into the workplace, which gives employers an almost instant return on investment.



“As a member of their Employers’ Apprenticeship Advisory Group, Scottish Ambulance Service have been involved in the development of The Open University’s Graduate Apprenticeship programmes in Cyber Security and Software Development. This has given us first-hand experience of The OU’s proactive approach to employer engagement in relation to curriculum design and development, and their commitment to creating staff learning and development opportunities that meet the needs of industry, which are also responsive to skills shortages and align with Scottish Government priorities.”

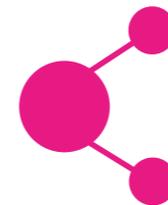
JOHN BAKER

General ICT Manager
Scottish Ambulance Service

RECRUITING THE TALENT YOUR BUSINESS NEEDS

Open University students bring a unique combination of academic knowledge, work experience and transferable skills to the workplace and we have the largest talent pool of any UK university. Nearly 75% of our students are in either part-time or full-time employment and they bring with them the skills such as self-motivation, resilience and problem-solving that organisations in Scotland are looking for. As our students come from a wide variety of backgrounds they can bring real diversity and new ways of thinking to your organisation.

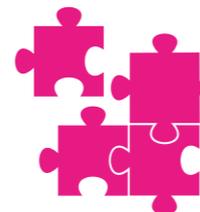
WE CAN HELP YOU FULFIL YOUR RECRUITMENT NEEDS BY:



Advertising your opportunities, from internships to experienced hires, to almost 130,000 students and graduates through our Opportunity Hub service.



Interacting directly with students by taking part in online forums, webinars and social media events.



Recruiting an intern through the Santander Universities Internship Programme which enables small and medium sized enterprises to take on an OU student and use their skills and knowledge to tackle a project that brings real benefits to your organisation.

SPOTLIGHT ON THE OPEN PROGRAMME

The Open Programme is the OU's most flexible degree programme as it allows students to study any combination of subjects that they would like to best suit their career intentions or the needs of their employer. In the ever-changing world of work, it is essential that people have a wide variety of skills and knowledge to help them be more adaptive and successful in the workplace.

The Open Programme allows people to select modules from across our degree programmes to build an accredited qualification from a Certificate/Diploma of Higher Education up to a BA or BSc Honours Degree. For example, you could study a combination of Computing and IT and Business Management, or perhaps Business Studies and Languages.

The Open Programme can be very attractive to organisations as it can allow them to upskill their people in the areas most relevant to their work while ensuring that their people receive high-quality, accredited qualifications that will help them develop in their careers.



COLLABORATING AND PROBLEM-SOLVING

At The Open University we bring together real world industry challenges and academic expertise through bespoke collaboration. Join forces with the OU through a Knowledge Transfer Partnership (KTP), access our expertise and take new ideas forward or find innovative solutions to business-critical challenges. We can help you access funding for research through grants only available through a university collaboration – for example from Innovate UK and the Industrial Strategy Innovation Fund. Research and development activity could also qualify your business for tax relief.

Knowledge exchange (KE) at The Open University involves OU academics collaborating with the public, private or third sectors, or engaging with the wider public. Our bespoke programmes enable organisations to draw on current data and research to help to solve complex and challenging problems. We work with organisations of all shapes and sizes throughout Scotland to help them apply knowledge and to ultimately make improvements to their products or services.

In addition, our extensive public events programme helps to inform, raise awareness, stimulate discussion and enable ideas to be shared, challenged and disseminated more widely to an open audience. We are keen to collaborate with organisations to make their ideas accessible, and to use evidence to support and illuminate practice. Knowledge Exchange programmes are a two way relationship and are mutually beneficial - for The Open University and our partner organisations.





FAYE TESTER

From Cleaner to Environment Manager

Faye was working as a cleaner for the gas distribution network SGN when she started her OU degree in Environmental Management and Technology. She is now an Environment Manager at the same company. Her studies were funded by a Part-Time Fee Grant.

“I had felt bored and under-challenged and I was living at home with my parents when I decided to look at further study.

“My OU degree studies were really enjoyable. I combined my studies with working full time. I was able to apply the knowledge I was picking up from my studies to my day job, as I progressed. It’s got more and more useful as I’ve gone on.”

DID YOU KNOW?



22% of OU in Scotland students have declared a disability



87% of students say their transferable skills have improved



Over half of all part-time undergraduates in Scotland are OU students



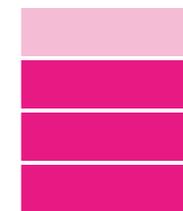
49% of all Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) students are female



76% of students say their ability to do their job has increased



17% of undergraduate entrants live in the 20% most disadvantaged areas



74% of our students are in full or part-time work



70% of new undergraduates earn less than £25k

* data from 2016/17 and 2017/18



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YEARS

SCOTLAND



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www.open.ac.uk/scotland/our-work



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www.facebook.com/OpenUniversityinScotland

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