

Health and Social Care Scotland

Prospectus 2016/2017



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Life-changing learning that's built around you



Supporting employers to develop their workforce



Supporting dementia care in Scotland

Start your OU journey



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Register now at
www.openuniversity.co.uk/courses

Welcome

The most important thing you'll learn is what you're capable of

Whether your motives for study are personal or professional, or if 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



Life-changing learning

that's built around you



Experience and expertise

Many of our tutors are not only academic experts, they're also still working in their relevant field.

Every day, someone, somewhere, is picking up the additional skills they'll need to gain a new qualification. You can be that person. We're confident you're ready to change your life.

We recognise people like you, who are determined to succeed.

Health and social care may be the area you'd like to specialise in to give yourself a unique edge in the workplace, or you may have a particular interest in this area.

Like thousands of other people looking to study with the OU, you've got something in common – you're eager to learn and improve yourself.



"I transferred my course materials to my iPad, Kindle and laptop - that way they were always with me when I had a moment free."

Karl Hamilton,
studied with the OU

We're confident we're the right choice for you. Here's why:

1. The support you need

We know you'll be giving it your all. So we'll give you both the freedom and personal support you need to study your course, and get a qualification, your way.

2. The qualifications employers respect

Our qualifications have such an excellent reputation all over the world, you can be confident your life will change for the better thanks to studying with the OU.

3. The knowledge you want

Highly experienced tutors. Breathtaking resources. You just can't get the same combination of study aids, materials and methods of learning anywhere else.

4. The technology that works

When it comes to finding new technologies that make your studies even easier, we never stand still. You can guarantee we'll stay ahead of the game on your behalf.

5. Life-changing learning

What we offer is a personalised learning experience, one that's been designed to fit in with careers and personal lives, and change your life forever.



“The OU is unlike most red-brick universities, it’s unique in a very precious way – it gives opportunity and flexibility to anyone who wants a higher education, no matter what their social and financial limitations.”

Fatema Islam, studied with the OU

You can do this – we know you can.

We won’t pretend it’s easy, but you can be sure there’s no other university in the world that supports you the way we do. We’re pioneers in the method of distance learning, making The Open University truly unique.

We’re in the best possible position to give you all the help you’ll need to achieve your study goal, and make every moment of your studies worthwhile.

Simply choose your course, and change your life today

Whichever qualification you choose, you’ll be studying a curriculum that’s internationally relevant, which has been created and is taught by academics with industry insights and lifetimes of experience – people whose insights and research are out of this world.

We believe our courses are incomparable

We’ve forged unique partnerships with some of the world’s most influential thought leaders, the BBC being the most widely known. Our joint ventures educate the world, receive outstanding reviews and give us access to people who bring relevant, practical knowledge to guide our research and shape the course content you’ll be studying.

From the materials in our undergraduate degrees to OpenLearn courses that anyone can access free of charge – all you have to do is take the first step. It’s all here for you, and because we’re committed to delivering our materials using some of the most up-to-date digital technologies, it’s all unbelievably accessible.

World-class resources

The Open University has more online library resources than any other university in the UK.

Reassuring credentials

Global employers and skills councils help us create our courses, so you’ll learn what’s actually needed to enhance your career.

Groundbreaking innovation

We never stand still. We’re developing new ways of learning all the time, to make your studying easier wherever you may be.

Highest standards
Just under 90% of the FTSE 100 have sponsored staff on OU programmes.

Excellent support
Our students all have their own tutor for each subject module – each tutor supports about 20 students.

Introducing health and social care



With the OU, you have the flexibility you need to make your studies fit in around life's other commitments. We call it 'Supported Open Learning'.

Our teaching method is unique

You'll have more one-to-one contact than you'd have with other types of distance education and more flexibility than campus-based learning.

Always independent, never alone

You'll have opportunities to take part in tutorials, and we'll try our best to make sure you've got everything you need – whether you're studying from home, at work, or on the move.

As soon as your course starts we'll also put you in touch with a Student Support Team who can help you with any concerns about your studies.

Whatever you decide to study, you'll find like-minded students connecting with each other in our online forums – pretty much 24 hours a day.

What can you study?

The range of qualifications and modules we offer splits into three main subject areas:

- Health and social care
- Nursing and healthcare practice
- Social work.

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.

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.

Your next step

To find out more about all the qualifications we offer in health and social care, see pages 24–33.

Nursing and healthcare practice

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.

By studying with the OU you will develop the knowledge and skills to deliver high-quality, safe and compassionate care while also gaining valuable qualifications to help you to progress in your career. You can begin by studying our Certificate of Higher Education in Healthcare Practice (T01) and then progress to the Diploma of Higher Education in Healthcare Practice (W16). You will need the support of your employer to take these qualifications, as you will undertake the work-based modules in your own workplace.

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.

We are happy to discuss partnerships with employers in the independent sector to enable them to develop their staff to meet their needs.

Our BSc (Hons) Adult Nursing (Q73) and BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing (Q74) offer practice-based learning routes to qualify as a nurse. So, if you already work in healthcare, this programme will enable you to study towards becoming a nurse while remaining in your job. Sponsored by your employer, you'll study a balance of theory and practice, and on successful completion of the programme, you will be eligible to apply for entry to the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) register.

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.

Your next step

To find out more about all the qualifications we offer in nursing and healthcare practice, see pages 24–33.

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.

Supporting social work education in Scotland

The Open University is 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.

Social work programme

The OU offers a work-based supported open learning route to the degree in social work and, upon successful completion, eligibility to apply for registration with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC). The programme is approved by the SSSC and was reappraised in 2014 for a further five years.

Most OU social work students are sponsored and supported by their employers to study for the BA (Hons) Social Work (Scotland) (Q41). This partnership provides an opportunity for students to continue to work while they study. This offers a robust way to integrate knowledge, theory and practice. Because social work is a regulated profession, selection and entry requirements apply for the programme.

A graduate-entry route (Q50) is also offered to students who have a degree in any subject from a UK university.

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.

Employer support

• Sponsored student route

It is helpful if social work students have the support of their employer. Your employer will arrange practice learning opportunities and appoint a practice educator to mentor you, as well as give you study leave and time off for periods of practice learning.

To ensure appropriate support is in place, it is a requirement that you are formally sponsored on at least the two practice modules each involving 100-day periods of practice – *Applied social work practice* (K216) and *Critical social work practice* (K315).

• Independent student route

If you do not have employer sponsorship you might be able to complete the social work qualification on an independent basis. Students who successfully complete the first two stages of the social work degree and meet entry requirements can apply for the independent study route (subject to a selection interview and suitability procedures). This requires that you are in social care employment and that your employer is prepared to release you for the two periods of practice learning that accompany K216 and K315. Independent students follow the same programme of study and practice learning.

Getting started or getting into social work

Many modules are also available on a standalone basis outside the programme (see page 52). This is particularly beneficial if your employer is supportive in principle but not yet in a position to sponsor you or pay your fees, or you are uncertain whether you want to study for the full degree.

You won't be able to qualify as a social worker with the OU unless you complete the whole programme but you will increase your knowledge and understanding, prepare for future study and gain insight into a responsible, challenging and rewarding career.

The following module is a popular starting point – *An introduction to health and social care* (K101).

Other modules available for standalone study are *Working with children, young people and families* (K218), *The law and social work in Scotland* (K207) and *Adulthood, ageing and the life course* (K319).

Introducing the social sciences (DD102) and *Foundations for social work practice* (KYJ113) are also available for standalone study, as well as being part of the degree.

A range of certificates and diplomas of higher education is also available. For up-to-date modules and qualifications go to www.openuniversity.co.uk/ug.

Contact the team in Scotland

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.

Your next step

To find out more about all the qualifications we offer in social work, see pages 34–43.

Karen O'Donnell is a Workforce Development Officer at Angus Council in Arbroath. The Council has been involved in sponsoring students on the OU's BA (Hons) Social Work degree programme for 12 years. Karen explains below how sponsorship works and outlines the benefits for those involved.

“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.

Tutors collaborate with us in a variety of ways: for example, they attend face-to-face meetings with our Workforce Development team, have delivered tutorials in the workplace, and are contactable by email. Whilst students are out on placement the OU tutor visits to support our practice educators and students. We also have a very good relationship with an OU Senior Lecturer in Health and Social Care who attends our recruitment events. She has helped our organisation 'grow our own social workers' by sharing her expertise and knowledge. This enables us to have a frank exchange of views, share student evaluations, and we learn a great deal from one another. My experience of working with the OU has been very positive.

There has always been good support from the tutors and from staff at the Edinburgh office. In addition, the staff tutors are always quick to respond to any queries we may have.

While they are engaged in their studies, learners leave their substantive post and are given the job title 'trainee social worker'. They receive one day's study leave a week if they are studying 60 credits and two days if studying 120 credits. They are also given time to attend tutorials, are provided with mentor and peer support, and are offered exam preparation workshops (delivered by previous OU students). Learners receive an annual salary of approximately £14,000 while they are studying. The only circumstances in which they don't receive full funding is if they're doing a standalone module and are eligible for SAAS funding/part-time study fee grant. We also reimburse any travel costs that trainees might otherwise have to fund themselves.

Apart from continuing to earn while they progress through the degree programme, the main benefit to learners of studying alongside working is that they find it easier to link theory to practice. The teams with whom they work also benefit as do those who receive a service, given that the knowledge they receive is up to date and evidence based. Learners are also guaranteed a job as a qualified social worker at the end of their studies, which makes it a much more attractive career pathway.

Sponsoring staff definitely improves retention; in over 10 years, only one sponsored social worker has left – to take up a senior promoted post. Among former students, two are now team managers, one has recently begun studying for the Mental Health Officer Award (MHOA), and several are involved in practice learning placements, with roles in mentoring and providing leadership input for the next generation of trainees.

I believe the OU social work route leads to well-rounded and well-grounded qualified social workers. They generally have more experience when they start the programme, and seem more able to cope with the additional demands of a statutory social work organisation such as Angus Council.

One final point I'd like to make is that this 'grow our own' programme continues to be a great success and is very popular (we have between 20 and 40 applicants every time we advertise).

Unsuccessful applicants are encouraged to register with the OU to study to increase their chances in the following recruitment campaign, and this also helps to meet their CPD.”

Supporting employers to develop their workforce

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.

This is the quality and support you'd expect from the UK's biggest provider of flexible education and training for health and social care professionals.

Each year some 12,000 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)
- *Managing across organisational and cultural boundaries* (B325)
- *Management practice* (B123)
- *Working with children, young people and families* (K218)

Enter module code into search box at www.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 www.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 Faculty of Health & 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.

For further information about how The Open University in Scotland can deliver collaborative teaching for your organisation, call our Corporate Development Manager – Scotland, on **0131 226 3851**.

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 www.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

Undergraduate study

The qualification descriptions in this prospectus list the modules that are currently available for study. However, as we review our curriculum on a regular basis, the exact selection may change over time.

Most modules are also available for standalone study (see page 52).



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BSc (Hons) Healthcare and Health Science (Q96)	21
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Certificate of Higher Education in Children and Families (T24)	22
Certificate of Higher Education in Healthcare with Health Science (T28)	23
Certificate in Promoting Public Health (S13)	23
Nursing and healthcare practice	
Certificate of Higher Education in Healthcare Practice (T01)	24
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BSc (Hons) Adult Nursing (Q73)/BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing (Q74)	26
BSc (Hons) Nursing Practice (Q53)	32
Social work	
BA (Hons) Social Work (Scotland) (Q41)	34
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There's more online

To find out more about a qualification that interests you, enter the qualification code in the search box at www.openuniversity.co.uk/ug

OU study and how it works

To achieve your chosen qualification, you need to build up a set number of credits.



You gain credits by completing a series of modules.
Credits vary by module.



You choose the modules you want to study, year by year.
Depending on your qualification, some modules may be compulsory while others may be selected from a set of options.

Diploma of higher education (DipHE)

Our diplomas of higher education focus on a specific area of expertise. That may be a job, a profession or a particular subject. Equivalent to two-thirds of an honours degree, they'll help you expand your knowledge and improve your current skillset.

You'll need **240 credits** to complete a diploma.

Certificate of higher education (CertHE)

Equivalent to the first year of an honours degree, a certificate of higher education is perfect for rounding your knowledge in a particular skillset or area of study.

You'll need **120 credits** to complete a certificate.

Count your previous study

If you've successfully completed some higher education, such as an HNC, HND or SVQ, you may be able to transfer credit for this study and count it towards your OU undergraduate qualification. You may then need to study fewer OU modules to complete your qualification. To find out whether you can use any of your previous study to count towards your qualification go to **www.openuniversity.co.uk/credit-transfer**, email **credit-transfer@open.ac.uk** or call **01908 653077**.

Not ready to commit to a qualification?

Most OU modules are available on a standalone basis. Taking a single module can be particularly helpful to students who are not ready to commit to a qualification just yet, or who are looking for particular skills or knowledge for personal or professional development.

Start at a level that's right for you

Modules are measured in credits and are set at different Scottish Qualification and Credit Framework (SCQF) levels. The levels give an indication of a module's relative complexity and/or depth of learning. Most modules are worth either 30 or 60 credits and are set at SCQF Levels 7, 8, 9 or 10.

Whatever your previous study and practice experience, The Open University offers a range of starting points from introductory study options including Access modules, through to vocational awards, certificates, diplomas or degrees.

No entry requirements

For many modules and qualifications you don't need formal qualifications to study with us. Indeed, we believe that everyone should have the opportunity to study. Some professional programmes such as nursing and social work have entry criteria that are determined by the regulatory bodies. Please see individual qualifications for further information.

Decide what you'd like to study

We offer the following qualifications:

- Honours degrees
- Diplomas of higher education (DipHEs)
- Certificates of higher education (CertHEs)
- OU certificate.

Honours degrees

These degrees are widely recognised among employers as being confirmation you've achieved a significant level of expertise in a field of study. The modules you'll need to study will be mainly in your chosen subject.

You'll need **360 credits** to be awarded an honours degree (except Q41 where you'll need 480 credits).

Plan your time

Most OU students study part time. Exactly how long it takes depends on how many credits you achieve each year, and which qualification you're working towards.

If you're thinking of studying full time, you'll need to plan your studies carefully as it involves

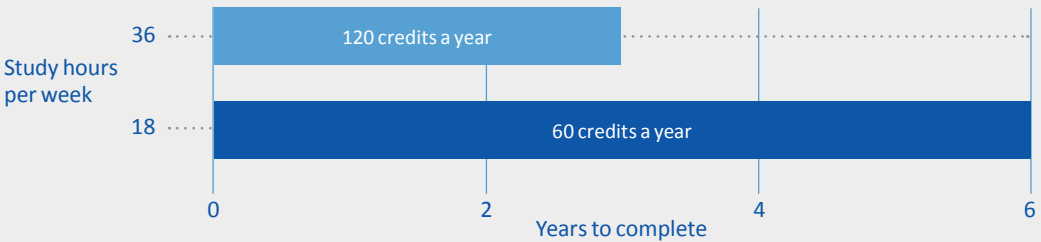
studying more than one module at a time – we don't recommend you take on more than two modules simultaneously. You'll also need to bear in mind that, depending on your chosen qualification, the required modules may not all be available within your study year or

may not be studied together for academic reasons. If this is the case, you won't be able to study full time.

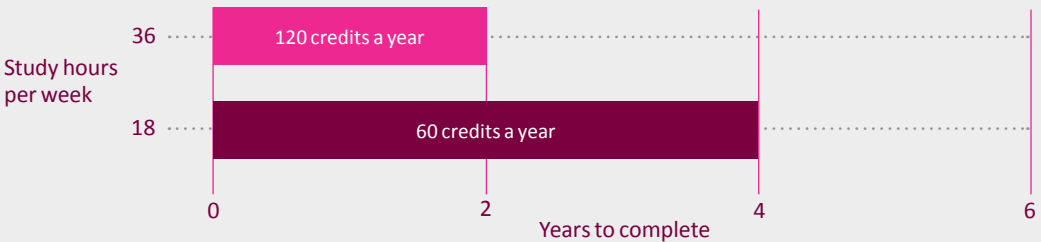
The tables below illustrate some examples of how long it will take to complete a qualification.

Undergraduate qualifications

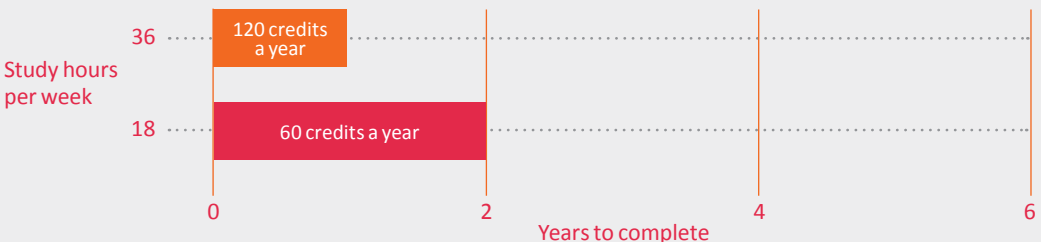
Degree (360 credits)



Diploma of higher education (240 credits)



Certificate of higher education (120 credits)



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.



“Studying at the OU has given me the knowledge and authority to argue for resources and support for service users.”

Kathleen MacLean, studied with the OU

Postgraduate qualifications

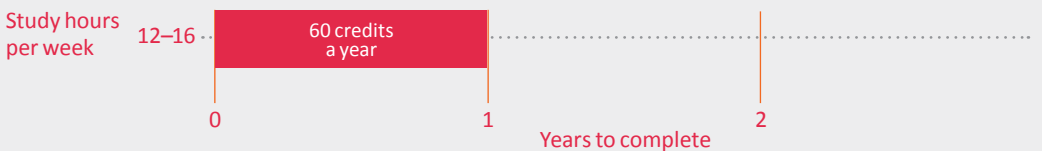
Masters degree (180 credits)



Postgraduate diploma (120 credits)



Postgraduate certificate (60 credits)



Getting started with an Access module

Access modules are designed to improve your confidence and refresh your study skills. You could even study for free.

They're also a great way to explore a subject that interests you and for getting an overall feel of what it's like to learn with the OU.

Access modules give an excellent insight into the way we offer Supported Open Learning: you'll have a personal tutor providing regular feedback through one-to-one telephone tutorials and further support throughout your study.

Each module offers a range of materials, online quizzes and course assignments that you'll complete over a period of 30 weeks. It takes around nine hours of study each week to stay on track.

You'll always get detailed written feedback on your work. And when you get that OU Access Module Certificate at the end of the course, you'll be well prepared to continue your studies towards a qualification.

Access modules start in February and October, every year.

Should I start with an Access module?

If you'd like to brush up on your study skills, improve your confidence, and make a practical decision about whether or not Supported Open Learning is right for you – then yes, an Access module is the ideal starting point.

And if you have little or no experience of university-level studies, then an Access module is a perfect introduction to what's needed, what you'll have to do, and how you'll study via distance learning.

What do I need to begin my studies?

After registering you'll receive your study materials in the post.

As well as access to a phone and equipment that plays DVDs, you will need the use of a computer with internet access. You don't need to go out and buy one though, the use of one at a library or drop-in centre will be fine.

Which Access module should I study?

The following Access modules are linked to one or more qualifications we offer in health and social care:

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).

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.

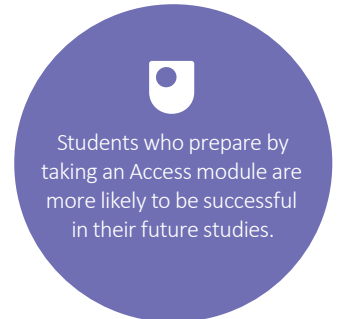
If you don't qualify for a free Access module

The cost of an Access module in Scotland is £233.

Your next step

Go to www.openuniversity.co.uk/ug-access.

Call our Student Recruitment Team on **0300 303 0069**



Undergraduate qualifications



Qualifications

Health and social care

BA (Hons) Health and Social Care

In the fast-changing world of today's care sector, staff at all levels need to be proactive and flexible to succeed.

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. You'll examine the context and processes of change in yourself, in groups and in services, including new ways of working across agencies and professional boundaries. By the end of your studies you'll be able to evaluate your own and others' roles in the context of policy developments; evaluate emerging strategic solutions; and recognise and value diversity and difference. You'll also understand how ethical, legal, social, economic and political factors influence the provision and development of services; and gain the essential critical and analytical skills needed to engage in the development of evidence-based practice.

Total credits: 360
Code: Q18

Start date:
Oct 2016
(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Feb 2017
(registration closes 05 Jan 2017)

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability

This degree will be of interest to anyone who works – or has a particular interest – in health, social work or social care in the statutory, voluntary or private sectors. It emphasises cross-professional boundaries and the service user's perspective, and is closely attuned to care sector priorities and the NHS modernisation agenda. You'll acquire a strong set of highly valued transferable skills, including skills in written communication (including report and essay writing); presentation and oral communication; problem solving; time management; research and data analysis. You'll learn to work independently and as part of a team, and gain a good understanding of information technology.

Routes through the degree

A choice of four routes through this degree enables you to focus on aspects of health and social care that are of particular relevance to you: health and wellbeing; older adults; mental health; or work with children, young people and families.

Health and wellbeing

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
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Optional module – 60 credits Select one from:

<i>Perspectives in health and social care</i>	60	K118
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<i>Science and health: an evidence-based approach</i>	60	SDK100
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Stage 2

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>Health and illness</i>	60	K213
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Optional module – 60 credits Select one from:

<i>Adult health, social care and wellbeing</i>	60	K217
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<i>Ageing societies and global health</i>	60	K242
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Stage 3

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>Promoting public health: skills, perspectives and practice</i>	60	K311
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Optional module – 60 credits Select one from:

<i>Adulthood, ageing and the life course</i>	60	K319
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<i>Leadership and management in health and social care</i>	60	K313
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Older adults

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
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<i>Perspectives in health and social care</i>	60	K118
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Stage 2

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>Ageing societies and global health</i>	60	K242
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Optional module(s) – 60 credits Select from:

<i>Adult health, social care and wellbeing</i>	60	K217
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<i>Death and dying</i>	30	K260
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<i>Dementia care</i>	30	K235
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<i>Health and illness</i>	60	K213
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Stage 3

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>Adulthood, ageing and the life course</i>	60	K319
--	----	------

Optional module – 60 credits Select one from:

<i>Leadership and management in health and social care</i>	60	K313
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<i>Promoting public health: skills, perspectives and practice</i>	60	K311
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Continued on page 20

Mental health

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
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<i>Perspectives in health and social care</i>	60	K118
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Stage 2

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>Mental health and community</i>	60	K240
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Optional module – 60 credits Select one from:

<i>Adult health, social care and wellbeing</i>	60	K217
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<i>Health and illness</i>	60	K213
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Stage 3

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>Exploring mental health practice (planned for October 2017)</i>	60	K314
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Optional module – 60 credits Select one from:

<i>Adulthood, ageing and the life course</i>	60	K319
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<i>Leadership and management in health and social care</i>	60	K313
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Work with children, young people and families

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
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Optional module – 60 credits Select one from:

<i>Foundations for effective practice in youth justice</i>	60	K115
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<i>Introduction to childhood studies and child psychology</i>	60	E102
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Stage 2

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>Working with children, young people and families</i>	60	K218
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Optional module – 60 credits Select one from:

<i>Adult health, social care and wellbeing</i>	60	K217
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<i>Youth justice: theory, research and practice</i>	60	K209
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Stage 3

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>Issues in research with children and young people</i>	60	EK313
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<i>Working together for children</i>	60	KE312
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MORE
ONLINE



www.openuniversity.co.uk/q18



BSc (Hons) Healthcare and Health Science

This degree will provide you with the skills required for working in health science and with the ability to apply scientific-related theories and methods to health-related issues. The combination of healthcare and health science topics will equip you with a broad understanding which applies to a range of debates about the provision of healthcare, as well as enabling you to evaluate the relationship between scientific and social understandings about the promotion of health.

Total credits: 360
Code: Q96

Start date:
Oct 2016
(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Feb 2017
(registration closes 05 Jan 2017)

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability

This degree will enable you to contribute to the planning and delivery of a range of healthcare services, as well as the development of policy about healthcare. The degree provides a sound and critical understanding of the relationship between scientific understandings of health and the social influences on health, and of health and social care policy, theory and practice. You'll also understand how ethical, legal, scientific, social and political factors influence the provision and development of services; and gain the critical and analytical skills that underpin evidence-based practice.

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

An introduction to health and social care 60 K101

Science and health: an evidence-based approach 60 SDK100

Stage 2

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

Health and illness 60 K213

Human biology 30 SK277

The science of the mind: investigating mental health 30 SDK228

Stage 3

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

Infectious disease and public health 30 SK320

Promoting public health: skills, perspectives and practice 60 K311

Researching biology and health science 30 SXL390

**MORE
ONLINE**



www.openuniversity.co.uk/q96

Certificate of Higher Education in Adult Health and Social Care

If you work in health and social care, use services yourself, or would simply like to find out more about how we support adults in our care system, this certificate is for you.

It provides an authoritative overview of the current context of health and social care for adults and older people, using real-life case studies to explore a wide range of fascinating issues and debates. You'll deepen your knowledge and understanding, develop practical skills, and build a solid foundation for further study in health and social care.

Total credits: 120
Code: T23

Start date:
Oct 2016
(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Feb 2017
(registration closes 05 Jan 2017)

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability

Developed in partnership with employers and practising professionals, this certificate will demonstrate your understanding of the relationships between policy and practice, and some of the human issues associated with adult health and social care. You'll build a strong set of transferable skills that are highly valued by employers in all sectors, including the ability to draw together, analyse and critically evaluate information; produce accurate records and make informed decisions.

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
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<i>Perspectives in health and social care</i>	60	K118
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Certificate of Higher Education in Children and Families

This certificate is ideal if you want to develop your interest in health and social care in the area of work with children, young people and families; and if you're directly engaged in this area (or hope to be) as a paid or unpaid worker or carer.

It will introduce you to key issues relating to the welfare of children and young people, including how health and social care services and practices are organised. You'll also acquire valuable knowledge and understanding about childhood, child development and children's rights that can be applied to work in a variety of health and social care contexts.

Total credits: 120
Code: T24

Start date:
Oct 2016
(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Feb 2017
(registration closes 05 Jan 2017)

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability

This qualification has been developed in response to feedback from employers and prospective students. During your studies you will develop skills of communication, information seeking, analysis, evaluation and knowledge that will enhance your practice with children and families in a wide range of settings.

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
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<i>Introduction to childhood studies and child psychology</i>	60	E102
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Certificate of Higher Education in Healthcare with Health Science

This certificate introduces a range of topics relevant to employment in healthcare and health science.

You will develop transferable skills 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.

The combination of healthcare and health science topics will equip you with a broad knowledge base. You will learn to apply an evidence-based methodology to debates on health.

Total credits: 120
Code: T28

Start date:
Oct 2016
(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Feb 2017
(registration closes 05 Jan 2017)

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability
You will acquire a set of highly valued transferable skills, including skills in written communication, presentation and oral communication, problem solving, time management and data analysis. The combination of healthcare and health science topics will equip you with a basic knowledge that you will be able to apply to debates on health.

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
<i>Science and health: an evidence-based approach</i>	60	SDK100

Certificate in Promoting Public Health

Public health is everyone's business – and the contribution of local authorities, education, social care, families, police, prisons, business and voluntary sectors is now acknowledged as vital.

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. By the end of your studies, you'll have gained the knowledge and confidence needed to move forward your everyday actions and practice.

This certificate has been mapped against the UK Public Health Register standards for public health practitioners – which are drawn from the Public Health Skills and Career Framework, the Knowledge and Skills Framework for the NHS, and the National Occupational Standards for Public Health. For further information about these standards go to www.publichealthregister.org.uk.

Total credits: 60
Code: S13

Start date:
Oct 2016
(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Stage 1

60 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>Promoting public health: skills, perspectives and practice</i>	60	K311
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Qualifications

Nursing and healthcare practice

Healthcare practice

Certificate of Higher Education in Healthcare Practice

This certificate will enable healthcare support staff – including healthcare assistants, support workers, aspiring assistant practitioners or aspiring students of nursing – to develop the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to underpin effective practice.

You'll develop a wide range of practical skills and competencies, while exploring essential biological, social, political, ethical and psychological concepts. You'll also build valuable numeracy, literacy, IT, communication and cognitive skills. As the certificate includes a strong work-based element which includes a supervisor assessing you in your workplace, you **must** be working to provide direct care or interventions with patients or service users, and have the support of your employer.

Total credits: 120

Code: T01

Start date:

Sep 2016

(registration closes 11 Aug 2016)

Oct 2016

(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Feb 2017

(registration closes 05 Jan 2017)

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability

Although this certificate provides no guarantee of promotion in the workplace, it is designed as the first step to prepare healthcare support workers for the role of assistant/associate practitioner or to become a student nurse. Your employer is required to provide a workplace supervisor/mentor who will support and assess you in the workplace.

The certificate also prepares you for further academic study (it's the first stage of several other qualifications, including the Diploma of Higher Education in Healthcare Practice (W16)). If you want to progress to pre-registration nurse education, we offer a unique practice-based pre-registration nursing programme, for which you must be sponsored by your employer. To find out more, see opposite or go to www.openuniversity.co.uk/ug.

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
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<i>Enhancing your healthcare practice</i>	60	K117
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Diploma of Higher Education in Healthcare Practice

The healthcare support worker role is increasingly fulfilling and challenging, with some exciting new roles emerging – particularly if you have the right qualifications and experience. This qualification will help you get ahead by developing the knowledge and competencies needed to deliver high-quality, safe and compassionate care.

You'll be in a prime position to take advantage of new career opportunities as they arise, and well prepared for further study (for example, towards an honours degree or a professional qualification in your particular field of practice). This qualification has a strong work-based element, for which you **must** be employed in a relevant healthcare setting, providing direct care or interventions to patients or service users, be supported by your employer and have a workplace supervisor available to support and assess your work-based learning.

Total credits: 240
Code: W16

Start date:
Sep 2016
(registration closes 11 Aug 2016)

Oct 2016
(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Feb 2017
(registration closes 05 Jan 2017)

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability

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. Although it provides no guarantee of promotion, it is particularly relevant for staff working in healthcare support roles who wish to gain a qualification that helps them to enhance their contribution to the multidisciplinary team. As you study, you'll develop valuable transferable skills in teamwork, communication, using IT, information retrieval, numeracy, time management, organisation of self and others, analysis and problem solving.

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
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<i>Enhancing your healthcare practice</i>	60	K117
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Stage 2

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>Extending your contribution to healthcare practice</i>	60	K236
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Optional module(s) – 60 credits Select from a choice of modules including:

<i>Adult health, social care and wellbeing</i>	60	K217
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<i>Death and dying</i>	30	K260
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<i>Dementia care</i>	30	K235
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<i>Equality, participation and inclusion</i>	60	E214
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<i>Health and illness</i>	60	K213
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<i>Human biology</i>	30	SK277
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<i>Mental health and community</i>	60	K240
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<i>The science of the mind: investigating mental health</i>	30	SDK228
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<i>Working with children, young people and families</i>	60	K218
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You may be able to count credit from this qualification towards the BSc (Hons) Adult Nursing (Q73)/BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing (Q74).

If you are considering applying for entry to the BSc (Hons) Adult Nursing and would like to count your study towards the degree, it may be most appropriate to choose the Stage 2 module *Human biology* (SK277).

If you are considering applying for entry to the BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing and would like to count your study towards the degree, it may be most appropriate to choose the Stage 2 module *The science of the mind: investigating mental health* (SDK228).



Pre-registration nursing

BSc (Hons) Adult Nursing **BSc (Hons) Mental Health Nursing**

The programme is a unique part-time practice-based learning route to qualification as a registered nurse, in either adult or mental health nursing.

It is only available in partnership with employers, who pay the fees and support students in the workplace. **You cannot fund this study yourself.** This degree addresses the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC) requirements for entry to the nursing professional register, covering the essential concepts underpinning healthcare practice and the required competencies in practice-based contexts. The programme has been approved by the NMC as a recognised route to become a registered nurse.

You'll develop wide-ranging transferable skills with an emphasis on person- and family-centred care; the ability to use information effectively; critical skills needed to evaluate and apply evidence-based practice; and interpersonal skills that meet service users' rights to dignity, privacy and compassionate care.

Total credits: 360
Code: Q73/Q74

Start date:
Sep 2016
*(registration closes 11 Aug 2016)*¹
Oct 2016
*(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)*¹

¹ Entry to pre-registration nursing is subject to an interview process and meeting minimum entry requirements. Therefore you will need to apply at least four months before registration closes.

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability

The learning outcomes for this degree course have been mapped to and fully comply with the NMC standards for pre-registration nursing programmes, and the subject benchmarking statements for nursing.

In addition to meeting the NMC competencies, the practice learning part of this degree develops skills that are highly valued in the labour market, including critical analysis, numeracy, literacy, communication, team working, problem solving/solution finding, ICT proficiency, leadership, management and innovation.



The programme addresses the NMC requirements for entry to the nursing professional register. It is available to students who are sponsored by their employers and employed in healthcare practice. It provides a unique opportunity to become a registered nurse while remaining employed in the workplace.

You'll study the essential concepts underpinning nursing practice and demonstrate the required competencies in practice-based contexts. You'll also gain wide-ranging transferable skills, including the ability to use information effectively. For example, you'll develop the critical skills you need to evaluate and apply evidence-based practice, and to analyse and understand nursing practice from both person-centred and multidisciplinary perspectives.

With the focus on person- and family-centred care, you'll develop and demonstrate effective interpersonal skills that meet service users' rights to dignity and privacy in a compassionate and caring manner. You'll also explore the professional context of nursing and healthcare practice; the promotion of healthy lifestyles; applied physiology across the life course; evidence-based practice; management and leadership and service improvement.

How the programme works

The pre-registration nursing programme is a balance of theory (learning for practice) and practice (learning in practice). We work in partnership with healthcare organisations and as well as being a national provider of nursing education, the OU is also a local provider through its national/regional offices.

The teaching is provided through learning resources and an online learning environment, and students are supported by a network of tutors in both academic and practice settings. In addition to support from tutors, while undertaking practice-based learning, students are supported by registered nurse mentors and other registered practitioners.

On successful completion of your degree, you'll be ready to apply to the NMC for professional registration as a nurse in the field of adult or mental health nursing.

Stage 1

120 credits required

Students will normally study the Stage 1 modules concurrently. Students not studying them concurrently will need to take KYN101 before KYN117. For significant periods during the programme more than one module will be studied at the same time.

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	KYN101
<i>Enhancing your healthcare practice</i>	60	KYN117

Continued on page 28.

Stage 2

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Adult nursing

Compulsory module – 30 credits

Human biology 30 SKYN277

Mental health nursing

Compulsory module – 30 credits

The science of the mind: investigating mental health 30 SKYN228

both degrees

Compulsory modules – 90 credits

Exploring perspectives on health and illness 30 KYN238

Principles and skills for nursing practice 60 KYN237

Stage 3

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

Exploring practice 60 KYN316

Preparing for graduate practice 60 KYN317

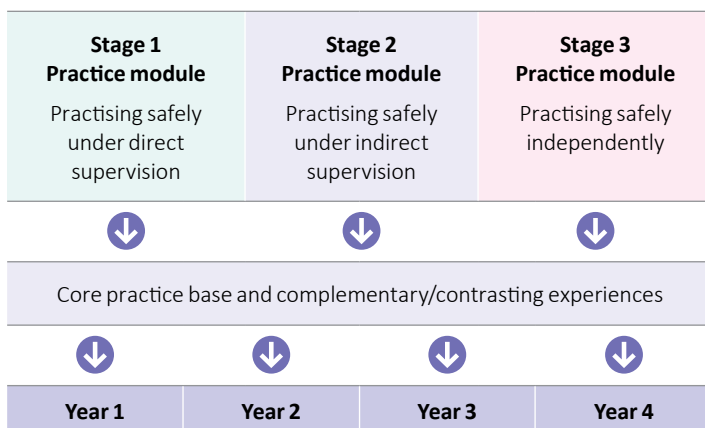
Learning in practice

Learning in practice environments is a compulsory element of the degree and is undertaken within a framework of interprofessional and cross-agency working. A key priority is that your practice learning reflects fully the diverse settings in which patients, service users, and their families, experience care. You will have an identified core practice base, usually in your employing organisation. Practice-learning pathways, across a diverse range of care contexts and service user groups in both community and in-patient settings, ensure that you are exposed to the breadth and depth of experience required by the NMC.

At Stage 1 of the programme, the overarching theme is concerned with developing essential care skills within your intended field of practice. Learning for practice and learning in practice are integrated. At Stage 1 you will practise safely under direct supervision.

At Stage 2, you will move to applying person-centred skills across the lifespan and contexts of care, and your level of competence increases to that of practising safely under indirect supervision.

And at Stage 3, you will move to demonstrating critical practice with a diverse range of people and communities and move to a level of competence of practising safely independently.



NMC curriculum hours

The programme normally takes just over four years to complete, or three years for students who enter the programme at NMC progression point 1.

The programme must be completed within seven years to meet the NMC's requirements for part-time study.

In order for students to achieve the NMC standards of education and be eligible to apply for entry to the professional register, the programme is made up of 4750 hours¹ split between theory and practice learning. A variety of health and social care settings is used for practice learning, including the NHS, private, voluntary and independent sectors.

¹NMC minimum 4600 hours: 2300 hours practice and 2300 hours theory.

The table below outlines the distribution of hours across the programme.

Assessment key

P: Practice module
T: Theory module



Distribution of theory and practice hours

Part of programme	Modules		Theory (hours)	Supernumerary practice (hours)
Stage 1	<i>Enhancing your healthcare practice</i> (KYN117)	P	250	600
	<i>An introduction to health and social care</i> (KYN101)	T	600	
Stage 2	<i>Principles and skills for nursing practice</i> (KYN237)	P	200	850
	<i>Human biology</i> (SKYN277) OR <i>The science of the mind: investigating mental health</i> (SKYN228)	T	300	
	<i>Exploring perspectives on health and illness</i> (KYN238)	T	300	
Stage 3	<i>Preparing for graduate practice</i> (KYN317)	P	200	850
	<i>Exploring practice</i> (KYN316)	T	600	
Total hours			2450	2300

The programme hours are used for:

- Learning for practice:** tutorials, completing module reading and activities, watching DVDs and other audio-visual resources, completing assignments and personal study. This work may be completed in your own home, in a library or wherever you find it best to study.
- Learning in practice:** sustained learning in practice in a range of settings as part of a team, which includes client follow through and following care pathways, and formative and summative assessment of achievement in practice. Your practice hours and assessed achievement in practice must be evidenced in your portfolio submitted at the end of each of the practice modules. You are supernumerary in practice.



Recruitment and selection of students

The programme is only open to individuals who are supported by employers working in partnership with the OU. You cannot self-fund your studies on this programme and you must be working in healthcare practice in a caring role. You must meet the NMC minimum entry requirements for pre-registration nursing programmes, which include numeracy, literacy and good character and health (see below). Following a review of your application, you will be offered an interview if you meet the entry requirements and are shortlisted. The interview process includes one or more representatives from the OU and your employing organisation. Service users are involved in the recruitment and selection process.

Entry requirements

The current entry requirements include:

- Core skills in numeracy at SCQF level 5 or Standard Grade Mathematics or Arithmetic (passed at credit level) or National 5 in mathematics or arithmetic or the equivalent.
- Core skills in communication at SCQF level 5 or Standard Grade English (passed at credit level) or National 5 in English or the equivalent.
- Good character evidenced through membership of the Protecting Vulnerable Groups Scheme.
- Good health evidenced through self-declaration of health status, occupational health screening, review of previous sickness and absence records.
- Two references, one of which must be from your current employer.
- An academic reference if you have previously commenced nursing studies with another university.

Frequently asked questions

Is there a minimum number of students?

Students registered on the programme will be joined, by module, with other students either in their own locality, region or beyond to form learning groups. There are typically 20 students per group. This means that employers can support large or small numbers of students on the programme according to local workforce need.

How long does the programme take?

It typically takes four years and two months to complete the programme. You will need to agree a timetable with employers, taking into account factors such as previous study, experience of distance learning and other work and family/home commitments.

Karen Beck is studying for a BSc (Hons) Adult Nursing, and is currently in her second year of the four year programme with The Open University (OU) in Scotland.

After school Karen started university to do a degree in nursing but she dropped out after six months. Looking back Karen says **'I did want to be a nurse, and still do, but at 17 I was just too young and didn't have enough life experience.'** Karen then got a job as an auxiliary at Crosshouse Hospital in Kilmarnock and a year later she progressed to her current position as Clinical Support Worker, a role which involves providing practical 'outreach' support to nurse practitioners and other clinical staff in wards across the hospital.

Karen then decided to restart her studies: **'I knew I still wanted to be a nurse and after a few years' working in the hospital I approached my manager, as I'd**

heard there was support for NHS staff wishing to train. She put me in touch with Sarah Barbour in the Nurse Directorate team who told me about the options, including the OU programme. I'd never heard of the OU before, but it sounded different and interesting and the four-year option really appealed to me. I liked the fact that I could continue in my current role, which I really like too, and keep my salary while studying.'

Karen really appreciates the support she's had from her employer – from Sarah, her supportive line manager, the study time she's allocated every month as well as the informal support from many colleagues. OU tutors have provided support and feedback on individual

courses while her OU practice tutor helped Karen negotiate placements with her employer that would allow her valuable experience in appropriate settings to practise her learning, including a placement at a small hospital for elderly patients.

Karen adds: **'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.'**

What are the arrangements for study leave?

Support for study leave is individually negotiated with your employer.

How much does the programme cost?

You must be sponsored by your employer to join the programme, so if you're interested in becoming a student, please share this information with your line manager and encourage them to get in touch with the University.

Who pays for the programme, and how?

The employer or sponsoring organisation pays the fees. This is not always your direct employer:

for example, The Scottish Government can pay rather than a specific hospital or Health Board. Students cannot self-fund their study on the pre-registration nursing programme.

What if I need time out of the programme?

Open University study is flexible, so if you need a break from studying it may be possible to arrange this in agreement with the University and your employer, as long as you complete your studies within the seven years stipulated by the NMC.

If you do have to leave the programme altogether, you'll still have credit for successfully completed study as every stage carries its own academic credit.

What to do next

Employers

To find out more, please contact us (see back cover). We would welcome the opportunity to visit your organisation and answer any questions you might have about the programme.

Prospective students

If your employer isn't involved in the programme already, you could get things moving by sharing this information with them.

MORE
ONLINE



www.openuniversity.co.uk/q73
www.openuniversity.co.uk/q74



Post-qualifying nursing

BSc (Hons) Nursing Practice

If you're a registered nurse (but not a graduate) this degree offers a practical way to take your career forward by enabling you to step up to an honours degree while continuing to earn.

As you study, you'll reflect critically on your own practice; cultivate a person-centred approach to work with patients, service users, their carers and families, and explore how your learning can contribute to evidence-based practice improvement. By the end of your studies, you'll have enhanced your professional expertise to meet the complex challenges of contemporary healthcare practice.

You'll need to provide evidence of current registration with the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC).

Total credits: 360
Code: Q53

Start date:
Oct 2016
(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability

This qualification enables registered nurses to enhance their career prospects by topping up to a degree. As nursing careers have become graduate-only entry, it will help you develop your understanding of the nursing role and strengthen your future employability. You'll also build on your current knowledge and experience in the setting in which you work, gaining the understanding and skills you need to take the lead in practice development and innovation. You'll have the opportunity to improve your IT skills – particularly in relation to searching and analysing the evidence base for practice and collaborating with others to enhance your continuing professional development.

Routes to the degree

Your study route will depend on the amount of credit transfer you receive for your previous nursing qualification. If you receive 240 transferred credits, you'll start at Stage 3 and study 120 credits to complete your honours degree. If you receive fewer than 240 transferred credits, you'll need to complete up to 120 credits at Stage 2, and 120 credits at Stage 3.

Stage 2

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Optional modules – 120 credits
Select from a wide choice of modules including:

<i>Adult health, social care and wellbeing</i>	60	K217
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<i>Human biology</i>	30	SK277
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<i>Making it happen: leadership, influence and change</i>	60	B204
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Stage 3

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory module – 60 credits

<i>Exploring practice</i>	60	K316
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Optional module – 60 credits
Select one from:

<i>Adulthood, ageing and the life course</i>	60	K319
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<i>Leadership and management in health and social care</i>	60	K313
--	----	------

<i>Promoting public health: skills, perspectives and practice</i>	60	K311
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MORE
ONLINE



www.openuniversity.co.uk/q53

Qualifications

Social work



BA (Hons) Social Work (Scotland)

This section is intended for employers in Scotland who are considering sponsoring members of staff on the social work degree programme and for individuals considering social work training via the sponsored or independent route. For details of the graduate-entry route see page 41.

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 has been approved by the SSSC.

The degree programme is available to staff who are working in social care, are sponsored and supported by their employer or who meet the selection criteria for the independent (non-sponsored) route and are selected onto the degree. Alternatively, you will need to seek employment as an unqualified social care worker or support worker and gain sponsorship. It is essential to discuss your training options at any job interview. Some local authorities also offer traineeships.

A good first step might be to study one of the Stage 1 modules in the programme, *An introduction to health and social care* (K101) or *Introducing the social sciences* (DD102), since they are 'open' modules which do not require sponsorship.

Other modules which can be studied prior to gaining sponsorship for the social work degree are:

- the Stage 2 compulsory modules *Foundations for social work practice* (KYJ113) and *Working with children, young people and families* (K218)
- the Stage 3 compulsory module *The law and social work in Scotland* (K207).

Please contact the Social Work Co-ordinator, Scotland for more information (see page 40).

Total credits: 480
Code: Q41

Start date:
Oct 2016
(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)¹

Feb 2017
(registration closes 05 Jan 2017)¹

Module availability is subject to change

¹ Please note that there is a formal admissions process for the social work degree, so applications need to be received well in advance of the closing date for registrations. Please see back cover for more information.

Programme benefits

The social work degree programme offers significant benefits to employers and their staff.

The programme:

- contributes to recruitment and retention by providing opportunities for career progression
- provides training opportunities for experienced staff who are unable, for financial or family reasons, to access traditional university courses
- gives employers substantial involvement in the selection of suitable candidates and the management of practice learning
- provides cost-effective work-based education and training which can benefit the workplace as a whole
- is modular in structure, giving students flexibility in fitting study around family and work commitments.

Collaboration between the OU and employers

The programme is work based and is offered in collaboration with sponsoring agencies. The respective roles and responsibilities of The Open University and sponsoring agencies are as follows:

The Open University

It is the responsibility of The Open University to:

- ensure that all social work students are appropriately selected for training
- provide multimedia study materials for students, their tutors and practice educators
- provide tutorial support
- organise and administer all the assessment and award procedures
- ensure students are registered on the SSSC register as student social workers.

Sponsoring agencies

It is the responsibility of agencies to:

- work with The Open University to select members of staff suitable for training through distance learning (employers who decide to make a provisional booking for one or more students will be sent further guidance on the selection of students and organising practice learning)
- sponsor staff who are selected
- ensure payment of fees
- support students by giving study leave throughout the programme (see page 39), in addition to full-time release for the duration of the practice-learning period(s), at least one of which must be external to the sponsoring agency, and support students to attend practice-learning workshops
- provide appropriate practice-learning opportunities with suitable supervision. Although the University gives advice and encourages networking and placement swapping between agencies, it is the employer's responsibility to make suitable practice-learning arrangements. SSSC requirements are that at least one of the practice learning opportunities is in an agency external to the sponsoring agency.

The full support of employers is essential to students' success. Careful planning and management is required by employers in order to give staff relief from their normal workload while they are engaged in practice learning and to enable staff to take study leave and time off, if necessary, to attend workshops and tutorials.

The responsibilities of the University and sponsoring agencies are set out in a formal *Collaboration Agreement*.

Employers will also be required to sign a *Sponsorship Agreement* undertaking liability for the fees.

Costs and help with funding

Sponsored students

The main costs employers need to take into account are:

- Open University module tuition fees.
- replacement costs (to replace staff on study leave or external periods of practice learning)
- practice learning provision
- any travel and subsistence costs agreed by the agency
- Open University set books (approximately £120–£150 will be required for the purchase of set books)
- updating of student's Protection of Vulnerable Groups membership.

Independent (non-sponsored) students

Students on the independent route who meet the criteria may be eligible for financial assistance with their fees.

Further information regarding financial support can be found on pages 60–61 and at www.saas.gov.uk.

Other costs include travel and subsistence expenses, set books and payment for any updates of membership of the Protection of Vulnerable Groups scheme required for practice learning.

Please note it may be necessary to negotiate travel expenses with the practice-learning agency before the start of the practice learning opportunities.

Practice-learning funding

Each year the programme receives money from the SSSC which is distributed to agencies to help towards the cost of providing practice learning opportunities (PLOs). Payment will be made by The Open University on confirmation that the PLO has been completed.

Please note that funding does not apply to the preparation-for-practice days at Stage 2.

Selection and entry requirements

All candidates must:

- provide evidence of ability to understand and communicate in written and spoken English
- demonstrate that they have appropriate personal and intellectual qualities to train as social workers
- take part in an interview
- register as a student social worker with the SSSC
- provide evidence of Standard Grade Two in English or a recognised equivalent on application or complete *An introduction to health and social care* (K101) or *Introducing the social sciences* (DD102) (the foundation modules for the programme) before formally registering for the degree. Students who achieve a pass will be considered to have demonstrated the required standard for English

- provide evidence of Standard Grade Two in mathematics or a recognised equivalent on application or undertake an Open University written test in numeracy administered by employers (the University will give employers guidance on how students can be prepared for this test). Contact the Social Work Co-ordinator, Scotland for advice on recognised equivalent qualifications (see page 40).

Selection process

Sponsored students

All students are required by the SSSC to go through a selection process. Employers have a range of options available to them:

- Carry out their own selection of candidates. Most major employers are likely to have tried-and-tested procedures and will carry out their own selection. If they choose this option, employers will be asked to provide information about their selection processes in order for the University to ensure that they are rigorous and fair. Please note that all selection material will be scrutinised by a member of the University's academic staff at The Open University in Scotland and the University will reject applications which do not meet the required standard. (Further information about obtaining Approved Agency Status can be found in the Selection Pack for Employers available from The Open University in Scotland on request.)

or

- Request that the University arranges for them to be linked to another agency which has been approved by the University to undertake selection.

or

- Request that the University carries out selection in partnership with the employer.

Independent students (non-sponsored)

The modules at Stages 1 and 2 may all be studied independently as a non-sponsored student. A limited number of places are available for students to continue onto Stages 3 and 4 without sponsorship. Students must have successfully completed Stages 1 and 2 of the OU social work degree and meet the entry requirements to be eligible to apply for the independent route. Eligible students will be contacted by the Social Work Co-ordinator, Scotland in March of the preceding year and invited to note their interest. Please note that because of the degree entry requirements and restricted numbers, successful completion of Stages 1 and 2 does not guarantee admission onto the independent route.

Entry with credit

Existing Open University credit

Students who have already completed modules currently in the degree programme up to the end of Stage 3 will be able to count their credit towards the social work degree. Students can only count previous Open University study if it is no older than ten years. This is the current position, but it may change.

Please check with the Social Work Co-ordinator, Scotland (see page 40).

You will be required to demonstrate an understanding of key capabilities in child care and protection before you are able to take the Stage 3 module Applied social work practice (K216).

Credit transfer

Students who hold relevant qualifications may be able to obtain credit for all or part of Stage 1 of the programme. Students who hold the HNC in Social Care with an SVQ3 in Care, Health and Social Care or a related subject may be able to obtain 120 credits for the whole of Stage 1. These modules must have been completed within ten years at the point of registration for the programme. Please check with the Social Work Co-ordinator, Scotland (see page 40).

Further details about credit transfer arrangements can be obtained from www.openuniversity.co.uk/credit-transfer or from The Open University in Scotland (see back cover).

Please note that students who wish to make a claim for credit must apply for this through the Credit Transfer Centre before they can register on the social work degree.

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
<i>Introducing the social sciences</i>	60	DD102

Stage 2

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>Foundations for social work practice</i>	60	K113
<i>Working with children, young people and families</i>	60	K218

Stage 3

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>Applied social work practice</i>	60	K216
<i>The law and social work in Scotland</i>	60	K207

Stage 4

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>Adulthood, ageing and the life course</i>	60	K319
<i>Critical social work practice</i>	60	K315

“The best bit has been the variety, as well as having enough time to get comfortable with things.

The feeling of being part of a good team, working well and helping to build solid foundations of a really worthwhile project has been really satisfying.

The diversity within the group – of people, skills and experiences – is a real strength.”

Service User, involved in The Open University in Scotland Service User and Carer Group

Programme length

In conjunction with their employers, students can choose whether to study the programme over four or more years. The choice may depend on the student's past study experience, experience of distance learning or work and caring commitments.

Students must complete the programme within ten years of initial registration. Permission to exceed this time limit may be granted in exceptional circumstances.

Please note registration as a social work student with the SSSC is for seven years from registration on the social work degree. If this is exceeded a case will need to be made and accepted by the SSSC as to why registration should be extended.

Although there is no compulsory study order at Stage 2, students who wish to complete the degree in the minimum of four years will need to follow a set study pattern. For a student beginning their studies in the 2016/17 academic year this will mean completing Stage 1 by September 2017 (this is the end date for *Introducing the social sciences* (DD102) beginning in February 2017), then starting *Working with children, young people and families* (K218) in October 2017 and *Foundations for social work practice* (K113) in February 2018.

Progression rules

Students can plan their own study pattern within the following limitations:

- They can register to study a maximum of 120 credits (one complete stage) at any one time.
- They must register for the academic component before, or at the same time as, the practice module at Stages 3 and 4.
- The practice modules must be completed in consecutive order and students cannot study two in one year.

Practice learning

Sponsored students only

Further guidance on arrangements for practice learning will be sent to every agency booking places on the programme, but here are the most important points:

- Employers are responsible for arranging appropriate practice learning opportunities in accordance with the Scottish Standards in Social Work Education (SISWE). These will involve a period of verified practice learning at Stage 2 and two 100-day practice learning opportunities at Stages 3 and 4. OU staff will support independent students in locating practice learning opportunities.
- Agencies need to provide a practice verifier at Stage 2 to verify that the student has satisfactorily completed a period of 20 days of preparation for practice. The verifier should be a qualified social worker or someone who holds an equivalent qualification, e.g. nurse, teacher, community worker or registered manager.

- It is desirable that there should be as much contrast as possible between the two practice learning opportunities in order to widen students' learning experience. Students must work with two different service-user groups in different practice settings.
- One practice learning opportunity must include statutory tasks involving legal interventions.
- One practice learning opportunity must be outside the employing agency. (It must be completely outside the agency, not just in a different locality within the same agency.)
- Whatever practice learning opportunity they are in, students must be able to provide evidence of their knowledge and application of child care and protection. During one of the two periods of practice students must have an opportunity to undertake an assessment of a child or of parenting capacity, in order to meet the practice standards set out by the Scottish Government and the SSSC in the *Key Capabilities in Child Care and Protection*.
- The two 100-day periods of practice will take place between February and August and will be undertaken on three or four days each week.
- Workshops (for the Stage 3 and 4 practice learning modules) can be counted as six days towards the total of 100 practice days. Students who miss any workshops will be expected to make up the practice-learning days.
- Employers must ensure suitably qualified practice educators are provided.

- Practice educators must be familiar and conversant with the Standards in Social Work Education, the SSSC *Codes of Practice and Key Capabilities in Child Care and Protection*. They should normally hold the Practice Teaching Award, or be working towards the Practice Learning Qualification for Social Services Level 10.
- The Open University provides a practice-learning guide and briefing meetings for practice educators and link workers.
- All agencies providing practice-learning opportunities are eligible for funding from the SSSC to help towards the cost. There is an option for students to submit evidence of prior professional practice for the equivalent of 20 days against K216 and/or 20 days against K315. Please contact the Social Work Co-ordinator, Scotland for further details (see page 40).

Open University social work staff in Scotland will work with you and your agency (where relevant) to locate suitable practice-learning opportunities as per the guidance above.

Teaching and support

Teaching and support for students is provided by The Open University in conjunction with participating agencies.

Study materials

Distance learning study materials (workbooks, audio CDs, CD/DVD-ROMs and online resources) provide the foundation for the student's learning experience.

Study materials, study planners and details of tutors and tutorial/workshop dates are usually dispatched to students, or are available on the website, in January (for a January/February start) or September (for modules beginning in October).

Tutorial support

Open University tutors will guide and support students throughout their academic studies and also monitor students' progress throughout the year and take appropriate action if the student appears to be in difficulties either academically or in practice. Suitably qualified tutors organise practice-learning meetings with students, practice educators and link workers in order to draw up and review practice-learning agreements.

Tutorials and practice workshops

The practice-learning modules are mediated through obligatory monthly workshops and online discussions. These workshops will provide an important link in helping students to integrate their academic study with practice experience.

There are also regular tutorials in conjunction with all the academic modules. Attendance at tutorials is strongly recommended. Students who do not attend workshops will have to undertake additional practice learning.

Practice educators

Practice educators, appointed by agencies, provide appropriate supervision for students during their practice learning. Practice educators and link workers will be provided with a practice-learning guide.

Peer support

The establishment of self-help groups by students working within the same agency or same locality is encouraged. The sharing of ideas and experience will enrich their studies, and encouragement and support from others will often help students to keep going when energy and enthusiasm are low. All students are expected to participate in online discussions.

Computer and internet access

The requirements for the degree set by the Scottish Government specify that students must be assessed as competent at the level of the European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL) or equivalent.

In order to study the programme, therefore, students will need access at home to a computer, printer and the internet, and to specific software required for the modules. Although employers may offer some students computer facilities, the University's expectation is that students will be able to access these facilities at home and will be responsible for the costs of internet access and printing. This is because a significant amount of study time on the degree will require access to an internet-ready computer. For example, assignments for most modules now have to be submitted electronically and students are required to participate in online discussions with their tutor and other students. Increasingly study resources are provided online. Students will also be able to access a wide range of electronic information sources via The Open University Library.

Agency co-ordinators and practice educators will be given access to online resources.

Study leave

Drawing on past experience, we know that students with generous study leave and supportive employers are more likely to succeed and can do so in a shorter period of time.

The requirement for study leave forms part of the formal collaborative agreement between The Open University and agencies for sponsored students.

Exact arrangements for study leave need to be agreed between employer and employee and will depend on students' work patterns.

Using Stage 1 and Stage 2 modules to select candidates

The Stage 1 modules *An introduction to health and social care* (K101) and *Introducing the social sciences* (DD102) can be studied on their own or as part of the social work degree programme. Some employers see K101 or DD102 as providing a very useful training programme for a wide range of staff as well as a means of selecting those suitable for the degree. Successful completion will also enable students to meet the entry requirement for English.

Foundations for social work practice (KYJ113) is also available for students without the sponsorship of their employers. This is suitable for students who are interested in a career in social work or social care but who don't want to study for a degree or do not yet have sponsorship. It is also ideal for those returning to social work after a career break who want to refresh their knowledge and skills.

Students who successfully complete K101 and KYJ113 can claim the CertHE in Social Care (Scotland) (T03) (see page 42).

Although KYJ113 does not lead to automatic entry to the social work degree programme, students who gain sponsorship and entry onto the programme within two years of completing KYJ113 will be able to count it towards the degree. If two years or more have passed, the preparation-for-practice element will need to be verified again as part of the degree selection process. The Part-Time Fee Grant can be used towards payment of KYJ113, subject to the usual eligibility criteria. Further information regarding financial support can be found on pages 60–61 and at www.saas.gov.uk.

Working with children, young people and families (K218) and *The law and social work in Scotland* (K207) are also available for students without the sponsorship of their employers.

If you want your staff to study K101, DD102, KYJ113, K218 and K207 independently before deciding whether or not to sponsor them on the full degree programme, they can register by calling **0300 303 5303**. Students wishing to apply for a Part-Time Fee Grant should contact Enrolment and Fees at The Open University in Scotland on **0131 226 3851**.

Students may also use standalone modules to study for the Diploma of Higher Education in Social Care (Scotland) (W31), see page 41.

This is made up of K101 and KYJ113 together with 120 credits from other relevant modules. Further details can be found on our website at www.openuniversity.co.uk/ug. Alternatively, see Contact points for advice and registration (see opposite).

Registration

Making a provisional booking

Please book early by completing our *Provisional Booking* form. Students must go through the selection process before they can be registered so it is important to build sufficient time into your planning.

You can download a *Provisional Booking* form from our website at www.openuniversity.co.uk/socialwork-scotland. Alternatively, if you would like us to mail or email the forms to you, please contact the Social Work Co-ordinator, Scotland (see opposite).

The closing date for bookings will be:

Late June – for modules starting in October

Late October – for modules starting in January/February.

On receipt of your booking, we will send you:

- Further advice and guidance on the selection process.
- A registration pack containing the formal registration documents.

Independent (non-sponsored) students

- Students eligible for the independent (non-sponsored) route will be contacted in March of the preceding year for invitations to apply.
- Independent (non-sponsored) students need to have completed all of Stages 1 and 2 of the social work degree, meet the selection criteria and be selected by OU staff onto the degree. You will also need to be available for the two periods of practice learning.

Contact points for advice and information

If you need further advice or information, or wish to make changes to your booking, please contact us using the contact details below:

The Social Work Co-ordinator,
Scotland

The Open University in Scotland
10 Drumsheugh Gardens
Edinburgh EH3 7QJ

Phone **0131 226 3851**

Email scotland@open.ac.uk

Completing the registration process

In order to complete the registration process, you will need to interview each candidate (or arrange for them to be interviewed by an approved agency or in conjunction with Open University staff) and return the following documents to the University:

- Application paperwork, including a line manager's statement of support.
- Personal statement for each candidate.

- Standard Grade certificates (or equivalent qualifications) as evidence that students meet the entry requirements in English and mathematics.
- *Registration Agreement* form (signed by the student) and if applicable a *Sponsorship* form (signed by the employer).
- Students wishing to apply for Recognition of Prior Professional Practice (equivalent to 20 days of K216) are required to submit evidence by the end of November of the preceding year of intended study of K216. Please contact the Social Work Co-ordinator, 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. They do not need to make a credit transfer claim. For further details see Contact points for advice and information (see page 40). A copy of the student's degree certificate must be sent with the application paperwork, signed by their employer for verification.

Diploma of Higher Education in Social Care (Scotland)

Social care in Scotland is increasingly multidisciplinary and community focused – requiring a skilled, adaptable workforce to deliver high-quality services.

This diploma will deepen your insight into social care and social work, and develop the knowledge and skills you need to support vulnerable adults and children effectively in multiple settings. It places a strong emphasis on working across professional boundaries, with service users placed firmly at the centre. You'll gain an up-to-date and authoritative overview of care services, drawing on real-life case studies with children, older people, mental-health communities and people with learning disabilities. You'll explore key roles, standards and codes of practice – focusing in particular on areas relevant to your own role, such as working with children and families, vulnerable adults and people with mental health difficulties; and social work and the law.

Total credits: 240
Code: W31

Start date:
Oct 2016
(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Feb 2017
(registration closes 05 Jan 2017)

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability
In addition to providing understanding, insight and skills into social work and social care, many of the modules that make up this diploma also form part of the BA (Hons) Social Work (Scotland) (Q41) (see page 34). Please note that it does not give *automatic* entry to the social work degree programme (which requires you to attend an interview and has specific entry requirements, including working in a social care setting and meeting minimum academic requirements in maths and English).

However, if you do subsequently gain entry to the degree programme, you'll be able to count some of your diploma studies towards it.

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
<i>Foundations for social work practice</i>	60	KY113

Stage 2

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Optional modules – 120 credits Select from:

<i>Adult health, social care and wellbeing</i>	60	K217
<i>Death and dying</i>	30	K260
<i>Dementia care</i>	30	K235
<i>Mental health and community</i>	60	K240
<i>The law and social work in Scotland¹</i>	60	K207
<i>Working with children, young people and families¹</i>	60	K218

¹These modules are compulsory in the BA (Hons) Social Work (Scotland) (Q41) so, if you're intending to seek entry into the degree, you should opt for these.

MORE
ONLINE



www.openuniversity.co.uk/q41

Certificate of Higher Education in Social Care (Scotland)

Are you thinking about going into social work or social care? This certificate is the ideal way to find out if it's the right career for you. It will give you an insight into social work and social care in Scotland, starting with an up-to-date, authoritative overview of care services – with real-life case studies taking you deep into the experience of giving and receiving care. You'll also develop your knowledge of the key roles in social work, and learn about the social work standards and codes of practice relevant to each UK nation.

You'll explore 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. You'll also build key skills in information and communication technologies (ICT), digital and information literacy and reflective writing.

You will need to arrange to have at least 10 days' practical experience of working alongside people in a social care setting, to offer support while you study. This could be part of your present role in social care or as a volunteer.

Total credits: 120
Code: T03

Start date:
Oct 2016
(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Feb 2017
(registration closes 05 Jan 2017)

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability

In addition to providing an excellent introduction to social work and social care, the modules in this certificate form part of the BA (Hons) Social Work (Scotland) (Q41) (see page 34). Please note that it does not give automatic entry to the social work degree programme (which requires you to attend an interview and has specific entry requirements, including working in a social care setting and meeting minimum academic requirements in maths and English). However, if you do subsequently gain entry to the programme, you'll be able to count this certificate towards your degree.

Stage 1

120 credits required

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
<i>Foundations for social work practice</i>	60	KY113

Susie Allison, 42, from Wigtownshire, was named Student Social Worker of the Year 2013, by the Scottish Association of Social Workers. She is in the final year of her BA (Hons) Social Work (Scotland) degree with The Open University.

“When you have a mortgage it isn’t easy to go to university full time, but the OU gives you the flexibility of studying and working at the same time. If it wasn’t for the OU I don’t think I’d have been able to achieve what I’ve achieved so far.

I didn’t do particularly well at primary or high school and was diagnosed with dyslexia quite late on. I wasn’t sure if I would be able to study at university level. I had spoken to other people who had studied through the OU, who were quite reassuring and advised me to try it. So I tried the module *An introduction to health and social care* (K101) and loved it, totally loved it, thought it was absolutely brilliant, it made sense...the OU materials were easy to follow

and the tutor totally sold it. Her enthusiasm was brilliant. Being able to go along to tutorials and meet other students was great too.

I did really well on my first OU assignment. It was so encouraging to know that I was able to study at that level and from there I’ve just kept going.

The fourth year is hard, but I can see the end in sight. I can see myself becoming a qualified social worker and being able to actually practise and apply the knowledge and skills that I’ve learnt. That keeps me motivated. Support from my family and having a good practice educator and mentor has also kept me motivated.”



Qualifications

Open qualifications

BA or BSc (Hons) Open degree

The BA or BSc (Hons) Open is the most flexible degree programme in the UK because you can study any subjects you like, in any combination. This means you can build a qualification that's unique to you.

The degree allows you to choose modules from any subject area so you can, for example, combine health and social care modules with modules from other disciplines, such as science or the humanities.

Total credits: 360

Code: QD

Start date:

Oct 2016

(registration closes 08 Sep 2016)

Feb 2017

(registration closes 05 Jan 2017)

Module availability is subject to change

Career relevance and employability

Highly regarded by employers, an Open degree equips you with a wide range of expertise, skills and capabilities that are much sought after in today's highly competitive job market.

An Open degree on your CV shows more than your level of knowledge about a subject. It demonstrates to employers that you're someone who is up for a challenge and committed to successfully seeing it through, with excellent time management and prioritising skills.

The study of health and social care modules has enhanced the qualification profiles of many past Open degree graduates who have gone on to work in a wide range of careers. If you are thinking of a career in the health and social care service sector we advise you to spend some time researching your career choices, in particular the entry requirements. If you are interested in a career in nursing or social work, we recommend that you study one of our social work or nursing qualifications as these provide eligibility to apply for professional registration with the appropriate governing body.

How you can focus your Open degree on health and social care

The suggested route opposite shows how you can focus on aspects of health and social care and combine them with other subjects that are of particular interest to you. However, this is just one example of the many combinations you can study and you are not restricted to this route in any way.

Stage 1

120 credits required

You will start with *An introduction to health and social care* (K101), where you'll examine the experience of giving and receiving care in hospitals, clinics or GP surgeries; within the family and community; and in residential settings.

For your remaining 60 credits, you'll have a free choice from a wide range of OU level 1 modules across different subject areas.

Module summary	CREDITS	CODE
<i>An introduction to health and social care</i>	60	K101
Choose from a wide range of OU level 1 modules	60	–

Stage 2

120 credits required

Building on the broad introduction to health and social care, at Stage 2 you will study *Health and illness* (K213) which examines health policy and practice relating to different models of health and illness care – including those associated with long-term conditions – and uses case studies to consider contemporary and emerging debates about health.

For your remaining 60 credits you'll have a free choice from a wide range of OU level 2 modules across different subject areas.

Module summary	CREDITS	CODE
<i>Health and illness</i>	60	K213
Choose from a wide range of OU level 2 modules	60	–

Stage 3

120 credits required

At Stage 3 you'll study *Promoting public health: skills, perspectives and practice* (K311) which will deepen your knowledge and critical analysis of the promotion of public health, and the vital contribution of local authorities, education, social care, families, police, prisons, business and voluntary organisations.

For your remaining 60 credits you'll have a free choice from a wide range of OU level 3 modules across different subject areas.

Module summary	CREDITS	CODE
<i>Promoting public health: skills, perspectives and practice</i>	60	K311
Choose from a wide range of OU level 3 modules	60	–

Diploma of Higher Education Open (W34)
Certificate of Higher Education Open (T09)

We also offer a diploma of higher education which follows the same structure as Stages 1 and 2 of the Open degree and a certificate of higher education which follows the same structure as Stage 1 of the degree.

Postgraduate study

We offer two postgraduate programmes aimed at health and social care graduates and experienced professionals – one in healthcare practice and a second in childhood and youth. Both offer a postgraduate certificate, postgraduate diploma and masters degree.

How postgraduate study works

You achieve a postgraduate qualification at the OU by studying a series of modules.



Modules are our units of study. To work towards a qualification, you first need to choose and register on a module that counts towards that qualification. With each module you successfully complete you'll earn a set number of credits which you build up to gain your qualification.

Postgraduate qualifications

Advancing healthcare practice

MSc in Advancing Healthcare Practice (F52)	49
Postgraduate Diploma in Advancing Healthcare Practice (E46)	49
Postgraduate Certificate in Advancing Healthcare Practice (C92)	49

Childhood and youth

MA in Childhood and Youth (F55)	51
Postgraduate Diploma in Integrated Practice in Childhood and Youth (E78)	51
Postgraduate Certificate in Integrated Practice in Childhood and Youth (C97)	51

Postgraduate qualifications



There's more online

To find out more about a qualification that interests you go to www.openuniversity.co.uk/pg

Qualifications

Advancing healthcare practice



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

The programme was developed for a wide-ranging audience, recognising the importance of inter-agency and multi-professional team working. Each stage of the programme is a valuable qualification in its own right. You can study for a postgraduate certificate or postgraduate diploma and stop there, or progress through to complete the MSc.

Entry requirements

It is a requirement that you have:

- a degree (FHEQ level 6/SCQF level 9) conferred by a UK university or other recognised degree-awarding body
- access to a setting related to healthcare.

MSc in Advancing Healthcare Practice

Total credits: 180 Code: F52

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 180 credits

<i>Leading healthcare improvements</i>	60	K827
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<i>Researching and evaluating healthcare practice</i>	60	K828
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<i>Transforming professional practice</i>	60	K829
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Postgraduate Diploma in Advancing Healthcare Practice

Total credits: 120 Code: E46

You can gain a postgraduate diploma when you have completed the following modules from the masters degree: *Leading healthcare improvements* (K827) and *Researching and evaluating healthcare practice* (K828).

Postgraduate Certificate in Advancing Healthcare Practice

Total credits: 60 Code: C92

After studying the compulsory module *Leading healthcare improvements* (K827), you can gain a postgraduate certificate.

“The NHS and its partners are operating in a world which is changing at a scale and pace we have never seen before. The emergence of many new organisations, set against a backdrop of financial constraint, means it has never been more crucial to harness the leadership potential and talent we have across the health system.”

NHS Leadership Academy

Qualifications

Childhood and youth



This programme is particularly relevant to graduates working in, or aspiring to work with, children and young people and those who want to advance either academically or professionally. Taking an interdisciplinary approach, the programme draws upon a range of perspectives from childhood and youth studies, sociology, health and social care, psychology and education, and the teaching approach is underpinned by a commitment to integrated practice.

Our postgraduate childhood and youth programme is a popular choice for students who have completed our BA (Hons) Childhood and Youth Studies (Q23) or our BA (Hons) Health and Social Care (Q18).

Entry requirements

You should be prepared for study at postgraduate level and have the minimum of a bachelors degree (in any subject) from a UK university or an equivalent professional qualification.

Please call our Student Recruitment Team on **0300 303 5303** for more information.

MA in Childhood and Youth

Total credits: 180 Code: F55

Module summary CREDITS CODE

Compulsory modules – 120 credits

<i>Children and young people's worlds: frameworks for integrated practice</i>	60	E807
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<i>Critical practice with children and young people</i>	60	K802
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Optional module(s) – 60 credits Select from:

<i>Continuing professional development in practice</i>	30	U810
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<i>Critical issues in equity, diversity and educational practice</i>	60	E805
--	----	------

<i>Development: context and practice</i>	30	T877
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<i>Educational leadership: context, strategy and collaboration</i>	60	E856
--	----	------

<i>Leading professional practice in education</i>	60	E855
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<i>Understanding children's development and learning</i>	60	ED841
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Owing to the limited availability of modules for F55, students joining this qualification in October 2016 will only have three years in which to complete and will need to carefully plan the order in which they study modules to maximise their options – there is more information on our website, go to www.open.ac.uk/postgraduate/qualifications/F55.

Postgraduate Diploma in Integrated Practice in Childhood and Youth

Total credits: 120 Code: E78

You can gain a postgraduate diploma when you complete both of the compulsory 60-credit modules for the masters degree, *Children and young people's worlds: frameworks for integrated practice* (E807) and *Critical practice with children and young people* (K802).

Postgraduate Certificate in Integrated Practice in Childhood and Youth

Total credits: 60 Code: C97

After studying either of the compulsory 60-credit modules for the masters degree, you can gain a postgraduate certificate.

Modules available for standalone study



The modules listed here can be studied individually and as part of a qualification. For further information, including fees and how to register, enter the module code in the search box at **www.openuniversity.co.uk/courses**.

Undergraduate

Stage 1 (SCQF level 7)

An introduction to health and social care (K101)

Enhancing your healthcare practice (K117)

Introducing the social sciences (DD102)

Introduction to childhood studies and child psychology (E102)

Introduction to sport, fitness and management (E112)

Investigating psychology 1 (DE100)

Management practice (B123)

Perspectives in health and social care (K118)

Science and health: an evidence-based approach (SDK100)

Working and learning in sports and fitness (E113)

Stage 2 (SCQF level 8 or 9)

Adult health, social care and wellbeing (K217)

NEW Ageing societies and global health (K242)

Death and dying (K260)

Dementia care (K235)

Extending your contribution to healthcare practice (K236)

Health and illness (K213)

Human biology (SK277)

Mental health and community (K240)

Sport and conditioning science into practice (E217)

Sport and exercise physiology: a case study approach (E233)

The law and social work in Scotland (K207)

The science of the mind: investigating mental health (SDK228)

Working with children, young people and families (K218)

Stage 3 (SCQF level 10)

Adulthood, ageing and the life course (K319)

Exploring practice (K316)

Exploring psychological aspects of athletic development (E313)

Infectious disease and public health (SK320)

Issues in research with children and young people (EK313)

Leadership and management in health and social care (K313)

Managing across organisational boundaries (B325)

Promoting public health: skills, perspectives and practice (K311)

Researching biology and health science (SXL390)

Signals and perception: the science of the senses (SD329)

Working together for children (KE312)

Postgraduate (SCQF level 11)

Children and young people's worlds: frameworks for integrated practice (E807)

Continuing professional development in practice (U810)

Critical issues in equity, diversity and educational practice (E805)

Critical practice with children and young people (K802)

Development: context and practice (T877)

Educational leadership: context, strategy and collaboration (E856)

Leadership and management in intercultural contexts (BB848)

Leading healthcare improvements (K827)

Leading professional practice in education (E855)

Researching and evaluating healthcare practice (K828)

Understanding children's development and learning (ED841)

Transforming care short courses

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.

To find out more about a short course that interests you, and to register, go to www.openuniversity.co.uk/short-courses.

Whether you receive or provide care, OU short courses play a valued role in supporting high-quality care – by sharing good practice, addressing culture change and improving confidence.

These non-credit bearing short courses offer:

- High quality, multimedia, learning which you can apply right from the start.
- A strong focus on improving practice, quality of care and service user experience.
- Flexibility and accessibility – you can study whenever you want, wherever you have access to a computer or mobile device – and you don't have to be away from work or caring responsibilities. No need to wait – start studying right now.

You will receive a certificate of participation upon completion.

These courses are not formally assessed and they do not provide credits towards an Open University qualification.

Improving dementia care (KG002)

Credits: This is a non-credit-bearing course

Start: Anytime

This 50-hour online course is aimed at anyone with an interest in, or responsibility for, the care of people with dementia. Your studies will help you develop an understanding of the medical and physiological dimensions of dementia including symptoms, changes in the brain and medication; the experience of dementia in relation to memory, identity and social relationships; care needs and person-centred care; the impact of the design of the physical environment; decision making, capacity, consent and risk; and of how organisational cultures shape care quality.

Improving diabetes management (KG003)

Credits:	This is a non-credit-bearing course
Start:	Anytime

This 55-hour online course provides an introduction to the medical, psychological and social dimensions of diabetes. You will learn about the parts of the body and physiological processes involved in diabetes. The course covers diagnosis and treatment as well as day-to-day management and monitoring for complications. You will also study diabetes within the context of the everyday life of the person with the condition. Living well with diabetes, as well as the potential social and psychological impacts are also considered. This course has been designed with a wide range of people in mind: people with diabetes, carers, lay educators and a variety of healthcare practitioners, including clinical support workers.

Improving end-of-life care (KG001)

Credits:	This is a non-credit-bearing course
Start:	Anytime

This 40-hour multimedia online course is focused on improving end-of-life care for adults. It covers different understandings of and support for 'a good death', effective communication, grief and bereavement and ethics in end-of-life care. Written assuming no prior knowledge, the online learning guides support you in building your understanding of end-of-life care by working step-by-step through audio and video accounts from practice and written case studies, as well as accessible discussions of up-to-date research and theory.

Improving health and wellbeing (KG004)

Credits:	This is a non-credit-bearing course
Start:	Anytime

All health and social care practitioners have a role in supporting others to improve their health and wellbeing. While the *Making Every Contact Count* initiative is one example of this approach, all practitioners are expected to promote health as part of their role. This 40-hour online course uses interactive teaching material and case studies to explain how nutrition, exercise, alcohol, smoking and stress are influenced by individual factors, family dynamics, locality and wider society. Biological, psychological and social issues are considered. Discussions of lifestyle and social change connect your study to public health concerns.

Facilitating learning in practice: an OpenLearn resource (KG005)

Credits:	This is a non-credit-bearing course
Start:	Anytime

Some of the themes you will explore in this free online course include facilitating learning in practice, the role of the mentor in supporting teaching and learning, the practice environment, student assessment and supporting failing students. While available to anyone interested in supporting learners, it has been specifically developed to be combined with the *Facilitating learning in practice: mentorship portfolio assessment* (KG006).

Go to www.open.edu/openlearn and search for KG005.

Facilitating learning in practice: mentorship portfolio assessment (KG006)

Credits:	This is a non-credit-bearing course
Start:	Anytime

Successful completion of KG006 provides evidence for eligibility to enter locally held registers for mentors.

Students will need to confirm that they have access to a registered nurse, whose data is already held on a mentor register, who can act as an assessor. In addition, students need to commit to engaging in all aspects of this combined development (KG005, including additional reading resources, and KG006) so that protected time required by the NMC can be demonstrated.

Students will collect evidence from practice against the NMC (2008) Standards to Support Learning and Assessment in Practice – Stage 2 Mentor and, in doing so, demonstrate that they have the competence to practise successfully in the role of mentor if asked to support students of nursing. Assessment is based on the demonstration of practice competence.

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 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.

To find out more or get started, go to www.open.edu/openlearn and search for KG097.

“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

Supporting dementia care in Scotland

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).

“The 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)



Improving dementia care short course

Our 50-hour non-accredited, self-directed online course, *Improving dementia care* (KG002) (see page 54) is also available to registered and unregistered practitioners and carers who have an interest in, or responsibility for, the care of people with dementia.

Free online dementia resources

The Open University offers a range of free online resources at www.open.edu/openlearn.

By searching for ‘designing space for dementia care’ you can access free study material which explores how the environment impacts on the experience of health and social care and, in particular, how the built environment affects the sense of orientation for people with dementia. The material is taken from the popular module *Dementia care* (K235).

Dementia workshops for organisations

The Open University in Scotland offers tailored workshops to meet the needs of employers, delivered by OU tutors with experience in the care sector. Our dementia awareness workshops are for staff in a wide variety of organisations as well as families and carers. Examples of workshops specifically for workers in the sector, such as health and social care assistants, care workers, registered practitioners and carers include *Living well with dementia*, and *Creating a positive care culture*. In 2015, we worked with staff from the retailer Asda in Scotland around the notion of creating ‘dementia friendly retail’ environments. This programme won the ‘Outstanding contribution to the community’ category at the Herald Higher Education Awards in 2015.



Promoting excellence

The NHS Education for Scotland/ Scottish Social Services Council ‘Promoting excellence’ framework applies to all health and social services staff who have contact with, and provide support, care, treatment and services for people who have dementia, their families and carers. The Open University in Scotland has now successfully embedded this framework into *Dementia care* (K235).

“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)

Fees and funding



A fee is payable for each module, which includes study materials including most books, DVDs and other resources.

Fees are paid on a module-by-module basis, so even if you register on a qualification you are not expected to pay for the whole of your qualification up front.

Over half of all new students in Scotland qualify for financial support – most of those earning £25,000 a year or less or on certain benefits can study at undergraduate level for free.

If your study is related to your job or career your employer may be willing to sponsor you by paying some or all of the fees.

Students studying part-time typically study 30 or 60 credits a year. Fees vary, but typical undergraduate modules cost in the region of £466 to £589 for 30 credits and £893 to £1065 for 60 credits¹.

At today's prices, the typical cost of a 360-credit honours degree would be between £5358 and £6390.

¹ Fees normally increase annually in line with inflation and the University's strategic approach to fees. Please note that fees for professionally relevant programmes of study (e.g. social work) may be significantly higher than the ranges quoted.

Postgraduate fees

To find out the fee for your chosen module go to www.openuniversity.co.uk/pg.

You pay for your postgraduate studies module by module. You can pay for your studies straight away with a credit or debit card, or via bank transfer. Or, you could pay for your studies in instalments with an Open University Student Budget Account (OUSBA). For more information go to www.openuniversity.co.uk/ousba.

Undergraduate study – am I eligible to study for free?

Depending on your income and your course of study, you could be eligible to apply for a Part-Time Fee Grant and for help to pay for study-related expenses:

Part-Time Fee Grant – if your personal income is £25,000 or less a year, including replacement living costs, you can apply once each year for a fee grant to cover your module fees if you are studying 30–120 credits a year.

Discretionary funds – means-tested discretionary support may be available to help pay for study-related costs like travel, childcare and internet access.

To find out more, speak to an adviser on **0300 303 5303**.

How to register if you qualify for a Part-Time Fee Grant

1. Register for your chosen qualification or module

Register on your qualification at www.openuniversity.co.uk/ug or call us on **0300 303 5303**. You can choose to register on modules only and still be awarded a grant.

2. Enrol on your chosen module(s) and choose “Financial Support” as your preferred payment option

Make sure you print your module registration agreement, or ask us and we’ll send it to you.

3. Download your Part-Time Fee Grant application form from the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS)

You’ll find the forms and the guidance notes for part-time students at www.saas.gov.uk.

4. We recommend you apply for your Part-Time Fee Grant as soon as SAAS open the application process, usually in June.

You need to apply at least 1 week before OU registration closes.

5. Send all your forms to The Open University in Scotland

You will need to:

- complete your OU module registration agreement
- complete your Part-Time Fee Grant application form
- provide your income evidence.

Send them all to Student Registration Team, The Open University, 10 Drumsheugh Gardens, Edinburgh, EH3 7QJ.

Note: we’ll complete the ‘Learning provider’ section, and we’ll endorse your Part-Time Fee Grant application form and send it to SAAS for you.

6. SAAS may ask you for more information

Ensure you provide all the necessary information or send SAAS anything else they request as quickly as you can. Any missing information will delay your application. SAAS will normally confirm your funding within 28 days.

7. What about your OU enrolment

When we receive your Part-Time Fee Grant application form, we’ll register you on your module(s) conditionally, pending confirmation of your funding approval.

8. SAAS will send you an Award Letter

SAAS will inform us directly when your funding has been approved – there’s no need to tell us.

What if I am not eligible for financial support?

If you do not qualify for financial support for undergraduate study, there are a number of ways to pay for your course fees:

Pay by instalments – you can spread the cost of your studies and pay as you go. Find out more about an account with Open University Student Budget Accounts Ltd (OUSBA) and the option of paying for your study in instalments at www.openuniversity.co.uk/ousba. You must be at least 18 years of age and credit is subject to your financial circumstances and status.

Pay up front for each module – by credit/debit card or by bank transfer.

Let us help you approach your employer for sponsorship...

When it comes to managing the cost of your study, you’ve got options – but have you thought about asking your employer to pay for some or all of your qualification?

Your employer could pay module-by-module and sponsor you for the entire cost of your qualification, reimburse you for some or all of your costs – perhaps on successful completion – or share the costs with you. To find out more speak to an OU adviser on **0300 303 5303**.

Find us online: www.openuniversity.co.uk

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Connect on [LinkedIn](#)
Watch us on [YouTube](#)



Contact us

Contact us

The Open University in Scotland
10 Drumsheugh Gardens
Edinburgh
EH3 7QJ

Email: scotland@open.ac.uk
Call: **0131 226 3851**

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**.

Other ways to read this prospectus

You may find it easier to access information from our website at www.openuniversity.co.uk.

If you would like this prospectus electronically, please call **0300 303 5303** or email us from our website at www.openuniversity.co.uk/contact.

Other formats are available on request.

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Life-changing Learning

New for 2017 – An exciting postgraduate programme in mental health science



The Open
University



Cutting edge

Over 40 years' experience helps us to develop quality-assured, innovative science qualifications that will challenge and inspire you as you learn.

MSc and Postgraduate Diploma in Mental Health Science

From January 2017 we will be offering 2 brand new postgraduate qualifications, the MSc (F78) and Postgraduate Diploma (E91) in Mental Health Science.

Focusing on mental health conditions that affect today's global society – stress and anxiety, depression, psychosis and dementia – the qualifications take an interdisciplinary approach, developing students' biological and psychological understanding of these conditions.

What will studying these courses enable you to do?

Understanding current issues and research at the forefront of mental health science (relating to the onset, development, diagnosis, causes and treatments of key mental health conditions) will enable students to better evaluate and challenge current thinking and practice, with a view to driving improvements in research, policy, management, interventions and support for both affected individuals and their families.

Key features of the programme

- Explores current issues and research at the forefront of mental health science
- Develops knowledge and understanding of key topics in mental health science (stress and anxiety, depression, psychosis and dementia)
- Enables critical evaluation of current literature, discussion of contemporary issues
- Develops skills that are essential for a critical understanding of mental health science and relevant to professional practice
- Delivered entirely online, provides the flexibility to study around work and personal commitments



Module summary

Module	CREDITS	CODE
Stage 1 Introduction to Mental Health Science	60	S826
Stage 2 Core Topics in Mental Health Science	60	SD816
Stage 3 Project Module for the MSc in Mental Health Science	60	SXH810

The PGDip (Stages 1 and 2; 120 credits) can be completed within 2 years.
The MSc (Stages 1, 2 and 3; 180 credits) can be completed within 3 years.

Who should study these qualifications?

The programme is designed for those with an academic, professional or personal interest in mental health science and the biological and psychological underpinnings of this discipline. The qualifications are particularly relevant to those with a background in psychology, neuroscience, health/life sciences, nursing, medical and allied professions, and would suit those working, or aspiring to work in research, clinical, pharmaceutical, healthcare, management and support settings.

NEXT STEPS

To find out more go to
www.openuniversity.co.uk/f78
www.openuniversity.co.uk/e91

