

## Credit Transfer Factsheet

### BA/BSc (HONOURS) OPEN DEGREE (QD)

If you have previously studied elsewhere and your studies were completed at the same academic level as OU modules, we may be able to award you credit transfer towards an OU qualification: this will reduce the number of OU modules you have to study to complete your OU qualification. You need to decide which OU qualification you wish to study for with us before you can apply for credit transfer.

This factsheet tells you about transferred credit from elsewhere into this particular OU qualification.

**Please note that:**

- We can only confirm how much credit you can be awarded once you have made a formal Credit Transfer application which has been considered by an OU assessor.
- Your previous studies must be at the same academic level and carry at least as many Credit Accumulation and Transfer (CATS) points, as the OU study from which you are to be exempted. More details about CATS points and levels can be found on our website at <https://credit-transfer.open.ac.uk>.
- We will award you as much credit transfer as possible, but this may be less than the maximum available towards this OU qualification. This is because the amount of credit transfer you can be awarded depends on several factors (such as the number of credits you achieved and how closely your previous study matches the OU modules).

## Credit transfer towards the BA/BSc (Honours) Open degree (QD)

### Maximum credit transfer available towards this qualification

The maximum number of credits that can be transferred towards this qualification are shown in the table below. The actual number of credits that you are awarded will be determined when your application for credit transfer has been assessed and may be less than the maximum shown below. Towards this qualification, credit transfer can be awarded in multiples of 30 credits.

<b>Total number of credits required for this qualification</b>	360 credits
<b>Maximum credit transfer</b>	240 credits
<b>Minimum number of OU credits to be completed</b>	120 credits
<b>Maximum age of previous study</b>	Completed up to 16 years ago

### Time limits towards this qualification

The amount of time that you have to complete your qualification will depend on the amount of credit that you have left to complete once your credit transfer award has been made. The table below shows the number of years you will have left to complete if you have the following number of credits left to complete your qualification.

<b>Number of credits left to complete</b>	<b>Number of years to complete qualification</b>
120 credits left to complete	7 years
150 – 180 credits left to complete	9 years
210 – 240 credits left to complete	12 years
270 – 300 credits left to complete	14 years
330 credits left to complete	16 years

If you are awarded credit transfer, then your time limit will start from the year in which you are awarded credit transfer. However, if you have already completed any OU modules that are eligible to count towards this qualification, and if you choose to include any of them, your start date will be the start date of the earliest

OU module that you choose to include. You may find that including an earlier OU module(s) gives you no time, or insufficient time, to complete the qualification, in which case you will not be able to include that module(s).

The number of years you have to complete your qualification will depend on the amount of OU credit that you have left to complete given your credit transfer award (see table above). If you are awarded credit transfer, then the number of years you have left to complete your qualification will be displayed on your StudentHome page.

### **Age of previous study**

For this qualification we can consider previous study completed up to 16 years ago for credit transfer. We will calculate the age of your previous study using the date we receive your completed application with all required supporting evidence.

### **Study for which you could be awarded credit transfer**

You can apply for credit transfer towards this OU qualification if you have any of the eligible previous study shown on our website <https://credit-transfer.open.ac.uk> that was completed at undergraduate level (or above). Undergraduate level in England, Wales and Northern Ireland is Level 4 or above, Scotland level 7 or above, and in the Republic of Ireland, level 6 or above. Study completed at FHEQ L3, RQF L3, QCF L3, SCQF L6 and NQF L5 (equivalent or below) cannot be transferred to this qualification.

### **What do I need to provide with my application?**

Every application must be supported by official evidence, usually in the form of an academic transcript and a certificate. Please see the application form and the FAQs on our website for more information about the evidence you will need to provide.

For applications towards this qualification, you do not need to provide syllabus information/learning outcomes for your previous study. As long as you have provided an official academic transcript this should be sufficient for us to assess your previous study. For credit to be awarded towards the Open degree, previous study can be in any subject.

### **Studying a different subject**

If you decide to study a different subject to what you have previously studied, you should check that you have the relevant background knowledge for the module you want to register on. You can do this by contacting our Student Recruitment team on +44 (0)300 303 5303 or use the contact form at <http://www.open.ac.uk/contact>.

## Reducing a credit transfer award

If you receive a credit transfer award you do not have to accept the full award. You may feel you can benefit from studying a further module at level 1 or 2. This might be because you have not studied for a while or are planning to study a different subject to what you have previously studied. If you wish to reduce your credit transfer award, you will need to email [credit-transfer@open.ac.uk](mailto:credit-transfer@open.ac.uk) confirming the amount of credit/level you wish to abandon.

## Unique study rule

For each OU qualification, you must include an amount of OU study that is unique to that particular qualification (credit from study completed at the OU which has not previously been counted towards another OU qualification). Full details are given in the degree regulations, in the Qualification Regulations section of the qualification description: <https://www.open.ac.uk/courses/combined-studies/degrees/open-degree-qd>.

## Further information you will need

To find out more about credit transfer, and to download a Credit Transfer application form, visit our Credit Transfer website: <https://credit-transfer.open.ac.uk>. This site also tells you what previous study can be used for credit transfer and explains in detail how the application process works.

You should read this Credit Transfer Factsheet in conjunction with the qualification description which can be found at: <https://www.open.ac.uk/courses/combined-studies/degrees/open-degree-qd> which

- Contains the qualification regulations and associated time limits
- Contains the University regulations
- Gives information on the structure of your chosen OU qualification

If you require a version of these notes in an alternative format, such as large print, please contact us.

This factsheet has been prepared by the Credit Transfer Centre at The Open University.

You are welcome to contact us regarding your application for credit transfer. However, please note that we are unable to advise you how much credit transfer you could be awarded before we have assessed your formal application.

You may find that your query has already been answered at

<https://credit-transfer.open.ac.uk>.

Email: [credit-transfer@open.ac.uk](mailto:credit-transfer@open.ac.uk)

Website: <https://credit-transfer.open.ac.uk>

**The Open University is incorporated by Royal Charter (RC 000391), an exempt charity in England & Wales and a charity registered in Scotland (SC 038302). The Open University is authorised and regulated by the Financial Conduct Authority in relation to its secondary activity of credit broking.**

**While every effort is made to ensure accuracy, the information in this publication may change in the light of altered regulations, policy, or other constraints.**

Copyright © 2024 The Open University