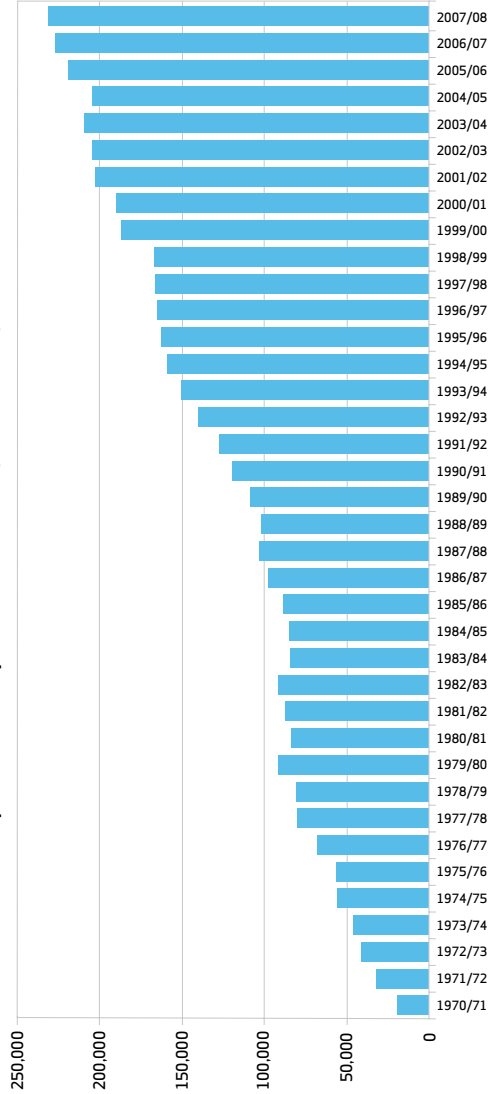


Open University Students – 1970/71 to 2007/08



## About The Open University



- The OU is the UK's largest University, teaching 35% of all part-time undergraduate students in the UK each year.
- The OU is among the top five UK universities for teaching quality. Eighteen of the OU's 25 subject areas (72%) assessed by the external Quality Assurance Agency in the most recent teaching quality assessment were ranked 'Excellent'.
- In the 2008 National Student Survey, 94% of OU students said they were satisfied with their experience, the second highest rating amongst the 149 higher education institutions surveyed.
- During 2007/08 the OU made academic awards to over 37,000 students.
- OU graduates are among the most employable in the UK, according to data provided by the Higher Education Statistics Agency's Association of Graduate Recruiters' (AGR) survey. 81% of OU graduates and 91% of postgraduate students were found to be in employment six months after graduating.
- The OU has climbed 23 places to 43<sup>rd</sup> in the UK's latest Research Assessment Exercise (RAE 2008), securing a place in the UK's top 50 higher education institutions, making the OU one of the UK's fastest rising research universities.
- Research funding from grants and income generation increased by 14% over 2007/08 to total £14.4 million.
- The OU is a partner of choice for employers: 50,000 employers have sponsored their staff on OU courses.
- In 2008, the OU was the first UK university to join iTunes U, the area of Apple's iTunes store that offers easily downloadable educational content that can be watched or listened to on a Mac, PC, iPod or iPhone. It also launched its own channel on online video community site YouTube.
- In 2007/08 over 41,000 OU students received financial support towards their course fees.

Student and customer statistics	2006/07	2007/08
Undergraduate level students		
Access	13,570	15,081
Other undergraduate	150,737	153,664
Postgraduate level students		
taught	16,182	15,305
research part-time	758	703
research full-time	735	638
Initial Teacher Training	463	484
Overseas special scheme students	8853	9521
Students validated by the		
Open University	32,136	32,490
Students on non-credit-bearing and continuing professional development courses	842	1,329
<b>Total students</b>	<b>224,276</b>	<b>229,215</b>
Study packs and materials sold	6184	4724
<b>Total students and customers</b>	<b>230,460</b>	<b>233,939</b>

Student distribution	2006/07	2007/08
UK students		
England	148,395	151,720
Scotland	14,125	14,095
Wales	6420	6957
Northern Ireland	3641	3705
<b>Total UK students</b>	<b>172,581</b>	<b>176,477</b>
Republic of Ireland	3726	3529
Other EU	7235	8940
Non-EU	8598	7779
Validated students	32,136	32,490
<b>Total</b>	<b>224,276</b>	<b>229,215</b>

Qualifications awarded	2007/08	Cumulative 1971-2007/08
Foundation degrees	184	343
First degrees	10,313	300,435
Higher degrees	2784	45,044
Undergraduate certificates and diplomas	20,695	241,152
Postgraduate certificates and diplomas	3408	52,902
Validated awards (under/post-graduate)	10,404	91,922

Student FTEs by subject area*	2006/07	2007/08
Subjects allied to medicine	1920	1952
Biological and Physical Sciences	11,910	11,974
Mathematical Sciences	5126	4831
Computer Science	3064	2960
Engineering and Technology	5894	5770
Social Studies	14,577	14,295
Law	2428	2329
Business and Administrative Studies	7721	8200
Mass Communications and Documentation	187	183
Languages	6823	7713
Historical & Philosophical Studies	9165	9015
Creative Arts & Design	545	629
Education	6784	6622
<b>Total</b>	<b>76,145</b>	<b>76,474</b>

\*Excludes non-credit-bearing courses, Singapore, study materials and validated students

Features of Open University students	2007/08	
	Undergraduate Level	Postgraduate Level
Male: female ratio	39:61	51:49
Age profile		
Under 25	14%	3%
25-34	29%	33%
35-44	30%	38%
45-54	17%	19%
55-64	8%	5%
65 and over	3%	1%
Median age of new undergraduate level students		32

Ethnic origin of new undergraduate students*	2007/08
White	88%
Asian and Black	9%
Mixed and Other	3%

\* % of new students disclosing ethnicity

Qualifications on entry of undergraduate level students	2007/08
No formal qualifications	4%
1 A level or lower	37%
2 A levels or equivalent	17%
HE qualification	27%
Postgraduate qualification	7%
Not known	10%

Other student information	2007/08
Number of students receiving help with fees	41,230
Number of students with disabilities	11,109
Number of credit transfer awards for prior study	10,703

Courses information	2007/08
Number of standard courses/modules offered	
Undergraduate level	473
Postgraduate level	160
Overseas versions	34

UK fees	2007/08
Undergraduate course (60 credit points)	£565 to £1940
Undergraduate residential school	£310 to £660
Postgraduate course (60 credit points)	£355 to £2620
Research degree	
full-time	£3240p.a.
part-time	£1620 p.a.
Study packs and materials	£10 to £100

Cost of study to UK students	2007/08
Typical total fees for BA/BSc (Hons) undergraduate degree (360 credit points)	£3390-£4535

Finance	2006/07	2007/08
	(£ millions)	(£ millions)
<b>Income</b>		
Funding body grants	212.1	225.6
Tuition fees and education contracts	123.1	128.8
Research grants and contracts	12.6	14.4
Other income	19.5	21.5
Endowment and investment income	8.5	10.6
<b>Total income</b>	<b>375.8</b>	<b>400.9</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Staff costs	225.3	241.4
Depreciation	9.4	10.6
Other operating expenses	125.6	132.1
Interest payable	3.4	4.3
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>363.7</b>	<b>388.4</b>

Staff statistics	2006/07	2007/08
Salaried academic staff	1218	1253
Academic-related staff	1654	1786
Support staff (secretaries, clerks, technicians, etc)	1847	1910
Associate lecturers	8094	7982

Most popular undergraduate courses	2007/08
	No. of students
DD100 An Introduction to the Social Sciences	6908
A103 An Introduction to the Humanities	4886
DSE212 Exploring Psychology	4000
B120 An Introduction to Business Studies	3852
M150 Data, Computing and Information	3825