

**CREDIT TRANSFER TOWARDS THE
BA and BSc (HONOURS) DEGREES in NAMED
SUBJECTS****Essential Information**

Please retain for the duration of your studies with
The Open University



IMPORTANT NOTE: You should read this document in conjunction with the University regulations for this qualification: <http://www3.open.ac.uk/our-student-policies/qualregs.htm>

The Open University BA and BSc Open degrees

The BA or BSc Open degrees with and without Honours can be awarded as “general” degrees for any combination of OU modules which meets the credits and level requirements. For information on Credit Transfer towards the Open degree, please see the *Credit Transfer for BA and BSc degrees: Essential Information for Students* document, <http://www3.open.ac.uk/credit-transfer/pdf/BD.pdf>

BA and BSc degrees in named subjects

We also award Honours degrees in named subject areas: if you want a named degree, you will have to choose modules which meet the specific requirements for that degree. You will find more information about bachelor degrees in the current undergraduate brochure or from the *Study at the OU* website, www3.open.ac.uk/study/

For some degrees in named subjects, transferred credit can be used only towards the ‘free choice’ element of the degree, where study can be in any subject. These degrees are listed below.

Most of our degrees allow transferred credit to count towards the subject-specific element of the degree if the previous study was in the relevant area. Some degrees allow transferred credit towards both the ‘free choice’ and the subject-specific element. The details of the credit transfer available towards each of these degrees is given in the Essential Information notes for the specific degree, which you can find on the Credit Transfer website on the “How to apply” page (<http://www3.open.ac.uk/credit-transfer/apply.shtm>), or from the relevant qualification description on the online prospectus: www3.open.ac.uk/study/

Free choice credit only

The following degrees allow transferred credit towards the free choice element only:

60 credits of free choice

- **B13** BSc (Hons) Information Technology & Computing

90 credits of free choice

- **B20** BSc (Hons) Technology

120 credits of free choice

- **B05** LL.B (For the LL.B degree a separate assessment of transferred credit is needed to meet the requirements of the Law professional bodies. Please refer to the relevant Essential Information sheet, <http://www3.open.ac.uk/credit-transfer/pdf/B05.pdf>)

What credit transfer will I be awarded ?

Please note: credit transfer is awarded in the context of the particular qualification towards which you are claiming it. This means that you may be able to get credit transfer against a specific Open University (OU) module or component in some OU qualifications but not in others.

When we have completed the assessment of your application for credit transfer, we will send you an email to let you know that the outcome, your *Credit Transfer Award*, is showing on your Studenthome page: <http://www.open.ac.uk/students> . You will then be able to view and download this document.

We award credit in units of 5 credits, up to the maximum amount of credit transfer permitted towards your chosen OU qualification. If your previous study amounts to more than this limit, we will select those credits that will give you the most beneficial award. Please see the Credit Transfer website for information about the credit transfer which can be awarded for eligible study.

Type/s of credit transfer

Awards of credit transfer towards the “free choice” element of named degrees will be made as “general credit exemption”, and the outcome of your credit transfer application will be displayed on your *Credit Transfer Award* document viewable on your StudentHome page.

General credit exemption means that you have been exempted from studying the specified amount of credit at the given academic level towards this OU qualification. This type of credit transfer is awarded if your previous study is at, or equivalent to, the UK academic level of the OU module/s concerned and is considered relevant to this OU qualification in terms of subject and/or skills development. This type of credit transfer does not exempt you from any particular OU module/s.

Linking credit for previous Open University Study

If you wish to count previously-studied Open University modules towards your qualification, you do not need to complete a credit transfer claim form. Most OU prospectuses will tell you whether your modules can count towards your chosen qualification but remember that there are rules on the amount of unique study (modules not already counted towards another OU qualification) that you must include.

Details for each qualification are given within the qualification regulations available at <http://www3.open.ac.uk/our-student-policies/qualregs.htm/>. If you would like further information, or would like to link a module to your OU qualification, please contact the Qualifications and Ceremonies Centre on 01908 653003 or acc-gen@open.ac.uk

1971 rule

The University now awards credit only for study undertaken from 1971 onwards. If you already have an award of credit for pre-1971 study it will not be taken away. If you seek a reassessment of your award, either because you have undertaken additional study or if you want to take advantage of subsequent policy changes, you may not be able to gain any additional credit but your award will not be reduced.

Please note: if the OU qualification you are studying towards has time limits, these will be detailed in a paragraph headed “Time limits” (above the “1971 rule” paragraph) and will take precedence over the 1971 rule.

The Unique Study rule

For each OU qualification, you must include an amount of OU study that is unique to that particular qualification (OU credit which has not previously been counted towards another OU qualification). The proportion of unique study required is normally one-third: for details of the unique study required for a specific qualification, please refer to the qualification regulations

<http://www3.open.ac.uk/our-student-policies/qualregs.htm>

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

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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.