



**CREDIT TRANSFER TOWARDS  
THE MASTER'S IN HUMANITIES,  
THE MASTER'S IN LITERATURE,  
THE MASTER'S IN CLASSICAL STUDIES,  
THE MASTER'S IN HISTORY,  
THE MASTER'S IN ART HISTORY,  
THE MASTER'S IN PHILOSOPHY AND  
THE MASTER'S IN MUSIC**

Essential Information

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

In order to qualify for any of the Master's degrees in Humanities (Humanities; Classical Studies; Art History; Philosophy; Music), you will need 180 points either from studying Open University MA modules or from a mixture of OU study and credit transfer. The chart below indicates which of the Master's degree components you can be awarded credit transfer against.

**Please note:** the structures of the MA in Literature (F29) and the MA in History (F28) have changed, and there is no longer any credit transfer available towards these qualifications unless you have already started your studies on these programmes. If you are interested in literature, you may be interested in our MA in English (F58), although there is no credit transfer towards this degree.

Please see the online qualification descriptions for F28, F29, and F58 for more details.

The intermediate awards of Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma require a minimum of 60 and 120 points respectively, but no credit transfer is permitted towards these awards. They must be based entirely on Open University study.

Degree component	Type and amount of credit transfer available towards this component, if any
Foundation modules (60 points required)	No credit transfer available
Subject modules (60 points required)	60 points of course-related or full-rate credit transfer
Dissertation (60 points required)	No credit transfer available (except towards the MA in Music)
<b>Maximum credit transfer available towards this OU qualification</b>	<b>60 points</b>

Credit for previous relevant study elsewhere can be used in place of OU courses as indicated under each category in this table, provided certain conditions are met. You should read this document in conjunction with the award regulations. <http://www3.open.ac.uk/our-student-policies/qualregs.htm>

## What award of credit will I receive?

### The MA in Classical Studies, the MA in Art History, the MA in Philosophy, or the general MA in Humanities

We can award credit in units of 5 points, up to a maximum of 60 points towards the awards listed above. Credit transfer is only available towards the **subject** modules. If your previous study amounts to more than this limit, we will select those points that will give you the most beneficial award.

*There is no credit transfer available towards the Foundation and Dissertation modules.*

## The MA in Music

We can award credit in units of 5 points, up to a maximum of 60 points towards the MA in Music. Credit transfer is available towards the **subject** module. If your previous study amounts to more than this limit, we will select those points that will give you the most beneficial award.

In addition if you have obtained the Fellowship of the Royal Schools of Music (FRSM) from the Associated Board of The Royal Schools of Music (ABRSM) from 2000 onwards, this can exempt you from studying the subject module A871 or the dissertation module A877, but not both.

*There is no credit transfer available towards the Foundation modules.*

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

## Types of credit transfer

**Course-related credit** can be awarded only if the student's previous study is considered to be equivalent to (matches by 80%) the level, content, and breadth of this OU course. Course-related credit is effectively an exemption from a particular OU course in recognition of previous study.

**Full-rate credit** can be awarded if the study is at, or equivalent to, the UK undergraduate level of the OU study concerned and is considered relevant in terms of subject and/or skills development. Unlike course-related credit, the previous study does not have to match the subject content of any particular OU course.

## 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 that, if the OU qualification you are studying towards has further time-limits, these will take precedence over the 1971 rule.

## The Unique Study rule

For each OU award, there must be an amount of OU study that is unique to that particular award (OU credit which has not previously been counted towards another award). The amount of unique OU study required in each case is normally one-third, so for these Master's degrees, you must include at least 60 credit points of unique study.

## Time Constraints

You will be required to complete all components necessary for the degree within a 10-year period. This period commences from the completion date of the study for which credit transfer is given or the commencement of your first OU course counting towards this degree, if started before this date. If your credit transfer award is based on more than one qualification then the earliest date will be used.

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.*