NOTES TO EDITORS

FutureLearn will make it possible to learn for life, offering unique access to some of the most inspiring learning opportunities from some of the world’s best universities – for free.

**About FutureLearn:**

[FutureLearn.com](http://FutureLearn.com) is the first UK-led multi-institutional provider of free, open, online higher education courses. It will offer courses for people to access and enjoy wherever they are in the world on multiple devices.  Courses will be created by the Universities of Bath, Birmingham, Bristol, Cardiff, East Anglia, Edinburgh, Exeter, Glasgow, Leicester, Loughborough, Kings College London, Lancaster, Leeds, Monash, Nottingham, The Open University, Queen’s Belfast, Reading, Sheffield, Southampton, Strathclyde, Trinity College Dublin and Warwick.  In addition, the British Council, British Library and the British Museum have all agreed to partner with FutureLearn to share content and their expertise and collaborate in the development of courses through [FutureLearn.com](http://FutureLearn.com).

For further details, please contact:

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1The current list of first courses being piloted by partner universities follows below. Courses will be added from the University of Bristol and FutureLearn’s international partners, Monash University and Trinity College Dublin, at a later date:

**14 October: The Secret Power of Brands - University of East Anglia**

Get under the skin of brands as we reveal the secret powers behind the most potent commercial and cultural force on the planet.

**21 October: Fairness And Nature: When Worlds Collide - University of Leeds**

Making decisions about managing natural resources can be difficult; this course uses key principles to explore why fairness needs to be part of policy.

**28 October: Begin Programming: Build Your First Mobile Game - University of Reading**

Learn the basics of Java programming by developing a simple mobile game that you can run on your computer, Android phone, or tablet.

**4 November: The Mind Is Flat: The Shocking Shallowness of Human Psychology - University of Warwick**

Explore how to make better personal and professional decisions, and consider the psychological dimension to some key ethical and political choices facing the world.

**11 November: Web Science: How the Web Is Changing the World - University of Southampton**

Explore how the web has changed our world in the past 25 years and what might happen next.

**18 November: Ecosystems: An Introduction - The Open University**

Ecosystems is about the relationships between living organisms. Gain an understanding of the natural world, how the web of life works, with illustrations from around the world.

**25 November: England in the Time of King Richard III - University of Leicester**

Explore 15th century England through the team of scholars in archaeology, history and literature responsible for the recent excavation of Richard III.

**2 December: Improving Your Image: Dental Photography in Practice - University of Birmingham**

Learn how to achieve consistent and excellent results in all aspects of dental photography.

**6 January: Saving the World: Sustainability and You - The University of Nottingham**

Join us to explore the major global issue of sustainability and discover how you can have a real impact on our future.

**6 January: Forensic Science - University of Strathclyde**

The methods and scientific underpinning of forensic science, from crime scene investigation to reporting evidential value within a case.

**13 January: Critical Listening for Studio Production - Queen’s University Belfast**

This course is a technical ear training programme designed to improve critical listening in a music studio context.

**13 January: Climate Change: From the Past to an Uncertain Future - University of Exeter**

This course aims to explain the science of climate change, the risks it poses, and the solutions available to reduce those risks.

**20 January: Genes and Cancer - University of Bath**

This is an ideal introduction for those interested in understanding how genetics influences development and spread of cancer.

**27 January: Causes of War - King’s College London**

What causes armed conflict in the world today? Examine current thinking on this question: for anyone with an interest in world affairs.

**27 January: Corpus Linguistics - Lancaster University**

The course offers practical introduction to the methodology of corpus linguistics for researchers in social sciences and humanities.

**10 February: Introductory Particle Physics - The University of Edinburgh**

Should we be excited about the Higgs boson? Find out more about developments at the Large Hadron Collider, particle physics and understanding the universe.

**3 March: Discover Dentistry - The University of Sheffield**

An entertaining and illuminating course for everyone to explore the impact dentistry has on our lives.

**10 March: Muslims In Britain: Changes and Challenges - Cardiff University**

Develop your understanding of Muslims and their faith through an exploration of communities in Britain.

**Early 2014: Innovation and Enterprise** - Loughborough University

Managing the innovation process is neither a scientific process nor a black art. This course examines a model for an innovation process.

**Early 2014:** **Cancer in the 21st century: the genomic revolution** - University of Glasgow

Learn how modern genetics has revolutionised approaches to the detection and treatment of cancer and how these may develop in the future.