



### What this session will cover?

Practical insight how OU may facilitate your students

- 'topping up' previous 3rd level study Level 7 to Level 8, incomplete study and OU Credit Transfer system.
- bridging gaps or enhancing profile.
- provision in teacher training OU PGCE and subject shortfall for Teaching Council recognition in Ireland.
- supporting students with 'additional requirements'
- postgraduate study quick overview.



### Facts

- The UK's largest university, teaching 35% of all parttime undergraduate students in the UK each year.
- Over 251,000 students registered with us this year over 7,000 students in Ireland
- About 70% of undergraduate students in full-time employment.
- Over 65,000 students studying OU programmes outside the UK



Sunday Times 11/9/11

"the OU scrubs up very well indeed, most notably in student satisfaction" ....... "in an era where all universities now talk of widening participation, it really is the granddaddy." "the OU would have had the highest institutional-level score for teaching, with 86.3%, had we included it."



### **Overview of subject areas**

- Arts & Humanities
- Business & Management
- Childhood & Youth Studies
- Computing & ICT
- Education
- Engineering & Technology
- Environment, Development & International Studies
- Health & Social Care

- Languages
- Law
- Mathematics & Statistics
- Psychology
- Science
- Social Sciences



### **Some General Points**

- OU Hons degree = 360pts i.e. 180 ECTS
- 60pts UG study over 9 months equals 12-14 hrs total study per week.
- Maximum allowed at anytime = 120pts i.e. FTE
- Start dates October, February & May
- All awards have been HETAC'd and mapped onto NQF
- Fees all inclusive materials, no exam or reg fee, budget payment plan, tax relief.



## Topping-up

Extensive Credit Transfer System for previous HE professional and overseas study http://www3.open.ac.uk/credit-transfer/index.shtm

Credit Transfer regulations apply to specific 'named' degrees & Open degree but general principal :-

- 120 OU credits for each year of successfully completed full-time study (or the part-time equivalent) Maximum 240 credits
- Syllabus information required for course related credit mapping by faculty.



### Bridging gaps/enhancing profile

- Applications for degrees where subject deficiency is sign-posted by course provider – e.g. paramedical careers.
- Shortfalls for Professional Registration recent examples Social Work / Teaching / Early Years ECCE scheme.



### OU PGCE – Northern Ireland

- Received a Grade 1 'Outstanding' assessment by OFSTED and ETI when evaluated in late 2010.
- Provides an on-line alternative route into teaching.
- DENI allocation 20 places. Must be NI residents.
- Students can apply anytime 5-6 Registration points
- Entry criteria Hons degree, ideally 60% subject relevance. Plus usual GCSEs.





# OU PGCE – Northern Ireland

- Thorough interview process in Milton Keynes.
- Assess previous experience and skills, possible exemptions in terms of entry point.
- Teaching Practise = 5, 8 and 10 weeks
- Fees £3375 Grants available from Education & Library Board OR household income below £28k may qualify for FAF



### Teaching top-up - maths

- Level 8 degree with first year maths (TC have guide lines what they mean here) MST121, MS221, M208
- Engineers Level 8 degree recognised by Engineers Ireland – M208
- Current qualified teachers, Level 8 degree, no recognised maths as part of degree MST121, MS221, M208 & OU Level 3 maths module.
- OU needs to certify study is degree level.



# Students with disability or addition requirements

#### What OU can offer

- additional supports alternative format materials, equipment, toolkits.
- tutorial requirements
- exam needs
- students may need extensions on assignments / special sessions and so on

http://www.open.ac.uk/disability/



### **Postgraduate Study**

- Humanities
- Social Science TBA
- MA Childhood & Youth \*
- MA Education\*
- MBA\* triple accreditation EQUIS, AACSB, AMBA
- Development Management
- Technology Management #
- Computing & ICT#
- MPhil/PhD FT funded studentships and part-time external.

File Edit View Controls Store Advanced Help

44 In In

< < ♠ ) iTunes U ) Open University

**OU Learn** 

Languages Law

Psychology Science

**OU Research** 

**OU in Africa** 

Take away Science

OU Life





.... [100]

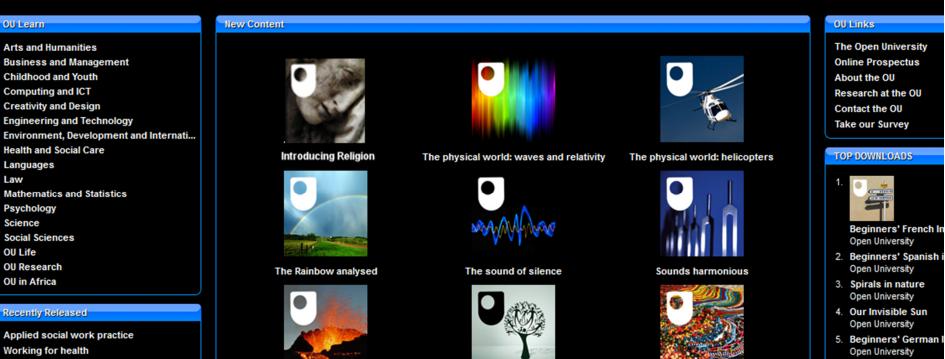
View

Q open L

Sea

### World class learning, anywhere

Warning! Content may transform your life



6 What is consciousne