

The Open University

The Open University (OU) is the United Kingdom's only university dedicated to distance learning. The Open University is incorporated by Royal Charter (RC 000391), an exempt charity in England & Wales and a charity registered in Scotland (SC 038302). The Open University's style of teaching is called supported open learning - <http://www.open.ac.uk/about/ou/p5.shtml>

Visit the 'New to the OU' website - <http://www3.open.ac.uk/study/explained/index.shtml> - to read how with most courses there are no previous qualifications required to study (you must be aged 16 or over when your course starts but there is no upper age limit). We have around 150,000 undergraduate and more than 30,000 postgraduate students. 10,000 of our students have disabilities.

Nearly all students are studying part-time. About 70 per cent of our undergraduate students are in full-time employment. More than 50,000 students are sponsored by their employers for their studies. 11,000 people are currently studying for OU Higher Degrees.

Most OU courses are available throughout Europe and some are available in many other parts of the world. More than 25,000 OU students live outside the UK.

Important information about selling Tutor Marked Assignments (TMAs) on eBay

Under the University's Code of Practice for Student Discipline it is an offence to sell TMAs.

Regulation SD1 states:

The University regards the following as disciplinary offences for which penalties may be imposed by the appropriate authority under this code:

SD1.9 Encouraging or enabling plagiarism. *Making available, selling or advertising for sale student work in any form or by any means (print electronic, recording or otherwise) so as to enable plagiarism; whether or not the work includes marks, comments or any other materials produced by a tutor, supervisor or other marker, unless prior consent has been given by the University.*

The offence of encouraging or enabling plagiarism includes the act of posting student work on to any public website, whether or not it is done with the intention of enabling or encouraging plagiarism.

Disciplinary action may be taken against students who are found to be in breach of this regulation.

Breaching copyright

eBay listings that include the TMA questions or the scores or feedback comments or The Open University logo are breaching the University's copyright, and will be reported to eBay for removal.

Buying Tutor Marked Assignments (TMAs) on eBay

Although students are not breaking any University regulation by buying TMAs on eBay, copying from them in part or in whole is considered plagiarism, and breaks the University's

Code of Practice for Student Discipline - <http://www8.open.ac.uk/students/essential-documents/files/essential-docs-pl/file/ecms/web-content/student-discipline.pdf>

Please click this link for The Open University's Policy on Plagiarism <http://www8.open.ac.uk/students/essential-documents/files/essential-docs-pl/file/ecms/web-content/plagiarism.pdf>.

The University uses software to help detect plagiarism, and all suspected cases are investigated thoroughly. Disciplinary action may be taken against students whose work contains plagiarised material.