IOP Institute of Physics

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Membership and Open University degrees

The Institute of Physics welcomes applications for membership from Open University students who are studying physics-based degree programmes.

The requirements for each class of membership are:

- Associate Member - open to an Open University student who is studying any OU programme containing physics-related modules.

- Member (MInstP) - open to candidates who have already obtained an OU honours degree with the majority of courses in the physical sciences and/or engineering. The named degrees BSc Physical Science (B27), BSc Geosciences (B25), BSc Molecular Science (B26) and BSc Mathematics and Physics (Q77) all meet the requirements for Associate Membership as do the physics and astronomy pathways through the Natural Science degree (Q64).

- Fellow (FInstP) - open to those who meet the requirements for membership of the Institute, are working in a senior position and can demonstrate a significant contribution to their profession over a sustained period.

If you would like to join the Institute in any of the categories above the application form is available on our website.

Chartered Physicist

The title *Chartered Physicist (CPhys)* guarantees that a physicist's competence in terms of education, experience and professional responsibility has been critically scrutinised and assessed to the satisfaction of the Institute's Council. The educational requirement for CPhys is an IOP accredited integrated Masters degree. Students with an accredited Bachelor degree will need to show equivalence to integrated Masters level.

Current OU students wishing to progress to CPhys should ensure they obtain an honours degree that meets the requirements outlined in this document. Graduates that spread their study over more than one scheme or received transferred credit for modules listed as compulsory should apply to have their programme of study individually assessed.

Students or graduates seeking further advice on the suitability of OU degrees for membership or Chartered Physicist, or to have their degrees individually assessed, should contact accreditation@iop.org

IOP accredited degree - Scheme 1

Valid for graduation dates up to and including 31/12/2002

A degree containing physics from the Open University is accredited provided it is an honours degree and complies with the requirements detailed below.

Compulsory

MST207 Mathematical Methods, Models & Modelling (formerly MST204)

Options

Any five 30 point courses drawn from List 1 and 2, only two of which may be drawn from List 2.

List 1

S271	Discovering Physics
ST291	Images and Information
SMT356	Electromagnetism *(or SM352)*

One of the following:

S281	Astronomy and Planetary Science
S256	Matter in the Universe

One of the following:

SM355	Quantum Mechanics
SM351	Quantum Theory and Atomic Structure

One of the following:

S272	The Physics of Matter
T236	Introduction to Thermofluid Mechanics

List 2

S342	Physical Chemistry: Principles of Chemical Change
S357	Space, Time & Cosmology *(or S354)*
MST322	Mathematical Methods & Fluid Mechanics
T393	Electronic Materials and Devices
T331	Engineering Mechanics: Solids & Fluids

IOP accredited degree - Scheme 2

Valid for graduation dates from 31/12/1999 up to 31/12/2007

A degree containing physics from the Open University is accredited provided it is an honours degree and complies with the requirements detailed below.

The degree transcript must show:

- all the compulsory courses and 120 points from group 2
- at least one residential course
- at least 60 Level 1 points from science, mathematics or technology

The level 1 requirement may be replaced with level 2 or 3 courses if the course code begins with S, M or T.

Group 1: Compulsory

S207	The Physical World*
MST207	Mathematical Methods, Models & Modelling *(or MST204)*

* Students can meet this requirement by passing either:

S271	Discovering Physics + S272 The Physics of Matter
S271	Discovering Physics + ST291 Images and Information**

Group 2: Options

S281	Astronomy & Planetary Science
ST291	Images & Information**
T236	Introduction to Thermofluid Mechanics
S357	Space, Time & Cosmology *(or S354)*
S381	The Energetic Universe
SMT359	Electromagnetism *(or SMT356)*
SM358	Quantum Mechanics *(or SM355)*
MST322	Mathematical Methods & Fluid Mechanics
T305	Digital Communications *(or T322)*
T333	Heat Transfer: Principles & Applications
T393	Electronic Materials & Devices

** ST291 may not be counted in both group 1 and group 2

Group 3: Experimental work***

SXR207	Physics by Experiment
SMXR358	Quantum Mechanics: Experiments, Applications and Simulations
SMXR359	Electromagnetism: Experiments, Applications and Simulations *(or SMXR356)*

*** This requirement can also be met by one of the following:

S271	Discovering Physics
S272	The Physics of Matter
S207	The Physical World (in 2000)

IOP accredited degree - Scheme 3

Valid for graduation dates from 31/12/2004 up to 31/12/2013

A degree containing physics from the Open University is accredited provided it is an honours degree and complies with the requirements detailed below.

Current students that wish to obtain an accredited degree but will be affected by the withdrawal of level 2 and 3 residential courses should contact accreditation@iop.org for advice.

Compulsory

All of the following must be included:

S207	The Physical World
MST209	Mathematical Methods and Models *(or its predecessor MST207)*
SM358	The Quantum World *(or its predecessor SM355)*
SXP390	Science Project Course: Radiation and Matter

Options

At least one from the following must be included:

SMT359	Electromagnetism *(or its predecessor SMT356)*
S357	Space, Time and Cosmology

Experimental work

Successful attendance at two residential schools is required with at least one at level 3.

Compulsory

One or both of the following*:*

SMXR358	Quantum Mechanics: Experiments, Applications and Simulations *(or SMXR355)* *
SMXR359	Electromagnetism: Experiments, Applications and Simulations *(or SMXR356)*

*This requirement could be met by passing the previous course SM355 prior to 2002 providing the embedded residential school was successfully completed.

Options **

If only one school is taken from the compulsory section, one of the following must be included:

SXR207	Physics by Experiment
SXR208	Observing the Universe
MSXR209	Mathematical Modelling

** This requirement could be met by S207 The Physical World taken in 2000 or MST207 Mathematical Methods, Models and Modelling provided the embedded residential school was successfully completed.

IOP accredited degree - Scheme 4

Valid for graduation dates from 31/12/2011 up to 31/12/2019

A degree containing physics from the Open University is accredited provided it is an honours degree and complies with the requirements detailed below.

Compulsory: All of the following must be included:

S217	Physics: from classical to quantum
MST210	Mathematical methods and models *
S382	Astrophysics
SM358	The quantum world
SMT359	Electromagnetism

Experimental work: Experimental work must be included by completing option 1 or 2:

Option 1:

SXPA288	Practical science: physics and astronomy

Option 2:
Two from the following, one of which must be at level 2 or 3:

SXR103	Practising science
S155	Scientific investigations
TXR120	Engineering: an active introduction
SXR207	Physics by experiment
SXR208	Observing the Universe
MSXR209	Mathematical modelling
TXR220	Engineering in action
SMXR358	Quantum mechanics: experiments, applications and simulations
SMXR359	Electromagnetism: experiments, applications and simulations

Project work: At least one from the following must be included:

SXP390	Science project course: radiation and matter
SXG390	Science project course: geosciences
SXN390	Science project course: science in society
T450	The engineering project

Notes
All previous versions of the listed modules may be counted towards this scheme.

The experimental work requirements in option 2 can be met by embedded residential schools associated with older versions of the listed physics and mathematics modules and S103 Discovering science.

* The 30 credit module MST224 Mathematical methods will be accepted in place of MST210 for students that are unable to take 150 credits at level two.