Membership and Open University degrees

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

The requirements for each class of membership are:

- **Associate Member** - open to an Open University student who is studying any OU programme containing physical science and/or engineering modules.

- **Member (MInstP)** - open to candidates who have already obtained an OU honours degree with the majority of modules in the physical sciences and/or engineering.

- **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. BSc (Honours) Physics (course code R51) fully meets the requirements of the current scheme 5.

Graduates that spread their study over more than one scheme, received transferred credit for modules listed as compulsory or took earlier versions of modules listed should apply to have their proposed 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](mailto: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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S271</td>
<td>Discovering Physics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ST291</td>
<td>Images and Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMT356</td>
<td>Electromagnetism (or SM352)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S281</td>
<td>Astronomy and Planetary Science</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S256</td>
<td>Matter in the Universe</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

One of the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SM355</td>
<td>Quantum Mechanics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SM351</td>
<td>Quantum Theory and Atomic Structure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S272</td>
<td>The Physics of Matter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T236</td>
<td>Introduction to Thermofluid Mechanics</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S342</td>
<td>Physical Chemistry: Principles of Chemical Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S357</td>
<td>Space, Time &amp; Cosmology (or S354)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MST322</td>
<td>Mathematical Methods &amp; Fluid Mechanics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T393</td>
<td>Electronic Materials and Devices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T331</td>
<td>Engineering Mechanics: Solids &amp; Fluids</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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
- MST224 Mathematical methods
- S382 Astrophysics
- SM358 The quantum world
- SMT359 Electromagnetism

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

**Option 1:**
- SXPS288 Remote experiments in physics and space

**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.
IOP accredited degree - **Scheme 5**

Valid for graduation dates from 31/12/2019 up to 31/12/2023

A degree containing physics from the Open University is accredited provided it is an honours degree and complies with the requirements detailed below. BSc (Honours) Physics, course code R51, automatically meets this scheme and is therefore an accredited degree.

**Compulsory:** All of the following must be included:

- **S217** Physics: from classical to quantum
- **MST224** Mathematical methods
- **SXPS288** Remote experiments in physics and space
- **SM358** The quantum world
- **SMT359** Electromagnetism
- **SXP390** Science project course: radiation and matter (see note)

**Optional choice:** A further stage 3 module from the following should be included (see note):

- **S382** Astrophysics
- **S383** The relativistic Universe
- **MS327** Deterministic and stochastic dynamics
- **MST326** Mathematical methods and fluid mechanics

**Note**

Other science project courses may be appropriate in place of SXP390.

It may be possible to select a different optional module at stage three providing it has significant physics or applied mathematics content.

In all cases any variation to scheme 5 would need to be agreed through contacting [accreditation@iop.org](mailto:accreditation@iop.org) for advice and an individual assessment. This includes students that have taken previous versions of the modules listed, transferred onto R51 from other OU degrees, or received transferred credit.