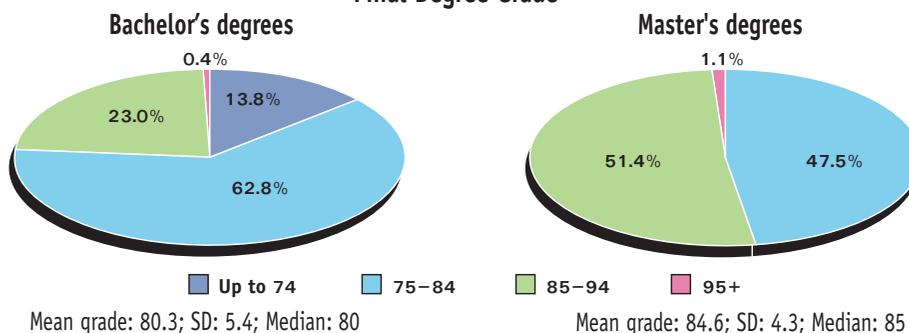


Graduates

In 2005-2006, the Open University conferred a Bachelor's degree on 1,902 students (60% female; 40% male) and 183 (45% female; 55% male) students were awarded Master's degrees. Four students completed certificate studies in Computer Science; 18 students were awarded teaching certificates in the Social Sciences, 12 in Psychology, and 4 in Computer Science.

| Distribution of Bachelor's degrees by discipline | | |
|--|--------------|------------|
| Discipline | Graduates | % |
| Humanities | 46 | 2.4 |
| Humanities and Social Sciences | 94 | 4.9 |
| Social Sciences and Humanities | 518 | 27.2 |
| Social Sciences | 377 | 19.8 |
| Social Sciences: Emphasis on Behavioral Sciences | 11 | 0.6 |
| Social Sciences: Emphasis on Education – Learning Disabilities | 2 | 0.1 |
| Social Sciences: Emphasis on Management | 162 | 8.5 |
| Economics | 1 | 0.1 |
| Management | 80 | 4.2 |
| Psychology | 3 | 0.2 |
| Economics with a Division of Studies in Accounting | 1 | 0.1 |
| Management with a Division of Studies in Communication | 1 | 0.1 |
| Management with a Division of Studies in Education | 1 | 0.1 |
| Management with a Division of Studies in the Arts | 1 | 0.1 |
| Management and Economics | 159 | 8.3 |
| Management and Sociology | 36 | 1.9 |
| Management and Political Science | 28 | 1.4 |
| Management and Education (Curriculum & Instruction Studies) | 7 | 0.4 |
| Political Science and Sociology | 4 | 0.2 |
| Psychology and Management | 14 | 0.7 |
| Psychology and Sociology | 10 | 0.5 |
| Psychology and Education (Curriculum & Instruction Studies) | 25 | 1.3 |
| Sciences | 35 | 1.8 |
| Sciences: Emphasis on Mathematics | 1 | 0.1 |
| Natural Sciences | 22 | 1.1 |
| Life Sciences | 7 | 0.4 |
| Mathematics | 6 | 0.3 |
| Computer Science | 131 | 6.9 |
| Mathematics and Computer Science – Systems and Applications | 3 | 0.2 |
| Economics and Computer Science – Systems and Applications | 3 | 0.2 |
| Management and Computer Science – Systems and Applications | 113 | 5.9 |
| Total | 1,902 | 100 |

Final Degree Grade



Distribution of Master's degrees by discipline

| Degree | Graduates |
|--|-----------|
| Business Administration (MBA) | 137 |
| Democracy Studies – Interdisciplinary (MA) | 33 |
| Computer Science (MSc) | 11 |
| Biological Thought (MA) | 2 |
| Total | 183 |

“In any other framework, I wouldn’t have been able to continue to study”

As a high school student, Yuval Harpaz did not like to study. He was particularly averse to assignments and exams. His matriculation examination grades were reasonable, yet he preferred to earn money as a tour guide, an enjoyable and profitable profession that did not require extensive and tedious studies.

However, life led him in a different direction. With the outbreak of the intifada, Harpaz found himself unemployed. His wife Ronit, whose eyesight was gradually weakening, was studying Psychology and Sociology at the Open University at the time, and he had to help her read the material and prepare the assignments. This paved his way to studies on a regular basis. As he was not accepted to undergraduate studies at other universities, he enrolled at the OU. At a rate of 4-5 courses a semester and with high grades, Harpaz completed his degree in less than three years. He did not attend tutorials, but submitted all the assignments. During his studies, his wife’s eyesight deteriorated and she became blind. They changed apartments three times and in his last year of studies, they became parents to twin girls. Throughout this period, Harpaz also worked. He studied in all circumstances, even in the delivery room and in the premature babies ward with one of the twins sleeping in his arms. He completed his degree with a final grade of 93.

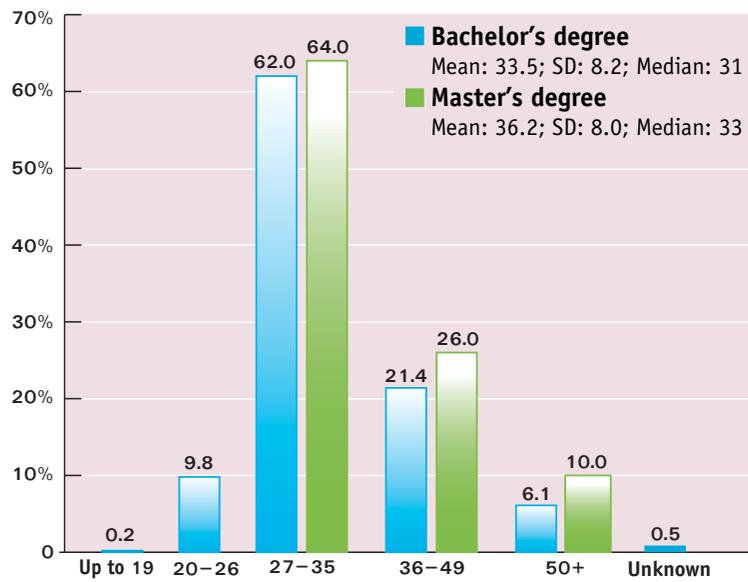
Yuval Harpaz was accepted for graduate studies in Psychology in every university to which he applied. Tel Aviv University accepted him to the direct doctoral program, offered him a scholarship, and did not demand any supplementary courses. The program was a new track in the study of the brain that combined medicine, biology, bio-psychology and cognitive psychology. Despite his apprehensions regarding the new framework, his grades were excellent. He attributes this to the experience he gained as a student at the Open University: “I think that in another framework, I wouldn’t have taken full advantage of my self-study abilities, and the OU seems to have developed my capacity to manage time and my study habits. What I have to say is more than that – in any other framework, I wouldn’t have been able to continue to study.... The Open University gives everyone an opportunity to advance while providing the highest level of service, and without interfering in other areas of the student’s life.”



Rachel Berkowitz, an OU graduate who works at the OU today, with her son Gil Bickel, an OU graduate, and her grandson Itai, a prospective OU student, at the graduation ceremony this year, when Gil received his MBA.



Age upon receiving degree (based on self-reports)



Average age of undergraduate students upon receiving degree, over the years (based on self-reports)

