

Academic Development

Distance teaching at the Open University is based on study materials developed specifically for this purpose. The Academic Committee determines development policy and decides on development of courses, programs of study and other academic projects. Most courses are based primarily on printed material developed during a lengthy process. Open University faculty in the field as well as those with knowledge and experience in preparing self-study materials are involved in the development process, together with experts from other universities.

The Open University currently offers about 600 courses in a wide range of fields. The University's prestige is based primarily on its excellent textbooks, used by students and lecturers at all universities in Israel. The study units, readers, books and study guides are written with the student in mind and most are intended for self-study. To ensure that OU books remain up-to-date and to maintain their high academic quality, OU management has decided to prioritize the rewriting of old courses and invests efforts to this end.

Department of Literature, Language and the Arts

Courses approved for development this year

A History of Western Music I
A History of Western Music II

Israeli Theater: Change and Conflicts *
Theater and Society
Memory, Trauma and Fantasy in the Cinema

Courses continuing to be developed this year

Introduction to Theoretical Linguistics
The Art of Interpretation
The Classical Style (update) *
Harmonic Structures
The History of Jazz
Music and Ideas of Democracy
The Music of Johann Sebastian Bach (update)
Still-Life: From Depicted Objects to Real Objects

The Total Work of Art (*Gesamtkunstwerk*) in the Twentieth Century
Fundamental Issues in Translation *
Narrative: A Multidisciplinary Perspective
Myth and Ethos in History and Cinema
Palestinian Cinema *
Theorizing Film: Spectator and Screen
The Thriller: Genres in Cinema

16

Department of History, Philosophy and Judaic Studies

Courses approved for development this year

Jewish Press: Communication, Identity, Nationalism (1840-1939)

Political Demography of Arab Countries in the 20th Century (10918) *
Equality and Inequality - A Philosophical Perspective

Courses continuing to be developed this year

The Age of Chivalry: Western Europe in the 12th and 13th Centuries
Classical Greece (update)
The Development of the Zionist Armed Forces in Palestine, 1917-1948
Early Modern Europe: 1350-1600

The Holy Land between Christianity and Islam, 324-1099
Jewish Children, Christian Children: Childhood in the Middle Ages *
Pilgrimage: Jews, Christians, Muslims *
The Rise and Fall of the Chinese Empire
Women in Jewish Society in Pre-State Palestine

* Course whose development is about to be completed and which will be taught in 2006-2007.

Contemporary Philosophy of Mind
Introduction to Logic
Problems in Moral Philosophy (update)

Introduction to the History of Jewish Mystical Literature
Medieval Jewish Political Thought
Selected Chapters from the Talmud (update)

Department of Natural Sciences

Courses approved for development this year

Immunology
Laboratory: Inorganic Chemistry
Analysis of Experiments
Sociobiology and Its Offshoots: Science in Controversy
(MA) *

Bioinformatics: Analysis of Sequences and Genomes *
Chemical Communication in Animals (update) *
Faunistics of Vertebrates in Israel (update)
Management of Technology-Rich Projects
Nuclear Physics *
Quantum Theory II: The Chemical Bond
Spectroscopy of Minerals *
Waves and Optics
The World of Bacteria (update)

Courses continuing to be developed this year

Biochemistry I: Proteins - Structure and Function (update)
Biochemistry II: Carbohydrates, Lipids, Nucleic Acids *

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science – Mathematics Division

Courses continuing to be developed this year

Functional Analysis (update)
Mathematics for Students of Social Sciences (update)

Mathematical Logic (update)
Symmetry: Mathematics, Chemistry, Biology

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science – Computer Science Division

Courses approved for development this year

Advanced Programming with Java (update)
Introduction to the Theory of Computation and Complexity *
Numerical Analysis

Principles of Operating Systems (update)
System Programming Laboratory (update)
Workshop: Object-Oriented Programming (update) *
Workshop: Operating Systems

Courses continuing to be developed this year

Biological Computation

Department of Education and Psychology

Courses approved for development this year

Organizational Change in Learning Systems (MA) *
Teachers in a Changing World: Trends and Challenges (MA) *
Thesis in Education (MA)

Project in Education (MA)
Psychological Testing: Theory and Applications (update)
Psychology of the Holocaust *

Courses continuing to be developed this year

Cognitive Psychology (update)
Mathematical Disabilities: Cognitive, Neuropsychological
and Educational Perspectives *

The Psychology of Intuitive Judgment (update) *
Sleep and Sleep Disorders in Childhood *

* Course whose development is about to be completed and which will be taught in 2006-2007.



Department of Sociology, Political Science and Communication

Courses approved for development this year

Issues in Sociology of the Internet and On-line Communication
Society, Politics and Economics

European Colonialism: Theory, Praxis and Resistance
National Security and Democracy in Israel (update)
Equality and Inequality - A Philosophical Perspective (MA)

Courses continuing to be developed this year

The Arab Community in Israel *
Introduction to Gender Studies *
Introduction to Urban Sociology *
Jewish Ethnicity in Israel: From Ashkenazi Hegemony to Negotiation in a Complex Reality
Palestinian Society since 1948: Selected Issues
Sociology of Culture
Sport and Society *
Citizenship: Theory and Politics
Democratic Regimes *
Dictatorships in the 20th Century *
Human Rights in International Relations *

Public Policy
Selected Topics in Israeli Foreign Policy (update)
Social Movements and Political Protest (update)
Canonic Texts in Media Research *
Communication: Technology, Society and Culture (update)
Media Law and Ethics in Israel
Christian Democracy: Parties, Thinkers, Constituency and Religion in Europe (MA)
Civil Society (MA)
Democracy and Feminism: Selected Topics (MA)
Political Economy and Democratic Government – The Case of Israel (MA)

Department of Management and Economics

Courses approved for development this year

Marketing Management (update)
Law of Contracts (update)
Advanced Financial Accounting
Principles of Business Law

Introduction to Law
Final Project in Industrial Engineering
Non-Linear Optimization Methods
Entrepreneurship: Theory and Practice (MBA) *
Competitive Business Strategy (MBA) (update)

Courses continuing to be developed this year

Computer Integrated Manufacturing Systems *
Consolidated Financial Statements
Dynamics of Negotiation (update)
Ergonomics
Intermediate Financial Accounting II
Introduction to Macroeconomics for Non-Economists *
Introduction to Mechatronics *
Managerial Economics *
Project Management for Industrial Engineering
Public Economics
Quality and Productivity Management

Social Preference and Choice *
Taxation II *
Theory of Work Study
Thinking Strategically - Game Theory with Economics and Business Applications
Industrial Organization (MBA)
International Trade Law (MBA)
Performance Appraisal at Work: Evaluation and Change (MBA)
Principles of Income Tax (MBA)
Public Policy: Theory to Practice (MBA)

The Russian-Language Academic Program of the Open University

This year, translation of the course "The Archeology of Ancient Israel in the Biblical Period" was completed, and three additional courses have been developed and are being printed. This completes the development of 22 of the 24 courses in the program toward a BA in Russian. Development of the two remaining courses will be completed by Spring 2007.

English as a Foreign Language

Work continues toward reducing the number of tracks in A-level courses. In the Social Sciences, which include tracks in Sociology, Political Science, Economics and Management, new materials were developed and piloted.

* Course whose development is about to be completed and which will be taught in 2006-2007.