

International Academic Initiatives

Widespread international activity is an Open University tradition. Faculty members foster and maintain links with universities in other countries, and the OUI regularly hosts visiting delegations from universities and organizations from around the world.

The MOOCs Project

MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) are open to the general public in Israel and abroad. The project was initiated as part of the OpenUpEd initiative of EADTU. The Open University launched three new MOOCs this year:

Psychology in Education (in Arabic): This course covers the psychological processes of education and learning. It is relevant to education professionals and others seeking a better understanding of human psychology in the context of learning. The course addresses the sociological, motivational, and social aspects that influence learning, as well as the role of the teacher.

The Modern Middle East (in Hebrew): This course focuses on the history of the Arab Middle East from the end of World War II to the beginning of the 21st century. The course is intended for anyone who would like to understand the Middle East and the important changes it has undergone, particularly in the second half of the 20th century.

Between Jews and Christians: Jews and Christians in Western Europe up until the start of the Modern Era (in Russian): The course addresses the social interaction between the Christian majority and the Jewish minority in Europe, from the birth of Christianity to the modern era. It examines the impact of the encounter on the two groups and its significance in the development of Western culture throughout Jewish history. Half the students taking this course were Russian speakers from other countries.

Pe'er Initiative in Russian

The Open University's *Pe'er* project offers courses to the general public free of charge. Thanks to funding from the Avi Chai and Genesis foundations, the project now includes four courses in Russian:

- Democracy and National Security in Israel
- Ethiopia: Judaism, Christianity, and Islam
- Ashkenazic Hassidism in the History of Jewish Thought
- Between Jews and Christians: Jews and Christians in Western Europe up to the Dawn of the Modern Age.
- There are approximately 1,000 visits to the website every month, mainly from Russia and Israel, but also from Ukraine, Belarus, and Kazakhstan.

OUI Overseas Students

Open University courses are accessible worldwide. The number of overseas students has grown in recent years, while new enrollments remain mainly unchanged. In 2013-2014 there were 855 overseas students.

Collaborative Overseas Academic Ventures

Translation of books into English

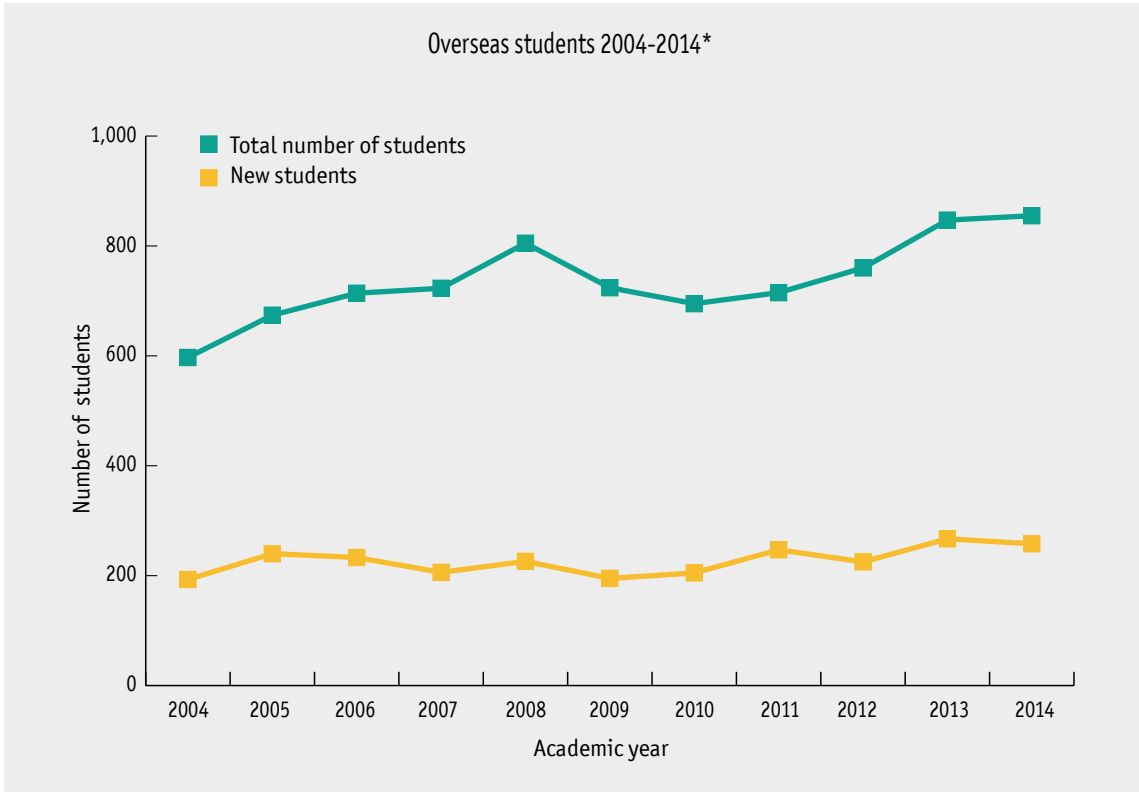
- Cengage Learning: *Introduction to International Relations*
- W.H. Freeman: *Biochemistry I*

Translation of books for overseas distribution

- Lynne Rienner Publishers: *Generations of Rage: Students and University in the Middle East*
- Taylor and Francis Group, LLC: *Introduction to Industrial Engineering*
- World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd: *Solid State Physics*
- Contento de Semirk, Ltd.: *Genocide* (seven volumes)

Translated books published in collaboration with outside publishers:

- The United Nations University: *Nationalist Thought and the Colonial World: A Derivative Discourse*
- Open University Worldwide Ltd.: *Introduction to the Social Sciences I, II* (Arabic translation)
- Polity Press: *Introduction to Sociology I*
- Sage Publications: *Social Statistics for a Diverse Society*
- Sage Publications: *McQuail's Mass Communication Theory* (6th Edition)



* Undergraduate and graduate students