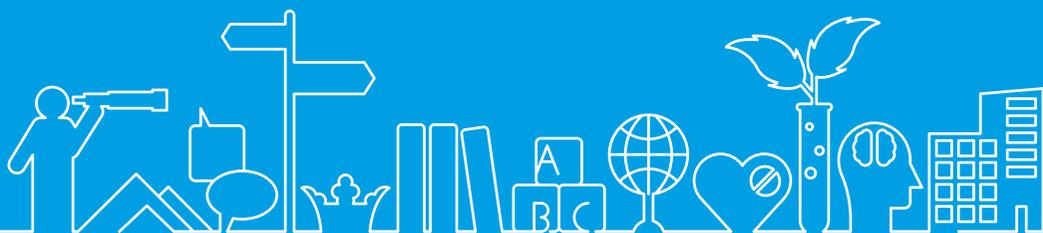




The
University
Of
Sheffield.

Department
For
Lifelong
Learning.

COURSES FOR MATURE STUDENTS.



Your journey starts here.

**A guide to undergraduate study
opportunities for mature students at the
University of Sheffield**

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We celebrate the life experience and skills that mature students bring to their learning

Dr Willy Kitchen, Head of Department for Lifelong Learning

WELCOME TO YOUR GUIDE TO COURSES FOR MATURE STUDENTS

At the University of Sheffield we understand the value of studying for a degree at any age. We celebrate the life experience and skills that mature students bring to their learning, which greatly enrich the learning experience for everybody. The University is committed to maintaining the diversity of its student body now and into the future, and this guide introduces you to some of the ways in which we provide opportunities for mature students to flourish.

The Department for Lifelong Learning plays a central role in the University's commitment to mature learners. We offer courses to students aged 21 or over, from all backgrounds and experiences, which allow you to study towards a degree by a range of different pathways. You don't need traditional entry qualifications to study for a degree with us – instead, what we are looking for is your desire, readiness and commitment to succeed.

Our courses span almost 30 different subject areas, and some are available part-time. Our staff have many years experience teaching and advising mature students, and we recognise that every mature student has a different reason or motivation for study. We also know that there are a wide range of possible pathways to and beyond degree level study, which is why we are happy to spend time advising you on how to make the right choice for you.

If you already have the qualifications and desire to begin studying immediately on the first year of a degree, many departments around the University welcome applications from mature students directly to their degree courses, some of which are available part-time. You can find out more about all these courses in this short guide.

If you have any further questions, or just want to talk to someone about the best options for you, please explore the different sources of online information referred to in this guide, or pick up the phone and give us a call. It might just be the first step towards transforming your future.

Dr Willy Kitchen, Head of Department for Lifelong Learning



DEPARTMENT FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

More and more mature students are starting their journey to a degree with the Department for Lifelong Learning, so why study with us?

- We have many years experience teaching and supporting adult learners
- Our students don't need standard entry qualifications
- Many of our courses can be studied full-time or part-time
- Funding is available and you don't need to pay anything upfront*
- We offer tailored support to mature students, employing dedicated specialist staff who are there to help from before you apply until after you graduate
- You will study alongside mature students from all backgrounds, helping to build a strong network of peer-support
- We have an award winning Outreach programme for adults wishing to find out more about University study before applying

*see page 12 for more information

To find out more about the different pathways we offer, please read on:

- Degrees with a Foundation Year **(see pages 6-7)**
- Foundation Programme in Combined Studies **(see page 8)**
- Certificate in Higher Education **(see page 9)**

**A WORLD
TOP 100
UNIVERSITY**

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY....



To see video case studies of these students, and more, please visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/dli/meet-our-students



Entry requirements for courses in the Department for Lifelong Learning

Our courses are designed specifically for mature learners who have been out of education for some time, and who haven't previously studied at university level. The requirements for entry are different to those for students wishing to enter directly to a degree programme elsewhere in the University.

We are committed to supporting learners from non-traditional backgrounds to succeed at university and consider a range of factors including previous work, life and educational experience.

For more information on entry criteria for individual courses, visit

www.sheffield.ac.uk/dll/courses

COURSES WITH THE DEPARTMENT FOR LIFELONG LEARNING

Degrees with a Foundation Year – full-time and part-time

Our degrees with a foundation year have been specially designed to give students without standard entry qualifications the opportunity to study for the degree of their choice. Students study their foundation year within the Department for Lifelong Learning and on successful completion of the foundation year, transfer to the academic department in which they will complete their degree.

All foundation years include core modules in academic literacy and communication skills, maths and statistics, an extended project and subject specific introductory modules relevant to your chosen degree course.

These courses are aimed at learners who want to study for a specific degree but don't have the relevant qualifications for direct entry to that degree.

A full-time degree with a foundation year is usually studied over 4 years. See **page 7** for those courses which are also available part-time.

We currently offer the following degrees with a foundation year:

Arts and Humanities subjects:

- BA Archaeology with Foundation Year (UCAS code F401)*
- BA English Literature with Foundation Year (UCAS code Q307)*
- BA English Language and Literature with Foundation Year (UCAS code Q305)
- BA English Language and Linguistics with Foundation Year (UCAS code Q310)
- BA History with Foundation Year (UCAS code V101)*
- BMus Music with Foundation Year (UCAS code W301)
- BA Philosophy with Foundation Year (UCAS code V501)*

Science and Health subjects:

- BSc Biology with Foundation Year (UCAS code C110)
- BSc Biomedical Science with Foundation Year (UCAS code B905)
- BSc Environmental Science with Foundation Year (UCAS code F901)
- BMedSci Health and Human Sciences with Foundation Year (UCAS code B990)*
- BMedSci Orthoptics with Foundation Year (UCAS code B521)
- BSc Psychology with Foundation Year (UCAS code C801)
- BSc Speech and Language Sciences with Foundation Year (UCAS code QC19)

Social Science subjects:

- BA Applied Social Science with Foundation Year (UCAS code L432)*
- BA Business Management with Foundation Year (UCAS code N201)
- BA Education, Culture and Childhood with Foundation Year (UCAS code X301)*
- BA Geography with Foundation Year (UCAS code L701)
- BSc Geography with Foundation Year (UCAS code F801)
- BA Geography and Planning with Foundation Year (UCAS code L790)
- BA Journalism Studies with Foundation Year (UCAS code P501)
- BA Landscape Architecture with Foundation Year (UCAS code K3K5)
- BA Politics with Foundation Year (UCAS code L205)
- BA Quantitative Social Sciences with Foundation Year (UCAS code L426)
- BA Sociology with Foundation Year (UCAS code L301)
- BA Sociology with Criminology with Foundation Year (UCAS code L302)
- BA Urban Studies with Foundation Year (UCAS code K441)
- MPlan Urban Studies and Planning with Foundation Year (UCAS code K401)

***These courses are also available part-time**

Please refer to our website for the most up to date list of available courses

www.sheffield.ac.uk/dll/courses

“It’s probably one of the most welcoming environments you could be in...the University wants every student, without exception, to succeed”



Part-time Foundation Programme in Combined Studies:

For learners who are unsure about which subject they want to study, or can't immediately commit to full-time study, we also offer the Foundation Programme in Combined Studies. This course is studied on a part-time basis and provides the foundation for progression to many different degree programmes or to the part-time Certificate in Higher Education offered by the Department for Lifelong Learning (**see page 9 for information**).

The first year of study provides students with a firm grounding in the study skills needed for successful progression throughout their university studies. It also provides an introduction to one of four broad areas of study (Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences or Health). The second year of study allows students to focus in much more detail on specific subject areas relevant to their intended future studies.

Successful completion of the Foundation Programme guarantees direct progression onto our part-time Certificate in Higher Education (**see page 9 for information**).

Students wishing to progress to a degree must apply in the second year of their Foundation Programme, and we offer support and advice to students wishing to do this.

Throughout the course students will be supported by Department for Lifelong Learning staff to select modules which will put them in the best position possible to progress to further degree-level study.

Students studying on this course can access the full range of support and facilities available to full-time University of Sheffield students, including our dedicated Careers Service and Job Shop.

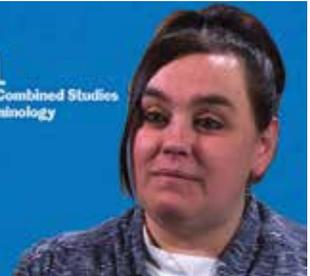
This course is suitable for learners who:

- Want to develop the study skills and confidence to progress further in Higher Education
- Wish to progress to a Certificate in Higher Education or a degree course
- Cannot commit to a full-time programme of study
- Would like to spend more time familiarising themselves with a range of subject areas before committing to a specific degree programme
- Wish to prepare for a degree at the University of Sheffield (or elsewhere) for which there is no current degree with foundation year offered

For further information visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/dll/courses/foundation-combined-studies

**“Everyone can come.
It’s not too late, and
you do learn better as
an adult”**

Helen
Part-time Foundation in Combined Studies
BA Social Policy and Criminology



Certificate in Higher Education

Our Certificate in Higher Education is a two year course which is ideal for students looking for a flexible part-time programme of study. This course is equivalent to studying for the first year of a degree.

Students enrolled on the Certificate in Higher Education study 120 credits over two years (typically six different modules). These modules are chosen from core modules offered by the Department for Lifelong Learning and a variety of Level 1 modules from across the University. In addition, we ask students to engage in a range of learning activities outside of class time which are designed to develop and assess your learning over the duration of the programme.

The programme as a whole enables students to develop academic and transferable skills which can help both with career development and progression to further HE study.

The programme will suit applicants who

- Have a general interest in developing their academic skills

- Are looking to gain a University award which can help with career prospects or progression
- Want to try out higher education study without committing to a full degree from the outset
- Would like to spend more time familiarising themselves with a range of subject areas before committing to a specific degree programme

Applicants who are considering using this course as a stepping stone to further degree level study are advised to discuss their aims with us at interview so we can advise on the potential progression pathways available. Subject to agreement with individual departments we may be able to support progression into subject areas including Archaeology, History, English, Music, Philosophy and some of the Social Sciences.

If you wish to find out more about this course, or discuss your suitability, please get in contact with us at **foundation.admissions@sheffield.ac.uk**





DIRECT ENTRY FOR MATURE STUDENTS

Students who would like to begin studying within their chosen subject department, and have the relevant qualifications to do so, can apply for direct entry onto the course.

Full-time degree courses

The University of Sheffield offers a wide range of full-time degree courses. Please visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses for information on all available courses.

Part-time degree courses

The University of Sheffield is committed to expanding the range of options available for students wishing to study part-time, and we currently offer the following part-time degrees:

- BA Applied Social Sciences
- BA Archaeology
- BA Education, Culture and Childhood
- BA English Literature
- BMedSci Health and Human Sciences
- BA History
- BA Philosophy

All of these courses can be studied with or without a foundation year, depending on existing qualifications. If you are unsure whether you meet the requirements for direct entry, please contact the relevant department, or alternatively contact the Department for Lifelong Learning.

Please visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/mature/part-time-degrees for the most up to date information on available part-time courses.

SUPPORTING OUR MATURE STUDENTS

Our staff are on hand to help you choose the right course and support you through to graduation. They can help you:

- By offering advice and support with the process of applying for a course
- Choose the right course to suit you and your future plans
- Develop the study skills needed to do well on your chosen course
- Find a student mentor through the University's peer mentoring scheme
- Manage your workload and prepare for assignments and examinations
- Access disability, dyslexia and mental health support
- Find advice about loans and financial support
- Develop strategies for fitting your studies around your other commitments
- Find information about the Students' Union nursery and holiday play schemes
- Access careers and personal development advice
- Benefit from a wide range of other extra-curricular activities at the University, which contribute to the full University of Sheffield experience.



For more information about support available for mature students explore the following links:

Department for Lifelong Learning:
www.sheffield.ac.uk/dll/help

301: Academic advice and support:
www.sheffield.ac.uk/ssid/301

ELTC: Language support and support with specific learning difficulties:
www.sheffield.ac.uk/eltc

Disability Support Service:
www.sheffield.ac.uk/ssid/disability



HOW TO APPLY

For full-time degrees with foundation year apply via UCAS **www.ucas.com**

For direct entry onto any of our full-time degree programmes apply via UCAS **www.ucas.com**

You will find a full list of UCAS course codes for our full-time degrees in the University's full-time prospectus, and at **www.sheffield.ac.uk/undergraduate/courses**

Course codes for full-time degrees with a foundation year can be found at **www.sheffield.ac.uk/dll/courses/foundation-year-degrees**

For any part-time course apply online by visiting the web page for your chosen course at **www.sheffield.ac.uk** and following the link to our online application form.

For help with applying, please contact us on **dll@sheffield.ac.uk** or **0114 222 7000**

FEES AND FUNDING

Choosing to return to education can be one of the most significant decisions of your life. Fees and funding are an important concern, but there is plenty of support available to help you understand how to finance your studies.

Information on tuition fees at the University of Sheffield can be found at **www.sheffield.ac.uk/registration/tuitionfees**. UK full-time and part-time students can apply for a government tuition fee loan and eligible students will not need to pay anything up front and there will be nothing to pay back until you start to earn £25,000. You may also be eligible for a University bursary.

To find out more visit **www.sheffield.ac.uk/ssid/finance/money**

For specific information on funding full-time study visit **www.sheffield.ac.uk/ssid/finance/money** or **www.sheffield.ac.uk/ssid/finance/dll/full-time**

For specific information on funding part-time study visit **www.sheffield.ac.uk/ssid/finance/dll/part-time**

You can also find information on student finance at **www.gov.uk/student-finance**



Still not sure?

We have a range of opportunities to help you explore your options as a mature student:

THE DISCOVER COURSE

Discover is a FREE award winning short course, designed to inspire adults who haven't been to university to progress with their learning. This course runs for between 6 and 10 weeks, usually for one morning per week, and focuses on themes that link into the subjects offered by the Department for Lifelong Learning.

Delivered in partnership with local heritage museums and Sheffield Association for the Voluntary Teaching of English (SAVTE), the course gives a real flavour of the university experience, giving participants a chance to take part in a range of small group activities and discussions. It also provides vital information, advice and guidance such as how to apply to university and how to finance your studies.

The course is suitable for anyone 21 or over who is considering applying to higher education and would like to find out more about becoming a university student.

There are no formal entry requirements, but please note that:

- participants for whom English is their second language must be able to speak and write English to at least ESOL Level 2
- participants who have already gained a degree are not eligible for this course

For more information, upcoming course dates, or to register your interest in the course visit

www.sheffield.ac.uk/dll/discover

“The course gave me an insight into myself, challenged my ideas about what I could contribute and boosted my confidence. I learnt that I have a lot of valuable life experience” Discover participant.



OPEN DAYS AND TASTER COURSES

If you would like to find out what it is like to be a student at the University of Sheffield, we regularly hold open days and run taster sessions. Our team of student ambassadors also visit a wide variety of local events and adult learning settings.

To see our full programme of upcoming events and activities visit www.sheffield.ac.uk/dll/events-open-days

“The event helped to clarify my decision about which course to apply for and reassured me of the high level of support for mature students”

“An excellent event, the enthusiasm and professionalism of all those involved was wonderful”

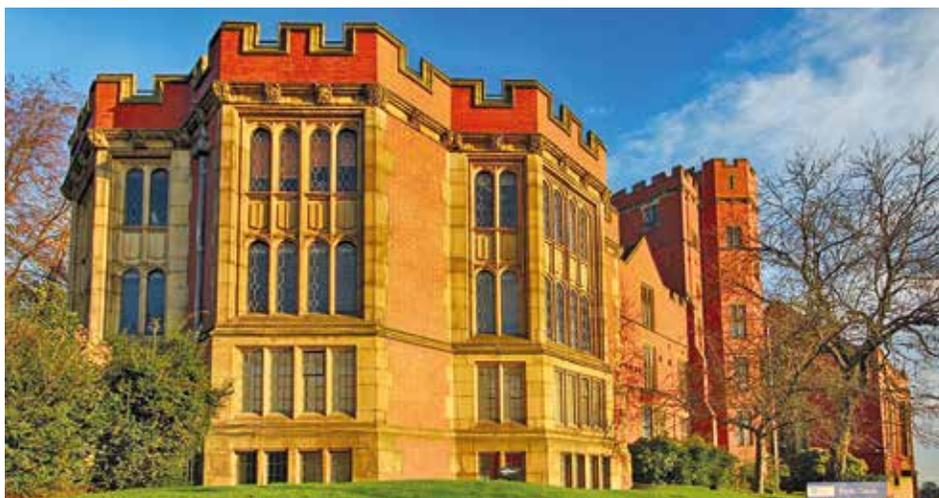
“Today has given me back some confidence to apply and really made me look to the future. Thank you!”

Recent event attendees.

Disclaimer: The content of our courses is reviewed annually to make sure it's up-to-date and relevant. This is in response to discoveries through our world-leading research; funding changes; professional accreditation requirements; student or employer feedback; outcomes of reviews; and variations in staff or student numbers.

While every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information in this publication, for the reasons detailed above, changes may need to be made to modules, courses, entry requirements and fees between the date of this publication and the start of your course.

This publication is correct as at the time of print, but please see www.sheffield.ac.uk for the most up-to-date information about our courses. If there is any inconsistency between this publication and www.sheffield.ac.uk, the information at www.sheffield.ac.uk should be taken as correct.



WHERE TO FIND FURTHER INFORMATION:

For more information about any of our courses visit:

www.sheffield.ac.uk

For information about courses offered by the Department for Lifelong Learning visit:

www.sheffield.ac.uk/dll/courses

For information on how to apply for full-time courses visit

www.ucas.com

For any further questions, please feel free to contact the Department for Lifelong Learning:

Email: **dll@sheffield.ac.uk**

Phone: **0114 222 7000**

Visit : Edgar Allen House, 241 Glossop Road, Sheffield, S10 2GW

**To find out more about our upcoming events and activities
keep in touch with us via our social media channels**

**Find us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/sheffieltdll**

**Follow us on Twitter:
[@ShefUniDLL](https://twitter.com/ShefUniDLL)**

Find us on Facebook:
www.facebook.com/sheffieldtill

Follow us on Twitter:
[@ShefUniDLL](https://twitter.com/ShefUniDLL)