

NEWS RELEASE

UNIVERSITY
— OF CENTRAL —
LANCASHIRE



University of Central Lancashire editorial for the Independent:

Over the past few years a wide range of educational developments have taken place at the University of Central Lancashire, and like other new universities, this has resulted in the expansion of the type and nature of university provision. Finance often plays an important part in the decision and whereas many students now study full-time and work part-time, the reverse is also a sensible option: work full-time and study part-time taking a work related or professional course.

The Faculty of Cultural, Legal and Social Studies runs a University Certificate in Career Planning by distance learning through its nationally recognized Centre for Employability. Divided into 14 bite-size chunks, the course takes 12 weeks to complete and is explicitly designed for those looking to change careers or return to education. Delivered by CD-ROM and a comprehensive student workbook, the course is taught by specialist tutors through email and Internet support. Many UCLan degree modules are available through flexible delivery, like the History degree where students can do an open/distance-learning module in Computing and History using the Internet and print based support for case studies.

Partnership arrangements with Further Education Colleges have seen diploma courses such as HNDs allowing students to study close to home in a familiar environment. Partnership colleges can also offer first, and sometimes the second year, of a degree programme so that attendance at the University is only required for one year.

Foundation Degrees are new, employment related, higher education qualifications that have been developed by employers, professional bodies and universities to meet industry's requirements. A balanced mix of work-related and academic learning at work, college or home, they are for students who want to gain more qualifications whilst working towards a career. Projects are often directly related to work and can lead on to a full honours degree course. Degrees in Construction and Forensic Science are currently being offered at the University.

The University is in the process of launching e-learning courses and a wide range of non-traditional courses to offer many opportunities for alternative modes of study.

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