



HIGHER EDUCATION VALIDATION UPDATE, COHORT START DATES AND FEES

Validation update: February 2010

TOCES have been in the process of seeking institutional approval from the Open University (OU). The primary focus of Institutional Approval is to provide assurance to the Open University that an institution provides an appropriate context for the delivery of programmes leading to higher education awards. Following the submission of supporting documentation, separate institutional approval and programme validation events took place here between November 30th and December 3rd 2009. The OU panels met our management, tutor and lecturer teams, Academic Board, HE student representative, groups of students and the newly formed Governing Body.

The approval panel will make a recommendation to the University's Curriculum Awards and Validation Committee that TOCES be approved as an associate partner of the Open University for three years subject to completing a number of conditions by the end of April 2010; this is in addition to a number of conditions which must be met at the same time, as outlined by the programme validation panel with regard to the following programmes:

- BA (Hons), DipHE and CertHE Equine Studies
- BSc (Hons), DipHE and CertHE Equine Science
- BSc (Hons), DipHE and CertHE Equine Behaviour, Welfare and Rehabilitation

This is excellent news for TOCES and marks the start of an exciting era of higher education provision in the equine world. The Open University Validation Services (OUVS) have very stringent requirements for approval; (the process of gaining approval as an associate partner will have taken two years) and TOCES will be subject to ongoing scrutiny from the Open University to ensure that their academic and organizational standards are constantly maintained.

We will be able to register students onto OU validated programmes once the approval is formally confirmed upon satisfactory completion of the conditions by the University's Validation Committee (VALC) and the University's Curriculum, Awards and Validation Committee (CAVC) which TOCES anticipates will be the beginning of June 2010. Formal approval of the institution and programmes will be given with effect from September 2010.

Students wishing to start studying at HE level before June 2010 may enrol onto the Edexcel validated HE double module "Equine Anatomy and Physiology". You may start to study this module straight away and all credits gained by studying this can be transferred and accredited towards the OU programme.

Previously TOCES has accepted enrolments onto HE programmes throughout the year; we are moving towards a cohort system and there will be one cohort start date in 2010. Starting in 2011 there will be two cohort start dates per year: February and September.

Please note that we are still taking enrolments onto the BTEC (Edexcel) programmes and all other TOCES programmes, at anytime of year.

If you wish to apply for a place on a TOCES' Open University validated programme you must submit the HE Application Form first, without payment. We will notify you within one week of the outcome and if successful, will send you further registration information.

If you wish to apply for a place on a BTEC (Edexcel) validated HE programme please use the Higher Education Programme Enrolment Form. Remember to enclose payment and the signed BTEC Programme Withdrawal Policy.

BA and BSc (Hons) Programmes

Cohort 10/1	HE Application	Enrol onto Equine Anatomy and Physiology	OU HE Programme Registration Period opens	OU HE Programme Registration Period closes	Enrolment Period opens	Enrolment Period closes	OU validated course start date
Date	Anytime before 31.07.10	Anytime before 25.05.10	01.06.10	07.08.10	08.08.10	21.08.10	01.09.10
Form	HE Application Form	HE Module Enrolment Form	HE Registration Form		Confirmation of Enrolment Form		
Fee due	None	£425	£600		£575 if enrolled onto Equine Anatomy and Physiology £1000 if not enrolled onto Equine Anatomy and Physiology		None
Annual tuition fees due (£1, 280 x 5)	01.08.11, 01.08.12, 01.08.13, 01.08.14 and 01.08.15				Total fee paid		£8, 000

BSc (Hons) Top-up Programme (Accreditation of Prior Certificated Learning - APCL)

Cohort 10/1	HE Top-Up Application	OU HE Programme Registration period opens	OU HE Programme Registration period closes	Enrolment Period opens	Enrolment Period closes	OU validated course start date
Date	Anytime before 31.07.10	01.06.10	07.08.10	08.08.10	21.08.10	01.09.10
Form	HE Top-Up Application Form	HE Registration Form		Confirmation of Enrolment Form		
Fee due	None	£650		£1850		None
Annual tuition fee due (£1, 850 x 1)	01.08.11			*Total fee paid if claiming 180 credits		£4, 350

***If claiming accreditation of prior certificated learning (APCL) for less than 180 credits this fee will be higher and will be calculated on an individual basis. Please request the APCL (Top-up) Information from TOCES.**

DipHE Programmes

Cohort 10/1	HE Application	Enrol onto Equine Anatomy and Physiology	OU HE Programme Registration Period opens	OU HE Programme Registration Period closes	Enrolment Period opens	Enrolment Period closes	OU validated course start date
Date	Anytime before 31.07.10	Anytime before 25.05.10	01.06.10	07.08.10	08.08.10	21.08.10	01.09.10
Form	HE Application Form	HE Module Enrolment Form	HE Registration Form		Confirmation of Enrolment Form		
Fee due	None	£425	£500		£275 if enrolled onto Equine Anatomy and Physiology £700 if not enrolled onto Equine Anatomy and Physiology		None
Annual tuition fees due (£1, 160 x 3)		01.08.11, 01.08.12 and 01.08.13			Total fee paid		£4, 680

CertHE Programmes

Cohort 10/1	HE Application	Enrol onto Equine Anatomy and Physiology	OU HE Programme Registration period opens	OU HE Programme Registration period closes	Enrolment period opens	Enrolment period closes	OU validated course start date
Date	Anytime before 31.07.10	Anytime before 25.05.10	01.06.10	07.08.10	08.08.10	21.08.10	01.09.10
Form	HE Application Form	HE Module Enrolment Form	HE Registration Form		Confirmation of Enrolment Form		
Fee due	None	£425	£300		£375 if enrolled onto Equine Anatomy and Physiology £800 if not enrolled onto Equine Anatomy and Physiology		None
Annual tuition fees due (£1, 500 x 3)		01.08.11, 01.08.12 and 01.08.13			Total fee paid		£2, 600

If you have any queries please contact Julie Brega or Erica Taylor on 01787 282 123

Email: julie.brega@equinestudies.co.uk or erica@equinestudies.co.uk