



University Campus
Oldham

Higher Education at Oldham College

YOU'RE OUR NUMBER

ONE

We put your future first

Mini Guide 2027/28

HNC / HND | BA / BSC DEGREES

TEACHER TRAINING | FOUNDATION DEGREES

MASTER'S DEGREES | TOP-UP DEGREES | HTQS

Welcome to University Campus Oldham

You're our number one.

At University Campus Oldham (UCO), we put your future first. From day one, you'll be supported by tutors who genuinely care about your progress. We keep our class sizes small, so you get the one-to-one support that makes all the difference.

Whether you're returning to education or progressing from college or sixth form, you'll find high-quality, career-focused courses right here in Oldham. Developed with leading universities and shaped by local employers, our programmes are designed to give you the skills and confidence you need for your future.

As part of the Oldham College family, UCO is based across our University Way and Rochdale Road campuses, providing dedicated higher education learning environments alongside access to the wider facilities and support available across Oldham College.

You're not just a student here, you're at the heart of everything we do.

Susan Holden
Assistant Principal - HE and Higher Skills



UCO celebrates strong 2026 NSS results



We're proud to share that feedback from our final-year students placed University Campus Oldham above the England sector average in five key areas of the 2026 National Student Survey (NSS).

Key areas where UCO scored above the sector average include:



Assessment and feedback
5.3% above



Academic support
3.6% above



Teaching
2.8% above



Organisation and management
2.7% above



Learning opportunities
1.3% above

Student satisfaction highlights

95%

of students said teaching staff were good at explaining things

95%

said it was easy to contact teaching staff when they needed to

92%

said their course challenged them to achieve their best work

These results reflect our commitment to delivering high-quality teaching, personalised student support and a positive learning experience.

Why UCO?

UCO offers degrees and professional qualifications in the heart of Oldham, with the support to help you succeed.

Here are five reasons to choose us:



Study close to home

With campuses on University Way and Rochdale Road, University Campus Oldham is easy to reach, giving you the opportunity to study locally without the extra costs of accommodation or living away from home.



Designed around real life

Whether you're working, raising a family or starting afresh, we offer flexible study options to help you balance learning with other commitments.



Learn from genuine experience

Our tutors bring industry knowledge and experience into every session, so you can be sure that what you learn will apply in the professional world.



Support that puts you first

You'll get tailored support and regular check-ins, because we genuinely care about your progress. From your first day to graduation and beyond, at UCO, **you're our number one.**



Degrees that open doors

We work with respected universities and local employers to deliver qualifications that lead to real opportunities.



"It was ideal for me because I could continue working alongside my studies. The smaller class sizes at UCO gave me a more supportive and personalised experience."

Sarah Shaw
BA (Hons) Children and Young People



Hear from our students



Niko Summers

BA (Hons) Graphic Design

“I wanted to study more locally, as travelling to Manchester for a previous course hadn’t suited me. I found the Graphic Design course at UCO and realised it was accredited by the University of Lancashire, so I was able to get the same degree locally. I had a gut feeling that this was the right decision for me.

“The highlight was definitely the fantastic tutors who treated me as an equal and with respect. Always know there is someone to guide you and support you along your path.”

Niko progressed onto the Graphic Design Graduate Scheme with Ultimate Products



Charlie Muldoon

BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care

“While studying an Access to HE Diploma in Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Professions at Oldham College, a UCO tutor visited my class to talk about the BSc (Hons) Health and Social Care. After learning more about the course and its modules, I knew it was the right choice for me.

The support I received was the biggest highlight. From Academic Skills and Careers to support with my ADHD diagnosis, everyone was there when I needed them. My degree gave me the confidence and professionalism to support people with complex needs, and I use what I learned every day.”

Charlie now works as a Housing Support Officer



Read more case studies

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Paige Tildsley

BA (Hons) Children and Young People

“As a care leaver, studying close to home gave me the stability and security I needed, as I could stay in permanent accommodation throughout my studies. I never thought university would be an option for me because I didn’t have A Levels, but UCO’s Foundation Year gave me an alternative route into higher education. With support and encouragement from the staff, I progressed all the way to my BA (Hons).

My time at UCO showed me that university really was within my reach and gave me the confidence to achieve more than I thought possible.”

Paige now works in the Delivery and Design team in the Civil Service



Ruhi Zakiah

BA (Hons) Education and Early Years

“I never thought I’d return to education, but after completing my GCSEs at Oldham College, I decided to take a chance on UCO. As a mum of four, I wasn’t sure university was for me, but the support I received was tailored around my family life, making it possible to balance my studies with my responsibilities at home.

My placements helped me build confidence in new environments, while Academic Skills supported me to achieve 74% in my dissertation. Those experiences prepared me for teacher training and a career supporting children and families.”

Ruhi now works as a Diversity Co-ordinator at Home-Start





Explore UCO

There's no better way to discover University Campus Oldham than by visiting one of our Open Events. Meet tutors and current students, explore our facilities and learn more about the courses you're interested in.

Whether you're just starting to consider your options or you're ready to apply, you'll have the chance to ask questions, find out about student life and experience what studying at UCO is really like.

Visit our website to view upcoming Open Event dates and book your place.



Create your personalised digital prospectus

Explore our courses, save your favourites and build a personalised digital prospectus that's tailored to you.



Scan the QR code to view our digital prospectus



Student support

You're our number one and that means real support, right from the start.

Whether you need help settling in, building confidence, improving your study skills or planning your next steps after graduation, we're here for you.

Academic Support: Workshops and one-to-one guidance to help you develop your university-level study skills.

Disability and Wellbeing Support: Personalised support tailored to your individual needs.

The Wellbeing Hub: A welcoming space to relax, access support and connect with other students.

Library and Resource Centre: Study spaces, learning resources and expert guidance to support your studies.

Careers and Graduate Support: Advice and guidance while you study and for up to three years after you graduate.

You'll find all of this, and more, across our University Way Campus and Rochdale Road Campus, alongside modern teaching spaces, libraries, social areas and specialist facilities.

This is your journey. We're here to help you make the most of it.



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Find out more



Financial support

We'll help you make sense of tuition fees, maintenance loans, grants and funding options.

Whether you're funding your studies through a Tuition Fee Loan, employer sponsorship or paying your own fees, we'll help you understand your options.

Depending on your circumstances, you may also be eligible for additional financial support, including maintenance loans, grants and our Scholarship Scheme for eligible Oldham College students progressing to UCO.

While we don't offer on-site accommodation, our Student Services team can provide guidance on local housing options if you're planning to live independently while you study.



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For full details and application advice



Qualifications explained

Choose from a range of university-level qualifications to suit every stage of life and career development. Our flexible higher education programmes range from Level 4 through to Level 7, with a qualification to help you achieve your goals.

Degree qualifications

Foundation Year or Preparatory Year

Designed for students who have the ability to study for a degree but do not meet the entry requirements for direct entry onto an undergraduate programme.

Foundation Degrees in Arts or Science (FdA/FdSc)

A Level 5 qualification equivalent to the first two years of a degree. Once completed, you can progress into employment or top-up your studies to achieve a full Honours degree.

Top-up Degrees (Hons)

Build on your HND or Foundation degree by completing a final year of study to achieve a full Honours degree.

Bachelor of Arts or Science Degrees with Honours (BA/BSc)

A Level 6 qualification, also known as an undergraduate or Honours degree, that typically takes three years to complete when studied full-time.

Master's Degrees (MA)

A Level 7 qualification that allows graduates to study a subject in greater detail and enhance their employability.

Higher National and Higher Technical Qualifications

Higher National Certificate (HNC)

A Level 4 qualification equivalent to the first year of a Bachelor's degree.

Higher National Diploma (HND)

A Level 5 qualification equivalent to the first two years of a Bachelor's degree.

Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQs)

Employer-approved Level 4 and 5 qualifications that provide the knowledge and skills needed for your chosen career.

Teacher Education

CertEd and PGCE

Qualifications for those looking to become teachers in Further Education and Skills, with routes available for both in-service and pre-service teachers.



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For further information

Our subject areas

Explore our wide range of university-level courses and find the right course for you.



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Scan to view all university-level courses



Construction

From design and project management to quantity surveying and digital construction, explore how buildings are planned, delivered and managed. Study modern construction methods, sustainability and building information modelling (BIM) through practical projects and real-world applications.



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Scan here to view our **Construction** courses



Counselling and Psychology

Understand why people think, feel and behave the way they do. Study psychological theory, human behaviour, mental health and therapeutic approaches while exploring how they are applied in professional practice.



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Scan here to view our **Counselling and Psychology** courses





Creative Arts and Design

Bring ideas to life through Graphic Design, Illustration, Game Art and Esports. Develop your creative thinking, visual communication and digital skills while working on live briefs, industry projects and building a professional portfolio.



Scan here to view our **Creative Arts and Design** courses

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Criminology

Examine how crime, justice and society are connected. Study criminal behaviour, policing, punishment and social justice while exploring the theories and debates that shape today's criminal justice system.



Scan here to view our **Criminology** courses

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Education and Early Years

Explore how children learn and develop. Study safeguarding, education, wellbeing and inclusive practice, while examining the role families, communities and professionals play in supporting positive outcomes.



Scan here to view our **Education and Early Years** courses

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Health and Care Professions

Discover how health and care professionals support people throughout their lives. Study person-centred care, health promotion, safeguarding and professional practice while developing your understanding of leadership, research and evidence-based care.



Scan here to view our **Health and Care Professions** courses

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Teacher Education

Explore the principles of effective teaching, learning and assessment. Study curriculum design, inclusive practice and educational research while developing your skills as a reflective and confident teaching professional.



Scan here to view our **Teacher Education** courses

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Working with Children, Young People and Families

Learn about the issues affecting children, young people and families, and the services that support them. Explore family support, safeguarding, mental health, youth justice and professional practice across the sector.



Scan here to view our **Working with Children, Young People and Families** courses

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How to apply

Whether you're applying directly to University Campus Oldham or through UCAS, our Admissions team will support you throughout your application journey.



Explore your course options

Browse our website to compare courses, entry requirements and career opportunities, and find the course that's right for you.

Visit an Open Event

Meet our tutors and students, explore our facilities and find out what it's like to study at University Campus Oldham before you apply.

Submit your application

Apply online directly through our website by selecting Apply Now on your chosen course page or apply for a full-time undergraduate course through UCAS.

Receive and accept your offer

Once we've reviewed your application, we'll let you know the outcome. If you're offered a place, we'll guide you through accepting your offer and the next steps.

Apply for student finance

Once you've accepted your offer, apply for student finance as early as possible to help ensure your funding is in place before your course begins.

Enrol and prepare to start

We'll contact you with everything you need to know before your course begins, including enrolment information, your Welcome Week timetable and any course-specific information.



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How to apply

Getting here

University Campus Oldham is based across two locations: **University Way Campus** and **Rochdale Road Campus**. Depending on your course, you'll study at one of our campuses, both of which offer dedicated learning, social and support spaces.



By tram

Both campuses are within a 10-minute walk of a Metrolink stop - Oldham Central for University Way Campus and Oldham King Street for Rochdale Road Campus.



By bus

Oldham Bus Station is less than a 10-minute walk from both campuses, with regular services across Greater Manchester.



By car

Both campuses are around 15 minutes from the M60 (Junction 22) and M62 (Junction 20).



Stay connected

Follow us on social media for the latest news and student stories.



@UniversityCampusOldham



Oldham College and University Campus Oldham



@oldhamcollegeoc



@UC_Oldham

Our academic partners

We work with top UK universities and awarding bodies, so your qualification is nationally and globally recognised. Our partners include:

Sheffield Hallam University

Pearson

CMI
HE Partner

University of Huddersfield
Yorkshire roots. Global reach.

University of Lancashire





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Higher Education at Oldham College

University Way Campus

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Every reasonable effort has been made to ensure that all information in this mini guide is correct at the time of going to print. For the most up-to-date information, please check **oldham.ac.uk**