

What Is An Open Masters?

video:OPPR002X

David Rowland:

Hello, I'm David Rowland, and I'm Director of Taught Postgraduate here at The Open University. And I want to talk to you about a new and exciting qualification that we've just started, which is the Open Masters degree. It's new because we haven't run anything like this before, and neither has anyone else in the sector in the UK. The idea about it is that it's very flexible, you can mix and match various modules on it, so that you create your own bespoke qualification at the end of it.

You can do this in two ways. You can go one route, that mixes subjects within what we'd call a 'cognate group', so for example I'm in the Music department, but I might be able to – I might want to study some English, I might want to study some History or Classical Studies – and using that route I combine various modules, put them together into a complete Masters degree. On the other hand, I might for example be in a career where I want to mix some specific subject interest, like History or English, with something that is a bit more professionally-focused, like Management for example, or some other professionally-focused modules. I can mix those two things together, so that I do a subject interest that I'm used to and something else more professionally-focused.