

OUSA Affiliated Societies as of August 2006

Astronomy & Planetary Science (OUSAPS)

Affiliation 2000

web: www.ousaps.com

Description: for anyone in the OU community with an interest in astronomy and planetary science, the Society organises anises lectures & observatory visits. It publishes a newsletter, ORBIT, and is affiliated to British Astronomy Society and Federation of Astronomy Societies.

Major event: week at Centre for the Observation of Astronomy in the Algarve (COAA, Portugal) in October.

Change ringers

Affiliation 1984

Description: a small but long-established society whose members arrange bell-ringing sessions at various churches, supplemented by hand-bell ringing

Major event: for information please write c/o OUSA Office (Societies Desk)

Chemistry (OUCS)

Affiliation 1995

web: www.oucs.org

Description: for many years ran an annual Chemistry Revision Weekend in York which, with the support of Fusion, became the Science Revision Weekend. Other day-schools, lectures and visits are arranged by local organisers.

Major event: Science Revision Weekend, September, nr Stoke

Christian Fellowship (OUCF)

Affiliation 2004

Description: The OU Christian Fellowship aims to enable its members to help one another to seek the truth, to confess, to practice the Christian Faith and to encourage enquirers. We hope to promote events at national and regional levels for members and others who may like to participate.

OUCF has a FirstClass conference for those who like a place where they can come to for quiet Christian fellowship.

Major events open to all OUSA members: AGM in January with a speaker and at least 2 other events during the year. We publish a members' newsletter 3 times a year; for information please write c/o OUSA Office (Societies Desk).

Computer, Sci-Tech & Space society (OUCSTSS)

Affiliation 1989 smartgroup: www.smartgroups.com/groups/oucstss

Description: one of the first of the OU student societies, its members' interests have expanded over the years from computing via engineering to space science. Its journal Open File is equally inclusive.

Major event/s: for information please write c/o OUSA Office (Societies Desk)

Development & Environment (OUDES)

Affiliation 1995

web: www.oudes.org

Description: actively interested in news, conferences, resources and events relating to current development and environment issues worldwide. Organises visits to developing & Third World areas.

Major event/s: Revision Weekend, Greenwich University, September

FUSION (PHYSICS)

Affiliation 2001

web: www.oufusion.org.uk

Description: If you are interested in any area of physics, from quantum mechanics and relativity to astronomy, astrophysics and space exploration, then Fusion is the society for you. With an award winning newsletter and web site, an active program of events offering visits to sites of scientific interest (some of which not available to the general public), lectures, the popular science revision weekend in organized in cooperation with OUCS, and the new S207 preparation weekend, the modest membership fee represents excellent value for money. In addition our close relationship with the Institute of Physics provides members with discounted membership and access to several national and international events each year. For more information, visit our web site or write c/o OUSA Office.

Geological society (OUGS)

Formed 1973, Affiliation 1988

web: www.ougs.org

Description – Aim: to support and promote the study of Earth Sciences. Fieldwork is essential to Earth Science studies. OUGS organises over 200 events a year: field trips, both in the UK and abroad, lectures, revision and social events. OUGS supports local geological conservation. OUGS has over 2,500 members in 18 branches covering the UK, Ireland and mainland Europe. The Society publishes a Newsletter 6 times a year and a prestigious journal twice each year.

Major event: Annual Symposium, for 2007 in Lancaster August 17 – 19.

History (OUHS)

Affiliation 1986

Description: members are interested in one or more branches of history. This is reflected in the Society's journal, Open History, which is published four times a year and which gives the opportunity for members to pass on the results of their interest and research. Transcript Library with essays and research papers available for loan. Annual residential weekend. Archive visits. Some Regional activities.

Major Events: Annual weekend, Stoke on Trent, 2 – 4 February 2007.

Memorial Essay Competition open to members and 2006 History students, closing date 31 January 2007.

Law (OULS)

Affiliation 1999

website: www.ouls.org

Description: Aims to provide opportunities for members to meet in local groups to exchange ideas and pursue the appreciation of Law.

Major events: Visit our website for more information.

M500 (Maths)

Formed 1973 Affiliation 1994

web: www.m500.org.uk

Description: aims to promote a better understanding of mathematics, its applications and its teaching – from Level 1 to postgraduate. The society publishes a regular newsletter and offers MOUTHS, a phone help scheme for maths for members.

Major events: 2 annual Friday-to-Monday residential events.

- 1) September Weekend for revision and exam preparation.
- 2) Winter Weekend in January for mathematical recreation.

Mountaineering (OUMS)

Affiliation 1989

web: www.oums.org.uk/

Description: mounts regular field 'meets' for serious climbers, in the Dales, the Lake District, Wales, Peak District and even walks in Suffolk, Youth Hostel accommodation or similar, self-catering. Safety Guidelines and helpful information provided.

Major event/s: for information please write c/o OUSA Office (Societies Desk)

Music (OUMS)

Affiliation 1985

Description: members are interested in all aspects of music and, as well as covering music news and events, the Society's Journal includes essays on the history, performance and practice of music of all kinds and biographical material on composers and musicians.

Major event: Annual Music Day with 'presentations of a musical nature'.

Poetry (OU Poets)

Affiliation 1985

web: www.oupoets.org.uk

Description: over 70 pages of members' own poems published in magazine (5 issues a year). Readers then vote for the 'best' to be published in the society's Annual Anthology.

Major event: each November OU Poets organises a poetry weekend with established poets as tutors, offering both group and individual tuition.

Postgraduate Students (OUPGS)

Affiliation 1993

web: www.open.ac.uk/pgss/

Description: Represents, protects and develops the interests of internal postgraduate research students registered at the Open University.

Major event/s: Please see website for details.

Psychological (OUPS)

Affiliation 1981

web: www.oups.org.uk

Description: gives students extra support in their studies and provides opportunities to meet socially with other psychology students; provides events and talks designed to broaden students' understanding of psychology.

Major event/s - all events below held at Nottingham University: 23-25 June, Mini Summer School; 23-25 June, Annual Conference on Eye Witness Testimony. 8-10 September, Revision Weekend.

Shakespeare society (OUSS)

Affiliation 1990

Web: www.ouss.org.uk

Description: for all those interested in the subject and wish to continue and share their interest in the works of Shakespeare and his contemporaries. A Groat's Worth of Wit includes book / theatre reviews, essays, interviews, etc.

Major event: Day School, May: Passion, Sex and Misogyny in Shakespeare's plays, and The Sonnets

Students for Ethical Science (SES)

Affiliation 1992

web: www.ouses.org.uk

Description: aims to persuade the OU, by peaceful and legal means, to end its harmful use of animals in research and teaching, and replace it with academically equivalent or superior animal-free alternatives.

Major event/s: please see website for details.

Tadpoles

Affiliation 1986

Description: Why 'Tadpoles'? Well, its members emerged from a boundary-busting course and its life-enhancing summer school (back in the 70s) which was graced with the TAD prefix, indicating input from the faculties of Technology, Arts and Social Sciences. The students considered themselves TADpoles (their officers as Frogs).

Major event/s: a dwindling population still survives ... even in the New Forest.

Travel & Study (OUTS)

Affiliation 1987

Description: another long-established society that specialises in study tours to centres of cultural interest – particularly the renaissance art and architecture of Italy.

Major event/s: for information please write c/o OUSA Office (Societies Desk)

You can find the following Society-related open conferences on the Open University's FirstClass conferencing system (from your student desktop, click on OU Students Association and then OUSA Signpost/OUSA Live/OUSA Societies):

OUSA Music

OUSA Chemistry

OUSA Geological

OUSA Christian Fellowship

OUSA History

OUSA M500

OUSA Psychological

OUSA OUCSTSS

OUSA Ethical Science

OUSA OUDES

OUSA Fusion

OUSA OUSAPS

OUSA OU Law Society

If your interest is not covered by any of the above, and you would like to form your own Society, please contact the OUSA Office for more information and a copy of the current Societies Guidelines.