

Working in Partnership eDegree



The Open University

The Partner

eDegree is a South African organisation specialising in partnering with both private and public institutions to ensure the dissemination of higher education qualifications and learning programmes in South Africa and throughout Africa. eDegree's role is in the management of these educational projects, the marketing thereof, and both online and classroom-based tuition. eDegree provides assistance regarding the dissemination of academic content, the facilitation of learner-to-learner and learner-to-tutor e-communication and the management of project logistics.

eDegree is a leader in the research, delivery and development of learning material for adult learners and develops training materials which aim to improve the knowledge and skills levels of learners from all backgrounds.

The Project

The Open University and eDegree have formed a partnership to offer the Certificate and Diploma in Business Studies and BA (Honours) Business Studies which started in November 2008 in Uganda and Botswana using a blended tuition model (online plus face to face support) and in South Africa using an online only tuition model. It is anticipated that the programme will then be extended across Africa, including Zambia, Tanzania and Kenya in the near future.

Students study the same course materials and complete the same examination and assessment as UK based students, and gain Open University credit for their studies. eDegree employs the tutors according to Open University standards and tutor training is provided by Open University staff. The Open University retains ultimate academic authority and monitors all aspects of the partnership to ensure adherence to the QAA's guidelines.

The Aim

The OU and eDegree aim to work together to extend cost efficient supported blended learning opportunities to students in Africa and to provide them with an internationally accepted qualification.

The Benefits

The partnership with eDegree offers a route for the Open University to reach students in multiple African countries. eDegree is experienced in working in these contexts and can facilitate access to learning resources for students irrespective of location. It is also envisaged that the Open University will benefit from eDegree's experience in delivering synchronous online tuition.

Contact

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