

# 1980s

*The production of an Open University/BBC programme*



Over 38,500 students have graduated with The Open University in total, with 60,000 students studying in 1980/81. 130 undergraduate courses are now offered through The Open University.

1980

1981

1982

1983

1984

1985

1986

1987

1988

1989

By the end of the year, over 600 television and radio programmes have been produced through The Open University/BBC partnership, since 1971.

The Open University wins the popular ITV/BBC TV series University Challenge for the first time. (The University subsequently won again in 1999).

The Open University launches the Business School - worldwide success has seen it become the largest business school in Europe.

Production starts at Europe's biggest purpose-built educational broadcasting complex, The Open University/BBC Production centre on the University campus in Milton Keynes. The centre is officially opened by Prince Charles.



By the end of the 1980s, The Open University has helped to set-up Open Universities in Iran, Pakistan, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The Open University itself also has students registered abroad, including merchant seamen and soldiers involved in the Falklands campaign.