
Managing complexity: A systems approach – introduction

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/digital-computing/managing-complexity-a-systems-approach-introduction/content-section-0>

Course summary

Do you need to change the way you think when faced with a complex situation? This free course, *Managing complexity: A systems approach introduction*, examines how systemic thinking and practice enables you to cope with the connections between things, events and ideas. By taking a broader perspective complexity becomes manageable and it is easier to accept that gaps in knowledge can be acceptable.

Learning outcomes

By completing this course, the learner should be able to:

- use reflection to understand some of your own preferred styles of working
- draw a systems map, review it, and use it to prompt further questions
- evaluate your diagramming skills
- develop, and take responsibility for, your own understanding of complexity
- appreciate some ethical implications of being a systems practitioner.

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Completed study

The learner has completed the following:

Section 1

Overview of the unit

Section 2

Part 1 Starting the unit

Section 3

Part 1: 1 Thinking about expectations

Section 4

Part 1: 2 Preparing to tackle this unit

Section 5

Part 2 Experiencing complexity

Section 6

Part 2: 2 Immersing yourself in complexity

Section 7

Part 2: 3 Representing your experience of complexity

Section 8

Part 2: 4 Being inside complexity

Section 9

Part 2: 5 Exploring complexity

Section 10

Part 2: 6 Review

Section 11

Part 3 Understanding systems approaches to managing complexity

Section 12

Part 3: 2 Systems practice – unpacking the juggler metaphor

Section 13

Part 3: 3 Being a systems practitioner

Section 14

Part 3: 4 Engaging with complexity

Section 15

Part 3: 5 Contextualising systems approaches

Section 16

Part 3: 6 Managing complexity