



Statement of participation

Franky Adair

has completed the free course including any mandatory tests for:

Software and the law

This 8-hour course looks at the laws relevant to software and its use, taking a global perspective.

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This statement does not imply the award of credit points nor the conferment of a University Qualification.
This statement confirms that this free course and all mandatory tests were passed by the learner.

Please go to the course on OpenLearn for full details:
<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/science-maths-technology/software-and-the-law/content-section-0>

COURSE CODE: M814_1



Software and the law

<https://www.open.edu/openlearn/science-maths-technology/software-and-the-law/content-section-0>

Course summary

In this free course, Software and the law, you'll look at the laws relevant to software and its use, taking a global perspective. A major part of this course is devoted to intellectual-property law, the issue of who owns software and digital content and how that ownership can be protected using instruments like copyright and patents. We also cover how contracts are used to formalise the relationship between purchasers and suppliers of software. Finally, we look at some of the laws that apply to information technology and software to ensure that organisations meet their responsibility of care towards employees, customers, and the general public.

Learning outcomes

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

- explain the differences between various types of intellectual property and the legal frameworks that apply to each type
- understand the issues that arise when drawing up contracts relating to acquiring or developing software
- explore the legal frameworks relating to software systems in a specific context.

Completed study

The learner has completed the following:

Section 1

Why law is necessary

Section 2

Intellectual property (IP) rights

Section 3

IP rights: copyright, patents, marks and brands

Section 4

IP rights: Common and public goods

Section 5

Contracts

Section 6

Responsibilities to employees and the public

Section 7

External threats

Section 8

Conclusion