



The University of Bristol is about to launch its first Massive Online Open Course, or MOOC. **Cracking Mechanics, Further Maths for Engineers**, is free to join and will run for six weeks from **Monday 10 November**. The course is part of the highly successful **FutureLearn** partnership and is being led by Dr Laura Dickinson. Learners will find out how engineers use both maths and physics to solve real world problems. Even before the course has started, over 5000 learners from across the world have registered to participate.

Most MOOCs are taken by adult learners, many of whom already have degrees. Cracking Mechanics is rather different. It is aimed at year 12 and 13 students who are interested in careers in engineering, maths or physical science. It is perfect for keen students who want either to practice existing skills or to extend their knowledge and understanding. Cracking Mechanics is designed to complement the A-level and International Baccalaureate specifications. However, it will also give students the opportunity to become independent learners and enrich not only their subject-specific knowledge, but also their wider experience and skills. Although it is not a pre-requisite for any of our degree programmes, it is therefore the perfect preparation for university study.

Each week is split into bite-sized chunks, taking less than 30 minutes per day. Learners will watch videos, read articles, answer questions, do tests and quizzes, and discuss problems with other learners and help them with their problems too. Assessment is optional. Learners can do as much or as little as they like. Studying Maths to A-level, or International Baccalaureate Standard Level, is useful but not essential; Further or Higher-Level Maths is not required.

To find out more about the course, or to register, please visit <https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/cracking-mechanics> or email [uob-futurelearn@bristol.ac.uk](mailto:uob-futurelearn@bristol.ac.uk). For further information on use of FutureLearn MOOCs within Schools and Colleges, <https://www.futurelearn.com/schools>.