

believe achieve
advance



Higher Education at Northumberland College

Northumberland College is now taking applications for September 2012, for a wide range of Foundation Degrees, Higher National Certificates (HNCs) and Higher National Diplomas (HNDs). Apply early to avoid disappointment.

You can study full time or part time on many of our courses, so whether you're starting out in your career or want a change of direction... we have something for everyone.

Foundation Degrees: what they are

Foundation Degrees are well respected qualifications in their own right and develop specific expertise relevant to a particular sector of industry. Foundation Degrees are flexible qualifications and are designed to meet the needs of employers for highly skilled, work-ready personnel. The qualifications are similar to Higher National Diplomas, but with added emphasis on work-based learning.

Unless a course states otherwise, Foundation Degrees generally last two years (full time) though some courses offer a part time study option – please see individual course entries for further details.

HNCs and HNDs: what they are

HNCs (Higher National Certificates) and HNDs (Higher National Diplomas) are work-related (vocational) higher education qualifications. While degrees tend to focus on gaining knowledge, HNCs and HNDs are designed to give you the skills to put that knowledge to effective use in a particular job.

They are highly valued by employers both in the UK and overseas, and can also count towards membership of professional bodies and other employer organisations.

Assessment

Assessment is an integral part of the learning process and reflects the range of employability skills being developed. A range of assessment methods is used including practice-based assignments, case studies, presentations, management problems, projects, problem-based scenarios, portfolios and some courses will include end of semester examinations.

The task and the assessment criteria will be clearly explained within a module outline, or an assignment brief, or both. More detailed information about courses specific assessment is available from course leaders.

Higher Education Programmes

- HNC General Engineering
- HNC Hospitality Management
- HND Hospitality Management
- HNC Computing
- HND Equine
- HND Animal Management
- HNC Animal Management
- Foundation Degree Early Years Practice
- Foundation Degree Teaching Assistants
- HND Photography

Fees and funding*

At Northumberland College, we aim to provide a high quality learning experience at a reasonable price. Our fees are set with this in mind.

We will be charging tuition fees of £6,000 per year for those UK and EU residents starting full time Foundation Degree, Higher National Certificate and Higher National Diploma programmes in 2012/2013. Tuition Fees for part time Foundation Degree, Higher National Certificate and Higher National Diploma programmes starting in 2012 will be £3,000 per year.

This decision has been made after very careful consideration of the Government's proposed changes to Higher Education funding, which means that students will have to cover the whole cost of the tuition themselves, rather than the Government paying part of it.

For those who have the potential to benefit from studying a higher education course at Northumberland College, there should be no financial barriers.

*These fees are provisional and subject to confirmation.

Tuition fees – No upfront costs

As a full time student, you will not be required to pay any tuition fees up-front or until after graduation and earning at least £21,000 per year. Tuition fee loans will be available to cover the full cost of tuition, regardless of household income, and this will be paid directly to the College by the Student Loans Company. No matter how much you owe, you only pay back according to how much you earn above £21,000. You should apply by 31st May 2012 to ensure your fees are paid promptly.

More information can be found at: studentfinance-yourfuture.direct.gov.uk

As a part time student you are also eligible for a tuition fee loan, if you are completing a minimum of 25% of the equivalent full time course load each year. You will start to repay your loan in the year after you finish studying or after three years from the start of your course, whichever is earlier, if you are earning more than £21,000.

More information can be found at: studentfinance-yourfuture.direct.gov.uk/part-time-students

Funding for living costs

You will be able to apply for loans for living costs, of up to £5,500 if living away from home, and also non-repayable grants of up to £3,250, where the household income is less than £42,600. There is additional non-repayable help from the Government such as a Parents Learning Allowance and Childcare funding, for those with children, and the Disabled Students allowance to pay for any extra study costs related to a disability.

Repaying student loans

- You will be required to start repaying loans for fees and living costs in the financial year after you graduate, but only if your annual income is above £21,000.
- If your income falls below £21,000, your repayments will stop.
- The repayment rate is 9% of your income, above the first £21,000, so the amount you repay will depend entirely on what you earn, not on how much you borrowed.
- If, after 30, years you have not repaid the full amount, the remainder of the loan will be written off.

Working out your budget

You can get an estimate of the amount of student finance you would be entitled to, before you actually apply, by using the Student Finance calculator at www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance

There is also a detailed calculator at www.studentcalculator.org.uk

For further information visit: www.direct.gov.uk/yourfuture

Disclaimer

All information regarding fees and other related information are current but are subject to change for unforeseen reasons at the College's absolute discretion. Please check with the College for the latest fee information. Government policy on entitlement to fee reductions and tax or benefit rules is subject to change. The information printed reflects the College's understanding at this time but students should check the current position and their personal circumstances before committing to a College course. Students are required to pay fees by the due date and failure to do so could lead to your results not being presented to the relevant examination board, and therefore result in you not receiving your certificate.

These fees are provisional and subject to confirmation.