



PART -TIME

GUIDE **25|26**

NORTH EAST
SCOTLAND
COLLEGE



UPSKILL • RESKILL • JUST FOR FUN

Have fun and try something new!

Whether you're aiming to reskill or upskill to support your professional and personal development or looking for a fun and engaging evening class, North East Scotland College has something for everyone.

NESCol is home to **20,000** learners at any one time – and around **14,000** of those are learning with us on a part-time course.

NESCol is proud to be at the heart of the communities we serve and committed to providing opportunities for all, with flexible ways to learn that fit around the commitments and lifestyles of our students.

Our part-time and online learning courses have been carefully curated to cater for a wide range of interests. There are more than 200 options across our three main campuses.

In this guide you'll find information, advice and guidance on how to get started. Follow the QR codes and links for full online learning course listings and to book your place.

Learn from the best

The NESCol experience is built around dedicated, enthusiastic and industry-experienced staff with a passion for the subjects they teach. Joining a part-time course provides the opportunity to tap into that knowledge and experience in an engaging and supportive environment, learning alongside like-minded people who share your interests.

Expert tuition is accompanied by learning resources shaped to reflect the latest industry developments and trends in specific subject areas.

Inspiring surroundings

Our in-person courses are delivered across our main campuses and offer students the chance to learn in fantastic facilities tailored to provide the perfect platform to gain new skills.

Aberdeen Altens Campus, in the heart of the city's Energy Transition Zone, features a wealth of industry-standard equipment and spaces. From automotive and construction workshops to engineering zones, it is a hive of activity.

Our **Aberdeen City Campus** is a North East landmark. Behind its doors there are a wealth of spaces waiting to be explored, from professional kitchens to hair and beauty salons, photography studios and much more in between.

Fraserburgh Campus offers the best of both worlds—a welcoming, community-focused environment paired with a diverse range of courses and facilities that mirror those available at our City Campus



Facilities in focus

Professional kitchens and Gate 63 Restaurant

NESCol's training restaurant at City Campus, Gate 63, is renowned for its excellent service and fine dining, delivered by students as they put theory into practice. Adjacent to the restaurant is a range of professional kitchens replicating industry surroundings, used for full-time and part-time training.

The Salon and In:tuition

Hair and beauty students at our Fraserburgh and City campuses benefit from the very best facilities to perfect their technique. Professional salon services are available to the public in relaxing and welcoming environments complete with the latest industry-standard equipment.

Construction workshops

Our Altens and Fraserburgh campuses feature realistic training spaces that bring the construction disciplines to life. You'll find replica heating systems and circuit rigs for plumbing and electrical engineering students, full scale interiors in the painting and decorating department, and joinery and brickwork workshops.

Art, photography and floristry studios

Building the right environment for creativity to flourish is very important to us. Across City and Fraserburgh campuses there are a range of vibrant learning spaces, ranging from textile rooms and art studios to photography studios kitted out with the very latest industry equipment.

Science laboratories

Our labs are always a hive of activity and practical work is central to the curriculum. Cloud chambers, flame tubes, fluorescence spectrometers, hydrogen and biotechnology equipment and a range of other instruments and research resources provide the opportunity for students to build their skills and knowledge at City and Fraserburgh campuses.

Engineering

At Fraserburgh and Altens campuses our students learn in surroundings that replicate the world of work - from automotive workshops, complete with spray booths, to professional welding facilities and much more. A major focus is developing the College's resources dedicated to energy transition - Fraserburgh has the recently introduced Future Skills Workshop and Altens will be home to the Energy Transition Skills Hub, opening in summer 2025.

Learning zones

For classroom-based courses, you'll learn in our modern and bright campuses equipped for individual and group work, benefiting from display technology and everything you need to build your knowledge and skills. We also offer lecture theatres and well-equipped libraries, providing a variety of learning options to support different study styles and preferences.



What our learners say

At NESCol we're always striving to get better at what we do and student feedback helps us to do that.

The NESCol Student Satisfaction and Engagement Survey 2024-25 for part-time students provided a snapshot of the experience.

**I'd recommend
NESCol to others:**



**believe all students
are treated equally and
fairly by staff**

**Staff help to motivate
me with my learning:**



**praised the learning
environment**

**Overall positive
satisfaction:**



EVENING CLASSES

Our range of evening classes are designed to fit around busy lifestyles and are at the heart of our part-time programme.

Classes run for two or two and a half hours and most are hosted at our main College centres. We also have a selection of courses delivered at the Inverurie Community Campus.

From one day masterclasses to 10-week blocks, there are options to suit your schedule and commitments.

The evening class programme features a range of practical, hands-on courses benefiting from our industry standard facilities.

Sitting side by side with those skills-based options are opportunities to build knowledge and explore classroom-based subjects.

A selection of part-time courses do also run in daytime slots, check the full course listings for details.

Whichever you choose, you'll be guided by our team of expert tutors.

Evening classes are open to all and attract learners from across the North East, coming together to learn in welcoming and friendly groups brought together by shared interests in a safe, supportive and encouraging College environment.

Most evening classes have a leisure focus – whether brushing up on culinary skills in our professional kitchens or expanding your creative horizons in our art and design studios, at the end of these courses you will receive a NESCol certificate to mark your participation.

There are also a range of courses with professional and personal development at their core (see P8-9 for further details), offering qualifications from awarding bodies such as the SQA and City and Guilds.

The Evening Class experience

What our students say:

"Constructive, informed, informative, supportive and knowledgeable course tutors."

"I'm having a great time on my course. The lecturers manage to balance fun interactions and serious learning opportunities very well and create a relaxed and engaging class environment."

"Thank you for this chance to get a better future."

"Classes are enjoyable and informative, teachers have all been good."



Follow your passion with Evening Classes including:

- Art and design
- Baking
- Barbering and hairdressing
- Beauty therapy
- Breadmaking
- Brickwork for home maintenance
- British Sign Language
- Cake decorating
- Conversational languages
- Cookery
- Creative writing
- Filmmaking
- Floristry
- Joinery for the home
- Painting and decorating for the home
- Photography
- Sound and music production
- Sewing and textiles
- Sports massage
- Wildlife gardening
- And more!

New for 2025/26

We've added **18** brand new evening courses this year including:

- An Introduction to AI (for Complete Beginners)
- Fine Dining
- Flavours of the World: Viva La Mexico!
- Traditional Afternoon Tea Masterclass
- Wedding Floristry

Course spotlight

Brush up on your DIY

Build your confidence and practical skills so you're ready to take on projects around your home. Choose from joinery, brickwork, painting and wallpapering, with basic-level courses available for beginners.

Celebrate the festive season

Get into the festive spirit this winter with wreath making and flower arranging, or try your hand at baking with our new festive cake decoration or home bakes classes.

Unleash your creativity

We have a range of art and design courses, for both beginners and improvers. Express your creative talents in watercolour, drawing, acrylic and oil painting, or photography classes.

Explore more than
100 Evening Class
options

nescol.ac.uk/evening

ONLINE LEARNING

We know flexibility is important to our students. Online learning offers the opportunity to develop new skills, build knowledge and gain qualifications in a range of different subject areas.

Courses are designed to fit around your lifestyle and commitments, developed using NESCol's extensive experience in this innovative and constantly evolving mode of study.

Online learners benefit from bespoke materials, developed by the College's subject specialists in conjunction with our highly-skilled remote learning and digital professionals.

MyNESCol, our intuitive virtual learning environment, provides the ideal platform for online learning courses and significant investment has been made by the College to ensure an engaging and user-friendly experience.

Many courses feature the support of a dedicated tutor, who will guide you through an individual learning plan, whilst others are designed solely to meet the needs of those wishing to self-study. Some courses do require on-campus assessment, which will be stated clearly in the course description.

Online learning represents an accessible and cost-effective way to upskill or reskill, at a pace that suits you. Learners tell us that the ability to build study schedules to suit their individual circumstances is one of the biggest advantages.

NESCol serves communities across more than 2,500 square miles and on-campus learning isn't an option for everyone. Learning from the comfort of your own home, workplace or a library or community space near to you is another major attraction.

We also deliver to students living and working outside of the region, including overseas, and everyone who falls under the College's wing receives the same care and attention. Access to NESCol's online advice and support services is all part of the package.



Online learning experience

What our students say:

"The online learning was set out clearly and easily. My tutor was fantastic."

"I enjoyed my course. It was a very good experience. I could do the work when it suited me."

"Enjoyed doing my Equality and Diversity courses online as I could do it at my own pace. This was new to me and I enjoyed it very much."



Learn flexibly with online learning courses including:

- Accounting
- Administration and business management skills
- Alcohol awareness
- Care and management of diabetes
- Counselling skills
- Customer service
- Dementia care
- Equality and diversity
- Food safety
- Health and safety
- Internet safety
- IT
- Leadership
- Marketing and social media for business
- Maths
- Mechanical and electrical engineering
- Mental and physical wellbeing
- Personal money management
- Prevent awareness
- Research skills
- Safeguarding
- Social care
- Understanding autism
- And more!

New for 2025/26

We've added **12** online courses this year including:

- Awareness of Bullying in Children and Young People
- Equality and Diversity
- Mathematics: Craft 2
- Preparing to Work in Adult Social Care
- The Principles of End of Life Care

Course spotlight

Expand your business skills

Build knowledge and skills in key areas with online courses designed to reflect today's workplace. Choose from certificates in business administration, the principles of team leading and customer service or study accounting and IT subjects including databases and spreadsheets.

Focus on health and safety

Our digital learning covers a wide range of health and safety related topics and qualifications, including the NEBOSH Health and Safety at Work Award and NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Health and Safety. Fire safety and DSE and COSHH risk assessments are also covered.

Discover a wealth of wellbeing options

Courses exploring mental and physical wellbeing are popular online choices. The principles of healthy eating and the principles of weight management are included, as well as individual programmes designed to build understanding and awareness of anxiety, depression and dementia.

**Choose from 150
online learning
options**

nescol.ac.uk/online

PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

In an ever-changing employment landscape, our range of in-person courses with a focus on professional and personal development are shaped to meet the needs of individuals and employers.

Whether you are aiming to upskill to expand your horizons in your current profession or reskill to change direction, NESCol can guide you on your chosen path.

For employers, our established courses provide an opportunity to develop knowledge and competency as well as introduce new techniques and technology.

NESCol works closely with businesses and trade organisations throughout the North East to ensure our courses and the qualifications on offer are tailored to the world of work. We're proud of our role in traditional industries and in emerging sectors.

Established courses are delivered in specialist facilities at the Aberdeen Altens, Aberdeen City and Fraserburgh campuses.



New for 2025/26

The Energy Transition Skills Hub

The new Energy Transition Skills Hub will be at the heart of the region's journey to net zero which opened in the summer of 2025.

ETZ Ltd is working with partners to deliver the project, which will be operated by NESCol. It has received funding support from the UK Government and Scottish Government's Just Transition Fund for the North East and Moray, ETZ, Shell UK and NESCol.

The new facility, the first of its kind in Scotland, is located adjacent to the College's existing Aberdeen Altens Campus and within the Skills Campus of the Energy Transition Zone.

The Hub will provide:

- Industry-leading workshops and flexible teaching spaces, shaped by the needs of employers.
- Cutting-edge equipment reflecting to the latest advancements in the energy sector and showcasing future technologies related to the likes of offshore wind, electric vehicles, hydrogen fuel, and carbon capture and storage.
- Expert-led learning and training, ensuring students are equipped with the knowledge, technical capability and experience integral to energy transition.
- Accessible training designed to suit the needs of individuals and employers, blending provision for full-time students with opportunities for upskilling and reskilling through part-time, evening and weekend programmes.
- Community spaces for use by local groups and organisations, supporting the ambitions for a just transition for the North East.

The Energy Transition Skills Hub will provide a range of learning options, from full-time courses to part-time programmes designed to equip the North East with a workforce ready to embrace opportunities in low carbon and renewable energy.

Visit www.nescol.ac.uk/energy-transition for the latest course information.

Build your skills with courses including:

- Barbering, hair and beauty
- Brickwork
- Carpentry and joinery
- Childhood practice
- Counselling
- Digital marketing and social media
- Electrical engineering
- English for speakers of other language
- Exam preparation
- Health and safety
- Higher and National 5 qualifications
- International Computer Driving Licence
- Mechanical and electrical engineering
- Measurement control
- Music and sound production
- Scottish Certificate for Personal Licence Holder
- Social care
- Welding

Professional development in focus

What our students say:

"The training was engaging, well-organised, and full of practical information that I'll carry forward in both my professional and personal life."

"NESCol's Presentation Skills course was a fantastic experience."

Course spotlight

Introduction to Counselling

Designed for those with no experience of counselling, students are introduced to the basic concepts and processes of the profession. Including a focus on reflective practice, the evening class is delivered at City Campus and is run in two parts to build a knowledge base. In addition, a separate counselling skills course is offered.

IT User Skills

Students work towards the International Certification of Digital Literacy (ICDL) Essentials award, with the option of progressing to the ICDL Core level. Formerly known as the European Computer Driving Licence, this internationally recognised qualification is a benchmark for IT skills in the workplace or for personal use.

PDA Childhood Practice

This part-time course is aimed at lead practitioners or managers who have met the standard for childhood practice as part of the registration process with the Scottish Social Services Council, or those aspiring to be lead practitioners or managers. Delivered over two years, the daytime course is delivered on a Thursday for the first year and on a Tuesday in year two.

Welding

Delivered through evening classes at our Fraserburgh Campus, students gain extensive practical experience of welding and on successful completion are awarded an SQA certificate. The course is suitable for all levels – from beginner to intermediate, up to coded standard, with the option to choose from MIG,TIG or MMA processes.

**More than 100
courses to
discover**

***nescol.ac.uk/
professional-development***



Funding options

Funding is dependent upon your chosen course and/or your personal circumstances. There are a number of funding options available which could help you fund part or all of your course cost.

Funding options for part-time courses include:

- SAAS part-time fee grant – applies to HNC or HND courses only
- Education Maintenance Allowance – for those aged 16-19 studying non-advanced courses
- Remission of Fees (Fee Waiver) – your course may be free if you are not a full time student with NESCol and you are in receipt of benefits
- Find out more at nescol.ac.uk/part-time-funding

Funding options for online courses include:

- Remission of Fees (Fee Waiver)

Find out more at
nescol.ac.uk/online-learning-funding

Funding can be confusing so please contact a student advisor to discuss your options based on your individual circumstances.

Email: studentadvice@nescol.ac.uk or call 01224 612330

Things you should know

Fees

The College reserves the right to amend fees/prices chargeable without giving prior notice.

Fee rates quoted online do not apply in the case of any individual who does not meet residential criteria relating to 'home status'. The basic criteria are that you must be ordinarily resident in Scotland on the start date of the course, have lived in the UK for the last three years, and have no restrictions on your right to stay in the UK. Any applicant unable to fulfil these criteria should state this at the time of booking so they can pay the non-subsidised fee rate that applies in these cases.

Applicants who are not entitled to pay 'home' fee rates are advised that they must pay the overseas fee rate to be entitled to take up a place on the course.

The conditions relating to residence are complex and an enquiry in this respect may be referred to the College's Student Advice Centre.

Extra costs

SQA Unit and Group Award Costs for Higher National Qualifications
All SQA Higher National qualifications are subject to an administration fee as follows:

- HN Unit £14
- HNC Group Award £114.25
- HND Group Award £137.50

Students undertaking individual Higher National units on a stand-alone basis must pay the additional HN unit fee at time of booking.

Students undertaking an HNC/D through Online must pay the Group Award charge when booking the final unit of the qualification or earlier if preferred. Students will then receive a Group Award Certificate on completion of all required units.

For all part time HNC/D courses, which are typically campus or centre based, this charge is included in the Year 1 cost of the course.

Miscellaneous

Examination entry fees may be payable for certain courses later in the session. Details are available from the class tutor.

A charge may be made for materials used by students on part-time programmes.

Important booking information

Courses are offered subject to sufficient numbers of bookings and the availability of resources.

The College reserves the right not to run courses where numbers are insufficient or where resources are not available.

A course fee is payable upon booking and this should be confirmed with the College at this time. Fees are only refundable up to 14 days before the course starts and if the course does not run.

If you do take up a place on a College course, at the start of the course you will be asked to enrol. By completing the enrolment you will enter into a contract with the College and be bound by the North East Scotland College Standard Terms and Conditions of Study.

Additional Information:

For Asylum Seekers/Visa holders with restrictions

If you have any restrictions on taking up employment or seeking benefits in the UK, then you may not be eligible to make an online application.

If you are not sure, please supply a photocopy of your most recent Home Office documentation (or stamp on your passport), confirming your status to remain in the UK, along with your application.

For Forces Personnel

Under the temporary non-resident arrangements, forces personnel are treated as being resident at the establishment where they are based. If they are ordinarily resident* in Scotland but are serving overseas, they would be eligible.

* Ordinarily resident means that you live in Scotland year after year by choice, apart from temporary or occasional absences such as holidays or business trips. Living here totally or mainly for the purpose of receiving full-time education may not count as being ordinarily resident.

If you are not a UK national, you must be settled in Scotland (as set out in the Immigration Act 1971) immediately before the date on which you made your application.