NORTH EAST
SCOTLAND
COLLEGE

BRINGING
LEARNING
TO LIFE

prospectus 26/27

welcome to NESCol

We take pride in supporting every student to achieve success in education, employment, and beyond.

At NESCol, we provide a vibrant, engaging, and supportive environment for every learner. Whether you're joining straight from school or returning to college to retrain or upskill, exciting opportunities are waiting for you.

With industry-standard facilities and strong partnerships with employers and universities, we bring learning to life and help you take the next step toward a rewarding career. Our experienced and dedicated staff create an inclusive atmosphere where every individual can achieve their ambitions.

Applications for courses starting in August 2026 are open now. We will be hosting our spring open day on 14 March 2026, providing an opportunity to meet with our subject specialists and explore the campuses.

We look forward to welcoming you to NESCol and supporting you every step of the way. Join us and take the first step toward a future full of possibilities.

Neil Cowie
Principal and Chief Executive

course contents

**VIEW OUR COURSES
& APPLY ONLINE**

nescol.ac.uk/courses

opportunities for all

NESCol is one of Scotland's leading providers of vocational education, offering an extensive range of courses across diverse subject areas.

Whatever your starting point, there's a course to match your ability and experience – from introductory programmes to advanced qualifications. Our curriculum is constantly evolving to reflect industry needs, ensuring students gain the skills and knowledge that employers value most.

Aberdeen Altens

Aberdeen City

Fraserburgh

Scottish Maritime Academy

4 LOCATIONS

18 SUBJECT AREAS

130 FULL-TIME COURSES
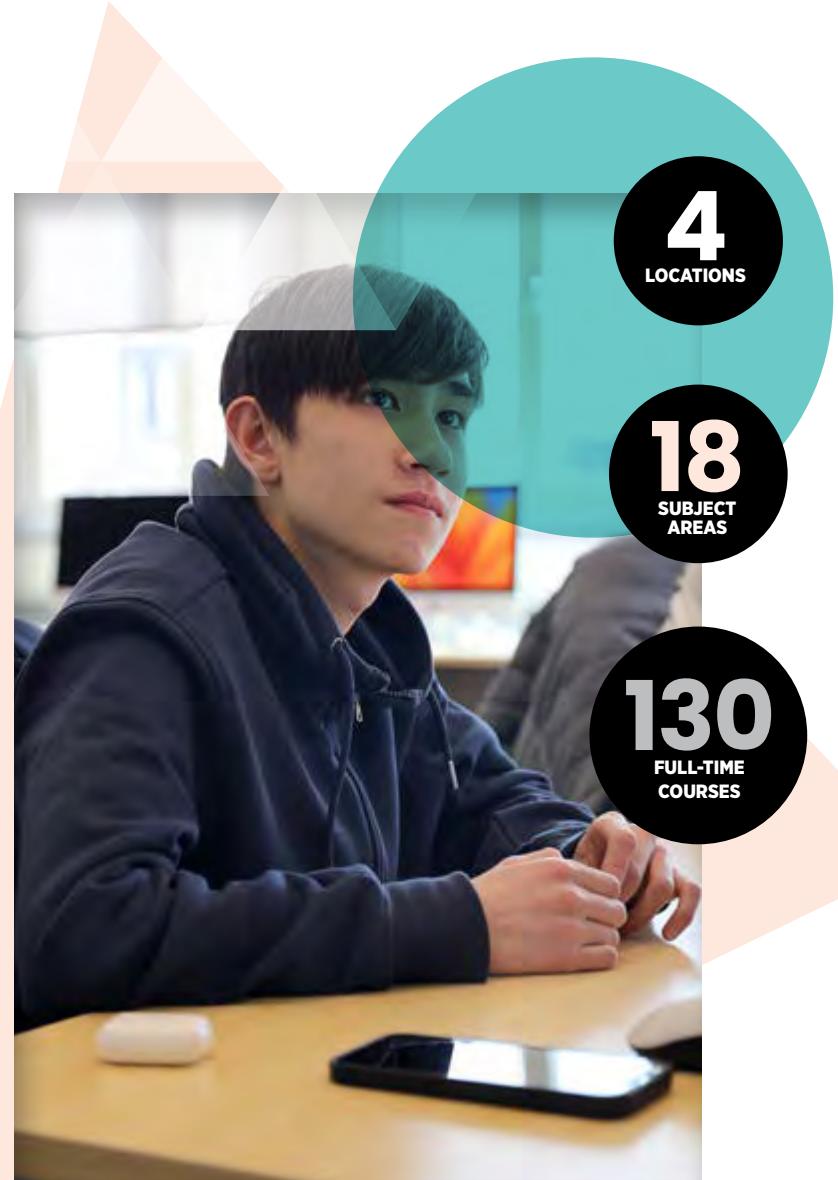
Access excellent student support

Student support is at the heart of everything we do. Our friendly, dedicated Student Advice Centre and Student Support teams provide expert guidance on a wide range of topics – from funding and international student advice to personal wellbeing and career planning. We also offer additional learning support to help every student succeed. Beyond this, you'll have access to a variety of services designed to make your college experience positive and rewarding, ensuring you feel supported every step of the way.

Making learning fit around your life

We understand that flexibility matters. That's why NESCol offers a wide range of options to fit around your life – from online learning and part-time study to full-time courses. Most full-time programmes involve around 18 hours in class each week, giving you plenty of time to balance study with part-time work, family, and other commitments. Some courses may require more, and our subject specialists are always on hand to provide guidance and help you find the right fit.

Embrace the College experience

Equality and inclusion are at the heart of everything we do. Our Respect commitment ensures every student, staff member, and visitor feels welcome and valued in an environment free from harassment and discrimination. Each campus is a vibrant, diverse, and safe space where you can learn, grow, and thrive. Discover more about how we create a positive and inclusive experience for all at:

nescol.ac.uk/respect

GIVE · GET · GROW
RESPECT

MORE THAN
35%
OF NORTH EAST SCHOOL LEAVERS CHOOSE NESCOL FOR THEIR NEXT STEP

MOST FULL-TIME COURSES ARE AROUND
18
HOURS EACH WEEK

bringing learning to life, at inspiring campuses

Step inside NESCol and unlock your potential. Behind every door is a world of opportunity - from inspiring creative studios to the buzz of professional kitchens, vibrant hair and beauty salons, and the energy of construction and engineering workshops. Explore welcoming study spaces, social hubs, and so much more.

Bridge Simulators

From the calm waters of Singapore to the unforgiving seas of the North East, students experience the full spectrum of maritime challenges. At the Scottish Maritime Academy, our bridge simulators deliver a realistic, hands-on experience that prepares future seafarers for life at sea.

Construction Workshops

From replica home heating systems and circuit rigs for plumbing and electrical engineering students to full-scale interiors for painting and decorating, as well as dedicated joinery and brickwork workshops, our Altens and Fraserburgh campuses offer realistic, hands-on training spaces. These immersive environments bring construction disciplines to life, ensuring students gain practical experience that mirrors industry conditions.

Future Skills Zone

Thanks to generous donations from a local benefactor, Fraserburgh Campus boasts state-of-the-art learning spaces at its heart. These dynamic areas are designed to showcase the cutting-edge technologies shaping key industries across the region. Students gain hands-on experience with robotics, 3D printing, drones, virtual reality, and renewable energy engineering, equipping them with the skills to thrive in the industries of tomorrow.

Gate 63

Located at our City Campus, Gate 63 is a contemporary training restaurant renowned for culinary creativity and exceptional service, where our talented students put theory into practice in the professional kitchens and front-of-house. Open to the public, Gate 63 is the perfect place to enjoy a quality dining experience while supporting future hospitality professionals.

The Basement Theatre

Step into our theatre at City Campus – a space where creativity takes centre stage. With a capacity of over 100, it hosts an exciting range of shows each year and, most importantly, gives students the perfect environment to master performance and production skills.

Complemented by music rehearsal rooms, sound production suites, and TV and radio studios, this is where talent thrives and futures are shaped.

The Salon and In:tuition

Hair and beauty students at our Fraserburgh and City campuses enjoy access to exceptional facilities designed to help them perfect their craft. Each campus features professional salons that welcome the public in relaxing, stylish environments equipped with the latest industry-standard technology – ensuring students stay ahead in a fast-moving sector.
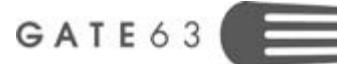
bringing learning to life, through industry experts

Dedicated, enthusiastic, and industry-experienced teaching staff guide students through every stage of their chosen course.

Engaging classroom sessions, innovative practical experiences and access to wide-ranging online resources bring learning to life for our students and provide a strong launch pad to future careers. Our supportive learning environment is designed to bring out the best in every individual, helping NESCol students achieve their full potential.

Art, Photography and Floristry Studios

From art and textile workrooms to photography studios, our facilities at City and Fraserburgh campuses boast vibrant learning spaces, all kitted out with the latest industry equipment, tools and resources.

Engaging Spaces Care Professions

Both our City and Fraserburgh campuses have dedicated childcare, health and social care facilities with materials and learning tools that help students make the transition from the classroom to the workplace. We also have a replica care ward at City Campus, complete with hospital beds and specialist mannequins, where our students can learn.

Science Laboratories

Our labs at City and Fraserburgh campuses are a hive of activity, where practical work sits at the core of the curriculum. Equipment includes cloud chambers, flame tubes, fluorescence spectrometers, hydrogen and biotechnology systems, and a wide range of advanced instruments. Students can expect hands-on opportunities to develop their skills and deepen their knowledge.

Engineering Zones

At Altens and Fraserburgh campuses our students learn in surroundings that replicate the world of work - from automotive workshops to electrical circuit rigs and unrivalled professional welding facilities. A major focus is on developing the College's resources dedicated to energy transition – Altens is home to the Energy Transition Skills Hub and Fraserburgh has the Future Skills Workshop.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS HUB

FutureSkills WORKSHOP

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS HUB

helping to deliver net zero

This new £10million facility opened in the summer of 2025 and is driving the region's journey to net zero. The Energy Transition Skills Hub was founded by ETZ Ltd, Shell UK and NESCol with support from the Scottish Government's Just Transition Fund and UK Government funding. The largest of its kind in Scotland, the facility expands the Aberdeen Altens Campus and provides industry-leading workshops and flexible teaching spaces, cutting-edge equipment and expert-led learning and training, ensuring students are equipped with the knowledge, technical capability and experience needed for energy transition.

Energy on the Move

As part of the Energy Transition Skills Hub project, our Energy on the Move vehicle is journeying across the North East of Scotland, providing inspiration for the energy transition. Housing the 'Net Zero Challenge', the vehicle expands into a classroom, providing a unique learning experience for school pupils and other community groups.

The NESCol Esports Hub

Our Esports Hubs are an exciting addition at both our City and Fraserburgh campuses, providing the next generation of Esports stars with an exciting opportunity to develop their skills. The facilities include high specification gaming PCs and large screen displays to aid teaching.

getting started

Our aim is to make securing a place at NESCol as straightforward as possible.

Expert teams are available to provide advice and guidance on every stage of the application process and we've mapped out exactly what to expect. You can find a quick guide to applying on page 20.

Applications are accepted right through to the start of each session, but courses can fill up quickly so we always advise applying as soon as you are ready. We stay connected with applicants every step of the way, making sure you have all the information you need to start your journey at NESCol, and because every applicant is unique, we provide impartial and confidential advice tailored to your needs. Our support covers a wide range of topics, including:

- Application and course advice
- Funding applications and queries
- International admissions
- Additional support for learning
- Key skills and study support
- Health and wellbeing
- Money management
- University progression
- Employability and careers advice
- Support for care-experienced and estranged students.

We also have support available 24/7 via our online assistant, NOVA.

NOVA can answer your queries about NESCol quickly, and complements the support provided by our Student Advice Centre team, particularly useful during evenings and weekends.

With a Student Advice Centre at each of our main campuses, advisors are available in person or to talk to using email and phone.

Tel: 01224 612704
Email: studentadvice@nescol.ac.uk

funding

Funding is an important consideration when joining NESCol. Most full-time students receive funding to cover their course tuition fees, and you may also qualify for help with living and travel costs. Additional assistance, such as childcare support and discretionary funding for those facing financial hardship, is available depending on your circumstances.

Visit:

nescol.ac.uk/full-time-funding for details on the full range of funding options. The Student Information Scotland website also includes a funding checker and detailed information on eligibility requirements: **www.studentinformation.gov.scot**

bringing learning to life, with our resources

As a NESCol student, you'll enjoy access to a wide range of resources and facilities designed to support your studies and help you get the most out of college life.

Office 365:

As a NESCol student, you'll benefit from free access to Microsoft Office 365, including essential applications like Word, Excel, and PowerPoint. You'll also have access to communication tools such as Teams as well as OneDrive cloud storage for secure file sharing and backup.

IT HelpZone:

Run by our computing students, our helpdesks at each campus provide friendly, professional assistance with a wide range of IT issues. Drop in for support or get help via email and phone - swift solutions are always the priority.

Bring Your Own Device:

NESCol embraces digital opportunities to make learning flexible and interactive. Many courses include online elements, and some may require access to a personal device. Our Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiative supports this approach, helping you stay connected and productive wherever you are. If you don't have the equipment you need, funding options may be available to ensure you can fully participate in your studies.

MyNESCol:

MyNESCol is your one-stop platform for essential tools and information. It includes the virtual learning environment (VLE), giving you access to your course area, learning materials, and resources. It's also a space for collaboration, where groups can chat and work together online.

In the MyNESCol Life section, you can:
• **View your timetable** • **Manage absences**
• **Stay up to date with the latest news and announcements**

MyNESCol is accessible via any web browser or through the Android and Apple apps, so you can stay connected wherever you are.

Libraries:

Our libraries at Altens, City, and Fraserburgh campuses offer a wide range of resources for both study and leisure. From subject-specific books and journals to the latest fiction releases, there's something for everyone.

Each library also features a Digital Skills Space, providing a welcoming environment for study and digital learning. Whether you need a quiet spot to focus or access to online tools, our libraries are here to support you.

what our students say

At NESCol, one of our priorities is to listen to what our students have to say so that we can make sure your college experience is the best it can be.

During your time as a student with us, you may have the opportunity to put yourself forward as a class rep, take part in a focus group or complete online surveys.

One of these is the NESCol First Impressions Survey which full-time students are invited to complete a few weeks after starting their course. More than 5,000 students responded in autumn 2025 and we're delighted with the results!

"Facilities are great, staff are amazing, College has exceeded my expectations"

"On my first day I was a bit nervous because of the new city, new college, and new people but the staff were very welcoming and friendly, they helped me find everything."

NESCOL FIRST IMPRESSIONS SURVEY
MORE THAN
5,000
students responded
AUTUMN 2025

> **"Coming to NESCol was the best decision I've ever made."**

> **I liked being able to expand my knowledge of childcare and experience what it was like to work in a nursery setting.**

**Abbie & Aimee McKay
HNC Childhood Practice**

When we asked students about their introduction to NESCol, the warmth of the welcome and support from staff shone through.

Staff are on hand to welcome students to campus at the start of each academic year and to help everyone find their way.

With an Academic Tutor assigned to every full-time student, there's a friendly face from day one to guide you during your time with us.

There's advice available throughout the summer for anyone keen to find out more about what to expect and to help with the transition to College.

> **NESCol is a fantastic place to learn. Lecturers are supportive and knowledgeable, facilities are great. In my experience, everyone feels included, respected, and I feel we all enjoy the positive and nurturing atmosphere."**

Read our student stories

nescol.ac.uk/stories

bringing learning to life, across the North East

NESCol's has campuses across the North East of Scotland, so wherever you are, you're never far from high-quality learning opportunities and support.

Most full-time courses take place at our Altens, City, and Fraserburgh campuses. We also have the Scottish Maritime Academy in Peterhead, a specialist centre of excellence. All campuses have great transport links, including College buses to our Fraserburgh campus, and feature dedicated learning spaces. You'll also find a range of facilities, such as: **Advice and support services • IT assistance and libraries • Study areas, fitness suites, catering outlets and social spaces • Student kitchens for preparing your own food and drinks.**

Altens Campus

600+ STUDENTS

FITNESS SUITE

2 CAFÉS

QUIET & SOCIAL AREAS

City Campus

4,000+ STUDENTS

FITNESS SUITE

4 CAFÉS

QUIET & SOCIAL AREAS

Fraserburgh Campus

1000+ STUDENTS

FITNESS SUITE

2 CAFÉS

QUIET & SOCIAL AREAS

Altens, City and Fraserburgh campuses feature: I.T. HELPZONE   LIBRARY   NESCol Students' Association   STUDENT ADVICE CENTRE

scottish maritime academy

A centre of excellence of NORTH EAST SCOTLAND COLLEGE

Located by Peterhead Marina, the Scottish Maritime Academy leads the way in training for the Merchant Navy, standby and supply sector, and fishing industry. It offers courses for both new entrants and experienced mariners from across the UK and beyond.

The Academy is equipped with high-spec teaching resources and specialist maritime equipment, creating realistic training scenarios in a secure environment. Learners can:

• Gain hands-on experience in the net hall
• Build communication skills in the radio room
• Experience life on the bridge using the full Wartsila bridge simulator.

nescol.ac.uk/sma

40 YEARS MARITIME TRAINING EXPERIENCE

250 METRES PROXIMITY TO PORT

our commitment to a greener future

NESCol is proud to play a key role in the skills revolution driving the energy transition in the North East and beyond. We're preparing a workforce for a new era while reducing our own carbon footprint.
Our goal? To become a net zero college by 2035.

Here's how we're making it happen:
• 95% landfill diversion rate
• Electric charging points and zero-emission vehicles
• Tree planting and major solar energy projects
• Recycling initiatives and compostable catering materials.

Sustainability is at the heart of everything we do, creating a greener, vibrant future for our region and everyone we serve.

nescol.ac.uk/sustainability

AIM TO BE net zero BY 2035

Read our pledge

bringing learning to life, with new experiences

Students' Association

Run by students, for students, the Students' Association leads events, activities, and initiatives across NESCol. It also supports anyone who wants to start their own clubs or societies - from music and sport to politics, there's something for everyone. The SA plays a key role in representing the student voice, and there are plenty of opportunities to get involved in leadership roles.

Go Celebrate!

Celebrating Student Success. Every year, NESCol shines a spotlight on student achievements through the Go Celebrate! Awards. Students and staff can nominate across a range of categories, making it a true community celebration. This is just one of many exciting events on the NESCol calendar, alongside opportunities to take part in regional and national competitions.

Showcasing student creativity

We love to celebrate the creativity of our students! From photography exhibitions and art shows to theatre productions and music showcases, there's always something happening on campus and through partnerships with local venues. Each May and June, the Luminate Festival brings together a vibrant mix of creative events, giving our students the chance to shine.

Freshers' Week

The College year starts with Freshers' Week – a chance to settle into new surroundings and find out more about College life. In addition to promoting opportunities within NESCol, we also invite specially selected external exhibitors to join the week and to share information and offers with students.

Sparkle winter festival

In December, the College community joins together for a month of fun and fundraising, with a packed festive programme. In 2024 the events raised thousands of pounds for The Student Pantry, a NESCol Students' Association initiative designed to combat food insecurity among students by offering free store cupboard goods and other essentials. A free Breakfast Club is also run by the Students' Association.

Graduation

Each year, NESCol hosts graduation ceremonies in Aberdeen and Fraserburgh to celebrate students completing their Modern Apprenticeship, HNC, HND, or equivalent qualifications. These events are a highlight of the year—an inspiring occasion for graduates to share their achievements with classmates, family and friends.
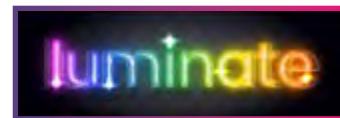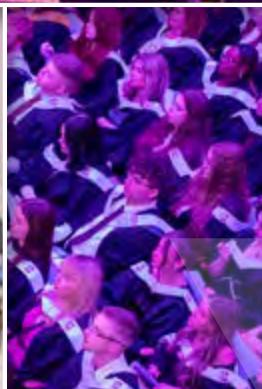
bringing learning to thousands of lives

Each year, around 6,000 students join our full-time courses.

In total, we support more than 20,000 learners at any given time through part-time study, online and distance learning, school-college partnerships, and our role within the apprenticeship network.

Support Networks and Events

Support is at the heart of our student-centred approach. We offer a wide range of initiatives, including tailored support for care-experienced students and student carers. Practical advice is available to all students through sessions such as 'Hack Your Studies'. Students can also benefit from university transition workshops, career events, and free access to wellbeing resources and advice via Spectrum.Life, a platform offering 24/7 online mental health support.

Modern Apprenticeships

A Modern Apprenticeship provides anyone aged 16 or over with the opportunity to gain industry-recognised qualifications while working. Apprenticeships come in many forms and typically last between two and four years. To enrol, individuals must be employed.

Discover the full range of opportunities at **nescol.ac.uk/apprenticeships**

DFN Project Search

This one-year internship programme is based on an international model that originated in the USA and helps young people with additional needs gain skills and experience to move into employment. It is a collaborative initiative between NESCol, the University of Aberdeen, and Values Into Action Scotland, supported by Skills Development Scotland.

To find out about eligibility for this course, email **dfnprojectsearchuoa@abdn.ac.uk** or scan the QR code.

Part-time, Online Learning & Distance Learning

We offer a wide range of flexible learning options. From leisure courses that let you explore fun and exciting activities with expert tuition, to opportunities for upskilling or retraining for career change or progression, there's something for everyone. Our growing distance learning programme provides an extensive selection of online courses designed for personal and professional development.

nescol.ac.uk/part-time-and-distance-learning

Workforce Development

We provide tailored support for employers alongside a well-established range of courses designed to meet the needs of both traditional and emerging sectors across the region. NESCol offers a variety of training services to help businesses grow and succeed.

nescol.ac.uk/workforce-development

School-College Partnerships

For many students, the journey with NESCol begins before they start a full-time course. Through strong links with North East secondary schools, we offer a wide range of courses at various levels for pupils in S4, S5, and S6 across Aberdeen and Aberdeenshire. Alongside Foundation Apprenticeships, pupils can work towards qualifications awarded by City & Guilds and the SQA.

nescol.ac.uk/school-college

Full-time

Part-time

Online Learning

School-college Partnerships

Apprenticeships

your route to employment

At NESCol, our courses do more than deliver qualifications – they open doors.

A Scottish Funding Council study revealed that 91% of college leavers in Scotland progress to positive destinations, including employment and university.

NESCol is proud to play a key role in that success, working closely with employers and industry bodies to ensure our courses meet sector needs. With strong links to businesses locally, nationally and internationally, we have a proven track record of helping talented graduates take the next step in their careers.

NESCol keeps learning dynamic and connected to the real world. Our courses evolve with the latest industry trends, ensuring students benefit from innovative teaching and practical experiences. Strong partnerships with employers bring guest speakers into classrooms, create opportunities for special projects, and open doors to field trips that enrich learning.

We also champion enterprise skills and inspire entrepreneurial thinking. Many of our students have gone on to launch successful businesses, creating jobs and driving growth across diverse industries.

"

Studying at NESCol played an important part in shaping my career path. The course gave me a solid understanding of key topics such as customer service, air travel tour operations and marketing principles.

**Gemma Cruickshank
HND Travel & Tourism**

MORE THAN

91%

OF STUDENTS
PROGRESS TO POSITIVE
DESTINATIONS

nescol.ac.uk/stories

pathways to university

Achievements at NESCol lay the foundations for exciting futures. For many students, that next step is university – and we make the transition seamless.

Each year, hundreds of NESCol graduates progress to degree-level study, supported by strong articulation agreements with RGU, the University of Aberdeen, and institutions across Scotland. These pathways allow students completing an HNC or HND to enter directly into year two or three of a degree course. In fact, a recent study found that over 55% of Scottish college leavers with qualifications at SCQF Level 7 or above continue their studies at university. With more than 50 established links to RGU alone, NESCol ensures your journey from college to university is smooth and successful.

NESCol and RGU have joined forces to make the journey from college to university as smooth as possible.

Through the Degree Link programme, students can begin their studies in NESCol's supportive environment and progress to university when ready. This pathway offers clear routes: completing an HNC typically leads to entry into year two of a degree, while an HND can open the door to year three. Some courses may have specific requirements, such as selected options, a portfolio, or an interview with an RGU tutor.

nescol.ac.uk/university-links

Associate universities

NESCol has a number of associate universities, and you will find that every HND course offers formal articulation arrangements.

Our associate universities are:
Abertay University
Edinburgh Napier University
Glasgow Caledonian University
Queen Margaret University
Robert Gordon University (RGU)
The Open University
University of Aberdeen
**University of the Highlands and Islands**

Look out for the Degree Link badge on course descriptions, showing routes to RGU degree programmes.

As a NESCol student you can join the RGU Associate Student scheme, bringing a number of benefits.

MORE THAN
55%
OF STUDENTS GO ON TO STUDY AT UNIVERSITY

DEGREE LINK

ROBERT GORDON UNIVERSITY ABERDEEN

admissions procedure

How does it work?

Find your course

Visit our website **www.nescol.ac.uk** and decide which course you'd like to study.

Entry requirements

Do you meet the entry requirements for this course or are you working towards them?

YES

NO

Apply online

Excellent! Apply online now*. (Current students enrolled on Year 1 of an HND will have an application processed on their behalf by our Admissions team.)
For further information on how to complete your application visit the 'How to apply' section on our website. Please apply using your personal email address rather than a school email account, so we can keep in touch with you about your application after you have left school.
*A paper application can be submitted

Acknowledgement

You'll receive an acknowledgement of your application within 24 hours*. If we need further information from you or want to invite you for an interview, we'll be in touch within 6 weeks. Interviews may be in person on campus or online via Teams.
*For paper applications this will be within 5 working days

You've been invited for an interview. Don't worry! It's more of an informal chat so our curriculum staff can find out if the course you have applied for is the best option for you. It's also a chance for you to ask questions about the course and studying at NESCol. Remember to bring any documentation you've been asked to take along and give yourself plenty time to get to campus if your interview is in person.

Interview

Guidance

Explore alternatives on our website or contact our Student Advice Centre to talk about the best route for you. We're confident we have a course to suit everyone.

Sometimes our Admissions team can make you an offer straight away. This is often the case for current students progressing between course levels.

The course you've applied for is at High Demand

Some of our courses attract more applications than places available. When this happens we hold your details on our waiting list and should spaces become available we'll let you know. You are welcome to withdraw your application for that course and apply for an alternative. Please contact **enquiry@nescol.ac.uk** to do so.

Waiting list

What happens next?

Interview

↓

You'll be notified of the outcome of your interview within 10 working days.

You will either be:

Made a full (unconditional) offer

Congratulations! Accept your offer to confirm your place on the course.

OR

Made a conditional offer

Your place on the course is dependent on achieving exams or successfully completing your current NESCol course. For those sitting exams (e.g. SQA Nationals, Highers at school) we'll let you know how to share those with us nearer results day (4 August 2026).

Not offered a place? Our curriculum team may recommend an alternative course or an advisor from our Student Advice Centre will be in touch to discuss your options.

Alternative course

We'll keep in touch with you over the coming months via our regular Applicant Update emails where we will share useful information on funding, student support, key events, enrolment and more. Please keep an eye out for these.

bringing learning to life, in the way that's right for you

NESCol provides levels and modes of study that offer unparalleled flexibility.

At NESCol, we make sure every student starts at the right level to succeed. Our team works closely with applicants to match them to the most suitable course, giving them the best chance to achieve their goals. Most subjects offer options at both non-advanced and advanced levels (HNC and HND), each with clear progression routes to further qualifications or employment.

Every full-time course in this guide includes its Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) level for quick reference. The SCQF Framework supports lifelong learning in Scotland, helping learners, employers, and the public understand how qualifications connect and build on each other. Explore the interactive SCQF Framework online to see where your journey can take you.

scqf.org.uk

scqf®
scottish credit and
qualifications framework

SCQF LEVELS	SQA QUALIFICATIONS			QUALIFICATIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS	APPRENTICESHIPS & SVQS
SCQF 12			Professional Development Award	Doctoral Degree	Professional Apprenticeship
SCQF 11			Professional Development Award	Integrated Masters Degree, Masters Degree, Post Graduate Certificate, Post Graduate Diploma	Graduate Apprenticeship, Professional Apprenticeship, SVQ
SCQF 10			Professional Development Award	Honours Degree, Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma	Graduate Apprenticeship, Professional Apprenticeship, SVQ
SCQF 9			Professional Development Award	Bachelors / Ordinary Degree, Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma	Graduate Apprenticeship, SVQ, Technical Apprenticeship
SCQF 8	Advanced Diploma	Higher National Diplomas	Professional Development Award	Diploma of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship, SVQ, Technical Apprenticeship
SCQF 7	Advanced Higher, Scottish Baccalaureate, Awards	Advanced Certificate, Higher National Certificate	Professional Development Award	Certificate of Higher Education	Foundation Apprenticeship, Modern Apprenticeship, SVQ
SCQF 6	Higher, Awards, Skills for Work Higher	National Certificate	National Progression Award, Professional Development Award		Foundation Apprenticeship, Modern Apprenticeship, SVQ
SCQF 5	National 5, Awards, Skills for Work National 5	National Certificate	National Progression Award		Modern Apprenticeship, SVQ
SCQF 4	National 4, Awards, Skills for Work National 4	National Certificate	National Progression Award		SVQ
SCQF 3	National 3, Awards, Skills for Work National 3	National Certificate	National Progression Award		
SCQF 2	National 2, Awards	National Certificate	National Progression Award		
SCQF 1	National 1, Awards				

On the SWAP course, I found myself thriving in a way I never had before!

**Peter Shaw
Access to Nursing (SWAP)**

Choosing the right course starts with understanding what's needed.

At NESCol, entry requirements are clearly outlined alongside each course description to help you make an informed decision. Where Highers are listed, this refers to SQA Higher awards at any grade from A to D.

Returning to education? Don't worry – if you don't have the listed qualifications, we also consider life and work experience. Examples could include paid employment, voluntary work, or caring responsibilities. Other activities that demonstrate your skills and enthusiasm will be taken into account. We accept equivalent qualifications too, including those awarded before National 4s, National 5s, and Highers were introduced, as well as qualifications from England, Wales, Northern Ireland, Ireland, and beyond.

Equivalent qualifications can be explored on the SQA website:

scqf.org.uk

course contents

VIEW OUR
COURSES
& APPLY ONLINE

nescol.ac.uk/courses

NESCol's studios are a hub of creativity and imagination.

Our experienced lecturers will support you with the tools and techniques to develop your artistic style and build a portfolio for further study or a creative career. For many of our courses, we collaborate with local communities and industry.

This gives you the chance to work on real client briefs and participate in exhibitions and excursions.

Whatever your aspirations, we're here to help you discover and develop your talent.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/art

art, design & photography

Fashion & Textiles, Visual Communication, Animation & Floristry

Introduction to Art & Design

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00008 (City)
C00152 (Fraserburgh)

This introductory course is a great starting point if you have little experience with art and design. Get hands-on with a range of creative disciplines including drawing and painting, printmaking, mixed media, and 2D and 3D design. Develop your own sketchbook and mood boards, and enhance your artistic skills and understanding with an introduction to art and design history.

Entry Requirements

- Four National 4 passes preferably including Art and English/ Communication
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

Art & Design Portfolio Building

SCQF LEVEL 6

Course code:
C00009 (City)
C00150 (Fraserburgh)

Build a solid portfolio of art and design work, showcasing your skills and techniques. You'll experiment with creative disciplines including analytical and developmental drawing, composition and painting, mixed media applications and printmaking, 3D design and construction techniques, and digital design applications. You will also develop your understanding of social and cultural impacts on art and design in historical and contemporary settings.

Entry Requirements

- Four National 5 passes including Art & Design and English/ Communication
- Or appropriate SCQF Level 5 course.

HNC Art & Design

SCQF LEVEL 7

Course code:
C00147 (Fraserburgh)

Strengthen and refine your art and design expertise in 2D areas using a range of media and techniques. You'll grow your understanding of analysis and concept development, learning research and professional presentation skills. Your lecturers will also explain historical, contemporary and social issues relevant to art and design practice.

Entry Requirements

- One Higher in Art & Design and one National 5 in English, plus recent examples of art or design work that demonstrate an appropriate skill level
- Or appropriate SCQF Level 6 course
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND Contemporary Art Practice

Course code:
C00006 (City)

Develop your skillset of specialist art and design disciplines and produce an advanced portfolio for university or employment. This course allows you to refine your individual practice in relation to your personal interests, explore the work of 20th and 21st century artists and designers, and enhance your investigative and research skills. You'll also participate in external exhibitions and conclude your course presenting your work at NESCol's End of Year Show.

Entry Requirements

• Two Highers including Art & Design and preferably English/ Communication, plus a portfolio for review
• Or appropriate SCQF Level 6 course
• A portfolio from employment or personal creative practice may be considered.

SCQF LEVEL 6

Fashion and Textiles: Design & Manufacture

Course code:
C00010 (City)

This course introduces the skills required to design and manufacture garments in the fast-paced fashion industry. Learn fashion and textile design, garment design and construction, surface decoration, mixed media drawing for design, and hand and machine sewing. Each year culminates in a fashion show, and you'll build a portfolio of work ready to advance to HND level.

Entry Requirements

• Four National 5 passes including Art & Design and English/ Communication
• Or appropriate SCQF Level 5 course
• Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND Textiles with Fashion Design

Course code:
C00007 (City)

Learn how to design textiles and produce garments using advanced techniques and a range of materials. Our lecturers will guide you through topics that will help you develop your own original concepts such as hand and machine embroidery; dyeing, knitting and weaving; fashion design; pattern cutting and manufacture. This course includes a creative project, and you'll also get the chance to take part in exhibitions and events, such as the End of Year Fashion Show.

Entry Requirements

• Two Highers including Art & Design and preferably English/ Communication
• Or appropriate SCQF Level 6 course
• Relevant life skills and experience may allow entry.

Fashion Business

SCQF LEVEL 8

Course code:
C00011 (City)

Whether you want to work in high street or high-end fashion, this course is the perfect introduction to the business and management side of the fashion industry. You'll cover topics including merchandising, buying, styling, range planning, and forecasting for the latest trends. As well as gaining essential employment skills, you'll learn about key roles in the industry to guide your own progression to further study or work.

Entry Requirements

• At least four National 5 passes
• Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

HNC Fashion Business

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 7

Course code:
C00004 (City)

This course will prepare you for progression to university or a career in the business side of the exciting fashion and retail industry. Our lecturers will engage you in topics including fashion marketing, retailing, branding, public relations (PR) and communication. You'll develop creative approaches for customer relations, and an understanding of merchandising, fashion forecasting and range planning, buying and business management.

Entry Requirements

• Two Highers preferably including English/Communication
• Or appropriate SCQF Level 6 course
• Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

Photography Portfolio Building

SCQF LEVEL 6

Course code:
C00028 (City)

A portfolio is key if you're looking to progress to further levels of study or secure an entry-level role in the photography industry. In this course, you'll explore different styles of photography including portraiture, still life, reportage, urban and environment. You'll also learn photography essentials including darkroom, video and digital editing skills.

Entry Requirements

• Four National 5 passes preferably including Art & Design and English/ Communication
• Or appropriate SCQF Level 5 course
• Relevant life skills and experience, or a portfolio, may be considered.

HND Photography

Course code:
C00023 (City)

Develop advanced photographic skills and make the most of our excellent facilities and industry-standard equipment. You'll explore a diverse range of photographic styles including studio still life, applied scientific, documentary, corporate, fashion and portraiture. Gain a true insight into the photography industry with visits to professional studios in London and Europe's largest photographic fair in Paris.

Entry Requirements
- Two Highers including Art & Design, English or Photography
- Or appropriate SCQF Level 6 course
- Relevant life skills and experience, or a portfolio, may be considered
- Advanced entry to year 2 with 15 credits from HNC Photography.

Filmcraft & Animation

Course code:
C00018 (City)

This course is a great introduction to the flexible skills you need for the film and animation industries. Learn all about animation, video production and post-production, and sound design for visual media. You'll have access to high-quality resources including cameras, editing equipment and animation software, giving you the knowledge to progress to advanced courses.

Entry Requirements
- Three National 5 passes
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

HND 3D Computer Animation

Course code:
C00014 (City)

On this course, you will learn the practical and creative skills essential for a successful career in the animation industry. Gain hands-on experience as you navigate the animation pipeline from concept creation and modelling, to animation and post-production. You'll engage with a broad spectrum of topics including digital and traditional drawing, character design, modelling and rigging, environmental modelling, special effects and motion graphics.

Entry Requirements
- Two Highers preferably including Art & Design plus recent examples of work that demonstrate an appropriate skill level
- Or appropriate SCQF Level 6 course
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered
- Advanced entry to year 2 with 15 credits from HNC 3D Computer Animation.

Visual Communication Portfolio Building
(Graphic Design & Illustration)

Course code:
C00012 (City)

This project-based course is great if you're interested in pursuing a career in digital aided art for illustration and graphic design. You'll develop your creative skillset, focusing on hand and digital drawing, illustration, graphic design and typography. This course includes the use of industry-standard software, and the opportunity to design packaging and advertising materials.

Entry Requirements
- Four National 5 passes including Art & Design and English/ Communication
- Or appropriate SCQF Level 5 course
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

DEGREE LINK

HND Visual Communication
(Graphic Design and/or Illustration)

Course code:
C00005 (City)

Gain in-depth expertise and build a portfolio of work ready for progression to university or employment. In this practical course, you'll boost your creativity, conceptual thinking, critical analysis, and planning skills. You'll also use advanced digital software to create solutions for a range of projects in typography, promotion and advertising, packaging, illustration, information graphics and live client commissions. You will conclude the course with presenting your work at NESCol's End of Year Show.

Entry Requirements
- Two Highers including Art & Design and preferably English/ Communication
- Or appropriate SCQF Level 6 course
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered
- Advanced entry to year 2 with 15 credits from HNC Visual Communication.

Floristry

Course code:
C00149 (Fraserburgh)

Prepare for a career in a modern floristry business. You'll learn the practical skills required to style and create a range of traditional and contemporary floral designs, such as wedding flowers and event displays. You'll also be equipped with essential knowledge such as how to care and condition flowers and foliage.

Entry Requirements
- Two National 5 passes including English/Communication and/ or Numeracy, or completion of a suitable ESOL course
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

student profile

" *The courses have not only widened my knowledge and skills, but they've also provided me with great practical experiences and opportunities that have improved my confidence.* "

Thea Carr
HND Textiles

› School › School-College courses: Fashion & Textile Design and Fashion Business ›

› HND Textiles › BA (Hons) Design for Textiles at Heriot-Watt University ›

£100m
EXTRA CULTURE & ARTS FUNDING BY 2028
Scottish Government

READ THEA'S STORY

career opportunities

Animator • Art Coordinator • Content Producer • Designer • Fashion/Textile Designer • Florist

Freelance Artist Gallery Curator • Graphic Designer • Illustrator • Image Editor • Media Assistant

Photographer • Printmaker • Product Designer • Retail Management • Seamstress/Tailor • Visual Merchandiser

110,800
iN SCOTLAND'S CREATIVE INDUSTRIES WORKFORCE IN 2025
Skills Development Scotland (SDS)

our fantastic facilities

art, design & photography studios

Our creative learning spaces at City and Fraserburgh campuses include dedicated art and photography studios, as well as textile and floristry workshops. In addition to these workspaces, there are IT areas designed for digital work. The different environments enable students to explore a range of disciplines, from life drawing to graphic design.
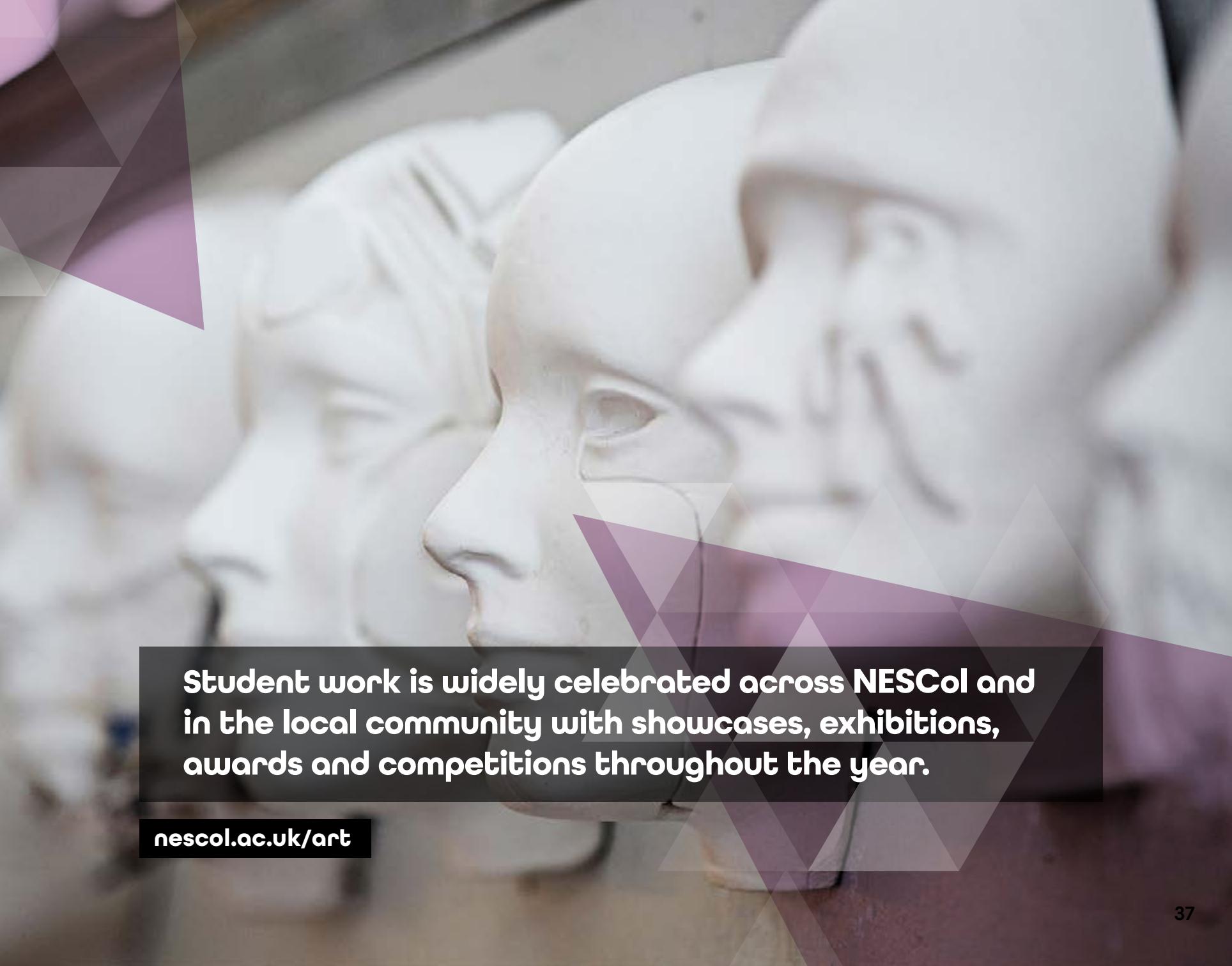
Student work is widely celebrated across NESCol and in the local community with showcases, exhibitions, awards and competitions throughout the year.

nescol.ac.uk/art

BRINGING BUSINESS TO LIFE

Step into the business world with confidence.

Our Business and Management courses are designed to equip you with the transferable skills that both local and international employers value.

Guided by expert lecturers, you'll gain a deep understanding of how organisations operate, while building a strong foundation of knowledge for further study or entering the workforce.

Career opportunities span a wide range of sectors, including accounting, finance, administration, law, marketing, human resources (HR), and sales.

business & management

Accounting, Administration, Business and Legal Services

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/business

SCQF LEVEL 4/5

Introduction to Business & Administration

Course code:
C00034 (City)
C00153 (Fraserburgh)

Gain the personal skills and knowledge required to work in a professional administrative environment. This introductory course will give you a well-rounded understanding of business and administration subjects. Your lecturers will take you through topics including IT, accounting, administration, work experience, economics and customer care.

Entry Requirements

• At least two National 4 passes including English/Communication
• Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

SCQF LEVEL 5/6

Business, Accounting & Administration

Course code:
C00033 (City)
C00151 (Fraserburgh)

This course is designed as a pathway to employment or further study with an HND in Accounting, Administration & IT, Business or Legal Services. You'll develop a broad knowledge of key business functions in areas such as IT, administration, finance and marketing. There is also a focus on practical skills, and you'll get plenty of opportunities to apply what you've learned.

Entry Requirements

• Three National 5 passes, preferably including English and Maths
• Or SCQF Level 4/5 Introduction to Business & Administration
• Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND Business

Course code:
C00030 (City)

With this advanced course, you'll expand your understanding of the business world. Learn about key business functions and topics including law, marketing, people management and accounting. You'll also develop a range of transferable skills that are sought-after by employers, making sure you're prepared for employment or further study in a range of business degree courses.

Entry Requirements

• Two Highers preferably including Business and English, plus one National 5 pass in Maths, Applications of Maths
• Or SCQF Level 5/6 Business, Accounting & Administration
• Or Foundation Apprenticeship in Accountancy or Business Skills
• Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND
Legal Services (Law)

Course code:
C00032 (City)

This advanced-level course will give you a detailed insight into how the Scottish legal system works. You'll gain an overview of various laws including property and company law, as well as legal practices and procedures. If you're looking to work as a paralegal or legal secretary, or continue studying law at university, HND Legal Services is suited to you.

Entry Requirements

• Two Highers preferably including English
• Or SCQF Level 5/6 Business, Accounting & Administration
• Or Foundation Apprenticeship in Accountancy or Business Skills
• Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND
Accounting

Course code:
C00029 (City)

Prepare for a career in accounting or further study at university. You'll build a solid foundation of concepts and processes used in financial and management accounting, as well as essential workplace skills. This course will help you enhance your existing knowledge and develop a skill set that meets the standards required by employers, while also providing progression opportunities at university.

Entry Requirements

• Two Highers preferably including English, plus one National 5 pass in Maths or Applications of Maths
• SCQF Level 5/6 Business, Accounting & Administration
• Foundation Apprenticeship in Accountancy or Business Skills
• Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND
Administration & Information Technology

Course code:
C00031 (City)

Learn how to effectively manage and make important decisions in an administration environment by studying a diverse range of subjects, including office administration and management; IT and digital technologies; marketing; and human resources (HR). You'll also develop essential business skills such as interviewing, advanced word processing and presentation skills, with the opportunity for progression to university.

Entry Requirements

• One Higher, preferably in Administration, Business or English
• Or SCQF Level 5/6 Business, Accounting & Administration
• Or Foundation Apprenticeship in Accountancy or Business Skills
• Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

student profile

"

Studying HND Business has honestly been one of the best decisions I've made. I've really enjoyed how practical and engaging the course is.

"

Nwamaka Obi
HND Business

READ NWAMAKA'S STORY

61,700

PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN SCOTLAND'S PROFESSIONAL SERVICES SECTOR IN 2025
Skills Development Scotland (SDS)

› School in Nigeria and Scotland › HND Business › BA (Hons) Business

with Human Resource Management at RGU › Launched jewellery brand ›

41

career opportunities

Administrator • Assistant Accountant • Bookkeeper • Clerical Assistant Conveyancing Assistant

HR Administrator • HR Officer • Junior Admin Manager • Legal Accountant • Legal Cashier • Legal Secretary

Management Consultant • Office Manager • Paralegal Assistant • Payroll Administrator • Personal Assistant

Receptionist • Recruitment Consultant • Trainee Accountant • Trainee Administrator

nescol.ac.uk/business

student profile

> *I found College to be a much better environment for learning. There's so much support available and the lecturers are excellent—they really take the time to explain things and help if you're struggling.*

Stacie Street
HND Accounting

READ STACIE'S STORY

16,500
LEGAL PROFESSIONALS IN SCOTLAND
Annual Population Survey (Nomis)
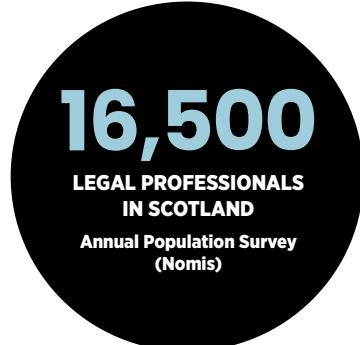
› School › Worked in retail › Business, Accounting & Administration course ›

› HND Accounting › 2025 MHA Excellence in Accounting Award winner ›

BRINGING CARE TO LIFE

People are at the heart of a career in care. Working in care is more than just a job – it's one of the most rewarding professions there is.

No matter what path you take, you'll have a direct impact on the lives of others.

Our care lecturing team will guide you through courses designed to prepare you for the workplace. Their professional insight is combined with hands-on training at College and during placements, so you'll feel confident and ready to progress to further study or employment.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/care

care

Childcare, Healthcare, Social Care & Social Services

Introduction to Care Professions

SCQF LEVEL 4

Course code:
C00063 (City)
C00159 (Fraserburgh)

This course highlights the importance of providing effective and efficient care, covering various service areas and user needs. You'll focus on developing your soft skills like communication and teamwork and study topics including human development, health & wellbeing and caring skills for people from birth to older adults. You'll also explore early education and childcare, healthcare and social care to help guide your career path and progression.

Entry Requirements

- Two National 4 passes preferably including English
- A genuine interest and aptitude for working within the care sector
- Good communication and numeracy skills
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

Care with ESOL

SCQF LEVEL 4/5

Course code:
C00055 (City)

This introductory course is great if you're a speaker of other languages and interested in a career in childcare, healthcare or social care. You'll increase your knowledge of a wide range of care professions and develop your English language skills. You'll feel prepared with the skills needed for further study or employment in a trainee-level role.

Entry Requirements

- ESOL qualification at Pre Intermediate/Strong B1 or IELTS 4.5 minimum or Cambridge 153
- A genuine interest and aptitude for working with children and vulnerable adults
- Good communication and numeracy skills.

Health & Social Care

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00064 (City)
C00158 (Fraserburgh)

Grow your understanding of the expectations and values related to care roles, in preparation for a career in healthcare or social care. You'll learn about providing effective care to different service users and explore a variety of key topics including mental health. You'll also develop essential skills necessary to apply for a job in the care sector or continue studying healthcare or social care.

Entry Requirements

- Two National 5 passes preferably including English
- Or relevant SCQF Level 4 course
- A genuine aptitude for working with people
- Good communication skills
- Relevant qualifications and experience may be considered.
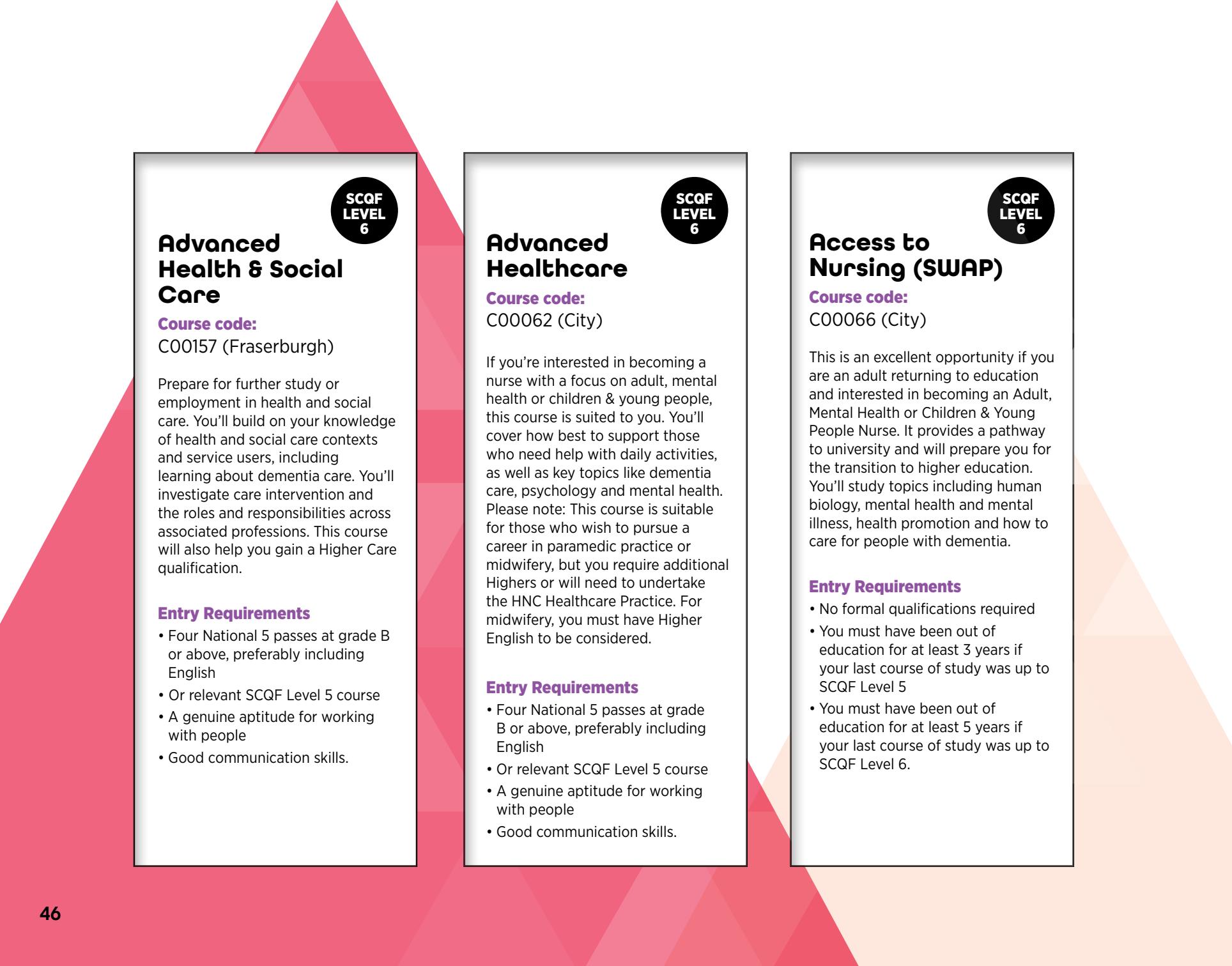
Advanced Health & Social Care

SCQF LEVEL 6

Course code:
C00157 (Fraserburgh)

Prepare for further study or employment in health and social care. You'll build on your knowledge of health and social care contexts and service users, including learning about dementia care. You'll investigate care intervention and the roles and responsibilities across associated professions. This course will also help you gain a Higher Care qualification.

Entry Requirements

• Four National 5 passes at grade B or above, preferably including English
• Or relevant SCQF Level 5 course
• A genuine aptitude for working with people
• Good communication skills.

Advanced Healthcare

SCQF LEVEL 6

Course code:
C00062 (City)

If you're interested in becoming a nurse with a focus on adult, mental health or children & young people, this course is suited to you. You'll cover how best to support those who need help with daily activities, as well as key topics like dementia care, psychology and mental health. Please note: This course is suitable for those who wish to pursue a career in paramedic practice or midwifery, but you require additional Highers or will need to undertake the HNC Healthcare Practice. For midwifery, you must have Higher English to be considered.

Entry Requirements

• Four National 5 passes at grade B or above, preferably including English
• Or relevant SCQF Level 5 course
• A genuine aptitude for working with people
• Good communication skills.

Access to Nursing (SWAP)

SCQF LEVEL 6

Course code:
C00066 (City)

This is an excellent opportunity if you are an adult returning to education and interested in becoming an Adult, Mental Health or Children & Young People Nurse. It provides a pathway to university and will prepare you for the transition to higher education. You'll study topics including human biology, mental health and mental illness, health promotion and how to care for people with dementia.

Entry Requirements

• No formal qualifications required
• You must have been out of education for at least 3 years if your last course of study was up to SCQF Level 5
• You must have been out of education for at least 5 years if your last course of study was up to SCQF Level 6.

Access to Allied Health Professions (SWAP)

SCQF LEVEL 6

Course code:
C00065 (City)

This programme is designed for adult learners looking to gain a degree in Midwifery, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy or Paramedic Practice. Developed by NESCol and Robert Gordon University (RGU), you'll learn key healthcare topics including first aid, biology, physiology and care values & principles. This is a highly demanding course, and you will undertake subjects and assessments for Higher Human Biology and Higher English, as well as Maths for Science.

Entry Requirements
- No formal qualifications required
- You must have been out of education for at least 3 years if your last course of study was up to SCQF Level 5
- You must have been out of education for at least 5 years if your last course of study was up to SCQF Level 6.

SWAP

The Scottish Wider Access Programme (SWAP) supports access to higher education for adult learners. SWAP access programmes run at colleges across Scotland and provide a route into hundreds of university degree courses. These courses are specifically designed for adults who are returning to education after a gap and is not suitable for candidates applying straight from school or those who have a degree.

HNC
Healthcare Practice

Course code:
C00057 (City)

This course is for those intending to apply for Year 1 of a Paramedic Practice, Midwifery or Children and Young People Nursing degree on completing the course.

Gain the practical skills and clinical knowledge required to thrive as a healthcare professional. You'll work with individuals, families and communities to promote health, prevent illness and improve mental and physical wellbeing. There is a large placement element to this course, and you must be able to commit to shift work.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers preferably including English
- Or relevant SCQF Level 6 course
- Or Foundation Apprenticeship in Social Services & Healthcare
- You will be required to attend an interview before a place will be offered
- Full requirements on the NESCol website.

HNC
Healthcare Practice:
Nursing DegreeLink Route

Course code:
C00058 (City)

This course is for those who wish to progress to Year 2 of an Adult or Mental Health Nursing degree at RGU, or a Learning Disabilities Nursing degree at Edinburgh University. You will be working and studying as a Stage 1 Student Nurse.

Learn the skills and knowledge to deliver person-centred care as a nursing professional. Working with a range of people mainly over the age of 16, you'll support individuals through all stages of the life cycle and help them maintain and improve their mental and physical health. There is a large placement element to this course, and you must be able to commit to shift work.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers preferably including English
- Or SCQF Level 6 Advanced Healthcare or Advanced Health & Social Care
- Or Foundation Apprenticeship in Social Services & Healthcare
- For entry to nursing, you will be required to undergo an interview with NESCol, RGU and NHS Grampian
- Full requirements on the NESCol website.

SCQF LEVEL 6

Advanced Social Care

Course code:
C00061 (City)

At this advanced level, you'll have a desire to help those who are vulnerable within our society through a career in social work or social care. You'll grow your understanding of a variety of care contexts and service users in preparation for further study or employment. You'll also learn about care intervention and the roles and responsibilities across associated professions.

Entry Requirements

- Four National 5 passes at grade B or above, preferably including English
- Or relevant SCQF Level 5 course
- A genuine interest in working with people
- Good communication skills.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 7

HNC Social Services (NextGen)

Course code:
C01018 (City)

This course combines theoretical knowledge with practice in a placement setting to prepare you for a career or further study in social services. By completing the HNC, you'll be able to register with most parts of the SSSC and develop transferable core and meta skills that can be applied in a variety of social services settings. The programme includes 60 days of placement, with two days at College and two days of placement per week.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers, preferably including English
- Or relevant SCQF Level 6 course such as Social Care
- Or Foundation Apprenticeship in Social Services & Healthcare
- A genuine interest in working with people and good communication skills are essential
- Evidence of working in a social care setting is desirable
- A clear PVG disclosure is required prior to placement
- National 5 Numeracy is required to progress to university.

Childcare & Development

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00053 (City)
C00155 (Fraserburgh)

This course will help you develop your understanding of children, the stages of development and how to care for them. You must be able to embrace diversity and work as part of a team, as well as independently. A placement opportunity may be provided if you demonstrate appropriate skills and values.

Entry Requirements

- Two National 5 passes preferably including English
- Or relevant SCQF Level 4 course
- Evidence of 20 hours volunteering or placement is preferable, ideally within an early years or childcare environment
- A clear PVG disclosure is required prior to placement allocation, organised by the College.

NC Childhood Practice

SCQF LEVEL 6

Course code:
C00056 (City)
C00160 (Fraserburgh)

Build on your existing knowledge and skills in education and childcare in preparation for further study at HNC level, or employment. This course includes a mandatory placement opportunity for students who demonstrate the appropriate skills and values. Once you complete your NC, you'll be eligible to register with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) at support worker level.

Entry Requirements

- Four National 5 passes at grade B or above, preferably including English
- Or relevant SCQF Level 5 course
- Evidence of 40 hours volunteering or placement is advisable - ideally within an early years or childcare environment
- A clear enhanced PVG disclosure is required prior to placement allocation, organised by the College.

HNC Childhood Practice

SCQF LEVEL 7

Course code:
C00051 (City)
C00154 (Fraserburgh)

This HNC will prepare you for employment as an Early Years Practitioner by giving you the values, essential skills and principles required. You'll also gain an understanding of current legislations, policies and frameworks necessary for working in a childcare practice setting. On completion of the course, you'll be eligible to register with the Scottish Social Services Council (SSSC) at practitioner level.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers preferably including English
- Or relevant SCQF Level 6 course
- Or Foundation Apprenticeship Social Services (Children & Young People)
- Evidence of 60 hours volunteering or placement is advisable – ideally within an early years or childcare environment
- A clear PVG disclosure is required prior to placement allocation, organised by the College.

student profile

"
The best part was meeting new people and making new friends. I was fortunate with my lecturers and my classes, as everyone was very supportive.
"

Ann-Marie Whyte
HNC Childhood Practice

READ ANN-MARIE'S STORY

14%
OF ABERDEEN CITY'S WORKFORCE IS EMPLOYED IN HEALTHCARE
Skills Development Scotland (SDS)

› **Worked in retail** › **Non-advanced childcare course** › **Progression to HNC Childhood Practice** › **Employment in a private nursery** ›

career opportunities

Childminder • Childhood Practitioner/ Early Years Practitioner • Childcare Support Worker

Education Support Assistant • Health Care Support Worker • Midwife • Nurse • Nursery Manager

Occupational Therapist • Paramedic • Physiotherapist • Podiatrist • Social Care Assistant/ Support Worker

Social Work Assistant • Social Worker

our fantastic facilities

At both City and Fraserburgh campuses, you'll find dedicated health and social care facilities, as well as childcare areas with materials and learning tools. We also have a simulated care ward located at City Campus, which features hospital beds and specialist training mannequins.

nescol.ac.uk/care
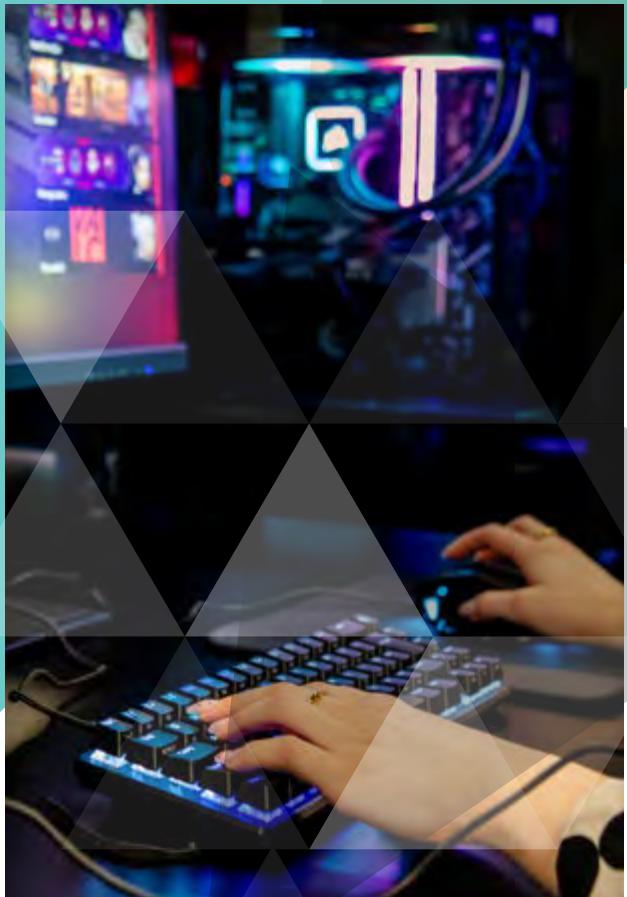
CODING DREAMS INTO REALITY
BRINGING COMPUTING TO LIFE

Kickstart your future in the fast-moving digital world. From apps to global networks, computing and IT are essential to modern life.

Led by specialist lecturers, you'll explore topics such as games design, Esports, cyber security, software and web development, and networking. You'll also benefit from our strong industry and university links – so whether you want to design the next big video game, specialise in cyber security, or solve technical problems, our courses will set you on the right path.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/computing

computing

SCQF LEVEL 4/5

Introduction to Computing Technologies

Course code:
C00075 (City)

Get a taster of programming, data science, hardware and networking to prepare you for further studies in computing. Use this course to discover where your interest lies and then study at a higher level. You'll learn in our classrooms and hardware labs and get the opportunity to create your own python programs to control miniature robots and cars amongst other experiences.

Entry Requirements
• This course is suitable for those with no previous qualifications or work experience, but applicants should have a genuine interest in computing.

SCQF LEVEL 6

Access to Software Development

Course code:
C00077 (City)

This practical, hands-on course equips you with the essential programming languages, app development, and data science and machine learning skills needed to begin an exciting career in the technology sector. You will learn about programming languages including Python, JavaScript, HTML and CSS, develop your own mobile and desktop applications to start building a portfolio and try out ethical hacking techniques used by professionals to strengthen security. This course will open the door to diverse career paths in the computing industry and/or prepare students for further study at HN level.

Entry Requirements
• Two National 5s at Grade C or above, preferably one in computing science or a STEM subject (Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics)
• Or a recognised computing course at SCQF Level 4/5 including Introduction to Computing Technologies.

SCQF LEVEL 6

Access to Networking

Course code:
C00076 (City)

Keen for a career in computer networking? Then this is the perfect place to start. This practical course covers a range of networking disciplines; from cabling to firewall configuration. You'll also have the opportunity to develop your teamworking skills when you work together to design and build a physical network. Other topics covered include data security, computer systems architecture and more, giving you practical skills needed for working in the computing industry.

Entry Requirements
• Two National 5s at Grade C or above, preferably one in computing science or a STEM subject (Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics)
• Or a recognised computing course at SCQF Level 4/5 including Introduction to Computing Technologies.

SCQF LEVEL 7

HNC Computing (NextGen)

Course code:
C00071 (City)

This recently developed HNC is an innovative programme designed to equip students with essential skills and knowledge in computing. Designed in collaboration with industry experts, you will be immersed in the areas of networking, software development, cyber security, artificial intelligence and the internet of things. Working on both individual and team projects you will master the essentials of these technologies and at the same time develop a range of meta-skills and gain experience using Power BI, C Sharp and Python.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers, preferably including computing science
- Or students who have successfully completed Access to Networking (SCQF Level 6) or Access to Software Development can also gain entry to this course.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 7/8

HND Cyber Security

Course code:
C00074 (City)

This course will provide you with the skills to meet industry requirements and include: the opportunity to undergo scenarios in ethical hacking and digital forensics, learn about cyber adversary methods and our mitigations, an introduction to encryption and blockchain, an introduction to networking, team working in Internet of Things and cloud server virtualisation, learn about open-source operating systems and project manage and create your own cyber security related final project.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers, preferably including computing science. A Foundation Apprenticeship will be considered equivalent to one Higher in Computing Science
- Students who have successfully completed Access to Networking (SCQF Level 6) can also gain entry to this course.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND Networking & Cloud Infrastructure (NextGen)

Course code:
C00072 (City)

This qualification is highly sought after by employers and will teach you the skills required to install, configure and maintain computer network infrastructures. Working in our specialist labs, learners will have the opportunity to build PCs, study the Microsoft Windows operating systems, and build networks within a virtualised environment providing hands on experience and learning. Many of the skills and concepts in this award are transferable to other areas of computing and technology.

Entry Requirements

- HNC Computing
- HNC Cyber Security.

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND Computing: Software Development (NextGen)

Course code:
C00073 (City)

Students will learn programming languages including Java (object-oriented paradigm), SQL Database, NoSQL and software engineering preparing you for a career in this ever-changing industry. There is a focus on human-computer interaction and making your programmes and software more user friendly. Students will also be able to take part in exciting software events such as Hackathon which are hosted at our partner universities.

Entry Requirements
- HNC Computing (NextGen)
- Or Year 1 of HND Computing: Software Development
- Or Year 1 of HND Computing: Technical Support.

SCQF LEVEL 4/5

Introduction to Computer Games Design
(Including Introduction to Esports)

Course code:
C00070 (City)
C00120 (Fraserburgh)

The ideal first course for those interested in a career in games development and Esports. This course introduces learners to the genres, trends and new technologies of the computer games industry. You will learn about digital planning and design, creation of media assets and development and testing. Learners will develop employability and core skills through enterprise activities. You will also be introduced to Esports including characters, narrative design, the creation of an Esports brand, organisation of a tournament and building a live-stream broadcast.

Entry Requirements
- There are no formal entry requirements for this course and it can be undertaken without previous experience of computer games development.

SCQF LEVEL 6

Computer Games Design

Course code:
C00069 (City)
C00119 (Fraserburgh)

Focus on the technical and creative skills employers are looking for in the computer games industry and the creative digital media and software development sectors. The course involves a lot of team working with your fellow students to contribute to an Esports organisation, content creation and organising an Esports tournament. The course will also develop soft skills important to the industry, including communication, enterprise and team working.

Entry Requirements
- Four National 5s (grade C or above). Alternatively, applicants should have relevant experience or have successfully completed a SCQF Level 5 course.

SCQF LEVEL 4

Introduction to Computing Technologies & Esports
(subject to validation)

Course code:
C01023 (Fraserburgh)

This introductory course is perfect for anyone curious about how technology works and eager to unlock pathways to exciting digital careers. You'll cover core areas of computing, including coding, building hardware, and AI. You'll also get the opportunity to design and build your own game and experience the Esports Hub. Whether you dream of becoming a programmer, games designer, systems engineer, or pursuing a career in Esports, you'll feel confident about your next steps in the world of computing.

Entry Requirements
- No formal qualifications required
- You should have enthusiasm and an interest in computing and gaming.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 5

Computing Technologies & Esports
(subject to validation)

Course code:
C01024 (Fraserburgh)

Step into the fast-paced world of tech with a computing course that's all about exploring, creating, and innovating! You'll get the opportunity to build smart AI systems, crack cyber challenges, design epic games, and gain hands-on experience in our Esports Hub. Whatever your aspirations in the digital world are, this intermediate course will give you the knowledge and practical skills to make it happen.

Entry Requirements
- Two National 4 passes
- Or SCQF Level 4 Introduction to Computing Technologies & Esports
- Relevant experience may also be considered
- You should have enthusiasm and an interest in computing and gaming.

HND
Games Design
(including Digital
Design & Development)

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 8

Course code:
C00067 (City)

A practical course which will develop your design and technical abilities to ensure you have the skills and knowledge to implement your ideas and designs in game development. Students will cover a range of computer development techniques including 2D and 3D Animation, Programming and Games Design Theory. You will have the creative freedom to develop computer games of your own while being guided by lecturers. This will allow you to develop a portfolio of work for applying for employment or progressing to further study at university.

Entry Requirements

- One Higher and three National 5s (grade C or above) A Foundation Apprenticeship in any subject area will be considered to one unrelated Higher for entry to this course
- Alternatively, successful completion of Computer Games Design Level 6. For those returning to education, life skills and experience in the workplace may allow entry subject to availability.

HND
Web Development
(including Digital Design
& Development)

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 8

Course code:
C00068 (City)

Combining both technical and creative skills, this HND prepares you for the evolving world of web development and digital design. This course allows you to tailor your learning experience to suit your career goals by focusing on coding, design or a combination of both. As well as creating engaging website experiences, you'll learn essential digital marketing strategies and how to produce digital and social media content.

The course will allow you to work on projects with real clients, building on your understanding of professional standards. You'll have access to the latest industry software, tools and trends to ensure you graduate with a skillset relevant today, and adaptable for the future.

Entry Requirements

- One Higher and three National 5s (grade C or above). A Foundation Apprenticeship in any subject area will be considered to one unrelated Higher for entry to this course
- Alternatively, successful completion of Computer Games Design (SCQF Level 6). For those returning to education, life skills and experience in the workplace may allow entry subject to availability.

our fantastic facilities

computing facilities & esports hub

At City and Fraserburgh campuses, our advanced computing facilities allow students to work with various hardware and specialist equipment. Computing students can apply for paid internship positions at NESCol's IT HelpZone – a valuable opportunity to put knowledge into practice and gain experience in a professional setting. NESCol is also proud to be the first Scottish college to achieve PlayStation First partnership status with Sony as part of their global academic programme. This allows students to access PlayStation development tools and support.

Our Esports Hubs, at the City and Fraserburgh campuses, are equipped with high-performance gaming PCs and streaming setups – ideal for those interested in competitive gaming and content creation.

student profile

"*It was great to be able to share knowledge and bounce ideas off each other. The course was really interesting, challenging at times, but the lecturers were fantastic and explained everything so well.*"

Viera & Radoslav Vidis
HND Web Development

READ THEIR STORY

AROUND
14,000
NEW POSITIONS IN DIGITAL
TECHNOLOGIES CREATED EACH
YEAR

ScotlandIS

career opportunities

App developer • Business Analyst • Cyber Security Specialist • Data Management • Digital Content Editor

Digital Designer • Digital Marketing • Forensic Analyst • Network Engineer • Security Analyst

Software Developer • Web Developer

nescol.ac.uk/computing

student profile

"

I honestly don't think university could have taught me the skills I have learned here.

"

Charlie Priestley
HND Networking & Cloud Infrastructure (NextGen)

READ CHARLIE'S STORY

87,600
PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN SCOTLAND'S DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES SECTOR IN 2025
Skills Development Scotland (SDS)

› Home education › Non-advanced computing courses › Progression to HNC Computing (NextGen) then HND Networking & Cloud Infrastructure (NextGen) › BSc (Hons) Cyber Security at RGU ›

construction

BUILD YOUR FUTURE
BRINGING CONSTRUCTION TO LIFE

Build a career in one of Scotland's biggest industries.

Whether you see yourself as a self-employed tradesperson or contributing to major construction projects, your work will make a huge impact on communities.

With the ongoing energy transition, you'll also engage with new technologies and sustainable solutions.

Our construction courses cover hands-on trades like brickwork, joinery, painting and decorating and plumbing, as well as design and technical drawing. You'll train in realistic spaces, supported by industry-experienced staff, so you'll feel prepared for employment, an apprenticeship or further study.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/construction

Introduction to Construction

Course code:
C00167 (Altens)
C00121 (Fraserburgh)

Gain a thorough introduction to basic construction craft skills. Most of your time will be spent in our well-equipped workshops where you will learn to use a range of tools for trades such as carpentry & joinery, brickwork, and painting & decorating. Completion of this course offers progression to SCQF Level 5 study.

Entry Requirements
- No formal entry requirements
- Enthusiastic attitude
- Good team player
- Interest in construction and working with tools.

Construction Crafts

Course code:
C00106 (Altens)
C00118 (Fraserburgh)

Progress your skills in a variety of construction craft occupations. Classes are mainly workshop-based, and you'll practice using tools for plumbing (Altens only), bricklaying, carpentry & joinery, and painting & decorating. This course will give you an awareness of health and safety and is regarded as a pre-apprenticeship programme. It provides a solid foundation for progressing to an apprenticeship or advancing to SCQF Level 6 study.

Entry Requirements
- No formal entry requirements
- Enthusiastic attitude
- Good team player
- Evidence of interest in construction crafts or Skills for Work (Construction) qualification could be an advantage
- Aptitude test at interview.

Advanced Construction: Built Environment

Course code:
C00105 (Altens)

This advanced-level course will introduce you to concepts in domestic building services, building technology and sustainable design. You'll also develop skills in technical drawing, computer-aided drafting and construction calculations. A key aspect of the course is developing other essential skills, such as teamwork, which will set you up for success in your chosen career. This course may offer progression to study architectural technology at university (subject to meeting entry conditions).

Entry Requirements
- National 5 passes preferably including English, a science subject and Numeracy, plus National 4 Maths (other National 4/5 qualifications will be considered)
- Or SCQF Level 5 Construction Crafts
- Aptitude test at interview
- You must be aged 16 or over.

student profile

> *I'm a practical person and after doing the construction course while I was still at school, I knew I wanted to get started in the industry.*

Jorja Ross
Construction Crafts

26,100
EMPLOYED IN CONSTRUCTION IN ABERDEEN CITY AND SHIRE IN 2025
Skills Development Scotland (SDS)

READ JORJA'S STORY

› School › Construction Foundation Apprenticeship › Construction Crafts course ›

› Apprentice Painter and Decorator ›

career opportunities

Architectural Technician • BIM (Building Information Modelling) Technician • Bricklayer

Building Services Technician • Building Surveyor • Construction Manager • Construction Supervisor

Joiner • Painter and Decorator • Planner • Plumber • Quantity Surveyor • Site Manager

3,590
EXTRA WORKERS NEEDED EACH
YEAR UNTIL 2029 IN SCOTLAND
Construction Industry Training
Board (CITB)

our fantastic facilities

construction workshops

At Fraserburgh Campus, we have a large general building workshop, with roofing, lock brick and slab work areas, as well as dedicated joinery and painting and decorating areas.

Our Aberdeen Altens Campus is home to brickwork and joinery workshops, full-scale interiors in the painting and decorating department, and a purpose-built plumbing facility.

Develop your trade with practical training in NESCol's industry-standard construction facilities.

nescol.ac.uk/construction

INNOVATE, DESIGN, BUILD
BRINGING ENGINEERING TO LIFE

Help shape the world with your engineering skills.

There are unlimited possibilities for where an engineering career could take you - from transport and manufacturing to technology and food and drink.

Engineers are also vital for the energy transition, and NESCol works with industry partners to ensure you're equipped with the skill set to succeed in the shift to net zero.

Our courses, taught by experienced staff, help you build technical and problem-solving skills. With pathways to university and access to the new Energy Transition Skills Hub, you'll be well-equipped for this evolving sector.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/engineering

engineering

SVQ Level 2 Performing Engineering Operations (PEO): Electrical Route

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00116 (Altens)
C00138 (Fraserburgh)

Aimed at all ages, from school leavers and those returning to education, the SVQ provides you with highly practical, vocational training. Our experienced lecturers will introduce you to a variety of electrical and electronic installation, maintenance and testing skills. The SVQ Level 2 PEO qualification forms a mandatory part of an Engineering Modern Apprenticeship.

Entry Requirements

- One National 4 pass in Maths
- Good understanding of English
- Short practical test may be carried out at interview.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

SVQ Level 2 Performing Engineering Operations (PEO): Fabrication & Welding Route

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00323 (Altens)
C00131 (Fraserburgh)

This hands-on, vocational course is designed to give you a real taste of engineering operations related to fabrication and welding. You'll learn the practical skills required for cutting and welding processes and how to use CAD (computer-aided design) software. The SVQ Level 2 PEO qualification forms a mandatory part of an Engineering Modern Apprenticeship.

Entry Requirements

- No formal entry requirements
- Enthusiastic attitude
- Team player
- Enjoy working with tools in a workshop environment.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

SVQ Level 2 Performing Engineering Operations (PEO): Mechanical Route

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00130 (Altens)

The SVQ provides vocational skills training, preparing you for future employment in a mechanical engineering role. This course involves developing practical skills such as machining, welding and bench fitting, in a workshop environment. The SVQ Level 2 PEO qualification forms a mandatory part of an Engineering Modern Apprenticeship.

Entry Requirements

- No formal entry requirements
- Enthusiastic attitude
- Team player
- Enjoy working with tools in a workshop environment.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

SVQ Level 2 Performing Engineering Operations (PEO):

Mechanical Maintenance Route

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00126 (Fraserburgh)

Gain an insight into engineering operations, with a focus on mechanical maintenance. This vocational course is great if you enjoy practical work, as you'll spend time developing your skills using hand tools. You'll also learn how to overhaul and maintain large industrial engines. The SVQ Level 2 PEO qualification forms a mandatory part of an Engineering Modern Apprenticeship.

Entry Requirements
- No formal entry requirements
- Enthusiastic attitude
- Team player
- Enjoy working with tools in a workshop environment.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

SVQ Level 2 Performing Engineering Operations (PEO):

Renewables

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00129 (Altens)
C00127 (Fraserburgh)

NESCol works closely with industry partners to ensure our students learn the skills required for the energy transition. This course will provide you with a range of key practical engineering skills applicable to a variety of roles in the renewable energy sector. The SVQ Level 2 PEO qualification forms a mandatory part of an Engineering Modern Apprenticeship.

Entry Requirements
- No formal entry requirements.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

SVQ Level 2 Performing Engineering Operations:

Mechanical Manufacture Route

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00128 (Fraserburgh)

Gain an introduction to engineering operations related to mechanical manufacturing. Our experienced staff will help you develop workshop skills such as milling, bench fitting and welding, as well as teaching you how to use CAD (computer-aided design) software. The SVQ Level 2 PEO qualification forms a mandatory part of an Engineering Modern Apprenticeship.

Entry Requirements
- No formal entry requirements
- Enthusiastic attitude
- Team player
- Enjoy working with tools in a workshop environment.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

NC Electrical Engineering

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00112 (Altens)
C00135 (Fraserburgh)

Advance your electrical engineering knowledge and skills in preparation for further study or employment. This course is perfect for you if you want to build on the skills you developed as part of your SVQ Level 2 Performing Engineering Operations (PEO) qualification. Our lecturers will guide you through key aspects of electrical engineering including wiring and installation testing.

Entry Requirements

- One National 5 pass in Maths at grade D or above (Applications of Maths is not accepted)
- Or SVQ Level 2 PEO – with the addition of Preparation for Maths Craft 1
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

NC Engineering Systems:
Renewables

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00113 (Altens)

If you're interested in renewable energy, this course will help you become multi-skilled in electrical and mechanical engineering. You'll learn the key principles of both disciplines and develop skills relevant for the energy sector of today and the future - including plant maintenance, testing and measurement.

Entry Requirements

- Three National 5 passes including Maths at grade D or above, English at grade C or above and one practical subject
- Or SVQ Level 2 PEO - plus Maths units
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

NC Mechanical Engineering:
Fabrication & Welding Route

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00125 (Fraserburgh)

Expand on the fabrication and welding skills gained during the SVQ Level 2 Performing Engineering Operations (PEO) qualification. You'll grow your knowledge of key processes, as well as enhancing your practical abilities in MIG, TIG and MMA welding, and fabrication. You'll also work on employability skills such as health & safety practice, IT, maths and communication.

Entry Requirements

- SVQ Level 2 PEO - plus Maths unit.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

NC Mechanical Engineering:
Mechanical Maintenance Route

Course code:
C00124 (Fraserburgh)

Improve your knowledge and gain further skills in mechanical maintenance, building on your learnings from the SVQ Level 2 Performing Engineering Operations (PEO) qualification. Experienced staff will cover key areas including engineering materials, CAD (computer-aided design), graphical engineering communication, Prime Mover and MIG welding, as well as vital employability skills including health & safety practice.

Entry Requirements
• SVQ Level 2 PEO - plus Maths unit.

NC Mechanical Engineering:
Mechanical Manufacture Route

Course code:
C00123 (Fraserburgh)

Following on from the SVQ Level 2 Performing Engineering Operations (PEO) qualification, you'll take your mechanical manufacturing skills to the next level. You'll learn about engineering materials, graphical engineering communication and CAD (computer-aided design), as well as how to perform vital processes including milling operations, dimensional control and measurement.

Entry Requirements
• SVQ Level 2 PEO - plus Maths unit.

NC Electrical Engineering

Course code:
C00114 (Altens)

This course will help you build on your existing electrical engineering knowledge and advance your skills ready for further study or employment. Our experienced teaching staff will guide you through topics including electrical engineering principles, plant maintenance, testing and measurement, and electrical motors.

Entry Requirements
• One National 5 pass in Maths at grade B or above (Applications of Maths is not accepted)
• Or SCQF Level 5 NC Engineering - with Maths Craft 1 and 2.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

NC Engineering Systems

Course code:
C00136 (Fraserburgh)

This multi-disciplined course covers the principles of mechanical, electrical and instrumentation engineering. You'll experience a degree of specialisation in relevant areas of engineering and process technology to support your progression towards further qualifications or employment.

Entry Requirements
- One National 5 pass in Maths at grade B or above
- Or SCQF Level 5 NC Engineering - with Maths Craft 1 and 2.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

NC Mechanical Engineering

Course code:
C00111 (Altens)

Develop your theoretical knowledge of engineering with a detailed introduction to mechanical engineering subjects. Our lecturers will help you grow your understanding of dynamics, hydraulics, pneumatics, thermofluids and engineering materials. This course will enable you to progress to a HNC/D course or into employment.

Entry Requirements
- One National 5 pass in Maths at grade B or above (Applications of Maths is not accepted)
- Or SCQF Level 5 NC Engineering - with Maths Craft 1 and 2.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

Engineering: Wind Turbine Technician (WT) Pathway

ECITB Scholarship Technician Programme

Course code:
C00115 (Altens)

Gain experience and qualifications for the onshore and offshore wind industry with this two-year Wind Turbine Technician Scholarship. You'll establish a grounding in core engineering knowledge and skills as well as an understanding of new technologies essential to the successful delivery of net zero carbon emissions. You'll also learn in-demand digital skills, in preparation for your future career.

Entry Requirements
- One National 5 pass in Maths at grade B or above (Applications of Maths is not accepted)
- Or SCQF Level 5 NC Engineering - with Maths Craft 2.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

HNC Electrical Engineering

Course code:
C00108 (Altens)
C00133 (Fraserburgh)

This course is designed to help you develop skills in analysis and synthesis for the solution of electrical problems. You'll also advance your understanding of core electrical principles and power systems. Areas covered include the application of programmable logic controllers, electrical machine principles, single phase AC circuits and three phase systems.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers in Maths and English or a related science/technology subject
- Or SCQF Level 6 NC Engineering - with Technician 2 Maths.

HNC Engineering Practice

Course code:
C00122 (Fraserburgh)

Explore a range of engineering subjects including hydraulics and pneumatics, as well as key skills like quality management, staffing and budgeting. This course is ideal if you would like to develop your existing engineering knowledge to HNC level and progress to a supervisory position in a workshop environment.

Entry Requirements

- SCQF Level 5 NC Engineering - with Maths Craft 1.

HNC Mechanical Engineering

Course code:
C00107 (Altens)
C00132 (Fraserburgh)

Lean to solve mechanical engineering problems using essential principles and processes. This is a classroom-based academic programme at a similar level to the first year of university. You'll cover a wide range of topics including thermofluids, dynamics, hydraulics & pneumatics, material selection and mathematics for engineering.

Entry Requirements

- One Higher in Maths
- Or SCQF Level 6 NC Mechanical Engineering - with Technician 2 Maths.

HND Mechanical Engineering

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 7

Course code:
C00109 (Altens)
C00134 (Fraserburgh)

This HND will allow you to enhance your understanding and skillset relating to mechanical engineering principles and practices. Experienced teaching staff will guide you through topics such as plant systems, heat transfer, fluid mechanics, and using CAD (computer-aided design) software. You'll also get the chance to complete a project, increasing your awareness of business processes and continuing professional development (CPD).

Entry Requirements

- One Higher in Maths
- Or SCQF Level 6 NC Mechanical Engineering – with Technician 2 Maths.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

HND Electrical Engineering

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 7

Course code:
C00110 (Altens)

Develop an in-depth understanding of electrical principles and power systems. You'll enhance your capabilities in the use of electrical and electronic instruments, equipping you with the skills required to work in industry, public sector and service organisations. This course will help you specialise in areas including programmable logic controllers, three phase systems and single phase AC circuits.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers in Maths and English or a related science/technology subject
- Or SCQF Level 6 NC Engineering - with Technician 2 Maths.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

Welding

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00324 (Altens)
C00325 (Fraserburgh)

This course is the ideal introduction to welding for those looking to apply for an apprenticeship in the future. Students will work towards two employer-recognised qualifications whilst gaining hands-on experience with tools. Subjects covered include gas metal arc welding, flux-cored arc welding, oxy-fuel cutting and fabrication. You will be on campus four days a week.

Entry Requirements

- National 4 Maths.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

student profile

"

"

Andrius Chomcenka
HND Mechanical Engineering

28,200
PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN ENGINEERING IN ABERDEEN CITY AND SHIRE
Skills Development Scotland (SDS)

READ ANDRIUS' STORY

› Worked in the mechanical engineering industry › Non-advanced engineering courses ›

› HNC & HND Mechanical Engineering (part-time) › Senior ROV Pilot Technician ›

career opportunities

Energy industry and energy transition, including renewables • Aerospace • Construction

Entertainment Environmental protection • Fashion • Food and drink production • Manufacturing

Medicine Sports Technology • Transport

21%
OF WORKERS IN ABERDEEN ARE EMPLOYED IN ENERGY
Skills Development Scotland (SDS)

our fantastic facilities

engineering workshops

At our Altens and Fraserburgh campuses, our workshops are outfitted with industry-standard equipment and machinery, including electrical circuit rigs and welding facilities.

The Future Skills Zone and Future Skills Workshop based in Fraserburgh allow students to experience innovative technologies, including robotics, 3D printing and drones.

Our new Energy Transition Skills Hub opened in summer 2025 at Altens Campus. It features a state-of-the-art welding academy, an advanced manufacturing zone and future technology digital training suites.

nescol.ac.uk/engineering

BRINGING ESOL TO LIFE

Learn English in a fun, welcoming and supportive environment.

Our ESOL courses are designed by language experts to help you feel confident using English in everyday life.

Whether you're new to Scotland or looking to build on your knowledge of the English language, our friendly tutors will help you improve your speaking, listening, reading, and writing skills. You'll also learn essential employability skills and find out more about UK citizenship.

By studying ESOL, you'll open doors to further education at NESCol or employment.

english for speakers of other languages

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/esol

English For Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL)

Course code:
C00035 (City)
C00036 (Fraserburgh)

This course has been designed by ESOL professionals to help you improve your English and feel more confident communicating. You'll practise speaking, listening, reading and writing in a friendly and supportive environment with experienced teachers. You'll meet people from all around the world and have fun while learning.

Entry Requirements

- You will be tested and placed in a group according to your level of English before the course starts
- You should be literate in your first language
- You should have achieved ESOL National 2/ A1 level or be working towards ESOL National 3 / A2 level at a minimum.

student profile

> **I remembered my positive experience studying ESOL, which was such a nice, interesting, and inspiring time.**

Sigita Jancijuk
Pre-intermediate ESOL / HND Travel & Tourism

READ SIGITA'S STORY

› Studied Pre-Intermediate ESOL part-time › Continued studying on non-advanced Travel & Tourism courses › Progressed to HND Travel & Tourism › Employment in a business travel company ›

student profile

"

The ESOL courses helped me a lot. They gave me more confidence and improved my communication skills.

"

Flavio Silva
HNC Fashion Business

READ FLAVIO'S STORY

› Studied Pre-Intermediate and Intermediate ESOL courses part-time ›

› Introduction to Fashion Business course › Progressed to HNC Fashion Business ›

› BA (Hons) Fashion Management at RGU ›

Embark on an exciting career, centred around confidence, creativity and self-care.

The hair, beauty and complementary therapies industries are driven by the latest trends in fashion and wellbeing.

In NESCol's specialist training salons, you'll work with real clients and receive guidance from experienced tutors. You'll help your clients look and feel their best, often for some of life's biggest moments.

With many of our courses also involving placement opportunities, you'll have the tools and techniques to thrive in your chosen career path.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/hair

hair, beauty & complementary therapies

Barbering

Course code:
C00044 (City)

Our experienced staff will teach you the fundamentals of client consultation, shampoo and conditioning, basic styling, cutting, and facial hair. There will also be the opportunity to further develop your creative skills in barbering. Promoting and selling a variety of products and services alongside reception duties and the importance of health and safety will also be covered. You will learn all of these skills in a realistic work environment, which provides preparation for work placement and excellent salon experience for progression to employment.

On completion of this course, you'll gain a VRQ Level 2 Certificate in Barbering - subject to approval.

Entry Requirements
- SCQF Level 4 Introduction to Hairdressing - VRQ Level 1 Diploma in Hairdressing
- Or experience of full-time work in a salon environment
- Or Schools-College course – Hairdressing
- Two National 5 passes including English are also desirable
- Relevant work experience or qualifications may be considered.

Introduction to Hairdressing

Course code:
C00043 (City)
C00146 (Fraserburgh)

This course is ideal for beginners or those with limited hairdressing experience. You'll learn basic practical techniques for shampooing, conditioning and colouring women's hair, as well as styling skills for both men and women. This course also covers essential workplace skills including reception duties, health & safety, and teamwork.

On completion of this course, you'll gain a VRQ Level 1 Diploma in Introduction to the Hair & Beauty Sector: Hair Route.

Entry Requirements
- A minimum of two National 4 passes, preferably including English
- Or Schools-College course – Hairdressing or Beauty Therapy
- Relevant work experience may be considered.

Hairdressing

Course code:
C00041 (City)
C00145 (Fraserburgh)

This course will enhance your understanding and practical skills in client consultation, shampooing, conditioning and scalp massage. You'll focus on perfecting your basic styling, cutting, colouring, lightening and perming techniques, and there will be opportunities to develop your creative hairdressing skills. The course also covers how to promote and sell a variety of products and services, alongside the importance of health and safety and reception duties. You will train in a realistic work environment, which will prepare you for excellent salon experience for progression to employment.

On completion of this course, you'll gain a VRQ Level 2 Diploma in Hairdressing.

Entry Requirements
- SCQF Level 4 Introduction to Hairdressing or Beauty Therapy - VRQ Level 1 Hairdressing or Beauty Therapy
- Or experience of full-time work in a salon environment
- Or Schools-College course – Hairdressing or Beauty Therapy
- Two National 5 passes including English are also desirable
- Relevant work experience or qualifications may be considered.

Advanced Hairdressing

Course code:
C00042 (City)
C00172 (Fraserburgh)

This course is suited to those who want to enhance their hairdressing skill set. You'll develop your understanding and skills in client consultation, styling, dressing, cutting, colouring and lightening. There is also a focus on specialist areas such as colour correction and creative hairdressing design skills. You'll learn about the selling and promotion of products and services and the importance of health and safety. You will learn in a realistic work environment, which provides preparation and excellent salon experience for progression to employment.

On completion of this course, you'll gain a VRQ Level 3 Diploma in Hairdressing.

Entry Requirements

- SCQF Level 5 Hairdressing - VRQ Level 2 Hairdressing
- Or employment in the hairdressing industry
- Relevant work experience or qualifications may be considered.

Introduction to Beauty Therapy

Course code:
C00038 (City)
C00171 (Fraserburgh)

This course is the perfect starting point if you want to work in the beauty therapy industry. You will develop your understanding and basic practical techniques in make-up, skin and hand care, nail art, manicure and pedicure treatments. You will also learn skills and techniques for photographic make-up and creating a hair and beauty image. The topics covered will ensure you have a firm grasp of health and safety, and you'll learn how to present yourself professionally in a salon and carry out effective team work and reception duties..

On completion of this course, you'll gain a Introduction to Beauty (Units).

Entry Requirements

- National 4 – passes preferably including English
- Or Schools-College course – Hairdressing or Beauty Therapy
- Relevant work experience may be considered.

Beauty Therapy

Course code:
C00039 (City)
C00143 (Fraserburgh)

This course will help you develop practical skills in a wide range of beauty therapy treatments. You'll learn how to effectively provide facial skincare, manicures and pedicures (including gel nail polish and artificial nail enhancements), make-up, waxing, and eyelash and brow treatments. You will also enhance your understanding of client care and communication, product promotion and how to carry out reception duties. Our experienced staff will guide you as you learn in a realistic work environment, providing excellent salon experience for progression to employment.

On completion of this course, you'll gain a VRQ Level 2 Diploma in Beauty Therapy.

Entry Requirements

- SCQF Level 4 Introduction to Beauty Therapy - Introduction to Beauty (Units)
- Or a minimum of two National 5 passes, preferably including English
- Or Schools-College course – Hairdressing or Beauty Therapy
- Relevant work experience or qualifications may be considered.

Advanced Beauty Therapy Techniques

Course code:
C00040 (City)
C00144 (Fraserburgh)

The course will develop your understanding and equip you with practical techniques in advanced aspects of beauty therapy and related industries. You will also learn how to work effectively with colleagues and provide exceptional service to clients. Experienced staff will guide you as you learn practical skills in body massage, facial and body electrotherapy, stone therapy, micro-dermabrasion, and personal health and wellbeing. Alongside this, you will gain practice in the promotion and selling of products and services. You will train in a realistic work environment, which provides preparation for excellent salon experience for progression to employment.

On completion of this course, you'll gain a VRQ Level 3 Diploma in Beauty Therapy.

Entry Requirements

- SCQF Level 5 Beauty Therapy - VRQ Level 2 Diploma in Beauty Therapy
- Or employment in the beauty industry
- Plus relevant SCQF Level 5 Anatomy and Physiology qualification.

HNC Complementary Therapies

Course code:
C00037 (City)

Learn advanced aspects of complementary therapies and how to work effectively with colleagues and clients. You'll gain practical skills in body and aromatherapy massage and reflexology. Anatomy, physiotherapy and health & safety are key theoretical subjects on this course. You'll also get a work placement opportunity in a local clinic or salon.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers including English, Biology or Chemistry
- Or SCQF Level 6 Beauty Therapy Techniques - VRQ Level 3 Diploma in Beauty Therapy
- Or HNC/D - Beauty Therapy.

student profile

Stacey Kenyon
HNC Complementary Therapies

› Mother and full-time carer for family member › Studied non-advanced Beauty Therapy courses › Progressed to HNC Complementary Therapies › BSc (Hons) Integrative Healthcare at UHI Moray and self-employed Complementary Therapist ›

63,800
HAIR AND BEAUTY BUSINESSES IN THE UK – A RISE OF NEARLY 1,900 (3.1%)
NHBF

READ STACEY'S STORY

career opportunities

Beauty or spa therapist • Barber • Colour technician • Complementary therapist in organisations such as the NHS, hospices, salons or clinics • Hairdresser/ hair stylist • Make-up artist • Massage therapist Nail technician • Salon assistant • Salon owner/ manager • Salon receptionist

£5.8bn
GENERATED BY THE HAIR
AND BEAUTY INDUSTRY IN 2024
NHBF

our fantastic facilities

hair & beauty salons

NESCol's specialist training salons feature industry-standard equipment and products and are open to the public, so you'll get the opportunity to work with real clients.

in:tuition at City Campus has a hairdressing salon with 60 workstations, two beauty therapy rooms and a professional nail bar. There is also a sauna, spa, and steam room. The Salon at Fraserburgh Campus has three hair salons, three beauty therapy rooms, and a spray tanning cubicle.

Our professional hair and beauty salons give you the chance to perfect a range of treatments and work with real clients.

nescol.ac.uk/hair

THE RECIPE FOR SUCCESS
BRINGING HOSPITALITY TO LIFE

Sharpen your culinary and service skills for a career in hospitality.

NESCol's commercial kitchens and restaurants are the perfect setting to build your confidence, professionalism and practical skills.

Supported by industry-experienced lecturers, you'll learn the theory and get the opportunity for hands-on experience, preparing and serving meals to real customers.

From the first knife demonstration to running a busy service, you'll feel prepared for your next steps after College – whether that's entering the workplace, starting an apprenticeship or continuing your education.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/hospitality

hospitality & professional cookery

SCQF LEVEL 4

Introduction to Professional Cookery

Course code:
C00094 (City)

This course introduces fundamental practical cooking skills to those who aspire to work in catering and hospitality. It offers a broad overview of the hospitality industry, covering topics including food safety and service techniques. You'll also develop key transferable skills such as communication and teamwork.

On completion of this course, you'll gain a Level 1 VRQ Diploma in an Introduction to Professional Cookery, Certificate in Professional Food & Beverage Service and REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene Certificate.

Entry Requirements
- Four National 4 passes, preferably including English and Maths
- Relevant qualifications and work experience may be considered
- Must be aged 16 or over at the start of the course.

SCQF LEVEL 5

Intermediate Professional Cookery

Course code:
C00095 (City)

This vocational qualification is suited to professional chefs, trainees looking to upskill, or individuals with industry experience. You'll refine your culinary skills in preparing and cooking a variety of foods including meat, shellfish, soups, desserts, cakes, and more.

On completion of this course, you'll gain a Level 2 VRQ Diploma in Professional Cookery.

Note: School leavers and beginners should apply for Introduction to Professional Cookery.

Entry Requirements
- Level 1 VRQ Diploma in an Introduction to Professional Cookery
- Proven industry experience as a chef may be considered.

Advanced Professional Cookery

Course code:
C00168 (City)

Hone your culinary skills and techniques in preparation for a career in hospitality and catering. Experienced staff will guide you through advanced techniques in preparing vegetable, meat, poultry, game, fish and shellfish dishes. You'll also learn the key principles of food safety and supervisory skills.

On completion of this course, you'll gain a Level 3 VRQ Advanced Diploma in Professional Cookery.

Note: School leavers and beginners should apply for Introduction to Professional Cookery.

Entry Requirements
- Level 2 VRQ Diploma in Professional Cookery
- Extensive industry experience as a chef may be considered.

Level 1 Certificate in Food & Cookery Skills

Course code:
C00170 (Fraserburgh)

This 18-week qualification is perfect if you're passionate about food and cookery. You'll gain experience with a variety of cooking skills and methods, preparing you for further education or apprenticeships in the culinary sector. You'll also develop essential transferable skills such as planning, research, communication and teamwork.

On completion of this course, you'll gain a Level 1 Certificate in Food & Cookery Skills.

Entry Requirements
- No specific entry requirements
- Suitable for those aged under 16 as well as adult learners.

student profile

"It's amazing to think that my first full-time position out of College is at a Michelin-starred restaurant. I'd recommend the professional cookery courses at NESCol to anyone keen to get into the industry."

Stuart Ferguson
Advanced Professional Cookery

READ STUART'S STORY

243,000
PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN SCOTLAND'S ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD SERVICE INDUSTRY
Office for National Statistics (ONS)
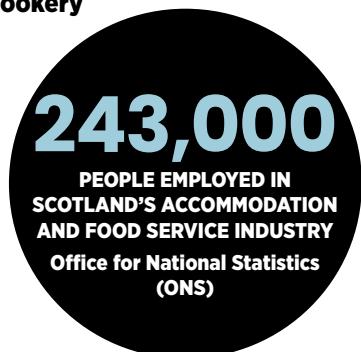
› School › Professional Cookery › Advanced Professional Cookery ›

› Commis Chef at Michelin-starred restaurant ›

career opportunities

Baker • Catering Assistant • Catering Manager • Chef • Chef de Partie • Commis Chef • Confectioner

Head Chef • Front of House • Kitchen Porter/ Assistant • Private Caterer • Restaurant Manager

Sous Chef • Waiting staff

£62.6bn
ECONOMIC OUTPUT OF THE UK'S HOSPITALITY SECTOR IN 2023
UK Parliament

our fantastic facilities

professional kitchens and restaurants

Our industry-standard kitchens and front-of-house settings provide realistic training environments for aspiring chefs. At City Campus, our Gate 63 restaurant offers exceptional service and fine dining. Open for lunch and dinner, it gives students the chance to experience serving real customers. Fraserburgh Campus also features a modern Bistro, which can be used by students running events. Both campuses are home to multiple large commercial kitchens, kitted out with a wide array of cooking equipment.

nescol.ac.uk/hospitality

BRINGING OPPORTUNITIES TO LIFE

Start your College journey with the support you need.

If you've ever needed support for your learning, our Learning Opportunities courses are designed with you in mind. NESCol offers a positive, safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment where all students can thrive.

Our friendly and experienced staff deliver diverse courses that build essential skills for independence and active participation in the community.

You'll grow in confidence, strengthen core skills, and discover new talents in a nurturing setting.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/learning-opps

learning opportunities

DFN Project Search

Course code:
C00052 (City)

This is a one-year internship programme, supporting young people with learning disabilities and/or autism to
enter employment by providing training in employability and independent living skills along with real-life work experience. It is a collaborative project between the University of Aberdeen, North East Scotland College and Values into Action Scotland (VIAS) with support from Skills Development Scotland (SDS). This must be the students' final year of education, after which they will transition into employment upon completing the course.

Entry Requirements

- To find out about eligibility for this course, please email:
  dfnprojectsearchuoa@abdn.ac.uk
  or scan the QR code.

Preparation for Work

Course code:
C00099 (City)
C00162 (Fraserburgh)

Applications for this course should be made via your school. This course is aimed at school leavers with additional learning needs who are looking to develop essential skills for employment. The course allows learners to try out different vocational areas including hospitality, retail, gardening, social subjects and bakery at Aberdeen City Campus and hospitality, retail, science, social subjects and joinery at Fraserburgh Campus. The course encourages independent learning and is a fun and supportive introduction to the world of work and further education.

Entry Requirements

- Ability to work at Level 2+ with support.

Qualification For Work

Course code:
C00100 (City)
C00163 (Fraserburgh)

This course is aimed at students with additional learning needs who are looking to develop essential skills for employment. The course gives learners the chance to work towards a vocational qualification whilst building on core skills established at school. At Aberdeen City Campus learners choose from retail, hospitality, bakery, gardening, people & society. At Fraserburgh Campus, learners study hospitality. All students complete units in communication, numeracy, employability, and a work placement.

Entry Requirements

- Ability to work at Level 3+ with support or the completion of the Preparation for Work course.

SCQF LEVEL 4

Qualification for Work: Hospitality

Course code:
C00096 (City)

Learners will gain knowledge and skills in hospitality, including basic cooking and food preparation, customer service and health and safety in the kitchen. You will also develop core skills in numeracy, communication and undertake a relevant work placement.

This course is aimed at students with additional learning needs, who are looking to develop essential skills for employment. If further develops independent learning in a range of diverse subjects that will be beneficial for employment and further education.

Entry Requirements

- Ability to work at Level 4 with support or those who have successfully completed Qualification for Work.

SCQF LEVEL 5

Qualification for Work: Sustainability with Urban Gardening

Course code:
C00097 (City)

This course is aimed at students with additional learning needs, who are looking to develop essential skills for employment. It further develops independent learning in a range of diverse subjects that will be beneficial for employment and further education.

Learners will gain knowledge and skills in climate change and sustainability whilst learning urban gardening techniques and is an ideal course for those who want to work in a land-based role. The course includes a qualification in NPA Climate Change and Sustainability, units in practical gardening techniques, communication, numeracy, socialisation, Scotland in Focus and you will undertake a relevant work placement.

Entry Requirements

- Ability to work at Level 4+ with support or the completion of the Level 4 Qualification for Work course.

SCQF LEVEL 5

Advanced Qualification for Work: Retail

Course code:
C00161 (Fraserburgh)

This course is aimed at progressing students with additional learning needs, who are looking to develop essential skills for employment. It further develops independent learning in a range of diverse subjects that will be beneficial for employment and further education. Units include marketing, basic food preparation and cooking, communication, customer care, creative design, and numeracy.

Entry Requirements

- Ability to work at Level 4+ with support or completion of the Qualification for Work Level 4 course. For those returning to education, life skills and experience may allow entry.

SCQF LEVEL 5

Qualification for Work: Retail Skills

Course code:
C00098 (City)

Learners will develop their knowledge and skills in retail. Units include maintaining, storing and replenishing stock, planning and implementing an event, mental health & wellbeing, satisfying customer needs, working in retail, communication, numeracy, socialisation and you will undertake a relevant work placement.

Entry Requirements
• Ability to work at Level 4+ with support or completion of the Qualification for Work Level 4 course. For those returning to education, life skills and experience may allow entry.

Respect at NESCol is more than a campaign:

It's a culture

An expectation

A way of life

It's who we are and what we do

Respect at NESCol starts with you

GIVE · GET · GROW
RESPECT

student profile

I like the relaxed, friendly atmosphere and my parents and lecturers have all commented on how I've grown in confidence. I've made new friends and look forward to coming to College each day.

Andrew Robison
Preparation for Work

"It's been great to see the difference in Andrew since he started at College. His confidence has grown, he's made new friends and the support he receives from staff is fantastic. The course is varied and allows him to try a range of subjects which is giving him skills for the future. Every parent wants their child to be happy and safe and Andrew has found that at NESCol. The course and the learning environment allow him to be his true self."

Jenna Robison, parent.

READ ANDREW'S STORY

our fantastic facilities

Students on a Learning Opportunities course benefit from learning and working in the excellent facilities at Aberdeen City and Fraserburgh campuses. Depending on your chosen subject, you may have the opportunity to work in the following areas.

Charity retail shops

Students develop transferable skills in Recycol at City Campus and the Shoppie at Fraserburgh. The shops give students hands-on work experience, helping them build confidence and enhance their CV. Students work as a team, manage stock, serve customers and create visual displays – all valuable experiences for future employment in the retail industry. The money raised from our shops is donated to a range of charities.

Restaurants

Students grow their confidence and practical skills in a kitchen environment at QuickByte at City Campus and the Bistro at Fraserburgh Campus. This experience allows them to build essential skills for employment in the hospitality sector.

nescol.ac.uk/learning-opps

BRINGING MEDIA & TV TO LIFE

Make your mark with a career in media.

From journalism to TV and film, the media industry offers a huge range of career opportunities.

At NESCol, you'll learn from experienced professionals and develop practical skills such as content creation, video editing, directing, and presenting.

Our studios and equipment provide the perfect setting to build confidence and technical expertise, so you'll be equipped for studying at university, or heading straight into employment in this exciting industry.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/media

media, communication & TV

Creative Media

Course code:
C00027 (City)

This primarily practical course will introduce you to a range of audio, video and visual digital skills. You'll learn using industry-standard software and equipment and get the chance to work on a range of projects such as podcasts, radio features, videos and websites.

Entry Requirements
- Three National 5 passes, preferably including English
- Relevant experience and life skills may be considered.

Filmcraft & Animation

Course code:
C00018 (City)

This course is a great introduction to the flexible skills you need for the film and animation industries. Learn all about animation, video production and post-production, and sound design for visual media. You'll have access to high-quality resources including cameras, editing equipment and animation software, giving you the knowledge to progress to advanced courses.

Entry Requirements
- Three National 5 passes
- Relevant experience and life skills may be considered.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND Media & Communication: Journalism

Course code:
C00024 (City)

This course is perfect if you want to begin a career in a communications role in journalism, marketing, PR or advertising. Our experienced staff will prepare you for working this fast-paced industry, guiding you through the essential theory and practical skills required. You'll learn how to write for the media, develop journalism skills and gain a knowledge of digital media.

Entry Requirements
- Two Highers, preferably including English
- Or SCQF Level 6 Creative Media
- Relevant experience and life skills may be considered.

DEGREE LINK

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND Media & Communication: Production

Course code:
C00025 (City)

Develop a wide range of skills in broadcast media, podcasting, video production and photography. Our facilities, including radio and photography studios as well as post-production equipment, provide an excellent environment for hands-on learning. You'll engage in industry-led media projects, with previous students having collaborated with high-profile clients like BBC.

Entry Requirements
- Two Highers, preferably including English
- Or SCQF Level 6 Creative Media or Filmcraft & Animation
- Relevant experience and life skills may be considered.
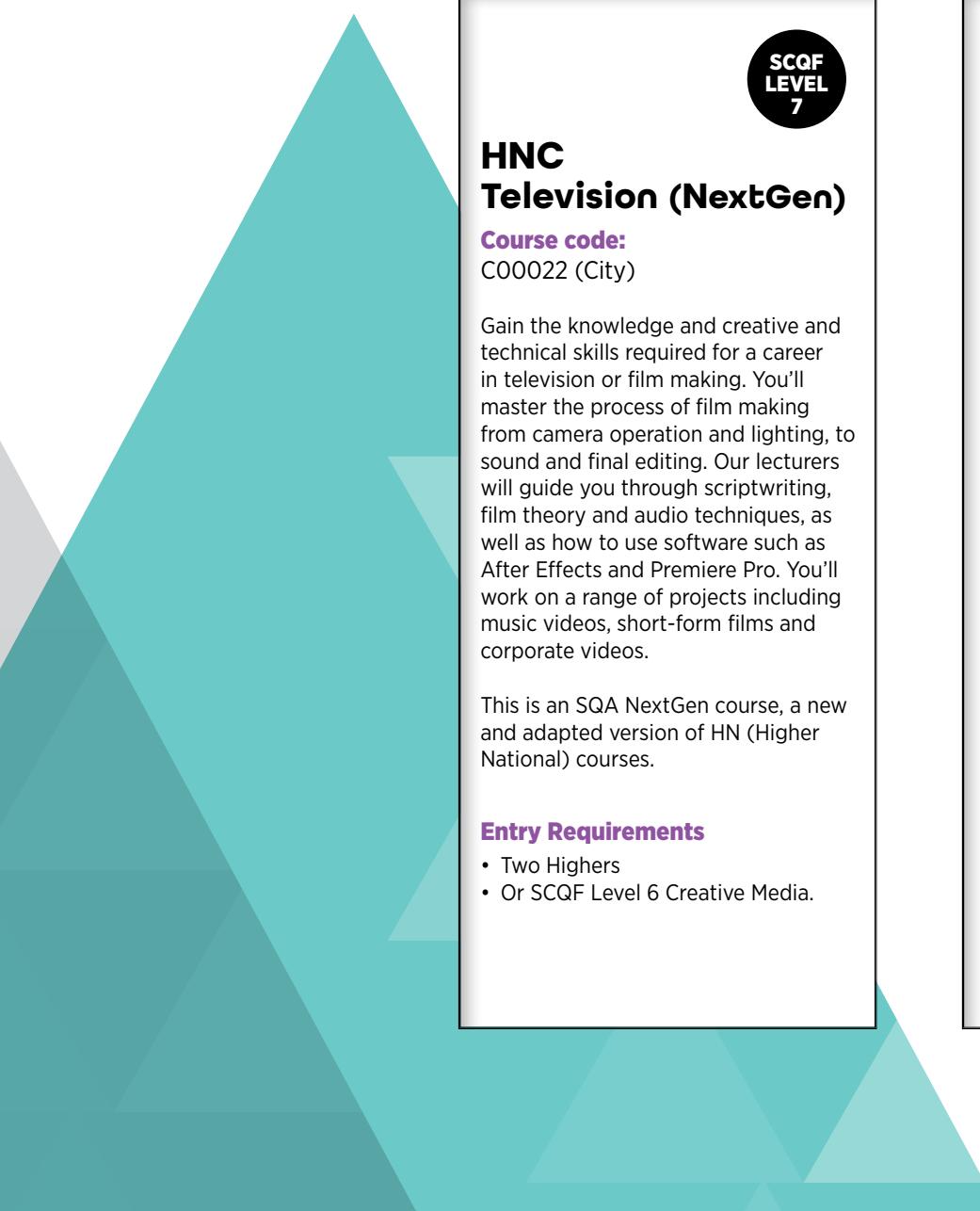
SCQF LEVEL 7

HNC
Television (NextGen)

Course code:
C00022 (City)

Gain the knowledge and creative and technical skills required for a career in television or film making. You'll master the process of film making from camera operation and lighting, to sound and final editing. Our lecturers will guide you through scriptwriting, film theory and audio techniques, as well as how to use software such as After Effects and Premiere Pro. You'll work on a range of projects including music videos, short-form films and corporate videos.

This is an SQA NextGen course, a new and adapted version of HN (Higher National) courses.

Entry Requirements
- Two Highers
- Or SCQF Level 6 Creative Media.

DEGREE LINK **SCQF LEVEL 8**

HND
Television (NextGen)

Course code:
C00026 (City)

Gain the knowledge and creative and technical skills required for a career in television or film making. You'll master the process of film making from camera operation and lighting, to sound and final editing. Our lecturers will guide you through scriptwriting, film theory and audio techniques, as well as how to use software such as After Effects and Premiere Pro. You'll work on a range of projects including music videos, short-form films and corporate videos.

This is an SQA NextGen course, a new and adapted version of HN (Higher National) courses.

Entry Requirements
- HNC Television.

student profile

> **NESCol is perhaps the best thing that's ever happened to me. I found my spark there, and it set me on a creative path that I know is absolutely where I want to be.**

Kieron Williamson
HND Television (NextGen)

216,200
MEDIA PROFESSIONALS IN THE UK
Nomis
Office for National Statistics

READ KIERON'S STORY

› School › Filmcraft & Animation course › HND Television (NextGen) ›

› BA (Hons) Film at Napier University ›

career opportunities

Advertising accounts manager • Broadcast journalist • Content creator • Camera operative

Court reporter • Director • Digital imaging technician (DIT) • Editor • Freelance writer • Journalist

Marketing professional • Multimedia journalist • Runner • Producer • Public relations (PR) professional

Social media professional • TV researcher • Writer

216,200
MEDIA PROFESSIONALS
IN THE UK
Nomis
Office for National Statistics

our fantastic facilities

media facilities

In the basement of Aberdeen City Campus, you'll find an HD TV studio and editing suites with the latest professional software and equipment.

Students also have the chance to film outside of the College and have access to advanced filming equipment for on-the-go training.

nescol.ac.uk/media

music, sound production & drama

CREATIVITY TAKES CENTRE STAGE
BRINGING PERFORMING ARTS TO LIFE

NESCol's basement studios and theatre are alive with inspiration.

Our music, sound production and drama courses are tailored to meet the demands of the fast-moving creative sector.

Whether you're composing, mixing, or performing, you'll develop your technical skills and theoretical understanding in a vibrant environment.

With courses taught by industry-experienced lecturers, you'll grow as a performer or creator and build key employability skills, so you're ready for your chosen career or the transition to university.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/music

SCQF LEVEL 5

Music & Sound

Course code:
C00021 (City)

Enter the dynamic world of music and sound and unlock your creative potential! Discover how musicians craft their sound, from initial concepts to full productions, and delve into the techniques that bring musical ideas to life. This course will give you experience in live performance, producing your own music, and exploring the language of music. Get hands-on with state-of-the-art studio resources and master the essentials of operating a digital audio workstation (DAW). You will be able to work with a mentor, who will guide you through a personalised project in an area of musical interest that inspires you.

Entry Requirements
- A passion for the study of music and a basic level of instrumental and/or vocal skills.
- Applicants should be organised, able to manage their time and work both individually and as part of a group.

SCQF LEVEL 6

Music

Course code:
C00019 (City)

This course is for aspiring musicians who want to develop their skills and work in the music industry. It is a chance to hone your craft, whether in composing, songwriting, or live performance, and to immerse yourself in music production, musicianship and the business side of the industry including working within the community.

Collaborating with fellow students, you will not only develop your own skills but also gain insights from a diverse pool of talents and perspectives. This course is a gateway to turning your passion for music into a thriving career.

Entry Requirements
- A minimum of three National 5 level (or equivalent) passes or successful completion of Music & Sound (SCQF Level 5).
- For those returning to education, life skills and experience may allow entry.

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND Music

Course code:
C00015 (City)

Embarking on this course offers musicians a comprehensive toolkit for success in the dynamic world of music. It will heighten your understanding of music and evolving trends, ensuring that your talents are not just nurtured but also relevant. Through a blend of theory and hands-on practice, you will emerge well-equipped to progress to degree level study or employment in the industry.

Entry Requirements
- Two Highers, including Music. Alternatively, applicants may have completed an appropriate course at Level 6 demonstrating an aptitude for Music.
- For those returning to education, life skills and experience may allow entry. Advanced entry directly to year 2 is possible for those who have previously completed 15 credits from HNC Music.

SCQF LEVEL 6

Sound Production

Course code:
C00020 (City)

Embark on an exciting journey into the world of audio with this hands-on sound production course. Explore the technology and techniques that shape the sounds we hear every day. From understanding the roles within the audio industry to mastering the processes of recording and mixing, this course offers you the chance to develop your skills and knowledge needed for a career in sound production. Whether your passion lies in music production, sound design, or live sound, this course equips you with the skills and knowledge needed to take your first step toward a rewarding career in the audio industry.

Entry Requirements
- A minimum of three passes at National 5 level or equivalent. For those returning to education, life skills and experience may allow entry.

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND Sound Production

Course code:
C00016 (City)

This course is for applicants who want to work in professional audio environments. Through practical experience with industry-standard equipment, learners will gain insights into the technical aspects of sound design, from capturing audio to the final mix. This knowledge is crucial for careers in music production, providing a foundation for creative expression and technical expertise in the ever-evolving audio industry.

Entry Requirements
- Two Highers. Alternatively, applicants may have completed Sound Production (Level 6) or another appropriate non-advanced Level 6 course, demonstrating an aptitude for the subject area. For those returning to education, life skills and experience may allow entry
- Advanced entry directly to Year 2 is possible for those who have previously completed 15 credits from HNC Sound Production.

SCQF LEVEL 6

Performing Arts: Drama

Course code:
C00017 (City)

Considering a career in the performing arts? Do you want to develop your acting skills alongside like-minded people? This course is ideal for those with a passion for acting, directing, or production. It focuses on contemporary techniques, working together on group projects, and provides the opportunity to perform live in our studio theatre environment.

Entry Requirements

• A minimum of three passes at National 5 level or equivalent. For those returning to education, life skills and experience may allow entry.

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND Acting & Performance

Course code:
C00013 (City)

This advanced level course will allow you to develop acting, movement, voice, and technical theatre skills. Our training embraces contemporary techniques to fully prepare students for the demands of the industry and incorporates methods such as Nadine George for Voice, Frantic Assembly's dynamic approach to physical theatre, and Laban techniques for movement. In-house and external productions provide valuable opportunities to put classroom learning into practice, helping students gain confidence on stage. Performing Arts students at NESCol not only learn from our dedicated staff – they also have the opportunity to participate in workshops run by active professionals in the industry.

Entry Requirements

• Two Highers. All applicants must attend an audition
• Alternatively, applicants may have completed an appropriate Level 6 course demonstrating an aptitude for the subject area
• For those returning to education, life skills and experience may allow entry. Advanced entry directly to year 2 is possible for those who have previously completed 15 credits from HNC Acting & Performance.

student profile

> *This course gave me a springboard to believe in myself for the first time in my life. It led me to the career I'm incredibly proud of, it's how I met my partner, and it's how I found my home.*

Luc Retour Rose
HND Sound Production

52,400
ACTORS, ENTERTAINERS AND PRESENTERS IN THE UK
Nomis (Office for National Statistics)

READ LUC'S STORY

› School › **HND Sound Production** › **BSc (Hons) Audio Technology** degree at **Glasgow Caledonian University (GCU)** › **Technical Product Manager of an acoustics material company in York** ›

career opportunities

Actor • Audio Engineer • Audio Technician • Drama Teacher • Music Producer

Music Teacher • Music Therapist • Musician • Presenter • Sound Designer

£7.6bn
CONTRIBUTED TO THE ECONOMY
BY THE UK'S MUSIC INDUSTRY
IN 2023
UK Music

our fantastic facilities

Aberdeen City Campus has fantastic facilities for our music, sound production and drama students to develop and hone their creative talents.
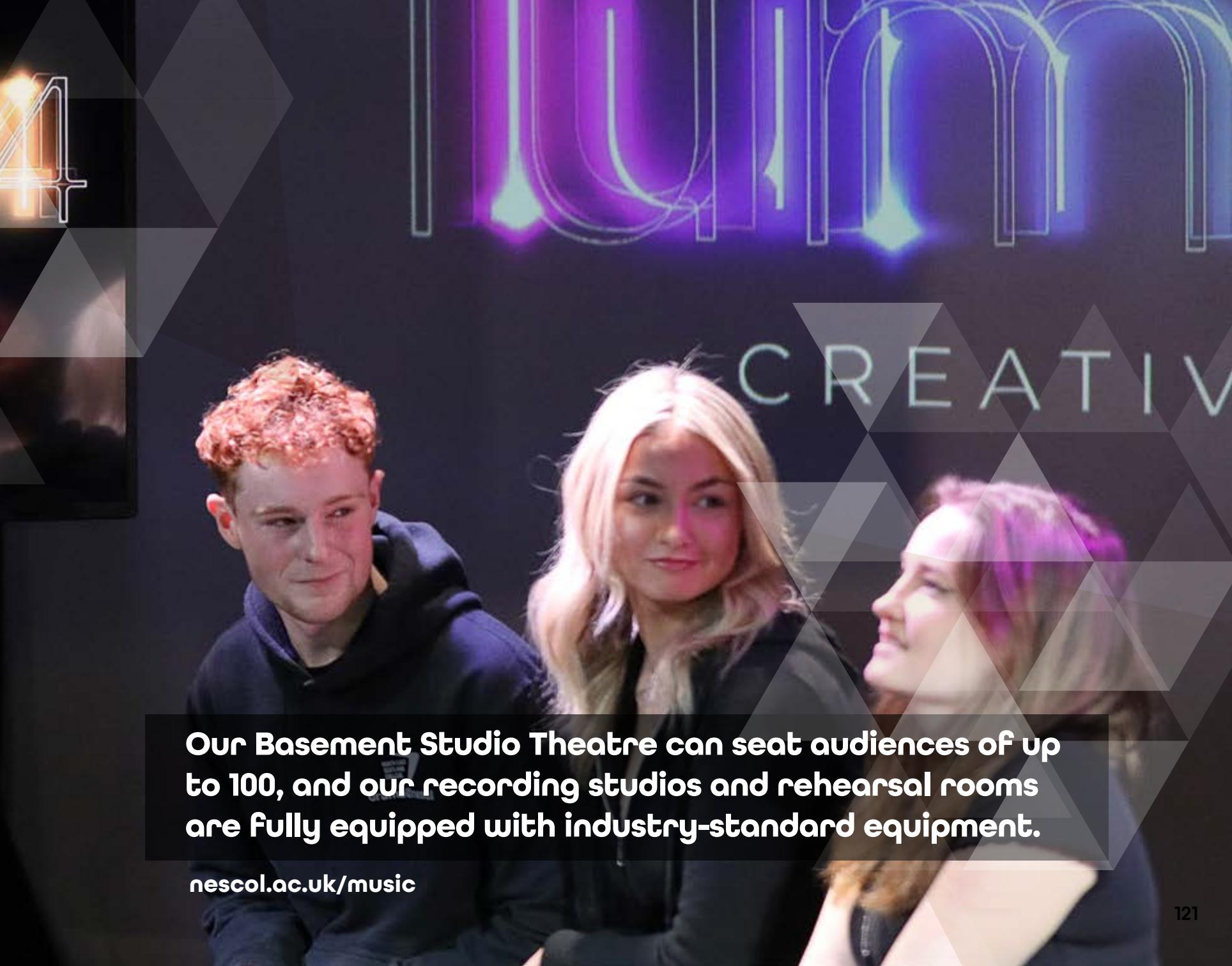
Our Basement Studio Theatre can seat audiences of up to 100, and our recording studios and rehearsal rooms are fully equipped with industry-standard equipment.

nescol.ac.uk/music

science

Studying science allows you to make a significant impact on our society.

Science is essential for Scotland's economy, driving innovation and supporting key industries such as healthcare, energy and technology.

A career in science offers exciting opportunities such as contributing to ground-breaking research and solving real-world problems.

NESCol's labs are kitted out with the latest equipment and analytical instruments, so you'll learn essential practical skills ready for further study or employment.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/science

Science Foundations

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00084 (City)
C00085 (Fraserburgh)

Aimed at those with limited formal science qualifications, this course is designed to enhance your understanding of scientific principles and practice. With a focus on hands-on learning, you'll engage in experiments, practical activities and laboratory work. Examples may include studying microbial growth in food and generating electricity from chemical reactions.

Entry Requirements

- National 5 passes at grade C or above in relevant subjects such as Chemistry, Biology, Maths or Physics
- Or SCQF Level 4 Introduction to Science runs February to June, see website for details
- You should be able to demonstrate your ability to study at SCQF Level 5
- Good numeracy skills.

NC Applied Science

SCQF LEVEL 6

Course code:
C00086 (City)

Gain a sound theoretical understanding of science to allow future study at HNC/D level or university. You will choose to study either the Chemistry/Biology route or the Chemistry/Physics route. This course involves a large amount of practical work relevant to local interests, industries or topical issues. Examples of experiments may include testing aerodynamic design and efficiency using a wind tunnel and studying how enzymes work in our bodies.

Entry Requirements

- National 5 passes at grade B or above in two science subjects and Maths (Applications of Maths may be accepted if there is evidence of strong qualifications in science). If you only hold one National 5 in a science subject, this may still allow entry if you have evidence of strong qualifications in other subjects
- Or SCQF Level 5 NC Applied Science.

Forensic Science & Biotechnology

SCQF LEVEL 6

Course code:
C00083 (City)

Offering both theoretical and hands-on learning, this course covers forensic science, a crucial part of a crime scene investigation. You'll also explore biotechnology, and how this harnesses biological processes for use in industry. You'll learn and try out forensic techniques like blood spatter analysis and fingerprinting, as well as biotechnological techniques such as growing bacteria.

Entry Requirements

- National 5 passes at grade B or above in two science subjects and Maths (Applications of Maths may be accepted if there is evidence of strong qualifications in science). If you only hold one National 5 in a science, this may still allow entry if you have evidence of strong qualifications in other subjects
- Or SCQF Level 5 NC Applied Science.

Science: Routes to Higher Education

Course code:
C00082 (City)

This is an academically challenging course where you'll study four SQA Highers in Maths, Chemistry, Biology, Physics, Environmental Science or English. Lessons are conducted in small group sessions and are supported with tutorial slots. This course will prepare you for further study in science and related disciplines at HNC/D level, or progression to university.

Entry Requirements

- Four National 5 passes at grade B or above in your selected subjects (Applications of Maths is not accepted). For those wishing to study Environmental Science, Geography or Biology may be accepted as an alternative to National 5 Environmental Science
- Or SCQF Level 5/6 NC Applied Science.

DEGREE LINK

HNC Applied Science (Chemistry/ Biology Route)

Course code:
C00079 (City)

This diverse course covers both the theory and practice of modern sciences, focusing on chemistry and biology. You'll spend a large amount of time training in essential practical skills and the use of modern analytical lab equipment. Combined with scientific communication and presentation skills, you'll be highly sought after by employers. The HNC is one year of study.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers in Chemistry and Biology/ Human Biology, plus National 5 Maths at grade C or above (Applications of Maths is not accepted)
- If you only have one Higher in Chemistry or Biology, you need a National 5 at grade B for the other
- Or SCQF Level 6 NC Applied Science at grade B or above (Chemistry/ Biology route)
- Or SCQF Level 6 Forensic Science & Biotechnology
- Or Science: Routes to Higher Education – including Highers in Chemistry, Biology and Maths.

DEGREE LINK

HND Applied Science (Chemistry/Biology Route)

Course code:
C00081 (City)

This advanced course covers the key theoretical and practical aspects of chemistry and biology. You'll further enhance your laboratory and innovation skills, as well as project management and presentation. Part of the course involves a major research project, and you'll have the opportunity to specialise in a particular area that interests you. The HND is two years of study.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers in Chemistry and Biology/ Human Biology, plus National 5 Maths at grade C or above (Applications of Maths is not accepted)
- If you only have one Higher in Chemistry or Biology, you need a National 5 at grade B for the other
- Or SCQF Level 6 NC Applied Science at grade B or above (Chemistry/Biology route)
- Or SCQF Level 6 Forensic Science & Biotechnology
- Or Science: Routes to Higher Education – including Highers in Chemistry, Biology and Maths.

SCQF LEVEL 7

HNC
Applied Science
(Chemistry/Physics Route)

Course code:
C00078 (City)

This broad course will give you both the theory and practical skills for modern sciences, with a focus on chemistry and physics. It includes a large amount of laboratory-based work where you'll learn essential practical skills and how to use analytical instrumentation. Alongside this, you'll also develop your scientific communication and presentation skills. The HNC is one year of study.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers in Chemistry and Physics, plus National 5 Maths at grade B or above (Applications of Maths is not accepted)
- If you only have one Higher in Chemistry or Physics, you need a National 5 at grade B for the other
- Or SCQF Level 6 course NC Applied Science - grade B or above (Chemistry/Physics route)
- Or Science: Routes to Higher Education – including Highers in Chemistry, Physics and Maths.

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND
Applied Science
(Chemistry/Physics Route)

Course code:
C00080 (City)

Grow your scientific knowledge and practical skills, specialising in the fields of chemistry and physics. This advanced-level course focuses on hands-on training, giving you the chance to put theory into practice. You'll also develop valuable skills in experimentation, analytical testing and modern instrumentation, preparing you for further study at university or employment. The HND is two years of study.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers in Chemistry and Physics, plus National 5 Maths at grade B or above (Applications of Maths is not accepted)
- If you only have one Higher in Chemistry or Physics, you need a National 5 at grade B for the other
- Or SCQF Level 6 course NC Applied Science - grade B or above (Chemistry/ Physics route)
- Or Science: Routes to Higher Education – including Highers in Chemistry, Physics and Maths.

student profile

" *I enjoy the wide variety of skills the Applied Science course has given me, and the different opportunities NESCol offers.* **"**

Laurence Mclenan
Applied Science

› School › School-College courses: Skills for Work Engineering and

Introduction to Construction › NC Applied Science (SCQF Level 5) ›

› Executive Officer with the Students' Association ›

40,000
PEOPLE EMPLOYED IN SCOTLAND'S LIFE SCIENCES SECTOR
Life Sciences in Scotland

READ LAURENCE'S STORY

career opportunities

Analytical chemist • Biochemist • Biologist • Biomedical scientist • Biotechnologist

Environmental scientist • Food scientist • Forensic scientist • Geophysicist

Laboratory technician • Marine biologist • Medical physicist • Microbiologist

Research scientist • Secondary school science teacher • Technical brewer

770
LIFE SCIENCES ORGANISATIONS IN SCOTLAND
Scottish Development International (SDI)

our fantastic facilities

science laboratories

Our labs at City and Fraserburgh are full of activity as practical work is a core part of our science courses. City Campus has five labs and one instrumental analysis lab complete with specialist equipment, including a fluorescence spectrometer, flame tubes, cloud chambers, and hydrogen biotechnology equipment.

Each lab holds approximately 20 students and functions as a learning space, allowing theory and practice to be delivered at the same time.

nescol.ac.uk/science

BRINGING SOCIAL SCIENCE TO LIFE

Turn your curiosity into a career that matters.

Studying social sciences can lead to roles in education, criminal justice, government, welfare, and the third sector.

This diverse field explores how humans think, behave and interact, and how society functions. It includes a range of disciplines, from sociology and politics to psychology and history.

You'll be taught by expert lecturers and develop valuable transferable skills such as critical thinking and analysis - preparing you for further study or employment.

**VIEW FULL
COURSE LISTING
OR TO APPLY VISIT:**

nescol.ac.uk/social-sciences

social sciences

Social Sciences: Understanding Human Behaviour & Society

Course code:
C00089 (City)
C00166 (Fraserburgh)

Discover how social sciences explain human behaviour and society. You'll explore a range of subjects including sociology, psychology, modern studies, citizenship and mental health and wellbeing. You'll also develop essential skills including communication, self-awareness, confidence, innovation and digital skills.

Entry Requirements

- National 4 and 5 passes
- Relevant qualifications and experience may be considered.

Social Sciences: Perspectives on 21st Century Society & Culture

Course code:
C00088 (City)
C00165 (Fraserburgh)

Explore the social sciences and gain an understanding of contemporary themes such as the impact of technology, social movements, crime, climate change, mental health and social issues like discrimination. This course covers a range of subjects including sociology, psychology and criminology, as well as developing your communication skills, self-awareness and social intelligence.

Entry Requirements

- Three National 5 passes
- Or SCQF Level 5 Social Sciences
- Relevant qualifications and experience may be considered.

Access to
Social Sciences,
Arts & Education (SWAP)

Course code:
C00090 (City)

This one-year full-time course will prepare you for progression to an undergraduate degree in the arts, social sciences or primary education. Built from SQA units, you'll cover subjects including sociology, psychology, Higher English, National 5 Maths as well as Preparation for Higher Education.

The Scottish Wider Access Programme (SWAP) supports access to higher education for adult learners. SWAP access programmes run at colleges across Scotland and provide a route into hundreds of university degree courses. This course is specifically designed for adults who are returning to education after a gap and is not suitable for candidates applying straight from school or those who have a degree.

Entry Requirements
- No formal qualifications required
- You must have been out of education for at least 3 years if your last course of study was up to SCQF Level 5
- You must have been out of education for at least 5 years if your last course of study was up to SCQF Level 6.

HNC
Social Sciences
with Criminology
(NextGen)

Course code:
C01019 (City)
C01020 (Fraserburgh)

This course will help you understand the world around you. You'll explore a broad mix of social science subjects to understand people, society and meaningful contemporary issues.

You'll examine social problems through an evidence-based approach, studying criminology, sociology, psychology, history and politics to understand behaviour, inequality, social change and how decisions shape everyday life.

Entry Requirements
- Two Highers which should be relevant to Social Sciences (English, History, Modern Studies, Philosophy, RMPS etc)
- Or SCQF Level 6 Social Sciences course
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

HND
Social Sciences

Course code:
(City - Year 2)

This advanced level course will strengthen your existing knowledge and understanding when it comes to human behaviour and society. You'll use critical thinking to analyse different issues and build valuable evaluative and problem-solving skills. Supportive lecturers will guide you through topics including sociology, psychology, politics and history.

Entry Requirements
- HNC Social Sciences with Criminology.

student profile

"

I wanted to show my son that anything is possible, and I got a great sense of achievement from attending classes, studying, and learning something new.

"

Caelsa Sim
HNC Social Sciences

READ CAELSA'S STORY

18,500

PEOPLE EMPLOYED BY HM COURTS & TRIBUNALS SERVICE IN THE UK

UK Government

› Working in care › Social Sciences: Perspectives on 21st Century Society & Culture course › HNC Social Sciences › Plans to study BSc Paramedicine at RGU ›

career opportunities

Administrator • Archivist • Business management • Civil service administrator • Community development worker • Human resources officer • Journalist • Lecturer • Local government officer • Police • Policy officer Social researcher • Social worker • Teacher • Youth Worker

nescol.ac.uk/social-sciences

18,500
PEOPLE EMPLOYED BY HM COURTS & TRIBUNALS SERVICE IN THE UK
UK Government
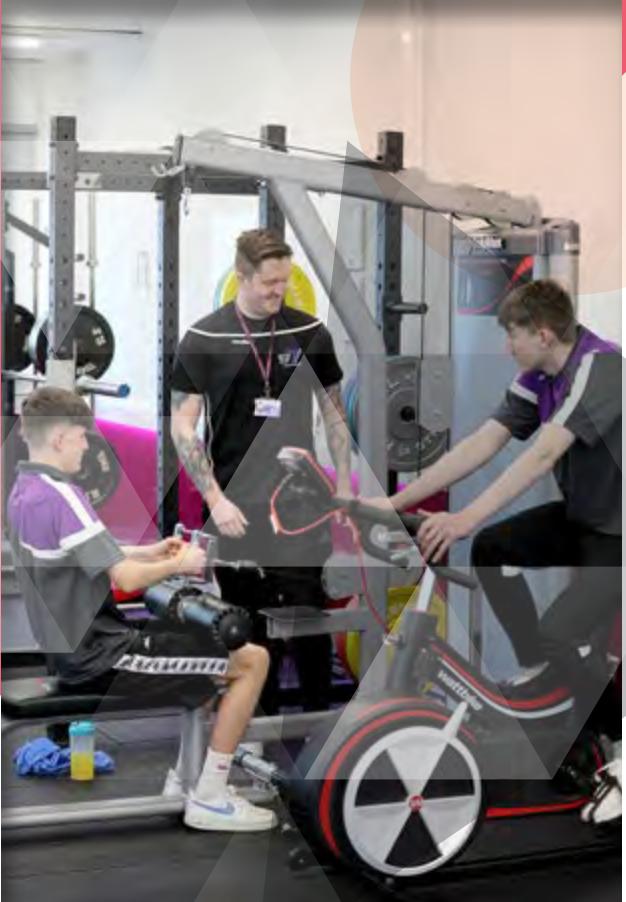
sport, fitness & uniformed services

BUILD STRENGTH LEAD OTHERS
BRINGING SPORT & FITNESS TO LIFE

Make a positive impact in the community with an active career.

Working in sports, fitness or uniformed services (such as the Police, Armed Forces and Fire and Rescue) allows you to make a difference to the lives of individuals, as well as the wider society.

Supported by knowledgeable teaching staff, you'll develop core practical skills, deepen your understanding of your field and grow your confidence.

NESCol also works closely with local organisations so you'll gain valuable experience and insight into different career options.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/sport

Introduction to Sport Coaching, Exercise & Fitness

BROADLY COMPARABLE TO **SCQF LEVEL 4/5**

Course code:
C00050 (City)
C00142 (Fraserburgh)

Whether you're aiming for further study or looking to step into an entry-level role, this course gives you the perfect foundation to build your future in sport. You'll learn through a lively mix of practical sessions and classroom study, gaining a solid understanding of how the body works, how to design effective gym programmes, and how to develop confident, inspiring coaching skills.

On completion of this course, you'll gain an NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Sport, Exercise & Fitness.

Entry Requirements
- No formal entry requirements
- Must have a keen interest in sport and fitness
- Relevant experience may be considered
- Suitable candidates will be invited to attend a selection afternoon which includes a course presentation, one-to-one discussion and a practical team building activity.

Advanced Sport Coaching, Fitness & Exercise

BROADLY COMPARABLE TO **SCQF LEVEL 5/6**

Course code:
C00047 (City)
C00139 (Fraserburgh)

This course is ideal if you have a passion for sport coaching, fitness and exercise, and are driven to stay active. You'll have the chance to put your skills into action through volunteering. You can gain hands-on experience with exciting external partners, these opportunities not only build confidence, but also help you make real industry connections that can open doors to future careers.

On completion of this course, you'll gain an NCFE Level 2 Gym Instructor and Emergency First Aid at Work qualifications.

Entry Requirements
- Three National 5 passes at grade C or above including PE and English
- Or Introduction to Sport Coaching, Exercise & Fitness course – NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Sport, Exercise & Fitness
- Relevant industry experience or qualifications may be considered
- Suitable candidates will be invited to attend a selection afternoon which includes a course presentation, one-to-one discussion and a practical team building activity.

HNC/HND Sports Coaching & Development

DEGREE LINK **SCQF LEVEL 7/8**

Course code:
C00046 (City - HND)
C00169 (Fraserburgh - HNC)

Explore the fundamentals of sports coaching and development, ideal if you want to participate in sport, lead coaching sessions or work directly with athletes. Blending practical subjects with related theory, you'll be equipped with the skills and knowledge to work as a professional in the sports industry. You'll participate in a range of sports events and festivals and gain an industry-recognised PDA qualification.

Entry Requirements
- Two Highers in PE and another relevant subject such as Science, Maths or English
- Or Advanced Sport Coaching, Fitness & Exercise course
- Or NPA in Exercise Leadership – plus one Higher
- Relevant industry experience and qualifications may be considered
- Attend a selection day during a Transition to Sport event.

SCQF LEVEL 8

HND Fitness, Health & Exercise

Course code:
C00045 (City)

If you're passionate about fitness, health, and helping others achieve their goals, this HND course is your pathway into a rewarding and fast-growing industry. You'll explore a broad range of subjects covering the full spectrum of sports science, exercise instruction and fitness leadership—along with the chance to complete a PDA in Personal Training.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers in PE and another relevant subject such as Science, Maths or English
- Or Advanced Sport Coaching, Fitness & Exercise course
- Or NPA in Exercise Leadership – plus one Higher
- Relevant industry experience and qualifications may be considered
- Attend a selection day during a Transition to Sport event.

SCQF LEVEL 8

Level 2 Diploma for Entry to the Uniformed Services

Course code:
C00048 (City)
C00140 (Fraserburgh)

Through the course, you'll find out about a wide range of uniformed and emergency services, learning about their roles, responsibilities, and recruitment processes. You'll connect directly with industry representatives through inspiring presentations, hands-on team-building challenges, and outdoor skills activities designed to push you and build confidence. You'll also get the chance to visit real emergency and uniformed service environments, giving you a close-up look at how these teams operate every day.

On completion of this course, you'll gain an NCFE Level 2 Diploma for Entry to the Uniformed Services.

Entry Requirements

- No formal entry requirements
- Must have a keen interest in studying uniformed services and be willing to take part in all theoretical and practical elements of the course
- Relevant experience may be considered
- Suitable candidates will be invited to attend a selection afternoon which includes a course presentation, one-to-one discussion and a practical team building activity.

SCQF LEVEL 8

Level 3 Certificate for Entry to the Uniformed Services

Course code:
C00049 (City)
C00141 (Fraserburgh)

Explore the wide range of uniformed services and discover the exciting careers they offer. Through a series of work-related units, you'll develop and apply practical skills, confidence, whilst focussing on your leadership skills —preparing you for roles in the Police, Fire and Rescue Service, Prison Service, Army, Royal Navy, Royal Marines, or Royal Air Force. You'll also meet representatives from these services, giving you valuable first-hand insight into what their jobs involve.

On completion of this course, you'll gain an NCFE Level 3 Certificate for Entry to the Uniformed Services.

Entry Requirements

- Two National 5 passes at grade C or above
- Or NCFE Level 2 Diploma for Entry to the Uniformed Services
- Must have an interest in studying uniformed services and be willing to take part in all theoretical and practical elements of the course
- Relevant industry experience or qualifications may be considered
- Suitable candidates will be invited to attend a selection afternoon which includes a course presentation, one-to-one discussion and a practical team building activity.

student profile

"
College was the best thing. The placements were really good. The first year, I spent nine weeks at the Sports Village running multisport afterschool clubs for kids. The second year, I spent coaching golf to kids.
"

**Ruby Watt
HND Sports Coaching & Development**

READ RUBY'S STORY

› School and amateur golfer › Advanced Sport Coaching, Fitness & Exercise ›

› HND Sports Coaching & Development › Studying DipHE Professional Golf PGA at

UHI & working at the Paul Lawrie Golf Centre ›

career opportunities

British Army • Coastguard • Fitness/ gym instructor • PE teacher • Personal trainer • Police Scotland

Royal Air Force (RAF) • Royal Marines • Royal Navy • Scottish Fire and Rescue Service • Scottish Prison Service

Sport and exercise scientist • Sports coach • Sports or leisure centre manager • Sports professional

Sports therapist

nescol.ac.uk/sport

147,300
FULL-TIME ARMED FORCES
PERSONNEL IN THE UK
UK Parliament

our fantastic facilities

fitness suites & games halls

The fitness suites at our City and Fraserburgh campuses are fully equipped with cardiovascular and resistance machines, as well as free weights areas. Students can also access the fitness suites free of charge during designated times outside of teaching hours. Both campuses have games halls where you can take part in various activities, including basketball, volleyball, badminton, martial arts, yoga, and aerobics.

Create unforgettable experiences with a career in travel and tourism.

As one of the largest industries in the world, working in travel and tourism is full of possibilities. From cruise ships and airlines to business travel and hospitality, the opportunities in the North East and beyond are vast.

At NESCol, you'll gain insights from industry-experienced lecturers. Our courses are tailored to give you the professional skills, sector knowledge and confidence to succeed – wherever travel and tourism takes you.

**VIEW FULL
COURSE LISTING
OR TO APPLY VISIT:**

nescol.ac.uk/travel

travel & tourism

Discover Travel & Tourism

Course code:
C00093 (City)

Explore travel tourism industry roles and skills. You'll gain essential knowledge for a career in travel, tourism or other customer-facing industries. Our experienced lecturers will take you through modules including an introduction to air cabin crew, travel agency skills, tourist destinations and the role of a resort rep.

Entry Requirements

- At least one National 5 pass, preferably in English or Geography, plus three National 4 passes
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

Travel, Tourism & Aviation

Course code:
C00092 (City)

Develop your knowledge of the travel and tourism industry with a particular focus on the aviation industry and air cabin crew. This course covers airport ground operations, activity tourism, dynamic package holidays and working as air cabin crew.

Entry Requirements

- Four National 5 passes, preferably including English, Maths and Geography
- Or SCQF Level 5 Discover Travel & Tourism
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

HND Travel & Tourism

Course code:
C00091 (City)

Get industry-ready and equipped with the skills, knowledge and attributes for a career in travel and tourism. You'll cover topics including customer care, airline and airport operations, marketing principles, tour guiding and the history of Scottish tourism. This course will prepare you to go directly into employment, or progression towards a university degree.

Entry Requirements

- Two Highers including one in a relevant subject such as English, History, Geography, Psychology, Sociology, Modern Studies, Philosophy or RMPS
- Or SCQF Level 6 Travel, Tourism & Aviation
- Relevant life skills and experience may be considered.

student profile

The knowledge and practical skills I learned at NESCol have come into play with this role. I meet so many people from all over the world and take great satisfaction in recommending restaurants, activities, and experiences that will make their visit to Scotland an unforgettable one.

"

Adam Matthew
Preparation for Work / HND Travel & Tourism

› School › SCQF Level 3 Preparation for Work › NC Travel & Tourism ›

› HND Travel & Tourism › BA (Hons) International Tourism Management at RGU ›

› Part of the Concierge team in a luxury Edinburgh hotel ›

11,400
FULL-TIME WORKERS EMPLOYED BY TOURISM IN ABERDEEN CITY AND SHIRE
One

READ ADAM'S STORY

career opportunities

Airport check-in staff • Airport ground crew • Cabin crew • Cruise ship steward

Customer service personnel • Hotel staff and manager • Heritage officer • Resort representative

Tour guide • Tour manager • Tourist information centre manager • Travel agent

Travel agency manager • Travel consultant • Visitor attraction general manager

£1.27bn

ECONOMIC IMPACT OF TOURISM
IN THE NORTH EAST IN 2024
One

our fantastic facilities

NESCol travel centre

Located at City Campus, the NESCol Travel Centre is the main hub for our Travel and Tourism courses. You'll get the chance to perfect your customer service skills with our check-in desk and learn about cabin crew duties with airline equipment. Students also have access to online resources used by the travel industry, such as reservation systems.
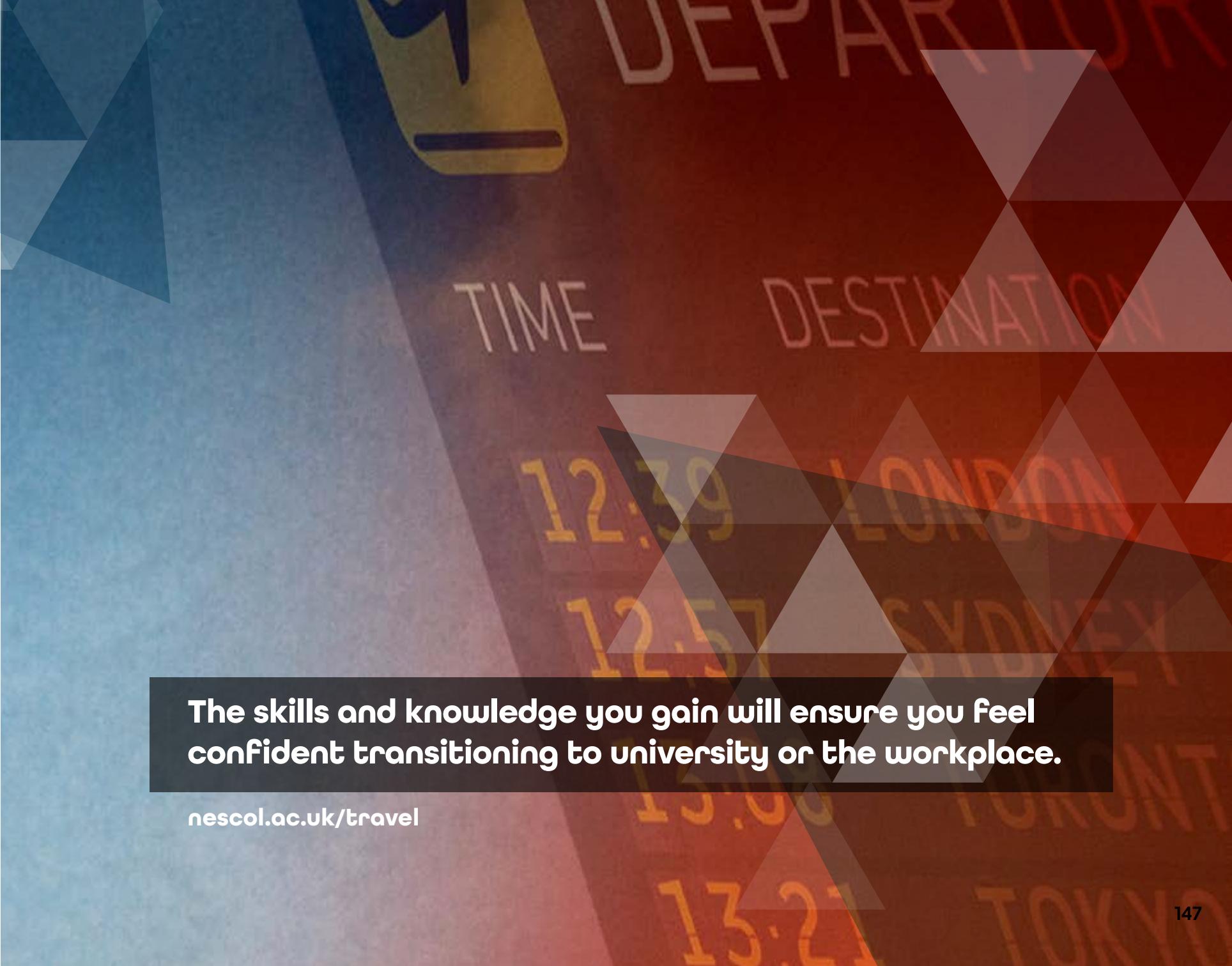
The skills and knowledge you gain will ensure you feel confident transitioning to university or the workplace.

nescol.ac.uk/travel

147

BRINGING AUTOMOTIVE TO LIFE

Turn your love of cars into a career. The automotive industry is constantly evolving, with the shift towards electric and hydrogen vehicles creating even more opportunities.

At NESCol, you'll work on real vehicles with specialist equipment in our automotive workshops. Industry-experienced staff will guide you as you learn maintenance and repair skills to keep drivers safe and get their cars back on the road.

Our strong industry links also provide valuable opportunities to connect with employers and explore work experience or apprenticeship pathways.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/auto

vehicle technologies

Diploma in Automotive Vehicle Accident Repair Level 1

SCQF LEVEL 4

Course code:
C00101 (Altens)

Kickstart your career in the automotive industry in accident repair. This entry level course will introduce you to bodywork and paintwork principles and techniques, as you learn how to repair and refinish vehicles. You'll work in small groups to repair a range of vehicles and discover how new developments in the motor industry impact your work.

Entry Requirements
• No formal entry requirements
• A genuine interest in the automotive industry is desirable
• You must be 16 or over by the start of the course.

Diploma in Automotive Maintenance & Repair Principles Level 1

BROADLY COMPARABLE TO

SCQF LEVEL 4

Course code:
C00102 (Fraserburgh)
C00103 (Altens)

This entry level course is ideal if you're interested in an automotive career and want to specialise in the maintenance and repair of motor vehicles. You'll learn how different automotive systems work including transmission, steering, air/fuel and suspension. Our lecturers will also guide you through workshop bench skills and important health & safety standards.

Entry Requirements
• No formal entry requirements
• A genuine interest in the automotive industry is desirable
• You must be 16 or over by the start of the course.

Automotive Maintenance & Repair Principles

SCQF LEVEL 5

Course code:
C00104 (Altens)

This course will help you strengthen your skillset and prepare for a career in the motor industry. You'll build on your existing knowledge and understanding of automotive systems, and perfect your practical skills through extensive work in vehicle service and repair.

Entry Requirements
• One National 4 pass in Maths, English or a technical subject
• Or Level 1 Diploma in Automotive Vehicle Accident Repair or Automotive Maintenance & Repair Principles
• You must be 16 or over by the start of the course.

ENERGY TRANSITION SKILLS

student profile

The College is immense for learning, and my positive experience was thanks to the people. All the lecturers made it really easy, and it was a pleasure to come in and learn.

Gavin Easton
Automotive Vehicle Accident Repair

13%
INCREASE IN VEHICLE TECHNICIAN SALARIES IN 2 YEARS
Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)

READ GAVIN'S STORY

› Product Manager in the chemical industry › Automotive Vehicle Accident

Repair course & part-time welding course › Automotive Modern Apprenticeship ›

career opportunities

Engineer • Garage Manager • Motor Mechanic • Motor Vehicle Breakdown Engineer • Motor Vehicle Fitter

Motor Vehicle Parts Technician • Vehicle Body Repairer • Vehicle Spray Painter

42m

VEHICLES ON UK ROADS IN 2024

The Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders (SMMT)

our fantastic facilities

automotive workshops

In our automotive workshops based at Altens and Fraserburgh campuses, students gain hands-on experience working on a wide variety of real vehicles using specialist tools and equipment.

At Altens, students also benefit from access to a fully equipped paint shop, featuring professional spray booths and paint mixing equipment.

nescol.ac.uk/auto

CHART YOUR FUTURE
BRINGING MARITIME TO LIFE

Set sail with an exciting career in the maritime industry.

The Scottish Maritime Academy (SMA) is NESCol's nautical centre of excellence based in Peterhead. SMA specialises in training for maritime careers, with courses aimed at those new to the industry as well as experienced seafarers looking to refresh their knowledge or upskill.

Our accredited courses are led by staff with extensive maritime experience. Whether you want to work in the Merchant Navy, the fishing industry or the standby and supply sector, you'll feel ready for your career at sea.

VIEW FULL COURSE LISTING OR TO APPLY VISIT:

nescol.ac.uk/sma

careers at sea

scottish maritime academy

A centre of excellence of NORTH EAST SCOTLAND COLLEGE

SCQF LEVEL 5

Trainee Deckhand (NPA Maritime Skills)

This 12 week course is ideal for anyone interested in a career at sea. The course covers the basic requirements of a trainee deckhand. The course will provide the necessary training to gain employment within the Merchant Navy, the offshore energy sector and the fishing industry. As well as gaining a National Progression Award (NPA) in Maritime studies, learners may also achieve STCW basic safety training and Seafish mandatory safety certificates allowing you to work at sea.

Entry Requirements
• There are no formal entry requirements for this course although applicants should be at least 16 years old and have a basic level of core skills.

Visit our website for more information: **www.smaritime.co.uk**

SCQF LEVEL 7

Deck Officer Cadet Programme

Deck Officers are vital members of a ship's operational crew, responsible for navigating vessels safely around the world. This programme consists of 5 phases undertaken over 3 years, and combines classroom learning at the SMA with time spent on commercial ships operating across seas and oceans worldwide. Successful students will gain the MCA Officer of the Watch Certificate of Competency and an HNC in Nautical Science. Places on the course are sponsored by shipping companies, please contact:

Ch.Bell@nescol.ac.uk for further information.

Entry Requirements
• Applicants should have four National 5 passes (or equivalent) including English, Maths and one science subject. You will also be required to pass a seafarer medical test (ENG 1).

Please note that having a criminal record may prevent applicants from being accepted onto this course due to international visa restrictions.

Visit our website for more information: **www.smaritime.co.uk**

student profile

"

I have enjoyed every aspect of it: the practical, learning new techniques and knowledge, gaining great relationships with the College staff and other students. I wish I had made this change sooner!

"

Siobhan Douglas
Trainee Deckhand (NPA Maritime Skills)

› Worked in care › Trainee Deckhand (NPA Maritime Skills) course ›

› Working as a Trainee Deckhand ›

3,700
WORKING ON SCOTTISH VESSELS IN 2024
Scottish Government

READ SIOBHAN'S STORY

career opportunities

Merchant Navy Ship's Captain • Merchant Navy Deck Officer • Deckhand: renewables; standby and supply; fishing; cruise and leisure craft • Fisherman • Fishing Vessel Skipper • Able Seaman • Ordinary Seaman

95%
OF ALL GOODS ARRIVE IN
THE UK BY SHIP
Careers at Sea

The Scottish Maritime Academy (SMA) is our purpose-built training centre occupying a unique location overlooking the Port of Peterhead.

nescol.ac.uk/sma

our fantastic facilities

We can replicate real-time vessel activity with classroom training scenarios. Depending on the course, students will have access to a range of facilities:

• **Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) suite with 1-on-1 workstations**
• **Transas simulator with 3 training bridges**
• **Radio simulation room**
• **Net hall**
• **Chart rooms.**

open days

Open events give you the opportunity to find out everything you need to know about college life including information on courses, the application process, funding, and support available to you during your studies.

Aberdeen Altens

Aberdeen City

Fraserburgh

Scottish Maritime Academy

**FIND OUT OUR
NEXT OPEN DAY**

nescol.ac.uk/open-days

PLANETARIUM

Located at City Campus, **NESC**ol's Planetarium is one of Scotland's few permanent planetarium theatres and a hidden gem in the heart of Aberdeen.

Originally opened nearly 50 years ago, the iconic facility was recently transformed and now features a fulldome projector. With a domed ceiling, reclined seating and immersive sound system, it offers audiences a breathtaking, 360-degree visual experience.

The Planetarium hosts public showings, as well as sessions for schools and community groups.

To book scan QR code or go to:
nescol.ac.uk/planetarium

Workforce**Development**

NORTH EAST SCOTLAND COLLEGE

Grow your business

Increase productivity

Improve employee retention

Gain a competitive advantage

Flexible training available for individuals or groups:

- **Online**
- **In-person**
- **Bespoke**

Ask us for more information or visit:

nescol.ac.uk/workforce

workforce@nescol.ac.uk

At North East Scotland College, we understand the importance of ensuring people in your business have the knowledge and expertise they need to help your organisation develop and grow.

From one-day short courses to SQA qualifications, NESCol offers a wide range of courses to meet your needs.

Alternatively, our tailored courses are designed to enhance skills, boost productivity and ensure you meet the requirements of current legislation.

we welcome your feedback

NORTH EAST SCOTLAND COLLEGE

BRINGING LEARNING TO LIFE

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK

TO ENTER OUR PRIZE DRAW

Please take the time to let us know if you have found the NESCol Prospectus useful. An online survey can be found at: nescol.ac.uk/course-guide-feedback

apply online

All of our courses are available to apply for online. Application forms can also be downloaded at **www.nescol.ac.uk** or by contacting our Student Advice Centre team using the contact details below.

equality & diversity

NESCol is committed to equality and the elimination of unlawful discrimination. We make reasonable adjustments to ensure people with additional needs and disabilities are treated fairly and are not disadvantaged. Further information is available at: **nescol.ac.uk/equality-and-diversity**

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This publication is available as a digital download at: www.nescol.ac.uk/downloads

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We also have support available 24/7 via our online assistant, NOVA **www.nescol.ac.uk**

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