

The Diploma – Information Technology

Introduction

The Diploma in IT is a broad qualification for people with an interest in IT and Business. You will learn how to come up with creative solutions as well as planning and delivering successful IT projects. You will learn the importance of technology to business and society. During this process you will fully understand the importance of clear communication with colleagues and customers.

You will also develop a good standard of skills in English, mathematics, problem solving and self management, as part of the generic skills that are vital to this qualification.

Built into this programme of study you will also have the opportunity to undertake research and to specialise in a chosen area.

On completion of this course you will receive UCAS points equivalent to 3.5 full A Levels.

Year 1

There are three areas of principal learning in the first year.

Unit 1: The Potential of Technology

In this unit you will investigate how technology has impacted on, organisations and individuals, focusing particularly on global business competitiveness and the transformational effects of the internet and mobile communications.

Unit 3: Professional Development

This unit will supply you with the knowledge, and some of the skills needed to operate effectively in a business environment.

Unit 5: Managing Technology Systems

This unit looks at understanding the core techniques for managing the availability and security of technology systems. You will learn how to manage small-scale live technology system operations, how to ensure systems availability and troubleshoot system problems involving viruses and user errors.

You will also study Functional skills and the first year of your specialist learning.

Year 2

There are four main areas of learning in the second year.

Unit 2: Understanding Organisations

This unit is all about understanding organisations and their organisational structures and employee roles and responsibilities — with an ICT focus.

Unit 4: Creating Technology Solutions

In this unit you will extend your understanding of database software and learn how to create database systems with three tier architecture (relational database, program code and user interface).

You will use an event-driven programming language such as Visual Basic for Applications (VBA) to customise and enhance the functionality of the database systems you produce.

Unit 6: Multimedia and Digital Projects

There are many other types of multimedia products such as computer games, digital brochures, simulations, virtual reality, advertisements, virtual tours. In this unit, you will also design and develop your own multimedia product.

Unit 7: Making Projects Successful

Project management is becoming one of the most important functions in the business world and a good project manager can be literally worth their weight in gold. This unit will equip you with some of the skills needed to become a good project manager.

You will also complete your extended project and specialist learning.

Assessment

There is a combination of both coursework and examined units.

Specific Entry Criteria

Standard college entry requirements for an advanced level programme.