

An Introduction to the Access Diploma

Access Diploma

Access courses have been specifically designed for learners aged 19 and over, who would like to study a Higher Education course. They are ideal for adults who have not studied for a long time but wish to return to education. Access courses give learners the skills as well as the qualifications they need to take their studies further. The courses are designed to enhance confidence and personal development and to enable learners to work independently at Higher Education level.

An Access course can be completed in one year as a full-time student; however, you can take the part-time option and complete the programme over two years. No formal qualifications are required to take an Access course, although after initial enquiry learners are invited to a group interview/information session during which basic English and Maths levels will be assessed. This is to ensure that prospective learners are working at approximately Level 2 (GCSE level) at the start of the learners' course. Successful completion of an Access course means that you can apply to study at university. Access courses are available at our main Dunstable College campus and also at The Learning Warehouse Leighton-Linsdale in Leighton Buzzard. The awarding body is Open College Network Oxford Thames Chiltern (OCNOTC).

Essential information

Access Diplomas are arranged in a modular system which gives you the flexibility to build up your own programme to suit your individual needs.

The College offers 8 pathways:

- Nursing, Midwifery and Medically Allied Professions (Radiography, Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy, Audiology etc)
- Teacher Education (leading to ITT Education Degree)
- Social Work
- Humanities and Social Sciences
- Psychology
- Law
- Business Studies and Marketing
- Computing.

To successfully complete all pathways except for Nursing, Midwifery and Medically Allied Professions, you will need to achieve 60 credits, of which 45 must be at Level 3 (A level standard). Please check with the university of your choice concerning the number of credits they require for a particular course, as some may require more than the minimum number stated here.

Timetables

As the Access programme is modular, you will be responsible for creating your own timetable. This will be done during induction. Most classes are held between 0930 and 1515.

The courses comprise core and optional modules. All core modules are offered at least three times per week and optional modules offered twice per week. Part-time learners have the opportunity to attend during the day, the evening (Monday and Tuesday only) or a combination of both.

Entry requirements

- You must be at least 19 years of age or over
- Level 2 literacy skills
- Level 1 numeracy skills.

Fees

The fee for the Access course per annum is:

Full-Time	£165.00		
Part-Time per annum	£125.00	Discounted fee	£60



Access

The Modular Access to Higher Education Scheme - PATHWAYS

Nursing, Midwifery and Medically Allied Professions 60 credits needed - 51 must be Level 3	Teacher Education 60 credits needed - 45 must be Level 3	Social Work 60 credits needed - 45 must be Level 3	Humanities and Social Science 60 credits needed - 45 must be Level 3	Psychology 60 credits needed - 45 must be Level 3	Law 60 credits needed - 45 must be Level 3	Business Studies and Marketing 60 credits needed - 45 must be Level 3	Computing 60 credits needed - 45 must be Level 3
↓ Human Biology must be Level 3	↓ If no GCSE in English, Maths & Science gained in the last 3 years, GCSE equivalence must be undertaken	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓	↓
Level 2 Core - Numeracy (6 credits), Communication Skills (6 credits), IT (6 credits)							
Level 3 Core - Research Skills (6 credits)							
All Pathways must take the core modules in Communication Skills, Numeracy, IT & Research Project							
Recommended options							
Human Biology	School placement	Values and Ethics	English Literature	Theoretical approaches to Psychology	Sources of Common Law	Economics	History of Computing
Sociology	English Literature	Approaches to Social Work	History	Ethical issues in Psychology Memory	The English Legal System	Finance	Programme Specifications
Psychology	History	Social Policy	Sociology	Abnormal Psychology	Participation in the Law	Marketing	Introduction to Software Design
	GCSE English, Maths and Science		Psychology		Culture and Social Differentiation	Business Administration and Law	Introduction to Programming
					Social Policy and Sociology		Social aspects of computing

These are the recommended options, although you can build a more discrete pathway to suit your individual needs, in conjunction with a course tutor.

Access

Access to Higher Education Progression Diploma

Access Diploma

Foundation Degree

Extended Certificate
(Extended Degree)

National Diploma

Higher
National
Certificate

FULL
DEGREE

Access

Access to Higher Education Progression Diploma

Level 2



These Level 2 Progression Diploma courses have been designed for students who are preparing for the full Access course.

This course can be studied on a part-time basis over two years or on a full-time basis over one year. Successful completion of the course will enable entry onto the Access Diploma course.

You will study:

- Level 1 Literacy and Numeracy
- New Clait Level 1
- Research project, child psychology and diversity.

Entry Requirements

Entry Level 3 in Literacy and Numeracy.

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	DISCOUNTED FEE	CODE
Tue, Wed, Thu	18/09/07	0930-1500	£ 125	£60	22172 D17MA

Please note: The fee shown is per annum.

Business Studies and Marketing

Access Diploma to Higher Education in Business Studies and Marketing (OCNOTC)



This course is aimed at those who wish to undertake a university degree in Business Studies. This course enables you to “return to learn” in a supportive environment.

You will develop core skills in communication, numeracy and IT.

Core modules are:

- Communication
- Reading and Writing
- Speaking and Listening

Application of Number

- Interpreting and Presenting Information
- Calculations

Information Technology

- Planning Research on the Internet
- Research Skills

Optional Modules are:

- Economics
- Finance
- Marketing
- Business Administration
- Law.

Additional modules may also be available.

Modules in Maths, English Language and Science will also be available for those without the necessary GCSEs.

There will be continuous assessment through assignments, reports, practical exercises and there will be exams.

To gain the Access Diploma you must achieve a minimum of 60 credits, of which at least 45 must be at Level 3.

No formal qualifications are required but you should be able to demonstrate competency in English and Numeracy. You should be 19 or over.

Next Step

Successful completion of this course will enable you to progress to year 1 of your chosen degree. You may apply to the university of your choice via UCAS.

If you change your mind about taking a business degree and wish to take an alternative course, provided the Access Diploma has been obtained, other degree courses will be open to you.

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	DISCOUNTED FEE	CODE
w/c Mon	17/09/07	0930-1500 or 1700-2100 2 years part-time	£125	£60	22160 D17MA

Please note: The fee shown is per annum.



Enrol by post or in person



Interview required, please complete Application Form on page 115.

Computing

Access Diploma to Higher Education in Computing (OCNOTC)



This course is aimed at those who wish to become a computer professional. The course enables you to “return to learn” in a supportive environment. It will help enhance your confidence and those study skills required at a Higher Education level.

This course contains core and optional modules.

Core modules are:

- Application of Number
- Communication Skills
- IT
- Research Module.

Note: These core modules must be passed with a minimum of Level 2 for Application of Number, Communication Skills and IT and Level 3 for the Research Module.

Optional modules are:

- History of Computing
- Introduction to Software Design
- Programming Specifications
- Introduction to Programming
- Practical Programming
- Human Computer Interface
- Social Aspects of Computing
- Computer Arithmetic
- Computer Functions
- Computer Architecture.

Modules in Maths and English Language will also be available for those without the necessary GCSEs.

There will be continuous assessment through assignments, reports, practical assessments and there will be exams.

To gain the Access Diploma a minimum of 60 credits must be achieved, 45 of which must be at Level 3. Where more credits are achieved, then 75% should be at Level 3. No formal qualifications are required, but you should be able to demonstrate a competency in English and Numeracy. You should be 19 or over.

Next Step

Successful completion of this course will enable you to progress to a Foundation Degree in Computing or to university for an Honours Degree.

If you do not wish to proceed immediately to university you may receive an Access Diploma, which can be used with prospective employers or other Higher Education establishments.

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	DISCOUNTED FEE	CODE
w/c Mon	17/09/07	0930-1500 or 1700-2100 2 years part-time	£125	£60	22164 D17MA

Please note: The fee shown is per annum.

Humanities and Social Science

Access Diploma to Higher Education in Humanities and Social Science (OCNOTC)



This course is ideal for those who wish to study at university for a conventional degree. It is usually a popular choice for learners who are interested in studying Sociology, Psychology, Law and History. This course enables you to “return to learn” in a supportive environment.

This course contains core and optional modules.

Core modules are:

- Communication
- Reading and Writing
- Speaking and Listening

Application of Number

- Interpreting and Presenting Information
- Calculations

Information Technology

- Planning Research on the Internet
- Research Skills

Optional modules are:

- Psychology
- Sociology
- History
- English Literature.

Modules in Maths, English Language and Science will also be available for those without the necessary GCSEs. There will be continuous assessment through assignments, reports, practical assessments and there will be exams.

To gain the Access Diploma you must achieve a minimum of 60 credits of which at least 45 credits must be at Level 3. In addition, if you do not have Grade C or above in GCSE Maths and/or English, you will have an option to take further credits in these subjects to achieve the full GCSE equivalence. No formal qualifications are required, but you should be able to demonstrate competency in English and Numeracy. You should be 19 or over.

Next Step

Successful completion of this course will enable you to progress to year 1 of your chosen degree. You may apply to the university of your choice via UCAS.

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	DISCOUNTED FEE	CODE
w/c Mon	17/09/07	0930-1500 or 1700-2100 2 years part-time	£125	£60	22161 D17MA

Please note: The fee shown is per annum.

Access Diploma to Higher Education in Law (OCNOTC)



This course is aimed at those who wish to undertake a university degree in Law. This course enables you to “return to learn” in a supportive environment.

You will develop core skills in communication, numeracy and IT.

Core modules are:

Communication

- Reading and Writing
- Speaking and Listening

Application of Number

- Interpreting and Presenting information
- Calculations

Information Technology

- Planning Research on the Internet
- Research Skills

Optional modules are:

- Sources of Common Law
- The English Legal System
- Criminal Law - Assault and Murder

- Participation in the Law
- Culture and Social Differentiation
- Social Policy and Sociology.

Additional modules may also be available in Maths, English Language and Science for those without the necessary GCSEs. There will be continuous assessment through assignments, reports, practical exercises and there will be exams. To gain the Access Diploma you must achieve a minimum of 60 credits, of which at least 45 must be at Level 3.

No formal qualifications are required but you should be able to demonstrate competency in English and Numeracy. You should be 19 or over.

Next Step

Successful completion of this course will enable you to progress to year 1 of your chosen degree. A number of our students progress to studying at the Universities of Bedfordshire, Durham and Chester.

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	DISCOUNTED FEE	CODE
w/c Mon	17/09/07	0930-1500 or 1700-2100 2 years part-time	£125	£60	22166 D17MA

Please note: The fee shown is per annum.

Nursing, Midwifery and Medically Allied Professions

Access Diploma in Nursing, Midwifery and Medically Allied Professions (OCNOTC)



This course is aimed at those who wish to specialise in Nursing, Midwifery, Audiology, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy etc. It covers a broad range of subjects relating to medical fields. The course will enhance your confidence and those study skills required at a Higher Education level.

This course contains core and optional modules.

Core modules are:

- Communication Skills
- IT
- Numeracy
- Research Project

Optional modules are:

- Human Biology
- Sociology
- Psychology
- Health Policy.

This course blends theoretical and practical work. Additional modules may also be available. Modules in Maths and English Language will also be available for those without the necessary GCSEs.

There will be continuous assessment through assignments, reports, practical assessments and there will be exams.

To gain the Access Diploma you must achieve a minimum of 60 credits, 51 of which must be at Level 3. You must achieve Human Biology at Level 3. No formal qualifications are required, but you should be able to demonstrate a competency in English and Numeracy. You should be aged 19 or over.

Next Step

Successful completion of this course will enable you to progress to a three-year health and social care related degree course, to a more general degree course, or to nurse training or midwifery. Most nursing Access students progress onto various nursing courses at the Universities of Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire or Northamptonshire.

If you do not wish to proceed immediately to university you may receive an Access Diploma, which can be used with prospective employers or other Higher Education establishments.

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	DISCOUNTED FEE	CODE
w/c Mon	17/09/07	0930-1500 or 1700-2100 2 years part-time	£125	£60	22163 D17MA

Please note: The fee shown is per annum.

Psychology

Access Diploma to Higher Education in Psychology (OCNOTC)



This course is aimed at those who wish to undertake a university degree in Psychology but do not have the entry requirements to do so. This course enables you to “return to learn” in a supportive environment.

You will develop core skills in communication, numeracy and IT.

Core modules are:

Communication

- Reading and Writing
- Speaking and Listening

Application of Number

- Interpreting and Presenting information
- Calculations

Information Technology

- Planning Research on the Internet
- Research Skills

Optional modules are:

- Theoretical approaches to Psychology
- Abnormal Psychology
- Ethical issues in Psychology
- Memory.

Note:

This pathway will also include some Sociology units to allow comparison and contrast between the two social sciences and also to allow for the rigorous study of research methodology. Additional modules may also be available in Maths, English Language and Science for those without the necessary GCSEs. There will be continuous assessment through assignments, reports, practical exercises and there will be exams.

To gain the Access Diploma you must achieve a minimum of 60 credits, of which at least 45 must be at Level 3.

No formal qualifications are required but you should be able to demonstrate competency in English and Numeracy. You should be 19 or over.

Next Step

Successful completion of this course will enable you to progress to year 1 of your chosen degree. A number of our students progress to studying at the University of Bedfordshire.

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	DISCOUNTED FEE	CODE
w/c Mon	17/09/07	0930-1500 or 1700-2100 2 years part-time	£125	£60	22165 D17MA

Please note: The fee shown is per annum.

Social Work

Access Diploma to Higher Education in Social Work (OCNOTC)



This course is aimed at those who wish to undertake a university degree in Social Work. This course enables you to “return to learn” in a supportive environment.

You will develop core skills in communication, numeracy and IT.

Core modules are:

Communication

- Reading and Writing
- Speaking and Listening

Application of Number

- Interpreting and Presenting information
- Calculations

Information Technology

- Planning Research on the Internet
- Research Skills

Optional modules are:

- Psychology
- Values and Ethics
- Approaches to Social Work
- Social Policy
- Sociology.

Additional modules may also be available in Maths, English Language and Science for those without the necessary GCSEs.

There will be continuous assessment through assignments, reports, practical exercises and there will be exams.

To gain the Access Diploma you must achieve a minimum of 60 credits, of which at least 45 must be at Level 3.

No formal qualifications are required but you should be able to demonstrate competency in English and Numeracy. You should be 19 or over.

Next Step

Successful completion of this course will enable you to progress to year 1 of your chosen degree. Previous successful students have progressed to the Universities of Bedfordshire, Hertfordshire, Northamptonshire and London.

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	DISCOUNTED FEE	CODE
w/c Mon	17/09/07	0930-1500 or 1700-2100 2 years part-time	£125	£60	22167 D17MA

Please note: The fee shown is per annum.

Teacher Education

Access Diploma to Higher Education in Teacher Education (OCNOTC)



This course is aimed at those who wish to become school teachers. This course has the aim of enabling you to “return to learn” in a supportive environment. You will develop the skills you need to undertake a Bachelor of Education Degree.

The course contains core and optional modules.

Core modules are:

- Communication
- Reading and Writing
- Speaking and Listening

Application of Number

- Interpreting and Presenting Information
- Calculations

Information Technology

- Planning Research on the Internet
- Research Skills

Optional modules are:

- English Literature
- School Placement
- History
- GCSE Science
- Sociology.

Additional modules may also be available in Maths, English Language and Science, for those without the necessary GCSEs.

There will be continuous assessment through assignments, reports, practical exercises, a placement journal and there will be exams. To gain the Access Diploma you must achieve a minimum of 60 credits, of which at least 45 must be at Level 3.

No formal qualifications are required, but you must be at Level 2 in English and Numeracy at the beginning of the course. You should be 19 or over.

Next Step

Successful completion of this course will enable you to progress to year 1 of a BEd degree. Previous successful students have completed their initial teacher training at the Universities of Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire.

You may apply to the university of your choice via UCAS. If you change your mind about teaching and wish to take an alternative degree, provided the Access Diploma has been obtained, other degree courses will be open to you.

DAY	DATE	TIME	FEE	DISCOUNTED FEE	CODE
w/c Mon	17/09/07	0930-1500 or 1700-2100 2 years part-time	£125	£60	22162 D17MA

Please note: The fee shown is per annum.



Enrol by post or in person



Interview required, please complete Application Form on page 115.