

Higher Level Apprenticeships

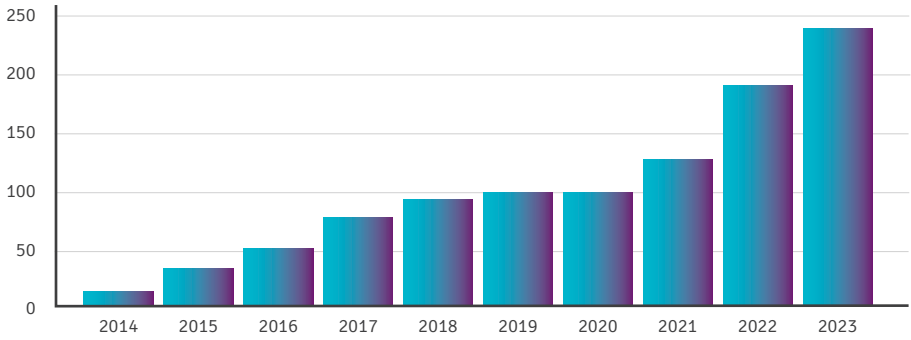
Meeting the Needs of Industry



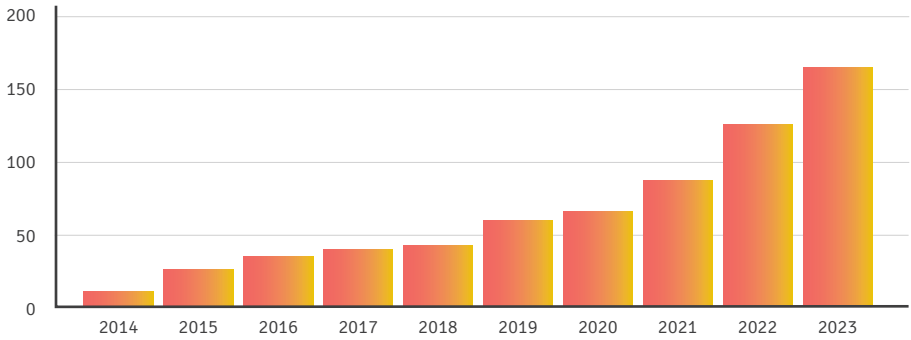
2024/25

HLA Growth

SRC HLA Enrolments



SRC HLA Employer Growth



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HLAs in Development

HLAs detailed below are currently in development with employers and academia, HLA title headings may change as part of this process. If you are an employer and would like to engage regarding these programmes, please contact: hla@src.ac.uk

- Open University Level 5 Foundation Degree in CONSTRUCTION (Civil Engineering) - HLA
- HLA Professional Business Services – Sept 2025 (Subject to validation)

A Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA) offers students the opportunity to gain quality training and a recognised higher level qualification while in paid employment.

HLAs are open to applicants who have gained a level 3 qualification (A-Levels/A-Level equivalent) and who are either employed or about to take up paid employment as an apprentice. Higher Level Apprenticeships are currently offered in a range of subject areas at both level 5 and level 6. The length of a Higher Level Apprenticeship will vary depending on the programme you chose, but will be a minimum of two years.

Benefits to apprentices

By taking part in a Higher Level Apprenticeship, you can gain the skills that employers need and that are relevant to the local economy, therefore improving your prospects of good earnings and sustained employment. Other benefits include:

- Earning while you learn.
- Achieving professional level qualifications without paying higher education tuition fees.
- Increased opportunities for career progression.
- A clear pathway to achieving ambitions in the workplace.

Application Process

Stage 1

Apply Now!! Applications are open for HLA's – apply online on the SRC Admissions portal. (Applications open from November). If you have already secured an employer, you will still need to make an application through SRC, refer to Stage 4: employer suitability.

Stage 2

You will be sent a link to access an Employer Additional Information form (EAI). This form is sent to all employers who have confirmed recruitment intentions. This is the only information employers will receive to short list and invite you for interview. Use this as an opportunity to sell yourself: Make the BEST first impression.

Don't panic! We are here to help, there are guidelines and a video on the HLA portal, and we will invite you to attend a Careers session for help & guidance. Submit your form before March to be sent to HLA employers in our 1st Pool of applicants.

Stage 3

You are required to attend a mandatory Pre-Enrolment Advice Sessions (PEAS). You must attend to obtain a course offer. You will get the chance to meet and speak with the curriculum team.

Stage 4

Your EAI form will be shared with employers.

Alternatively, if you have an employer in mind, you can contact the HLA team at SRC for guidance and we will assess employer suitability (contact details below).

Stage 5

(March - August) – Employers will shortlist, interview, and make job offers.

Employers are responsible for contacting you (the applicant) directly to invite you for interview. SRC are not involved in the shortlisting or interview process. Employers are responsible for contacting you directly to make you a job offer.

Please contact the HLA Team if you have been unsuccessful in gaining an interview or securing a job.

✉ hla@src.ac.uk

Gaining entry onto the HLA programme is conditional

on you securing a job offer and meeting the academic entry requirements and hold a SRC course offer. SRC will endeavour to support you to secure a job offer by sharing your EAI form with SRC registered employers for shortlisting purposes. As noted at Stage 4 above, we will assess independently sourced employer suitability.

Stage 6

(August) – Applicants must follow the admission process and upload results on A-Level results day to prove that required qualifications have been achieved.

- If you have met the academic entry requirements but not yet secured a job offer, please don't panic. Your EAI form will continue to be shared with potential employers.
- If you have met the academic criteria but not yet secured a job, Don't Panic! Your EAI form will continue to be shared with potential employers.
- If you have not met the academic entry criteria, please contact the SRC careers team for alternative options, including Clearing Day and 'Don't Drop Swop' Day.

Stage 7

September – All HLA courses commence.

The HLA programme will run subject to sufficient enrolments. Although you may be in receipt of a Firm Course Offer, the College reserves the right to only run the course if sufficient enrolments are in place. In the case of a HLA programme becoming oversubscribed, places are allocated based on the date an employer makes a job offer.

Costs

There are no costs incurred as Higher-Level Apprenticeships are funded by the Department for the Economy.

Eligibility

Residency conditions apply.

Applicants should not be currently on any other government funded training programme.

HLA applicants who already hold a HND, Foundation Degree or Degree in a related discipline may not be eligible.

To take part in the Higher-Level Apprenticeship programme you need, as a minimum, to:

- Be employed or be about to take up permanent paid employment as an apprentice or be an existing employee moving to a new job role, with a Northern Ireland based company.
- Work a minimum of 21 hours per week (which includes time for 'off-the-job' training).
- Have achieved all necessary entry qualifications determined by the relevant sector.
- Pass any entry tests specified by the relevant sector.
- Be the minimum school leaving age in Northern Ireland.

For any questions regarding the HLA process, please contact the HLA team.

✉ hla@src.ac.uk
☎ 028 3025 9664 / 028 3839 7778



Employer Additional Information (EAI) Form Guidance

- Your EAI Form needs to be specifically aimed to the industry not a particular employer.
- Ensure that your responses to the 3 questions have structure – introduction, middle and end.
- Use professional language.
- Apply the STAR technique:
 1. Describe the Situation (Set the context for your example, may be from school, employment or work experience)
 2. Task (Define the task that needed to be done in the situation and what the end goal was)
 3. Action (What you actually did, not the team, use I NOT We)
 4. Result (Explain results of your actions and lessons learned)
- Employers want to hear about your activities outside of school/college e.g. sports, positions of responsibility, voluntary work, part time job etc.
- Prepare a draft EAI Form for your PEAS session before before you submit it. Curriculum staff will be happy to advise and guide.
- Proof read your EAI Form - get a teacher / colleague to read over it before you submit.
- Check your spelling and punctuation.
- All SRC HLA information and guidance available here: <https://www.src.ac.uk/courses/training-apprenticeships/higher-level>

Remember to include your transferable skills.....

Skill	Example
Problem Solving	Staying calm and adopting a problem solving attitude.
Time Management	Proves you can work to deadlines, create to-do lists, ask for help, break down tasks.
Listening	Great at following instructions, absorb knowledge quickly etc.
Prioritisation	Assess your workload, organise in order of importance.
Communication	Communicate with customers, deliver presentations, working as part of a team etc.
Resilience	Coping with set backs & criticism.
Adaptability	Having the ability to adapt as situations / projects change.
Computer Skills	Having a good knowledge of the Microsoft Package (Word, Email, Excel etc.)
Leadership	Motivating others on a shared goal, leading a project etc.
Research & Analysis	Gathering information - could be for a course module.

Be positive about yourself and use the buzz words below...

HONEST

EXPERIENCE

DEVELOPED

DETERMINED

COLLABORATED

HARDWORKING

RESPONSIBLE

ORGANISED

CONFIDENT

DEPENDABLE


INDIVIDUAL

INDEPENDENT

PROACTIVE

MOTIVATED

INNOVATIVE

Please check your personal contact details are correct. These are the details the employer will use to contact you for interview. If any changes are required please contact the HLA Team at  hla@src.ac.uk

Become a HLA Employer

Should you wish to become a HLA employer or require further information please contact hla@src.ac.uk

Employer benefits

- SRC will provide a free apprentice recruitment service to each employer.
- Higher Level Apprenticeships can help your company to grow a new talent pipeline of motivated, skilled, qualified, and professional staff.
- Higher Level Apprenticeships can help your company upskill your existing staff and promote internally.
- Higher Level Apprenticeships offer higher education work-based routes into professions which have traditionally been the preserve of graduates.
- All selection and recruitment are controlled by the employer, giving you the ability to enhance entry criteria.
- There is opportunity for employers to take part industry engagement activities to ensure academic content remains relevant.
- Tuition and registration costs are covered by the Department for the Economy

Role of the employer

- The higher level apprentice becomes an employee of your company with a contract of employment which is a minimum of 21 hours per week (including directed training element).
- The directed training in college must be paid as part of the apprentices contracted hours of work i.e. 4 days in work + 1 day in College = 5 days' pay.
- Study leave paid allowance is at the discretion of the employer.
- Each employer will draw up and sign a contract of employment with their apprentice in line with their company policies and procedures whilst recognising the apprentice's attendance requirement at college.
- Programme duration is 2/3 years depending on which HLA is being followed.

- If your company is offering the opportunity to an existing staff member, the employer must provide evidence to support the transfer into a new role. This will be recorded within the Department for the Economy (DfE) 'Existing Employee Application Form' and will include the current job role and their new job role. An existing employee is someone who has been employed by your company for more than 6 months before the start date of the HLA.
- The HLA employer must agree, sign, and date a 'Tripartite Agreement'. This Tripartite Agreement expresses the responsibilities of the employer, the apprentice and the training provider and their commitment to the successful completion of the apprenticeship.
- Employers are required to provide the appropriate experience to support the apprentice during their programme. Each employer is required to assign an in-house mentor to the apprentice while in the workplace.
- The HLA apprentice wage should be commensurate with the industry rate for the job and in accordance with the national minimum wage. (HLA Apprentices cannot be paid a level 1-3 apprentice rate of pay).
- If you are claiming financial support from any other departmental budget or programme, this funding cannot be used to pay the HLA apprentice wage.
- The minimum level of cover for Employers' Liability Insurance must be in line with the legal requirements under the 'Employers' Liability (Defective Equipment and Compulsory Insurance) (Northern Ireland) Order 1972'. The minimum level of cover is £5 million.
- The HLA programme is subject to audit by the Department for the Economy (DfE) Inspection Team.
- Each course will only run subject to viable numbers.
- To access the pool of HLA applicants', employers must complete the 'GDPR Data Sharing Agreement'.



Accounting Technicians Ireland Level 5 Diploma for ACCOUNTING TECHNICIANS - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	2 years
Start Date	September

Awarded by Accounting Technicians Ireland (ATI)
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme

The apprenticeship framework will be at Level 5 and include the Accounting Technician Diploma as the main knowledge-based component of the framework. Each apprentice will also undergo a specific induction programme (1 day induction) and an online mentoring programme which includes SRC and ATI. This apprenticeship aims to provide a structured environment where apprentices, under the supervision of a qualified mentor, develop the professional values, leadership, technical/functional competencies and the personal and interpersonal attributes that define the role of an accounting technician and chartered accountant. ATI is committed to providing training to all company mentors. The training is being provided to ensure consistency of 'on the job' programme standards and quality.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.
- Applicants must have attained a minimum of 96 UCAS points achieved through the completion of A Levels, National Awards, Access or other alternative approved level 3 qualifications. The requirement for UCAS points are waived for mature students (over 21 years old) but their application will be approved by ATI on a case-by-case basis.
- Applicants must have attained at least 15 points at Level 2 or above (e.g. GCSE) or have alternative approved qualifications. In addition, applicants must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English Language. For entry to this programme, applicants should have attained a C grade in GCSE English language and a B grade in GCSE Maths (or equivalent).
- For those entering a Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLA), employers may further enhance the entry criteria at their discretion. All applicants for HLAs will be interviewed by prospective employers to decide their suitability prior to being employed by a company. Each the applicant must secure employment with a Northern Ireland based company with a minimum contract of 21 hours. Entrance to HLAs is subject to meeting DfE Operational requirements.
- An employer interview is required.
- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.

Please note: that applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Assessment

Students will be assessed through examinations. The first sittings take place in May/June and resits will take place in August.

Course Content

Year 1

- Financial Accounting
- Business Management
- Taxation
- Business Law
- Work Practice

Year 2

- Advanced Financial Accounting
- Advanced Taxation
- Management Accounting
- Financial Data Management
- Advanced Work Practice

Progression Opportunities

Apprentices will be enrolled as students and have student membership of ATI for the duration of the HLA. Apprentices who complete and successfully achieve Level 5 may be eligible to enrol with a professional qualification CAI, ACCA or CIMA to become qualified chartered accountant or enrol in university to complete a Level 6 Accountancy and Management Degree before they can progress to a Level 7.

Students may wish to progress onto the BSc (Hons) Accounting Technology Level 6 Top-Up degree validated by Open University and awarded by Accounting Technicians Ireland delivered at SRC.

For Further Information Contact:

Barbara Mills
 millsb@src.ac.uk



ACCOUNTING TECHNOLOGY

Level 6 (Hons) Degree - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	2 years
Start Date	September
Awarded by Open University and Accounting Technicians Ireland (ATI)	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

The Accounting Technology Level 6 (Hons) Degree Top Up is an advanced programme designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of accounting principles, financial analysis, and technology applications in the accounting profession. This degree course focuses on equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary to excel in the evolving field of accounting and finance.

The top up degree will focus on developing knowledge of the field (content) whilst giving learners the opportunity to apply their learning in practical contexts (experience) whilst enhancing their learning through problem solving approaches (challenging and authentic tasks). The learning approaches will take into account the diverse backgrounds of learners at level 6, whilst helping them develop into independent learners and critical divergent thinkers ready for employment or postgraduate study (inclusive environment activities linked to student experience).

The BSc (Hons) Accounting Technology is viewed as a natural progression route for students completing the Level 5 Diploma in Accounting within Southern Regional College, Southwest College or Belfast Met. This is an all-Ireland qualification and will also be delivered in the Republic of Ireland.

The programme places a strong emphasis on technology applications in accounting. Students will gain practical skills in using accounting software, data analytics tools, and enterprise resource planning systems. They will learn to leverage technology to streamline accounting processes, enhance data accuracy, and improve financial reporting. Students will also explore emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and their impact on accounting practices.

In addition to accounting and finance knowledge, the course covers business management and professional skills. Students will gain an understanding of performance management, corporate governance and professional practice. They will develop effective communication, teamwork, and presentation skills to collaborate with stakeholders and contribute to the success of an organisation.

The over-riding consideration in admitting applicants to this course, is evidence that the learner is likely to be able to complete the course satisfactorily.

How Will I Be Assessed?

Students will be assessed using a variety of methods including group presentations, practical tests, examinations and assignments/reports.

Course Content

Year 1

- Accounting and Finance -Taxation and Financial Reporting
- Information Systems - Information Systems for Accounting and Finance Professionals
- Organisational Governance - Sustainability for Accounting and Finance Professionals
- Accounting and Finance - Performance Management Work Based Learning - Professional Practice and Industry Project

Year 2

- Accounting and Finance - Financial Management Information Systems - Data Analytics
- Organisational Governance - Governance and Strategic Management for Business
- Information Systems - Advanced Data Analytics and Visualisation
- Work Based Learning - Professional Practice and Industry Project

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.
- Applicants must have successfully achieved the ATI Level 5 Accounting Technician qualification or a closely related level 5 accounting qualification (e.g., Foundation Degree).
- Applicants must have attained at least 15 points at Level 2 or above (e.g., GCSE) or have alternative approved qualifications. In addition, applicants must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English Language. For entry to this programme, applicants should have attained a C grade in GCSE English language (or equivalent) and a B grade in GCSE Maths.
- For those entering a Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLA), employers may further enhance the entry criteria at their discretion. All applicants for HLAs will be interviewed by prospective employers to decide their suitability prior to being employed by a company. Each the applicant must secure employment with a Northern Ireland based company with a minimum contract of 21 hours. Entrance to HLAs is subject to meeting DfE Operational requirements.
- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.

Please note: that applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Progression Opportunities

Upon successful completion of the Accounting Technology Level 6 (Hons) Degree, graduates will be well-prepared for a wide range of career opportunities in accounting, finance, and related fields. They may find employment as accountants, financial analysts, auditors, tax specialists, or business consultants in various industries and organisations.

For Further Information Contact:

Clare Kernan

 kernanc@src.ac.uk



Ulster University Level 5 Foundation Degree in APPLIED INDUSTRIAL SCIENCES (Chemical Sciences Pathway) - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	2 years Part time “fast track” with 3 semesters each year
Start Date	September

Awarded by Ulster University and Accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry

Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme

The Foundation Degree in Applied Industrial Science forms the underpinning knowledge for the HLA programme. You will benefit greatly through this form of experiential learning by applying academic subject content in a work setting as well as developing a range of practical work related skills in decision making, communications, negotiating skills and teamwork.

All lecturers are highly experienced in their specific field with most educated to Masters level and some to PhD level. All lecturers have recent relevant industrial experience with some having worked in industry for a number of years prior to joining the College as lecturers. Through collaboration with industry, students will receive the most up to date and relevant experience possible.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed through class tests, oral presentations, individual and collaborative coursework assignments and examinations. A virtual learning environment will be used to support all aspects of assessment. Assessment of Work Based Learning elements will occur during the third semester in both Year 1 and Year 2.

Delivery

The HLA is delivered one day a week within the College while the apprentice is employed in Industry four days per week.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.
- Applicants must have attained a minimum of 48 UCAS points achieved through the completion of A Levels, National Awards, Access or other alternative approved level 3 qualifications. This must include successful completion of Chemistry at Level 3.
- Applicants must have attained at least 15 points at Level 2 or above (e.g., GCSE) or have alternative approved qualifications. In addition, applicants must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English Language. For entry to this programme, applicants should have attained a C grade in GCSE English language and a C grade in GCSE Maths (or equivalent).
- For those entering a Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA), employers may further enhance the entry criteria at their discretion. All applicants for HLAs will be interviewed by prospective employers to decide their suitability prior to being employed by a company. Each the applicant must secure employment with a Northern Ireland based company with a minimum contract of 21 hours. Entrance to HLAs is subject to meeting DfE Operational requirements.
- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.

Please note: that applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Please note: that for Ulster University qualifications, the general entry requirements for Ulster University must also be met in addition to those listed below.

Course Content

(Unit titles may change through Ulster University validation process)

Chemical Sciences Pathway

- Academic Skills
- Mathematical and Statistical Science.
- Core Skills for Chemistry
- Good Laboratory Practice
- Organic and Pharmaceutical Chemistry
- Introduction to Evidence Based Professional Practice
- Developing Skills for Industry
- Biochemistry
- Analytical Science
- Professional Practice in the Laboratory
- Advanced Analytical Science
- Work Based Learning

Progression Opportunities

This course will provide you with an opportunity to undertake a vocationally relevant qualification in Pharmaceutical Bioscience. It promotes opportunities for further progression to degree level courses.

On successful completion of this course (Modules at Level 5) graduates of the Foundation Degree are eligible to apply for progression to the BSc Hons Degree in Pharmaceutical Bioscience at Ulster University. You will also be eligible to apply for the Level 6 Higher Level Apprenticeship BSc Pharmaceutical Bioscience at Ulster University.

Please note: You may choose to progress onto other University courses not specified above. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's admission requirements for alternative courses before enrolling on a course at the College.

A Foundation Degree in Applied Industrial Sciences - Chemical can open up various career opportunities in industries where chemical processes and applications are involved. Some potential careers directly related to this foundation degree may include:

Chemical Technician: working in laboratories or production facilities, assisting with chemical research, analysis, and experimentation.

Quality Control Analyst: responsible for monitoring and ensuring the quality of chemical products and processes.

Process Operator: working in chemical manufacturing plants or refineries, overseeing the operation of equipment and processes involved in chemical production.

Research Assistant: Supporting scientists and researchers in conducting experiments, collecting data, and analysing results.

Environmental Health: focussing on ensuring compliance with environmental regulations, assessing and managing chemical-related risks, and promoting safe handling and disposal practices in industrial settings.

Laboratory Analyst: conducting chemical analysis and testing on various substances, analysing chemical composition, identifying contaminants, or evaluating product quality.

For Further Information Contact:

Ryan Mackle

 mackler@src.ac.uk



Ulster University Level 5 Foundation Degree in APPLIED INDUSTRIAL SCIENCES (Life Sciences Pathway) - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	2 years Part time “fast track” with 3 semesters each year
Start Date	September

Awarded by Ulster University and Accredited by the Royal Society of Chemistry	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

The Foundation Degree in Applied Industrial Science forms the underpinning knowledge for the HLA programme. You will benefit greatly through this form of experiential learning by applying academic subject content in a work setting as well as developing a range of practical work-related skills, decision making, communications, negotiating skills and teamwork.

All lecturers are highly experienced in their specific field with most educated to Masters level and some to PhD level. All lecturers have recent relevant industrial experience with some having worked in industry for a number of years prior to joining the College as lecturers. Through collaboration with industry students will receive the most up to date and relevant experience possible.

Delivery

The HLA is delivered one day a week within the College while the apprentice is employed in industry four days per week.

Learning & Assessment

You will be assessed through class tests, oral presentations, individual and collaborative coursework assignments and examinations. A virtual learning environment will be used to support all aspects of assessment. Assessment of Work Based Learning elements will occur during the third semester in both Year 1 and Year 2.

Entry requirements

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.
- Applicants must have attained a minimum of 48 UCAS points achieved through the completion of A Levels, National Awards, Access or other alternative approved level 3 qualifications. This must include successful completion of Chemistry at Level 3.
- Applicants must have attained at least 15 points at Level 2 or above (e.g. GCSE) or have alternative approved qualifications. In addition, applicants must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English Language. For entry to this programme, applicants should have attained a C grade in GCSE English language and a C grade in GCSE Maths (or equivalent).
- For those entering a Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA), employers may further enhance the entry criteria at their discretion. All applicants for HLAs will be interviewed by prospective employers to decide their suitability prior to being employed by a company. Each the applicant must secure employment with a Northern Ireland based company with a minimum contract of 21 hours. Entrance to HLAs is subject to meeting DfE Operational requirements.
- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.

Please note: that applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Please note: that for Ulster University qualifications, the general entry requirements for Ulster University must also be met in addition to those listed below.

Course Content

- Academic Skills
- Mathematical and Statistical Science
- Core Chemistry Skills for Biology
- Good Laboratory Practice

- Physiology of the Human Body
- Introduction to Evidence Based Professional Practice
- Developing Skills for Industry
- Biochemistry
- Cell Biology and Immunology
- Professional Practice in the Laboratory
- Genetics and Molecular Biology
- Work Based Learning

Progression opportunities

This course will provide you with an opportunity to undertake a vocationally relevant qualification in Pharmaceutical Bioscience. It promotes opportunities for further progression to degree level courses.

On successful completion of this course (Modules at Level 5) graduates of the Foundation Degree are eligible to apply for progression to Year 2 of the BSc Hons programmes in Biomedical Science and the BSc Hons Degree in Pharmaceutical Bioscience at Ulster University. You will also be eligible to apply for the Level 6 Higher Level Apprenticeship BSc Pharmaceutical Bioscience at Ulster University.

Please note: You may choose to progress onto other University courses not specified above. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's admission requirements for alternative courses before enrolling on a course at the College.

A foundation degree in Applied Industrial Sciences - Life can open up many career opportunities in industries that involve the application of life sciences in industrial settings. Some potential careers directly may include:

- **Laboratory Technician:** working in research laboratories or production facilities, assisting scientists and researchers in conducting experiments and analysing biological samples.
- **Quality Control Analyst:** responsible for monitoring and ensuring the quality of products and processes in the life science industry through performing quality control tests, analysing data and identifying issues or deviations.
- **Biotechnology Technician:** working in biotechnology companies or research institutions, assisting with the development and production of biologically derived products.
- **Research Assistant:** supporting scientists and researchers in conducting experiments, collecting data, and analysing results.
- **Environmental Health and Safety:** pursue a career in environmental health and safety, particularly in industries with a focus on biological or biochemical processes.
- **Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Technician:** involved in the production and packaging of pharmaceutical products to ensure standard operating procedures are followed, maintaining cleanliness and sterility, and ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements.

For Further Information Contact:

Mark Kennedy (Life Science)

 kennedymk@src.ac.uk



University of Ulster Level 5 Foundation Degree (FdSc) in FINTECH - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	2.5 years
Start Date	September
Awarded by Ulster University (UU)	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

FinTech is an emerging and dynamic industry within across the UK and Ireland. This course aims to integrate both financial services and technology to improve the user experience and address the skills gap which currently exists. This innovative programme is available part-time and includes a diverse range of modules from across the SRC's Faculties of Professional Services and Computing, Design and Academic Studies.

Throughout the course, students will explore the core principles and practices of fintech. They will study subjects such as financial systems and markets, blockchain technology, data analytics, artificial intelligence, digital payments, cybersecurity, and regulatory frameworks. Students will gain insights into the latest trends, technologies, and disruptions shaping the financial landscape.

Fintech entrepreneurship and innovation are key components of this HLA. Students will learn to identify fintech opportunities, develop business models, and create prototypes for new financial products and services. They will explore the start-up ecosystem, venture capital funding, and the process of launching and scaling fintech ventures. Students will also gain an understanding of the regulatory and compliance considerations specific to fintech start-ups.

The programme also covers the broader context in which fintech operates. Students will study subjects such as financial inclusion, sustainable finance, open banking, and the ethical implications of fintech. They will explore the social and economic impact of fintech on individuals, businesses, and society as a whole. Students will also develop an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks governing fintech, including data protection and privacy laws.

This course allows progression onto the Level 6 BSc (Hons) Financial Technology at Ulster University.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed on a regular basis throughout the programme using a range of appropriate assessment methods such as written and practical assignments, exams, projects, case studies, presentations and live briefs.

Delivery

Students are required to attend SRC one full day per week during term-time and the remaining 4 days will be based with an employer.

Entry Requirements

- All applicants must meet the following criteria:
- A minimum of 64 UCAS points
- Be employed or be about to take up permanent paid employment as an apprentice or be an existing employee moving to a new job role, with a Northern Ireland based company.
- GCSE Mathematics grade C or Essential Skills Numeracy L2
- GCSE English Language grade C or Essential Skills Literacy L2

Course Content

Year 3

- Programming 1
- Financial Institutions and Capital Markets
- Database Systems
- Business Analysis 1
- Work Based Learning 1

Year 2

- Programming 2
- Financial Mathematics & Statistics
- Business Analysis 2
- Financial Modelling Future Data
- Work Based Learning 2

Year 3

- Human Computer Interaction
- Behavioural Sciences

Progression Opportunities

Level 6 BSc (Hons) Financial Technology at Ulster University (final year).

This programme has been developed in response to the fast growing FinTech sector in Northern Ireland, to support the need for skilled financial technology graduates. It will provide you with the skills and knowledge to secure a graduate job and an exciting career path. With developments moving so fast in this sector your industry experience will make you a highly sought-after candidate for graduate jobs.

Job roles may include:

- Big Data Analyst
- Blockchain Developer
- Business Consultant
- Cybersecurity Analyst
- Financial Services Practitioner
- Research and Analytical Roles

For Further Information Contact:

Niamh Rooney

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Open University Level 5 Foundation Degree in DIGITAL MARKETING, ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	2.5 years
Start Date	September

Validated by Open University (OU)	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

The Digital Marketing, Advertising, and Communications Foundation Degree is a comprehensive programme designed to provide students with a strong foundation in the rapidly evolving field of digital marketing and communications. This degree course focuses on equipping students with the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed in the digital advertising and communication industry.

Digital advertising and media planning are key components of the programme. Students will learn to develop integrated advertising campaigns across various digital channels, such as search engines, social media, display advertising, and video platforms. They will explore targeting and segmentation strategies, ad copywriting, creative design, and media buying. Students will also gain an understanding of ad campaign measurement and optimisation techniques.

The programme also covers the role of communications in digital marketing. Students will study topics such as brand communication, content marketing, and social media management. They will learn to create compelling and engaging content, manage online communities, and build brand reputation through effective communication strategies. Students will also explore the ethical considerations and legal aspects of digital marketing and advertising.

In addition to digital marketing and advertising, the programme covers broader business and marketing principles. Students will gain an understanding of marketing management, market research, marketing communications, and strategic planning. They will explore the impact of technology on marketing and the integration of digital strategies within the overall marketing mix. Students will also develop skills in data analysis, reporting, and data-driven decision-making. Throughout the course, students will be supported by experienced faculty who are experts in the field. They will benefit from a supportive learning environment that encourages creativity, innovation, and the application of digital marketing principles in real-world scenarios.

There is an emphasis on the practical skills required by industry to enhance employability prospects. These practical skills will be developed through workshops based on an ever-changing digital toolkit and application of such skills and knowledge through meaningful work experience with relevant organisations.

Delivery

Students are required to attend SRC one full day per week (including a summer semester in each year) the remaining 4 days will be based with an employer.

Entry Requirements

- All applicants must meet the following criteria:
- A minimum of 64 UCAS points
- Be employed or about to take up permanent paid employment as an apprentice or be an existing employee moving to a new job role, with a Northern Ireland based company.
- GCSE Mathematics grade C or Essential Skills Numeracy L2
- GCSE English Language grade C or Essential Skills Literacy L2

Course Content

Modules

- Brand Management and Integrated Marketing Communications
- Creative Communications
- Digital Advertising and Content
- Digital Disruption in the External Environment
- Digital Innovation
- Essential of Digital Marketing Communications
- Ethics and Legalities
- Event Management
- Interpersonal Communication Skills
- Marketing Fundamentals and Consumer Behaviour
- Mobile Marketing
- Professional Placement Level 4 (in your employment as HLA)
- Professional Placement Level 5 (in your employment as HLA)
- Advanced Digital Toolkit (practical workshops)
- Basic Digital Toolkit (practical workshops)
- Productivity in Business

Progression Opportunities

On successful completion of Level 5 Foundation Degree in Digital Marketing & Communication you can progress to Level 6 BSc (Hons) Digital Marketing, Advertising and Communications Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA) or you may progress to senior positions in Digital Marketing, Internal

Communications, Advertising, and specialist roles such as Digital Analyst, Digital Designer, Content Marketing manager.

Please note: that this programme is currently undergoing re-validation this year, there may be some changes to course modules & delivery

For Further Information Contact:

Michael Purcelll

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DIGITAL MARKETING, ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS Level 6 (Hons) Degree (Top Up) - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	2 years
Start Date	September

Validated by Open University (OU)
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme

Digital Marketing has become an emerging and dynamic industry within the UK and Irish economies. The Department for the Economy (DfE) 10X Skills Strategy also highlights the need to address the skills gap in this area which currently exists. The development of a Level 6 BSc (Hons) in Digital Marketing, Advertising and Communications will help reduce this skills gap. This Higher Level Apprenticeship also provides opportunities for upskilling and reskilling of new and existing employees.

The Digital Marketing, Advertising, and Communications Top Up Degree is an in-depth programme designed to equip students with a comprehensive understanding of the dynamic and rapidly evolving field of digital marketing and advertising. This degree course focuses on providing students with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate the digital landscape and effectively reach and engage target audiences through various digital channels.

Throughout the course, students will explore the core principles and strategies of digital marketing and advertising. They will study subjects such as marketing research and analysis, consumer behaviour, branding, integrated marketing communications, and digital analytics. Students will gain insights into the latest digital marketing trends, tools, and techniques used to create impactful marketing campaigns.

The programme is designed to meet the needs of the rapidly evolving digital marketing industry. Throughout the course, students will be supported by experienced faculty who are experts in the field. They will benefit from a supportive learning environment that encourages creativity, innovation, and the application of digital marketing principles in real-world scenarios. Students will also have opportunities for internships, guest lectures from industry professionals, and networking events to enhance their practical skills and industry connections.

Delivery

Students are required to attend SRC one full day per week during term-time and the remaining four days will be based with an employer.

Entry Requirements

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.

- Applicants must have attained a Level 5 Foundation Degree in Digital Marketing, Advertising and Communications or a closely related qualification.
- Applicants must be employed or be about to take up permanent paid employment as an apprentice, or be an existing employee moving to a new job role, with a Northern Ireland based company.
- Applicants must have attained at least 15 points at Level 2 or above (e.g. GCSE) or have alternative approved qualifications. In addition, applicants must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English Language. For entry to this programme, applicants should have attained a C grade in GCSE English language and a C grade in GCSE Maths (or equivalent).

- For those entering a Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLA), employers may further enhance the entry criteria at their discretion. All applicants for HLAs will be interviewed by prospective employers to decide their suitability prior to being employed by a company. Each the applicant must secure employment with a Northern Ireland based company with a minimum contract of 21 hours. Entrance to HLAs is subject to meeting DFE Operational requirements.

Course Content

- Digital Optimisation
- Strategic Digital Marketing
- Global Marketing
- Research Methods
- Research Project

Progression Opportunities

Graduates may go on to further study at Masters level in a related subject areas or to specialise, or may decide to undertake chartered professional qualification's.

The Digital Marketing, Advertising, and Communications Top Up Degree provides a strong foundation for students to pursue various career paths in the digital marketing industry. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates will be well-prepared for roles such as digital marketing managers, social media strategists, content marketers, digital advertising specialists, or marketing analysts. They may find employment in digital marketing agencies, advertising firms, media companies, e-commerce businesses, or marketing departments of various organisations.

For Further Information Contact:

Helen Loughran

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Open University Level 5 Foundation Degree in CLOUD COMPUTING, ANALYTICS AND SECURITY FOR INDUSTRY - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	3 years
Start Date	September

Validated by Open University (OU)

Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme

The Higher-Level Apprenticeship (HLA) in Cloud Computing, Analytics and Security for Industry provides a clear and achievable progression route enabling you to train to a high level whilst gaining a professional qualification.

Upon successful interview, you will be employed with a company for four days a week while attending college one day a week. Over a period of three years, you will work towards the achievement of a Foundation Degree in Cloud Computing, Analytics and Security for Industry incorporating modules such as Object Orientated Programming, Networking, Database Design and Cyber Security but we are proposing to introduce modules for specialism in - Cloud Computing, Data Analytics, IoT and Mobile Development and AI Fundamentals & Virtualisation Technologies.

The HLA will also provide the opportunity to work on live projects within an IT company and gain work-based learning experience while developing the transferable skills essential to success in the industry. This programme will meet your requirements for personal and intellectual development and will open up new career avenues within the IT sector or provide you with a pathway to continue your studies.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed continuously throughout the 3 years of the course. Assessment methods used include module exams, reports, case studies and presentations. This is not an exhaustive list.

This course will include lectures, tutorials, seminars and presentations, practical sessions work-based learning and case studies. Students will also be supported outside of the College by the Virtual Learning Environment.

Delivery

Students are required to attend SRC one full day per week during term-time and the remaining 4 days will be based with an employer.

Entry Requirements

You must:

- Have obtained a Level 3 or equivalent qualification equating to 48 UCAS points.
- Possess a minimum Grade C in GCSE Mathematics & English
- Be employed or be about to take up permanent paid employment as an apprentice or be an existing employee moving to a new job role, with a Northern Ireland based company.

Please note: that these criteria may be further enhanced by employers and short-listed applicants will also be interviewed.

Course Content

Modules:

- Object-Oriented Programming Fundamentals
- Introduction to Networking
- Database Design and Development for Cloud
- IoT Development
- Introduction to Virtualisation Technologies
- Mobile Development
- Cloud Computing
- AI Fundamentals
- Data Analytics
- Cyber Security
- Work Based Learning

Progression Opportunities

Successful candidates may progress onto the BSc (Hons) Computing for Industry (Top-Up) delivered at SRC (Validated by The Open University)

Successful candidates may progress to other Level 6 Degree course at universities dependent on university entry requirements.

On completion of this course, students will have gained a strong foundation in cloud computing, data analytics, and cybersecurity. This qualification opens up various career opportunities in industries that heavily rely on cloud technologies, data-driven decision-making, and robust security measures. Potential roles may include:

- Cloud Solutions Architect
- Cloud Security Specialist
- Data Analyst
- Business Intelligence Analyst
- Data Engineer

For Further Information Contact:

Laura Nesbitt

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Open University Level 6 BSc (Hons) Degree in COMPUTING FOR INDUSTRY - (Degree Top-Up) - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	2 years
Start Date	September
Validated by Open University (OU)	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

The course provides students with the opportunity to apply and further expand on the knowledge gained at Level 5. Independent thinking, research skills and self-driven learning instil the professional skills required of a graduate. The modules selected will also blend in the technologies, skills, knowledge, and resources required by industry. The course supports students to develop a range of independent thinking and planning skills with the underpinning industry relevant curriculum knowledge and support to enable them to carry out a detailed research project. The course aims to produce graduates who can apply their understanding, experience, and specialist skills to the modern computing industry to be economically valuable to the Northern Ireland and UK economies and beyond. The modules are delivered by experienced lecturing staff. Classes run for 10 hours per week, comprising lectures, practical sessions, and some blended learning. In addition, students will be expected to undertake independent study of approximately 12 hours per week.

How will I be assessed?

Students will be assessed by coursework, practical assessments, and examinations.

Delivery

Students are required to attend SRC one full day per week during term-time and the remaining 4 days will be based with an employer.

Entry Requirements

- Entry to the BSc Honours Computing for Industry Top-Up programme requires applicants to have successfully completed an Open University, Ulster University or Queen's University Belfast, Foundation Degree in a related Computing subject with a pass mark of 55% or above in Level 5 modules (or other relevant Level 5 qualifications such as a Pearson's Higher National Certificate/ Diploma) in a Computing related discipline.
- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above or present with Foundation Degrees or Higher National Certificates or Diplomas from other awarding bodies but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.
- Be employed or be about to take up permanent paid employment as an apprentice or be an existing employee moving to a new job role, with a Northern Ireland based company.
- Applicants should have attained GCSE English Language and Maths at grade 4 (grade C) or above (or equivalent, for example, Essential Skills Level 2 literacy and numeracy qualifications are also accepted).

Course Content

- Research Methods for Computing Professionals
- Advanced Mobile and Cloud for Industry
- Emerging Technologies
- Programming and Web Technologies
- Dissertation Project

Progression Opportunities

Successful graduates from this course can progress onto university master's degree courses in computing related disciplines, subject to individual course requirements.

After completing the Computing for Industry BSc (Hons) Level 6 Degree (Top-Up), graduates will have gained advanced knowledge and skills in computing, making them eligible for a wide range of career opportunities.

Potential career paths may include:

- Software Engineer/Developer
- Systems Analyst
- Web Developer
- Cybersecurity Analyst
- Data Analyst/Scientist

For Further Information

Graham McCalmont

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Open University Level 5 Foundation Degree in CONSTRUCTION (Digital Construction Management) - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	3 years
Start Date	September

Validated by Open University (OU)
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme

The Higher-Level Apprenticeship in Digital Construction Management provides students with the skills and knowledge needed to succeed in construction industry, which has undergone a digital revolution, with the development of 'Building Information Management' in the whole life cycle of the building and construction process. This 3-year Higher Level Apprenticeship is designed to equip apprentices with the ability to understand, utilise and develop the skills needed whilst working in the construction industry. It builds transferable skills in communication, teamwork, and the ability to self-reflect.

Digital construction management is addressing the construction industry's low productivity. Using Building Information Modelling (BIM) tools, this endeavours to integrate procedures throughout the whole life cycle of a construction project. Adopting digital technology means implementing a data-driven approach which creates a more effective construction process. The most exciting element of Digital Construction Management is using new technology to capture construction progress and its context. Photogrammetry application is an example of flying a drone over the site, taking photos from the site, and automatically creating 3D models that everyone in the construction can see and share as opposed to traditional, cumbersome surveying methods.

This course is designed to bridge this skills deficit, providing a qualification that covers both the traditional knowledge and skills required and the enhanced digital skills needed to function effectively within the industry.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed continuously throughout the 3 years of the course. Assessment methods include module exams, reports, case studies and presentations.

Delivery

Students are required to attend SRC one full day per week during term-time and the remaining 4 days will be based with an employer. Blended learning platforms will be used to support the HLA Apprentice throughout the course.

Entry Requirements

You must:

- Have obtained a Level 3 or equivalent qualification equating to 48 UCAS points.
- Possess a minimum Grade C in GCSE Mathematics & English (or University approved equivalent).
- Be employed or be about to take up permanent paid employment as an apprentice or be an existing employee moving to a new job role, with a Northern Ireland based company.
- Please note that this criteria may be further enhanced by employers and short-listed applicants will be interviewed by the company prior to the offer of employment.

Course Content

Modules:

- Emerging Construction Technology 1 - Residential
- Introduction to BIM and CAD
- Mathematics and Structures
- Construction Science and Materials
- Digital Surveying
- Construction Site Management
- Emerging Construction Technology 2 - Commercial
- Operations Management
- Individual Project Construction Management
- Contract Administration and Dispute Resolution
- Work Based Learning

Progression Opportunities

Successful candidates may progress to the Construction BSc (Hons) Level 6 Degree (Top-Up) Higher Level Apprenticeship. Students may also wish to progress to courses at UK Universities dependent on university entry requirements.

This may include:

- Construction Management
- Quantity Surveying
- Site Management
- Project Management

For Further Information

Daniel Hughes

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Open University Level 5 Foundation Degree in CONSTRUCTION (Quantity Surveying) - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	3 years
Start Date	September

Validated by Open University (OU)	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

The Higher Level Apprenticeship (Foundation Degree) in Quantity Surveying (accredited by The Open University) equips students with a comprehensive understanding of quantity surveying principles and practices within the construction industry. This 3-year Higher Level Apprenticeship is designed to provide apprentices with the ability to understand, utilise and develop the skills needed whilst working in the construction industry. It builds transferable skills in communication, teamwork, and the ability to self-reflect.

Students are provided with a broad-based education, complemented by a range of skills encompassing Quantity Surveying with an emphasis relevant to local industry. Units such as 'Measurement and Estimating' and 'Construction Economics' provide opportunities for students to learn how industry standard software can enhance and support the processes of quantity surveying. Students will study core modern construction modules including the role of a BIM manager and how the management of information is vitally important to the successful management of projects across all sectors of the industry. These innovations will ensure that students have gained the digital skills and knowledge to work effectively as a Quantity Surveyor.

The most exciting element of this qualification is using new technology to capture construction progress and its context. Photogrammetry application is an example of a new technique using aerial photography and automatically creating 3D models that everyone in the construction can see and share as opposed to traditional, cumbersome surveying methods.

This course is designed to bridge this skills deficit, providing a qualification that covers the traditional knowledge and skills required but enhanced with the digital skills needed to function effectively within the industry.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed continuously throughout the 3 years of the course. Assessment methods include module exams, assignments, reports, case studies and presentations.

Delivery

The teaching is delivered through lectures, presentations and tutorials. Students are required to attend SRC one full day per week during termtime and the remaining 4 days will be based with an employer.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.
- Applicants must have attained a minimum of 48 UCAS points which must be achieved from a minimum of 1 A2 subject (combinations of AS levels will not be accepted) or equivalent i.e., Subsidiary Diploma, Adult Access in Science. Students with Level 3 NVQ qualifications will be considered on their merits but may be required to undertake additional assessment in Maths and English before being accepted onto the course.
- Applicants must have attained at least 15 points at Level 2 or above (e.g. GCSE) or have alternative approved qualifications. In addition, applicants must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English Language. For entry to this programme, applicants should have attained a C grade in GCSE English language and a C grade in GCSE Maths (or equivalent).
- For those entering a Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA), employers may further enhance the entry criteria at their discretion. All applicants for HLAs will be interviewed by prospective employers to decide

their suitability prior to being employed by a company. Each the applicant must secure employment with a Northern Ireland based company with a minimum contract of 21 hours. Entrance to HLAs is subject to meeting DFE Operational requirements.

- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.

Please note: that applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Course Content

Modules covered are:

- Emerging Construction Technology 1 – Residential
- Introduction to CAD and BIM
- Introduction to Measurement and Digital Take Off
- Introduction to Construction Law
- Digital Surveying
- Emerging Construction Technology 2 - Commercial/ Complex Building
- Measurement and Costing of Construction Works
- Individual Project
- Advanced Measurement
- Work Related Learning

Progression Opportunities

Successful candidates may progress to the Construction BSc (Hons) Level 6 Degree (Top-Up) Higher Level Apprenticeship. Students may also wish to progress to courses at UK Universities dependent on university entry requirements.

These may include:

- Construction Management
- Quantity Surveying
- Site Management
- Project Management

For Further Information Contact:

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HLA CONSTRUCTION BSc (Hons) Level 6 Degree (Top-Up) - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	2 years
Start Date	September

Validated by Open University (OU)

Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme

The aim of the Construction BSc (Hons) Level 6 Degree (Top-Up) Higher Level Apprenticeship, accredited by the Open University, is to produce graduates who will be able to apply their understanding, knowledge, experience, skills and know-how to create social and economic value within the context of the Northern Ireland and UK economy.

It aims to produce graduates who understand the underlying principles which underpin the construction sector, who can conceive, design and implement a solution to a problem, who can create something new, which adds value to an organisation and society, within the boundaries of organisational strategy and societal ethics.

The objective is to develop graduates who:

- Work pragmatically to develop solutions to problems and have strategies for being creative, innovative and overcoming difficulties by employing their skills, knowledge and understanding in a flexible manner.
- Are skilled at solving problems by applying their numerical, computational, analytical and technical skills, using appropriate tools.
- Are risk, cost and value-conscious, and aware of their ethical, social, cultural, environmental, health and safety, and wider professional responsibilities.
- Are familiar with the nature of business and enterprise in the creation of economic and social value.
- Appreciate the global dimensions of Digital Construction Management, Quantity Surveying and Civil Engineering.
- Are able to formulate and operate within appropriate codes of conduct, when faced with an ethical issue.
- Are professional in their outlook, capable of team working, effective communicators, and able to exercise responsibility and sound management approaches.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed continuously throughout the 2 years of the course. Assessment methods include module exams, reports, case studies and presentations.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.
- Applicants must hold a Foundation Degree in a construction discipline, with a pass mark of 55% or above in Level 5 modules (or other relevant Level 5 qualification such as a Pearson Higher National Certificate/Diploma in an engineering related discipline).
- Candidates presenting with Foundation Degrees or Higher Level Certificates/Diplomas from other awarding bodies will be considered under RPL procedures.
- Possess a minimum Grade C in GCSE Mathematics & English (or University approved equivalent).

- For those entering a Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLA), employers may further enhance the entry criteria at their discretion. All applicants for HLAs will be interviewed by prospective employers to decide their suitability prior to being employed by a company. Each the applicant must secure employment with a Northern Ireland based company with a minimum contract of 21 hours. Entrance to HLAs is subject to meeting DFE Operational requirements.
- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.

Please note: that applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Course Content

- Modern Methods of Construction
- Life Cycle Costing and Value Engineering
- Collaborative Project
- Project Management and Professional Ethics
- Research Skills
- Dissertation

Progression Opportunities

Students can also progress onto Level 7 courses at UK universities dependent on university entry requirements.

This may include:

- Construction Management
- Quantity Surveying
- Site Management
- Project Management

For Further Information Contact:

Melanie Boyce

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Open University Level 5 Foundation Degree in ENGINEERING (Electrical & Electronic) - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	3 years
Start Date	September

Validated by Open University (OU)	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

This Higher-Level Apprenticeship in Engineering (Electrical & Electronic) provides students with a broad education in aspects of electrical and electronic engineering, which equips them for a career in industry.

This 3-year Higher Level Apprenticeship is designed to equip apprentices with the ability to understand, utilise and develop the skills needed whilst working in the electrical and electronic engineering industry. It builds transferable skills in communication, teamwork, and the ability to self-reflect. You will study 80 credits per year over 3 years. Students are required to engage in independent study.

How will I be assessed?

Each project, activity and/or assignment that you complete will be assessed. These assessments indicate your level of performance and contribute to your final grade. Some modules are assessed entirely through coursework while others are assessed through a combination of coursework and written examination.

Delivery

Students are required to attend SRC Newry one full day per week during term-time and the remaining 4 days will be based with an employer.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.
- Applicants must have attained a minimum of 56 UCAS points achieved from a minimum of 1 A2 subject, (combinations of AS levels will not be accepted) or equivalent i.e., Subsidiary Diploma, Adult Access in Science.
- Applicants must have attained at least 15 points at Level 2 or above (e.g. GCSE) or have alternative approved qualifications. In addition, applicants must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English Language. For entry to this programme, applicants should have attained a C grade in GCSE English language and a C grade in GCSE Maths (or equivalent). Students with Level 3 NVQ qualifications will be considered on their merits but may be required to undertake additional assessment in Maths and English before being accepted onto the course.
- For those entering a Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLA), employers may further enhance the entry criteria at their discretion. All applicants for HLAs will be interviewed by prospective employers to decide their suitability prior to being employed by a company. Each the applicant must secure employment with a Northern Ireland based company with a minimum contract of 21 hours. Entrance to HLAs is subject to meeting DfE Operational requirements.
- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.

Please note: that applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Course Content

Modules include:

- Engineering Mathematics
- CAD Techniques
- Electrical & Electronic Fundamentals
- Analogue Electronics
- Professional Studies
- Programming & Embedded Systems
- Industrial Electronics
- Digital Principles
- Mechanical Fundamentals
- BIT & Project Management
- Work-Based Learning

Progression Opportunities

On completion of this Foundation Degree course, and subject to achieving a pass mark of 55% or above in the Level 5 modules you can progress to further study on the Open University Level 6 Engineering BEng TopUp Degree at SRC.

This course will open up a range of career options within the Engineering industry.

Such roles of interest may include:

- Electrical Engineer
- Electronics Engineer
- Instrumentation Engineer
- Power Systems Engineer
- Project Engineer/Manager

For Further Information Contact:

Ashraf Zataria

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Open University Level 5 Foundation Degree in ENGINEERING (Mechatronics) - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	3 years
Start Date	September
Validated by Open University (OU)	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

The Higher Level Apprenticeship Engineering (Mechatronics) provides students with a broad education in aspects of mechanisation, automation, and control systems which will equip learners for a successful career within the industry. It recognises the rapid growth and changes occurring within engineering and provides learners with the skills and knowledge to apply in an industrial environment and within their job role.

This 3-year Higher Level Apprenticeship is designed to equip apprentices with the ability to understand, utilise and develop the skills needed whilst working in the engineering industry. It builds transferable skills in communication, teamwork, and the ability to self-reflect.

Students will study 80 credits per year over 3 years and are required to attend SRC Portadown campus during semester time, for one full day per week. The remaining 4 days will be based with an employer. Students are required to engage in independent study. All staff delivering on this programme are highly experienced with an extensive level of skillset across all engineering disciplines.

How will I be assessed?

Some modules are assessed entirely through coursework while others are assessed through a combination of coursework and written examination.

Delivery

Students are required to attend SRC Newry one full day per week during term-time and the remaining 4 days will be based with an employer.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.
- Applicants must have attained a minimum of 56 UCAS points achieved from a minimum of 1 A2 subject, (combinations of AS levels will not be accepted) or equivalent i.e., Subsidiary Diploma, Adult Access in Science.
- Applicants must have attained at least 15 points at Level 2 or above (e.g. GCSE) or have alternative approved qualifications. In addition, applicants must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English Language. For entry to this programme, applicants should have attained a C grade in GCSE English language and a C grade in GCSE Maths (or equivalent). Students with Level 3 NVQ qualifications will be considered on their merits but may be required to undertake additional assessment in Maths and English before being accepted onto the course.
- For those entering a Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA), employers may further enhance the entry criteria at their discretion. All applicants for HLAs will be interviewed by prospective employers to decide their suitability prior to being employed by a company. Each applicant must secure employment with a Northern Ireland based company with a minimum contract of 21 hours. Entrance to HLAs is subject to meeting DfE Operational requirements.
- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.

Please note: that applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Course Content

- Engineering Mathematics
- CAD Techniques
- Electrical & Electronic Fundamentals
- Pneumatics & Hydraulics
- Professional Studies
- Programming & Embedded Systems
- PLC Automation
- Industrial Robotics
- Mechanical Fundamentals
- BIT & Project Management
- Work-Based Learning

Progression Opportunities

On successful completion of the course, students may wish to progress onto the BEng (Hons) Level 6 (Top-Up) Degree in Engineering offered at our Newry campus.

This course will open up a range of career opportunities in various industries.

Potential career options may include:

- Mechatronics Engineer
- Robotics Engineer
- Automation Engineer
- Manufacturing Engineer
- Maintenance Engineer
- Project Engineer

For Further Information Contact:

Peter Fisher

 fisherp@src.ac.uk



ENGINEERING (TECHNICAL DESIGN & MANUFACTURE) Level 5 Foundation - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	3 years
Start Date	September
Validated by Open University (OU)	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

The Higher Level Apprenticeship in Engineering (Technical Design and Manufacture) is designed to provide students with specialised knowledge and practical skills in the field of technical design and manufacturing which will equip students for a successful career within the industry.

This three-year Higher-Level Apprenticeship will equip learners with the ability to understand, utilise and develop the skills needed whilst working in the technical design and manufacturing engineering industry. The course will build transferable skills in communication, teamwork, and the ability to self-reflect.

Students will study 80 credits per year over three years and are required to attend SRC's Newry Campus during semester time, for one full day per week. The remaining four days will be based with an employer. Students are required to engage in independent study also. All staff delivering on this programme are highly experienced with an extensive level of skillset across all engineering disciplines.

Learning and Assessment

Some modules are assessed entirely through coursework while others are assessed through a combination of coursework and written examination.

Entry Requirements

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.

- Applicants must have attained a minimum of 56 UCAS points, this must be achieved from a minimum of 1 A2 subject, (combinations of AS levels will not be accepted) or equivalent i.e., Subsidiary Diploma, Adult Access in Science. Students with Level 3 NVQ qualifications will be considered on their merits but may be required to undertake additional assessment in Maths and English before being accepted onto the course.
- Applicants must have attained at least 15 points at Level 2 or above (e.g. GCSE) or have alternative approved qualifications. In addition, applicants must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English Language. For entry to this programme, applicants should have attained a C grade in GCSE English language and a C grade in GCSE Maths (or equivalent).
- For those entering a Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA), employers may further enhance the entry criteria at their discretion. All applicants for HLAs will be interviewed by prospective employers to decide their suitability prior to being employed by a company. Each the applicant must secure employment with a Northern Ireland based company with a minimum contract of 21 hours. Entrance to HLAs is subject to meeting DfE Operational requirements.
- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.

Please note: hat applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Course Content

Modules of study will include:

- Engineering Mathematics
- CAD Techniques
- Electrical & Electronic Fundamentals
- Pneumatics & Hydraulics
- Professional Studies
- Engineering Design
- Engineering Materials & Applications
- Manufacturing Technologies & Processes
- CNC/CAM
- Mechanical Fundamentals
- BIT & Project Management
- Work-Based Learning

Progression Opportunities

On successful completion of the course, students may wish to progress onto the BEng (Hons) Level 6 (Top-Up) Degree in Engineering offered at our Newry campus.

Careers

This course will open up a range of diverse career opportunities in the field of technical design and manufacturing. Career paths will depend on your specific interests, specialisation, and industry preferences.

Potential career options may include:

- Design Engineer
- Manufacturing Engineer
- Product Development Engineer
- Industrial Automation Engineer
- CAD Technician
- Quality Control Engineer

For Further Information Contact:

Tony Rodgers

 rodgerst@src.ac.uk



ENGINEERING BEng (Hons) Level 6 Degree (Top-Up) - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	2 years
Start Date	September

Validated by Open University (OU)	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

This BEng (Hons) Engineering Degree is offered as a ‘Top Up’ programme and is aimed at those who have already attained a level 5 Engineering qualification and wish to further progress to a higher level of study. It has been designed to meet the needs of local industry, with the aim of producing graduates who can apply their understanding, knowledge, experience, skills and know-how to contribute to delivery of the DfE vision for a 10X Economy. This course is designed to provide learners with a comprehensive understanding of engineering principles, theories, and practical skills.

Entry Requirements

The over-riding consideration in admitting applicants to this course, is evidence that the learner is likely to be able to complete the course satisfactorily.

Attendance at Individual or Group Pre-Entry Advice Sessions (IPEAS and GPEAS) may be required. These interviews may take place either on campus, via telephone or video call (Microsoft teams) and will play an important role in place allocation.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.

- Applicants must have attained a Foundation Degree with a pass mark of 55% or above in Level 5 modules (or other relevant Level 5 qualification such as a Pearson Higher National Certificate/Diploma) in an engineering related discipline.
- Candidates presenting with Foundation Degrees or HNC/Ds from other awarding bodies will be considered under Recognition of Prior Learning procedures.
- Applicants must have attained a C grade in GCSE English language and a C grade in GCSE Maths (or equivalent).
- For those entering a Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA), employers may further enhance the entry criteria at their discretion. All applicants for HLAs will be interviewed by prospective employers to decide their suitability prior to being employed by a company. Each applicant must secure employment with a Northern Ireland based company with a minimum contract of 21 hours. Entrance to HLAs is subject to meeting DfE Operational requirements.
- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.

Please note: that applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Course Content

- Engineering Business Operations
- Engineering Design
- Embedded Systems and IoT Applications
- Numerical Methods for Engineers
- Dissertation

Learning & Assessment

Some modules are assessed entirely through coursework, while others are assessed through a combination of coursework and written examination.

Progression Opportunities

On successful completion of this course, students may wish to progress to postgraduate study at a number of institutions.

The field of engineering offers a wide range of opportunities across industries, and career paths will depend on specific interests, specialisation, and industry preferences. Completing this top-up degree will open up a wide range of opportunities in various industries.

Potential career options may include:

- Design Engineer
- Project Engineer/Manager
- Manufacturing Engineer
- Quality Assurance/Control Engineer
- Systems Engineer
- Aerospace Engineer
- Biomedical Engineer

For Further Information Contact:

Sean MacDiarmada

 macdiarmadas@src.ac.uk



Ulster University Level 5 Foundation Degree in Hospitality, Tourism and Events with Specialisms (Hospitality) - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	2.5 years
Start Date	September
Validated by Ulster University (UU)	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

The Hospitality, Tourism & Events with Specialisms Foundation Degree HLA is a comprehensive programme designed to provide students with a solid foundation in the diverse and exciting field of hospitality and tourism. This foundation degree offers students the opportunity to specialise in one or more areas of the industry, enabling them to develop expertise in their chosen fields and pursue rewarding careers in various sectors.

Throughout the course, students will explore a wide range of subjects related to hospitality such as management, event planning, food and beverage operations, customer service, destination management and facilities operations. Students will gain a deep understanding of the hospitality industry, its global trends, and the challenges and opportunities it presents.

This course is designed to provide and equip students with subject knowledge, leadership and management, industrial experience and practical skills for the hospitality industry.

The program is designed to meet the needs of the rapidly evolving hospitality industry. Throughout the course, students will be supported by experienced faculty who are experts in the field. They will benefit from a supportive learning environment that combines theoretical knowledge with practical application. Students will have opportunities for industry placements, guest lectures from industry professionals, and networking events to enhance their practical skills and industry connections.

Typically, weekly contact hours are scheduled for one day per week term time. The other four days will be with an employer learning hands-on skills.

The programme is designed to meet the needs of the rapidly evolving hospitality industry. Throughout the course, students will be supported by experienced faculty who are experts in the field. They will benefit from a supportive learning environment that combines theoretical knowledge with practical application. Students will have opportunities for industry placements, guest lectures from industry professionals, and networking events to enhance their practical skills and industry connections.

Please note: this programme is currently under review and some content may be subject to change.

How will I be assessed?

You will be assessed on a regular basis throughout the course, using a range of appropriate assessment methods, such as written coursework, practical work, seminars and presentations.

Delivery

Students are required to attend Southern Regional College, Newry one full day per week during termtime and the remaining 4 days per week will be based with an employer.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July 2024.
- Applicants must have attained a minimum of 64 UCAS points achieved through the completion of A Levels, National Awards, Access or other alternative approved level 3 qualifications.
- Applicants must have attained at least 15 points at Level 2 or above (e.g. GCSE) or have alternative approved qualifications. In addition, applicants must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English Language. For entry to this programme, applicants should have attained a C grade in GCSE English language and a C grade in GCSE Maths (or equivalent).

- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy.

Please note: that applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Please note: that for Ulster University qualifications, the general entry requirements for Ulster University must also be met in addition to those listed below.

Course Content

Modules

- Introduction to Hospitality and Tourism
- Management in Action
- Food and Beverage Service Operations
- Events Operations
- Facilities Operations
- Employability Skills
- Work Based Learning
- Human Resource Management
- Marketing and Entrepreneurship
- Food and Beverage Management

Progression Opportunities

Upon achieving a minimum of 40% in their HLA, opportunity to progress to year 2 of the BSc International Hospitality Management at UU


Upon achieving a minimum of 40% in their HLA, opportunity to complete a summer bridging programme.

You may wish to complete a summer bridging course and then progress to the final year of BSc (Hons) in International Hospitality Management at Ulster University or other universities try into the final year of the BSc International Hospitality Management at UU (liable for bridging programme fees)

This HLA provides a pathway for students to pursue various career paths in the hospitality industry. Upon successful completion of the programme, graduates will be well-prepared for roles such as Food & Beverage Manager, Coffee Shop Manager, Restaurant Manager, Events Manager, Conference & Banqueting Manager, Events Project Manager, or Duty Manager/Assistant Hospitality Manager.

For Further Information Contact:

Caroline Chambers

 chambersc@src.ac.uk



Open University Level 5 Foundation Degree in SPORT AND EXERCISE - HLA

Level	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)
Course Length	3 years
Start Date	September
Validated by Open University (OU)	
Funded by the Department for the Economy through their apprenticeship programme	

This Foundation Degree delivered by SRC and validated by The Open University, is offered as a higher level apprenticeship and examines both the theoretical and practical application of sport and exercise through a wide range of modules aiming to develop student's academic and professional potential. This course will develop learner's knowledge and critical understanding of the areas associated with sport and critical transferable skills. It provides students with a balance between the development of vocational skills necessary for employment and the knowledge necessary for academic progression and lifelong learning.

Throughout the course, students will explore the scientific principles that underpin sport and exercise. They will gain a deep understanding of human anatomy, physiology, and biomechanics, and how these factors influence performance and health. Students will study the physiological responses to exercise, the principles of training, and the role of nutrition in optimising athletic performance.

The course covers a range of topics related to sport and exercise. Students will study the psychology of sport, exploring motivation, goal setting, and mental strategies for performance enhancement. They will gain an understanding of sports nutrition, exercise for special populations, and injury prevention and rehabilitation.

Delivery

As part of the HLA, students will attend college one day per week and be placed within a workplace for the remaining four days.

Entry Requirements

- Applicants must be at least 18 years of age on or before 1st July in the year of proposed entry to the course.
- Applicants should have obtained a minimum of 48.
- UCAS points achieved through the completion of A Levels, National Awards, Access or other alternative approved level 3 qualifications.
- Applicants should have attained at least 15 points at Level 2 or above (e.g., GCSE) or have alternative approved qualifications. This must include GCSE English Language Grade C or Essential Skills
- Communication Level 2 and GCSE Mathematics Grade C or Essential Skills Numeracy Level 2. In addition, applicants must provide evidence of competence in written and spoken English Language. Interview required.
- Be employed or be about to take up permanent paid employment as an apprentice or be an existing employee moving to a new job role, with a Northern Ireland based company.
- Applicants who do not meet the criteria outlined above but have evidence of substantial knowledge or relevant industrial experience and skills, which has not been formally assessed, should refer to the College's Accreditation of Prior Experience and Learning (APEL) Policy at www.src.ac.uk/the-college/policies

Please note: that applicants progressing to higher education courses at Level 4 and above in the College or UK Universities may require a specific GCSE/ A-Level profile. In some cases, the Essential Skills in Literacy and Numeracy may not be a suitable alternative to a GCSE. It is the responsibility of the applicant to check each University's progression requirements before enrolling on a course at the College.

Course Content

Modules Year 1

- Introduction to Anatomy & Physiology
- Introduction to Sport Psychology
- Introduction to Sports Analysis
- Introduction to Sport & Society

Modules Year 2

- Introduction to Training Fitness and Testing
- Introduction to Fundamentals of Practical Sport
- Work Based Learning 1
- Applied Physical Education

Modules Year 3

- Applied Research Methods
- Work Based Learning 2
- Applied Strength & Conditioning
- Applied Contemporary Issues in Health

Progression Opportunities

On successful completion of this course, with the required average mark (55%), you will be eligible to apply for entry into the Open University Top-Up Degree programme in Sport & Exercise at Southern Regional College.

Alternatively, you may have the opportunity to apply to other Colleges/Universities to complete your undergraduate degree or go straight into employment.

Upon successful completion of the Sport and Exercise Level 5 Foundation Degree, graduates will be equipped with the necessary knowledge and skills to pursue a variety of careers in the sport and exercise field. They may find employment opportunities in sports clubs, fitness centres, rehabilitation clinics, or choose to work as independent sports coaches or personal trainers.

For Further Information Contact:

Mark Copeland

 copelandm@src.ac.uk

Case Studies



Liam McVeigh

Accounting Technicians Level 5 Diploma Higher Level Apprenticeship

McCleary & Company, Lurgan

Liam decided to apply for the Accounting Technicians HLA at SRC as he would be employed from day one, working and learning at the same time. He believed the HLA was one of the most engaging ways to earn a qualification and would allow him to gain valuable experience, earn a salary and avoid tuition fees.

Liam has said that being able to learn while working made studying much easier as a lot of the course material applied to the work he was doing.

Liam says: "I would advise anyone considering applying for a HLA to be prepared for a challenging but very rewarding course. Remember to be patient with yourself and ask questions if you are unsure".

Liam says that HLAs are "easily the future of higher education". It is a debt free option and from the outset you will gain experience and earn a salary. Liam commented: "The experience gained from an apprenticeship is second to none as it not only gives a huge advantage within your career field but is also a huge help in understanding the materials studied within the course."

Liam employer says: "Liam has come through the HLA programme at SRC and has since passed his CAP2 exams with only his Final Admitting Examination to sit in order to become a Chartered Accountant, the same qualification as someone doing a degree in accountancy without the student loans".



Wiktorija Kurkowska

Applied Industrial Sciences – Chemical Level 5 Foundation Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship

Almac Group, Craigavon

Wiktorija had always enjoyed science and its practical elements so knew she wanted to work in this area. The HLA at SRC was the ideal fit as it allowed Wiktorija to learn and develop while working in a laboratory setting and gain a qualification without having to pay tuition fees.

Wiktorija describes the course as "a practical, hands-on qualification" where learning is supplemented with the theory behind it at College, alongside further opportunities to practice skills gained in employment. The College also provides a great support network from lecturing staff and fellow students. Being disciplined, focusing on the end goal and her future employability prospects have helped Wiktorija succeed on her course.

Wiktorija's favourite part of the course has been learning from colleagues who are already professionals in the field. Although she says it was not an easy option, Wiktorija believes it ultimately worthwhile, and she plans to go on to study for her Bachelor's Degree, and potentially a Masters and to progress her career with Almac.

Upon completion, graduates are eligible for progression onto the Level 6 BSc (Hons) Applied Pharmaceutical Sciences at Ulster University.



Owen Quinn

Cloud Computing, Analytics & Security for Industry Level 5 Foundation Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship

Re-Gen Group, Newry

Owen chose the HLA pathway as progression from the Level 3 qualification in Computing he achieved at SRC.

His favourite part of the course has been the practical content and he has enjoyed the small class sizes and having no tuition fees to pay. Owen is also very complimentary of the staff at the College and has appreciated lecturing staff going out of their way to ensure everyone understands all the content on the course.

Owen has also been afforded many opportunities with his employer Re-Gen, where he gets to work on projects relevant to his course.

Upon completion, graduates are eligible for progression onto the BSc (Hons) Computing for Industry Degree HLA at SRC.



Katie Helliwell

Construction (Digital Construction Management) Level 5 Foundation Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship

Mascott, Belfast

Katie started studying her HLA with the goal of getting practical experience out on site as she worked towards her qualification.

According to Katie, the best thing about undertaking a HLA is getting to work and study at the same time. She also thinks it has given her greater experience and understanding on how the construction industry works. Katie says: "My experience has been challenging but rewarding. It is a lifetime achievement and I have had really good fun along the way".

Katie recommends anyone considering a HLA to "just go for it". She says employers are so friendly and helpful, she has no regrets and believes its important you be yourself and find an employer that's the best fit for you.

Katie also says: "There are going to be good days and bad days, but you will have this anywhere you go - just don't panic. It's all part of the experience and you will always learn."

Upon completion, graduates are eligible for progression onto BSc (Hons) Construction Degree HLA at SRC or other BSc Construction courses at UK universities.

Case Studies



Aaron Bradley

Digital Marketing, Advertising & Communications Level 5 Foundation Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship

Newry BID, Newry

Aaron started studying his HLA with the aim of gaining a qualification and earning while he studied and the best thing about the HLA according to Aaron, is the balance between working in the office and studying. Aaron found it beneficial that he was able to integrate his assignments with what he was completing as part of his job.

Aaron advises potential applicants to “absolutely go for it” as he believes it is one of the best decisions he has ever made.

Aaron says: “A HLA is a great opportunity to network, ask questions and learn as much as possible. My experience has been exciting, challenging, enjoyable and an opportunity for personal development”.

Upon completion, graduates are eligible for progression onto the Digital Marketing, Advertising & Communications Level 6 (Hons) Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship at SRC.



Alex McNiece

Engineering (Mechatronics) Level 5 Foundation Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship & Engineering BEng (Hons) Level 6 Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship

Thompson Aero Seating, Portadown

Alex chose the HLA pathway with the end goal of getting into engineering debt free.

He really enjoyed the programme as his studies gave him a broad understanding of the world of engineering and have opened a vast number of career opportunities. He feels confident in his skills, having gained practical experience throughout his course which has left him in a strong position for promotion.

Alex has progressed from the Level 5 and is now studying on the Level 6 BEng (Hons) Engineering degree at SRC, also through the HLA route. Alex hopes to further his studies to Master's level and he aspires to move to an engineering management role.

Upon completion, graduates are eligible for progression onto BSc (Hons) Engineering Degree HLA at SRC. This progression route applies to all Engineering related HLA programmes at level 5.



Sasha Stirling

Fintech Level 5 Foundation Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship

First Derivative, Newry

Sasha is a first year Fintech HLA student and would describe her journey so far as 'a bit nerve wrecking but exciting'.

According to Sasha the best part of the HLA is being able to learn practically whilst in paid employment and she feels smaller classes and more 1 to 1 time with lecturers is a great opportunity.

Sasha recommends anyone considering a HLA to investigate what it is they want to do and start looking into employers who would offer these opportunities through the HLA route. She recommends doing volunteering and getting work experience and showcasing this in your application to employers through SRC.

Although it can feel overwhelming at first, there is always help around and you are never alone- and mistakes are perfectly normal and something to help you learn!

As the course is through Ulster University, Sasha values the option to top-up to a full degree in Ulster University after completing her HLA.

This course allows progression onto the Level 6 BSc (Hons) Financial Technology at Ulster University (final year), upon successful completion of bridging.

Kerry Irwin

Applied Industrial Sciences – Life Science Level 5 Foundation Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship

Randox, Antrim

Kerry started studying her HLA to be able to learn via experience, and without student debt, which was important to her as a mature student.

According to Kerry, the best thing about a HLA is your work experience and studies combined – studies reinforce what Kerry is doing in work.

Although studying can be intense, Kerry believes organisation helps and advises anyone starting an apprenticeship not to panic as 'you cannot learn everything overnight'. She tells HLA's to remember that your colleagues will already have their qualifications so try not to compare yourself to them.

Kerry would say the experience has been rewarding and worth it.

Upon completion, graduates are eligible for progression onto BSc (Hons) Biomedical Science or BSc (Hons) Pharmaceutical Bioscience (HLA), both at Ulster University.

Case Studies



James Smyth

Engineering (Mechatronics) Level 5 Foundation Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship

The Exact Group, Newry

James chose the HLA pathway to help him gain experience while carrying on in education. He described his journey as a career progression opportunity which equips you with training and knowledge, as well as being challenging.

His favourite thing about the program was the industry knowledge gained that he was able to put into practice straight away.

James recognised that the industry is shifting and that having relevant experience is critical. He would advise anyone doing a HLA to ask questions and to go above and beyond what is expected of you as it can lead to new training programs and promotions.

Upon completion, graduates are eligible for progression onto BSc (Hons) Engineering Degree HLA at SRC. This progression route applies to all Engineering related HLA programmes at level 5.



Ben Allen

Engineering (Technical Design & Manufacture) Level 5 Foundation Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship

McElmeel Mobility Services, Armagh

Ben would describe his HLA journey as challenging, educational and beneficial. His favourite part of being a HLA is getting hands on experience alongside his qualification, which he believes makes him more employable after finishing his course.

He would recommend the HLA route and encourages applicants to include elements of their personality traits in their applications as employers can learn a lot about how you handle different situations.

Once you start your journey, Ben says don't be afraid to ask questions or get involved as the best way to learn is through practice.

Upon completion, graduates are eligible for progression onto BSc (Hons) Engineering Degree HLA at SRC. This progression route applies to all Engineering related HLA programmes at level 5.



Gary Beattie

Computing for Industry BSc (Hons) Level 6 Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship

Gary Beattie Consulting Services Ltd, Newry

Gary began his apprenticeship to help him upskill and says that the best thing about being a HLA apprentice is that the “modules and related assignments are interesting and challenging in equal measure, and the subject matter is very much in keeping with real world business needs.” Gary would describe his HLA journey as interesting, challenging and enjoyable.

Although the pace of the course can be demanding, Gary advises apprentices to start completing assignments early to allow themselves to achieve the best possible results and complete their workload in a manageable way.

For anyone considering a HLA, Gary says it’s a fantastic opportunity for anyone looking to improve and expand their skillset, learn new things, gain a qualification and improve your prospects for promotion.

When completing an EAI Form, Gary suggests applicants research the businesses they would like to work for and mention skills or experience relevant to those businesses.

Johnny McCormick

Engineering (Electrical & Electronic) Level 5 Foundation Degree Higher Level Apprenticeship

Thompson Aero Seating, Portadown

Johnny is a first year Higher Level Apprentice and believes the best thing about doing his HLA is achieving a qualification while you learn. The HLA allows Johnny to spend one day a week in SRC and the rest with his employer.

Johnny advises anyone applying for a Higher Level Apprenticeship to get involved in lots of extra-curricular activities and mention these in your EAI form. This will then give you plenty to talk about and help you present yourself the best you can.

His advice to someone starting a HLA is to put in the necessary effort and everything will be fine, as it can get busy during this ‘exciting’ journey.

Upon completion, graduates are eligible for progression onto BSc (Hons) Engineering Degree HLA at SRC. This progression route applies to all Engineering related HLA programmes at level 5.



Contact

For employers seeking further information on Southern Regional College's Higher Level Apprenticeship programmes please contact the following staff:

Margaret McNamee

HLA Development Officer

☎ 028 3839 7860

☎ 077 2520 0055

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