



COLEG Sir Benfro
Pembroke COLLEGE

Degrees and alternative routes
to success 2011/2012

The College
for your future



Deciding whether or not to go to university is a huge decision.

Over the next few pages you'll find information on the expanding range of degree and foundation degree level courses available right here at the College. Studying locally has many benefits and could provide you with a cost effective route into higher education.

We've also added a section aimed at dispelling some of the most common myths surrounding studying for a degree and give you an insight into some of the alternative study opportunities that may be available to you. Remember, going away to university isn't the only route to a successful and prosperous future. Many other options exist which could be financially and socially rewarding without the burden of huge amounts of student debt.

We hope you'll find something that is right for you.

Degrees and Foundation Degrees The detail...

If you've set your mind on going to University, why not consider the local option? Studying locally presents many benefits - lower course fees; full and part-time study options and a reduced cost of living.

Offering degree courses since 1992, the College has recently entered into a strategic alliance with the University of Wales Trinity Saint David, Swansea Metropolitan University, Coleg Sir Gar and Coleg Ceredigion. The result is a dual sector university based on a dynamic new vision for the delivery of higher education within the region, endorsed by the Welsh Assembly Government and the College's existing partner, the University of Glamorgan.

The College offers quality degrees and degree routes in the areas of business, care, construction, design, engineering, sport and technology. These ensure meaningful educational pathways and enhanced choices for the people of Pembrokeshire.

As we move to delivering courses through this new alliance from September 2011, some details of the provision have yet to be finalised. With this in mind, over the next few pages you will find information on the courses we expect to be running. However, it should be noted that some course titles and content may change.

Whatever you choose, if you decide to study at the College you'll be taught at our award-winning campus in the county town of Haverfordwest with access to some of the best facilities for learning in the area. Our modern campus provides a well equipped learning resource centre, excellent IT resources providing the latest software applications, individual study booths, separate HE student coffee shop/restaurant in addition to the College refectory plus access to our subsidised hair and beauty salons and a day nursery.

Glyn Jones, OBE





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“Learning locally has many benefits like small classroom sizes - however, I don’t get to party like my uni friends. Maybe this is also a positive - less distraction is keeping me focused and disciplined.”

Natalie Jack



“My advice to people considering going away to uni? Make sure you look into it and explore all your options. From my experience, studying a little closer to home may not be ‘cool’, but at least you will have more money in your back pocket.”

Mark Francis

www.pembs.ac.uk/design

Design

Studying alongside like-minded people, you’ll be encouraged to let your imagination run free. With creative opportunities ranging from fashion design, product design, art direction and corporate packaging through to architecture and creating high-tech graphics for advertising campaigns, the opportunities are endless.

Our design courses incorporate live projects with annual exhibitions, giving you the opportunity to show your work to the public. Few industries offer such a diverse range of career opportunities as the design industry. Embark upon a career in design and you’ll experience an unrivalled sense of satisfaction as your designs come to life and the finished product emerges. Influencing almost every aspect of our daily lives from what we buy, wear, read and sit on, design has a crucial impact on how we live.



Course & Careers	Requirements	Module Examples	Mode of Study
BA (Hons) Design Studies Career aspirations: Fashion Designer Fine Artist Graphic Designer Interactive Designer Packaging Designer Textiles Designer	140 UCAS points. There are no formal entry requirements for applicants over the age of 21. Candidates will be required to bring a portfolio of work to the interview.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Art Practice (Self Directed Projects) · Computer Design Application · Exploring Material Techniques and Processes · Integrated Design Project · Introduction to 2D/3D · Visualisation · Project Work and Competitions 	Diploma in Design - 2 years at Pembrokeshire College BA (Hons) - year 3 at Trinity Saint David, Carmarthen

This degree recognises diversity in the creative industries in contemporary practice, locally and internationally. The first two years allow students to develop strong creative thinking skills whilst exploring their own design focus through an interdisciplinary practical approach. Traditional skills of art and design practice are supported with ICT tools for design and is underpinned by the theoretical understanding of concepts and historical context. The combination of studio practice and contextual study allows students to learn from creative and theoretical influences. Problem-solving, project management and entrepreneurial skills further provide realistic experiences.

BSc (Hons) Architectural Technology Career aspirations: Architectural Technologist Designer	180 UCAS points and is normally subject to an interview. There are no formal entry requirements for applicants over the age of 21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Architectural Design Technology · Conservation Principle and Practice · Architectural History and Design · Built Environment Law · Studio Design Projects 	BSc (Hons) - 3 years full-time or 6 years part-time Foundation Degree - 3 years part-time (includes industrial placement)
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This exciting course is about developing students' architectural creativity, advancing their technical skills and teaching them how to apply it in the natural and built environment. This course is recognised by the Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists.

Applications: UK and EU students please email admissions@pembs.ac.uk or call 0800 9 776 788
 International students (non EU) please email international.info@pembs.ac.uk or call +44(0) 1437 753 183





Engineering & Technology

In Pembrokeshire the energy sector is of huge importance to the local economy and continues to offer exciting opportunities for graduates.

Pembrokeshire College has responded to the development in this sector by playing an important role in the Energy Sector Workforce Development Group; helping to attract young talent into the industry and providing the industry with high quality trained and qualified personnel. Learning in the recently opened £3.2m Energy & Engineering Centre, you'll have access to the latest technology ensuring you'll leave equipped with the skills needed by industry.

The energy sector in the UK is vast and wide-ranging offering numerous career prospects for graduates. With energy engineers facing the challenge of supplying increasing quantities of energy whilst countering the environmental implications, the race is on to seek out cleaner, more renewable sources of energy, with the UK aiming to cut emissions by 60% before 2050. With science, engineering and technology based industries facing a worldwide shortage of skilled recruits, a career in energy can offer excellent training prospects and the opportunity to work abroad.



"The resounding success of the apprenticeship programme is attributable both to the support and dedication that the refinery's operations department has given to the programme and to the close working links between the refinery and Pembrokeshire College." **Chevron Refinery, Operations Manager, Ed Tomp**



"Being a female in a traditionally male orientated sector has always been a positive experience for me. My long term goal is to complete the full BSc." **Tiffany Roach**

www.pembs.ac.uk/engineering

Course & Careers	Requirements	Module Examples	Mode of Study
Foundation Degree Process Operations & Maintenance* Career aspirations: This award will provide you with a firm foundation for a career as a Higher Mechanical, Instrumentation or Plant Technician within the downstream process industry	All applicants must be engaged in working in a downstream process industry. Applicants under 21 years should have a Level 3 qualification e.g NVQ 3, National Diploma or an equivalent technical certificate in a related subject area. The College welcomes applicants over 21 years of age. Each application is considered on its own merits, formal qualifications may not be required, dependant on industry experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Engineering Mathematics · Engineering Practice · Measurement Systems · Thermofluids · Plant Maintenance Management · Plant Technology · Instrumentation and Control Systems · Management and Safety in Industrial Engineering 	Part-time over 2/3 years

This new award is particularly relevant to those pursuing a career in relation to the downstream energy sector. It is designed to provide a higher education qualification that is occupationally focused and that combines academic and work-based learning with study. Work-based learning is the key characteristic of a foundation degree. Up to half of the credits toward completion of this award may be derived from the experiences and training you have received whilst at work and learning through work is emphasised. Your academic studies will be assessed using a variety of methods. In the main, these will be written assignments, practical activities, case studies and formal exams. A blended learning approach will allow students to experience a range of learning environments.

Degree Routes in Electronics & Electrical Engineering Career aspirations: Electronic and Electrical Engineering Maintenance Technician Instrument Technician	80 UCAS points. Relevant training and experience equivalent to NVQ Level 3, entry is normally subject to interview. There are no formal entry requirements for applicants aged over 21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Communications Engineering · Digital Analogue Electronics · Engineering Applications · Engineering Mathematics · Programming and Embedded Systems 	BSc (Hons) – 4 years full-time or 5 years part-time BSc – 3 years full-time HND – 2 years full-time HNC – 2 years part-time
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This programme offers students the opportunity to manage busy work commitments with a degree education. It brings together the technologies that link computing and electronics. It will equip students with the skills and knowledge needed to design both hardware and software applications in electronics. The programme presents an advanced understanding of modern electronic engineering together with the expertise in engineering software development. Degree route (HND) students need to re-apply to top-up to the full BSc.

Degree Routes in Instrumentation Engineering and Power Systems Engineering Career aspirations: Careers in a multitude of skilled engineering roles within the energy sector	Relevant training and experience equivalent to NVQ Level 3, entry is normally subject to interview. There are no formal entry requirements for applicants aged over 21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Electrical Technology · Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs) · Programming · Power and Machines (Power Systems Pathway) · Instrumentation and Control (Instrumentation Pathway) 	Part-time over 2 years (one day per week)
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The HNC in Instrumentation Engineering is a two-year programme delivered at Pembrokeshire College. The course consists of ten modules over two years. The aim of the course is to produce engineers who are capable of making an immediate contribution in the workplace and are able to take supervisory responsibility in the plant and process industries.

***Subject to validation**

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International students (non EU) please email international.info@pembs.ac.uk or call +44(0) 1437 753 183

Course & Careers	Requirements	Module Examples	Mode of Study
Degree Routes in Mechanical & Manufacturing Engineering Career aspirations: Mechanical and Plant Technician (designed to produce technicians with a firm grounding in the principles of mechanical and plant engineering)	80 UCAS points with at least two qualifications (including two scientifically/technically based A-Levels) City and Guilds 2800 Level 3 (must include advanced maths and science). There are no formal entry requirements for applicants aged over 21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Manual Drafting and CAD · Mechanics 1 · Manufacturing and Materials · Engineering Design 	2 years part-time (usually one day a week)

This HNC is designed specifically to cater for the vocational and personal requirements of people who are employed as technicians and senior apprentices in manufacturing industries. In addition to gaining an HNC qualification the course enables transfer to other higher level part-time or full-time courses. For instance, on completion of your HNC, a further three years of part-time study are required to complete a BSc (Hons) Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering degree.

Degree Routes in Plant Engineering Career aspirations: Mechanical and Plant Technician (designed to produce technicians with a firm grounding in the principles of mechanical and plant engineering)	80 UCAS points with at least two qualifications (including two scientifically/technically based A-Levels). City and Guilds 2800 Level 3 (must include advanced maths and science). There are no formal entry requirements for applicants aged over 21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Plant Maintenance and Management · Plant Condition Monitoring · Instrumentation and Control Mechanics 	2 years part-time
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The HNC in Plant Engineering is a two-year programme delivered by Pembrokeshire College. The course consists of 10 modules over the two years. You will be assessed using a variety of methods. In the main, these will be written assignments based on a practical activity, case studies and/or formal tests. Some modules contain a mixture of the above, others are 100% coursework assessed.



Course & Careers	Requirements	Module Examples	Mode of Study
Degree Routes in Construction Management Career aspirations: Construction Project Manager or Management in the construction industry	80 UCAS points (60 from main programme) at A-Level, Vocational A-Level, National Diploma, Access to HE or educational training and experience equivalent to NVQ Level 3 or CIOB site management certificate along with relevant GCSEs at grade C or above. There are no formal entry requirements for applicants aged over 21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Construction Technology · Surveying and Measuring Buildings · Tendering and Estimating · Production Management 	2 years part-time

The HNC in Construction Management course provides industry employees with the opportunity to gain academic qualifications to enhance and formalise their industrial experience. You will be assessed using a mixture of practical written assignments and exams. Consisting of ten modules, the course can also be used as credits towards gaining a Foundation Degree in Construction Management.

Degree Routes in Computing (top-up from HND Computing) Career aspirations: IT Support Staff Computer Technician Computer Analyst Computer Programmer	Dependent on UCAS points and is normally subject to an interview. Applicants aged over 21 are considered on individual merit and experience – formal qualifications may not be required.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Hardware and Operating Systems · Visual Programming · E-commerce · Programming · Web Page Design 	BSc - full-time Foundation Degree - part-time routes
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This new flexible degree is designed to equip students with the skills to work either in IT management or in an information systems capacity. The practical course has 18 modules and covers key competitive areas for businesses. It is ideally suited to both young adults who want to learn skills to get their first job within the technology sector or older people who want to develop or change careers, including starting their own business.



The new Engineering wing



Business & Management

A degree in business and management is one of the most versatile degrees you can have, opening up career possibilities across all trades and industry sectors.

Pembrokeshire itself has a thriving energy sector and is a popular location for the establishment of micro businesses. The public sector is a large employer and there has been an upsurge in the retail sector over recent years. Tourism is also big business throughout Wales with tourists spending over £9.5m a day on trips to Wales equating to around £3.5 billion a year*. Within Pembrokeshire, the Park Authority is a significant local employer with the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park being a unique attraction.

Both the tourism and business sectors are predicted to experience dynamic growth for the local economy over coming years.

*www.wales.gov.uk/tourism



“Working and learning is a positive balancing act. It’s a great feeling to be outside my comfort zone for once.”

Mervyn Jenkins



“Working full-time and studying part-time is a great way to achieve what I thought was out of my reach. It’s hard work but it does give added meaning and purpose to working and self development.”

Lisa Roblyn

Course & Careers	Requirements	Module Examples	Mode of Study
Degree Routes in Business Career aspirations: General Management Sales and Marketing Management HR Management Financial Management Business Start-up	80 UCAS points and is normally subject to an interview. There are no formal entry requirements for applicants aged over 21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management and Organisational Behaviour Strategic Business Analysis Enterprise Management Marketing Contemporary Issues in Human Resource Management 	BA (Hons) - 3 years full-time Foundation Degree - 2 years with potential progression to year 3 of the BA
<p>This degree has been designed to meet the needs of graduates entering the world of business. It will not only equip you with the essential business skills to analyse and interpret the changing world of business but also give you the confidence to make decisions based upon that analysis. Graduates will be well prepared to enter a wide range of business careers and to make the most of postgraduate training programmes. HNC students need to re-apply to top-up to the Foundation Degrees and HND students also need to re-apply to top-up to the BA (Hons).</p>			
Masters in Management Career aspirations: Promotion to Senior Management General Management Sales and Marketing Management HR Management Financial Management Business Start-Up	Candidates must have a minimum of a 2:2 degree or three years proven management experience and is subject to interview.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced Marketing and Communication Developing Human Potential Marketing Systems and Structures Strategic Management Strategic Cost Management 	3 years part-time (usually 1 pm-8pm, one day per week)
<p>This is a flexible course designed to develop a broad yet critical knowledge of contemporary management by focusing on a detailed exploration of the theory and practice of key management areas. It is designed around the needs of practicing or aspiring managers, and is also highly suited as a critical introduction to management for those without much practical management experience.</p>			
PCE/PGCE (Post Compulsory Education & Training) Career aspirations: Adult Teaching Adult Trainer or Instructor	Secured teaching placement of 80 hours for the first year of study and 120 for the second. A 400 word statement to support your application. Entry is subject to an interview.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concepts and Processes of Teaching Applying Teaching Skills Managing Learning and Assessment Professional Practice 1 and 2 Curriculum Planning in the PcET Sector 	1-3 years part-time (usually one afternoon/evening per week)
<p>This course prepares both graduates and non-graduates for employment within the post-16 sector. This includes further education, private training, nursing education and training in industry and public services. The same scheme of study is pursued by both graduates and non-graduates. Graduates are awarded the Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) and non-graduates the Professional Certificate in Education (PCE) on successful completion.</p>			
ACCA Career aspirations: Accountant	Minimum requirements are 2 A-levels and 3 GCSE's or equivalent in 5 subjects to include English and Maths. There are various entry points depending on your existing qualifications (visit the website for more details). There are no formal entry requirements for applicants aged over 21.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Management Accounting Financial Accounting Corporate and Business Law Business Analysis Corporate Reporting Taxation Audit and Assurance 	At least 3 years part-time (one day per week at Coleg Sir Gar, Carmarthen)
<p>Studying for ACCA will provide you with skills and knowledge relevant to any business, which means you are free to choose which type of accountancy role and organisation you want to work for. ACCA is known as the global body for professional accountants and their qualifications are available around the world. As a recognised and respected qualification, employers will be confident that you have the skills to get the job done.</p>			

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Health, Care & Science

If you are planning a career within the health/care sector, Pembrokeshire College has a range of full and part-time courses that are suitable for school leavers and adults.

There are excellent progression routes to direct employment or on to university, as well as many career development and updating opportunities for employees. The programme area has been recognised by government inspectors for the high quality of its curriculum and resources.



The Welsh Assembly Government recently chose Animal Science student Neil Walters to become a Skills Ambassador, after showing huge commitment to his studies. Neil contracted a debilitating tropical disease called Loa Loa after working with chimpanzees in west Africa. Neil is currently studying on the foundation degree in Animal Science.

Course & Careers	Requirements	Module Examples	Mode of Study
BSc (Hons) Professional Practice for Nursing, Midwifery & Health Visiting Career aspirations: Nursing Practice Midwifery Public Health Care	You need to be a practising nurse with a diploma in nursing or equivalent (120 CAT points Level 2) and on the NMC Register.	BSc Professional Practice for Nursing consists of four modules: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Legal and Philosophical Issues · Research in Professional Practice · Managing Change in Professional Practice · Bio-psycho-social Aspects of Health BSc (Hons) Professional Practice for Nursing The delivery of this module is flexible and independent study is encouraged under the direction of a personal supervisor. On completion, eligible students can register with the NMC for the Specialist Practitioner Award.	1 - 4 years part-time

The course is designed to give students the opportunity to extend their expertise in professional practice in relation to their specific work setting/client group. The course examines and progresses the student's academic and practical base of care and has been flexibly designed to accommodate students from a wide variety of practice backgrounds, enabling practitioners to function more effectively in a multi-professional setting within the evolving context of health and health care.

Degree Routes in Childhood Studies Career aspirations: Primary School Teaching Supervisory or managerial positions in playgroup and nurseries	Applicants aged under 21 should have Level 3 qualifications, e.g. A-Levels, NVQ 3, National Diploma in a related area or equivalent. All applicants must also be engaged in working with young children, either voluntary or paid employment and is subject to interview.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Trends in Child Health · Communication/Partnership · Curriculum Matters · Child Development 	2 years part-time
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This course is particularly relevant given the increase in demand for childcare workers with a higher level qualification. The Foundation Phase in Welsh schools has created an awareness of the importance of the discipline of Childhood Studies. Suitable for those wishing to work or already working in a childcare setting.

BSc Childhood Studies Career aspirations: Primary School Teaching Supervisory or managerial positions in playgroups and nurseries	All applicants must be engaged in working with children in either voluntary or paid employment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · The Learning Child · The Child and Contemporary Society · Dissertation 	2 years part-time
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This degree course is particularly relevant to those who wish to pursue a career, or enhance their qualifications, in relation to work with children. The sector is rapidly diversifying and there is a growing need for highly trained staff who are knowledgeable, flexible and adaptable. There is scope to work within child-related organisations in the state, voluntary and commercial sectors within fields such as education, welfare, leisure and advocacy.

FD Animal Science Career aspirations: Veterinary Nursing Assistant Pet Retail Manager Conservation Manager Animal Rescue Worker Animal Nutritionist	40 UCAS points. The College welcomes applicants over 21 years of age, each application is considered on individual merit and formal qualifications may not be required dependent upon experience.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Marine Biology · Anatomy and Physiology · Veterinary Nursing · Animal Nursing and Health Care · Behaviour · Anthrozoology · Business Management · Industrial Placement 	3 years part-time
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This is a three year, part-time course which requires attendance one day per week at College (9am-5pm). There is a requirement to undertake work placement in addition to attending College for a minimum of 200 hours in year one and a further placement in year three (400 hours total). The third year time allocation includes the time spent producing a report for the placement provider. This qualification can be the first step in working towards a degree in this area of study. It can also lead to work in veterinary nursing practice, managing wildlife, animal parks, zoo work, welfare organisations and other animal based organisations. A Foundation Degree provides a step towards supervisory or management roles within many of these areas.



"I chose the sports degree as I want to specialise in sports coaching and gain valuable work experience within the sector."

Stephen Morse (right)



"I enjoyed studying at Pembrokeshire College; my degree course offered both academic study and valuable work experience. I am now on my third year at the University of Glamorgan - having the uni experience without the full student debt."

Special Olympics National Coach and degree student Victoria Jones

www.pembs.ac.uk/fit

Sport

Recreation is increasingly becoming an integral part of our daily lives as people find they have more leisure time. Coupled with the fact that the public are taking more of an active interest in their own health and fitness it is now a great time to consider a career in general health and fitness.

As the UK's only coastal national park, Pembrokeshire has long been a destination for those interested in the outdoors and adventurous activities. This sector, both at home and away, presents a range of career opportunities for those seeking active lifestyles.

The number of people taking part in boating, watersports and water-based activities has been steadily increasing year-on-year and is now worth over £40m in Wales with considerable growth potential*.

*British Marine Federation

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International students (non EU) please email international.info@pembs.ac.uk or call +44(0) 1437 753 183

Course & Careers	Requirements	Module Examples	Mode of Study
Foundation Degree in Sport Career aspirations: Sports Coaching Outdoor Activities Instructor Recreational/Leisure Club Manager	80 UCAS points. There are no formal entry requirements for applicants aged over 21. Students must complete a relevant work placement or employment for a minimum of one day per week in their first year and two days per week in their second year of study. This can also be completed as a block, e.g. five weeks in year 1 and ten weeks in year 2. Entry is subject to interview.	Pathways: (visit website for modules) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Sports Coaching and Performance · Fitness, Exercise and Health · Adventure Sports 	2 years full-time

Coasteering is growing in popularity around the Pembrokeshire coastline along with surfing, sailing and jet skiing to name just a few. Increasingly, there are more opportunities than ever to embark on a career within this sector. This degree has been designed to offer three pathways to reflect the changing needs of students and employers in Pembrokeshire. The key emphasis with a foundation degree is to gain relevant work experience coupled with underpinning theory.

How do I enrol?

For full-time courses:

You need to apply through UCAS and quote our College UCAS code and the UCAS course code you are applying for. A direct link to UCAS can be found on each course information sheet on the College website.

For part-time courses:

All part-time courses can be applied for directly through the College. You can either complete a paper application from admissions or alternatively go online at www.pembs.ac.uk/apply

Finance and welfare grants:

Whether you are a local student or a student from outside Wales you may be eligible for a student loan and several allowances and grants. To find out more: if you live in Wales go to www.studentfinancewales.co.uk; if you live in England go to www.studentfinancedirect.co.uk

As a higher education student at Pembrokeshire College it's worth finding out about whether you are also eligible to receive a Scholarship to support your studies.

For more information go to

www.pembs.ac.uk/money or call 01437 753 133.

Support for HE students:

Pembrokeshire College has a supportive environment with professional staff to help you if you need it such as:

- Learning support can, for example, help you prepare for examinations or write your first assignment;
- Skills counsellors are available to help you deal with personal problems; and
- Support is available on-site for students with a disability or a medical condition.

To discuss any of the above in confidence, please contact Advice, Guidance and Welfare on 01437 753 133

The Learning Resource Centre



ALTERNATIVES TO UNIVERSITY

THE MYTHS

Deciding your future is an important decision. Don't be fooled by some of these common myths: ➤

YOU NEED TO GET A DEGREE IF YOU WANT A GOOD CAREER

Although a number of careers such as medicine do require a degree, there are many more that do not. For instance, you could train to be a solicitor through the ILEX scheme or an accountant through AAT, both routes can be quicker and cheaper than going away to university!

HAVING A DEGREE MAKES YOU MORE EMPLOYABLE

When recruiting a new employee most employers are looking for the same thing - relevant experience and a positive attitude. A lack of relevant work experience is the biggest challenge graduates face when hunting for their first job. While they have spent the last three years in a classroom, vocational students have been working in industry, gaining valuable experience and proving themselves to prospective employers.

GRADUATES EARN HIGHER SALARIES

The general perception that graduates always earn higher salaries simply isn't true. Recent surveys have shown that both apprentices and graduates are likely to earn approximately £100k more across their lifetime than those who have not chosen either of these routes.

EVERYONE GOES TO UNI

Whilst it may feel like all your friends are going off to uni, there are plenty who choose to take an alternative route to success. In fact, the truth is the majority of students DO NOT go to uni. Uni isn't for everyone, follow your own path and don't feel pressurised into following the crowd.

VOCATIONAL LEARNING IS FOR PEOPLE WHO DO BADLY AT SCHOOL

A vocational education is about learning on the job, rather than in the classroom, and in many cases it is the preferred way of getting into a career. Vocational learning is for anyone who wants to start their career and earn while they learn; and that covers all sorts of people, not just the ones who were keen to get out of school. In 2009 approximately 230,000 students joined an apprenticeship scheme - 45,000 more than the previous year.

OTHER USEFUL FACTS:

Before making any final decision about going away to university, below are just a couple more things to consider:-

Almost 1 in 4 people drop out of university. Sometimes people sign up to university because they think it is expected of them. This is one of the main reasons why people drop out. Other reasons include losing interest in the subject, feeling homesick, underestimating the study involved, or getting into financial difficulty.

On average, students are now graduating with a debt of £25k. In addition to rising tuition fees, students have to pay for accommodation, living expenses, books, transportation and more. With tuition fees set to increase dramatically, the level of student debt is also likely to increase with projected levels of debt soon to reach £40k.

What's the rush? If you haven't fully made up your mind about going to uni, why not postpone it for a year or two. Maybe you need to save money or figure out exactly what subject you want to study. Entering uni with focus and determination can be a good move.

(Abridged from www.notgoingtouni.co.uk)

ALTERNATIVES TO UNIVERSITY

APPRENTICESHIPS

Apprenticeships are a way of combining paid work with learning and gaining recognised qualifications. In most cases a student would be employed by a company to do a particular job but would also go to college to study the subject as well. Apprenticeships can take between one and four years to complete depending on the level of the apprenticeship, the apprentices' ability and the industry sector.

WHAT CAN I DO AN APPRENTICESHIP IN?

There's a general misconception that apprenticeships are only available in manual trades such as building or hairdressing. In fact, you can now find apprenticeships in almost every career – from marketing to floristry, games testers to engineers. On the next page is a list of the apprenticeships available at the College, more details on www.pembs.ac.uk/modapp. If you're interested in undertaking one of the apprenticeship routes offered at the College we have staff who can help you to find an employer. You'll also find vacancies advertised on the Government's apprenticeship website: www.apprenticeships.org.uk.

HOW DO YOU GET AN APPRENTICESHIP?

It's worth remembering that many apprenticeships are in big demand so don't assume that you'll definitely get the placement you're after. In many cases you'll need to fill in an application form and have an interview as you would with any other job so it's worth preparing and doing your homework on the company. Currently, the biggest demand is for apprenticeships in engineering, business administration and construction.



become an

APPRENTICE

It is hereby certified that
Rhys Holman
On 17th July 2016
has successfully completed
Engineering Construction
Foundation Module apprenticeship

More than three-quarters of apprentices say that without their apprenticeship they wouldn't be earning their current salary

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF AN APPRENTICESHIP?

There are many reasons to choose an apprenticeship. Apprenticeships are recognised and valued by employers across the UK as they show that you have been trained in the skills that their business needs. Once you've completed your apprenticeship you can choose to continue working, undertake more advanced training or go on to study for a degree. Some of the key benefits of undertaking an apprenticeship are listed below:

- Earn a salary
- Get paid holidays
- Receive training
- Gain qualifications
- Learn job-specific skills
- Increase your employability
- Option to progress to study at degree level

Apprenticeships at Pembrokeshire College
(current provision is subject to change).

APPRENTICESHIP
Brickwork
Business Administration
Carpentry & Joinery
Childcare
Healthcare
Hospitality & Catering
Electrical
Plumbing
Hairdressing
Marine Engineering
Mechanical Engineering
Motor Vehicle
Pipe Fitting
Plating
Welding

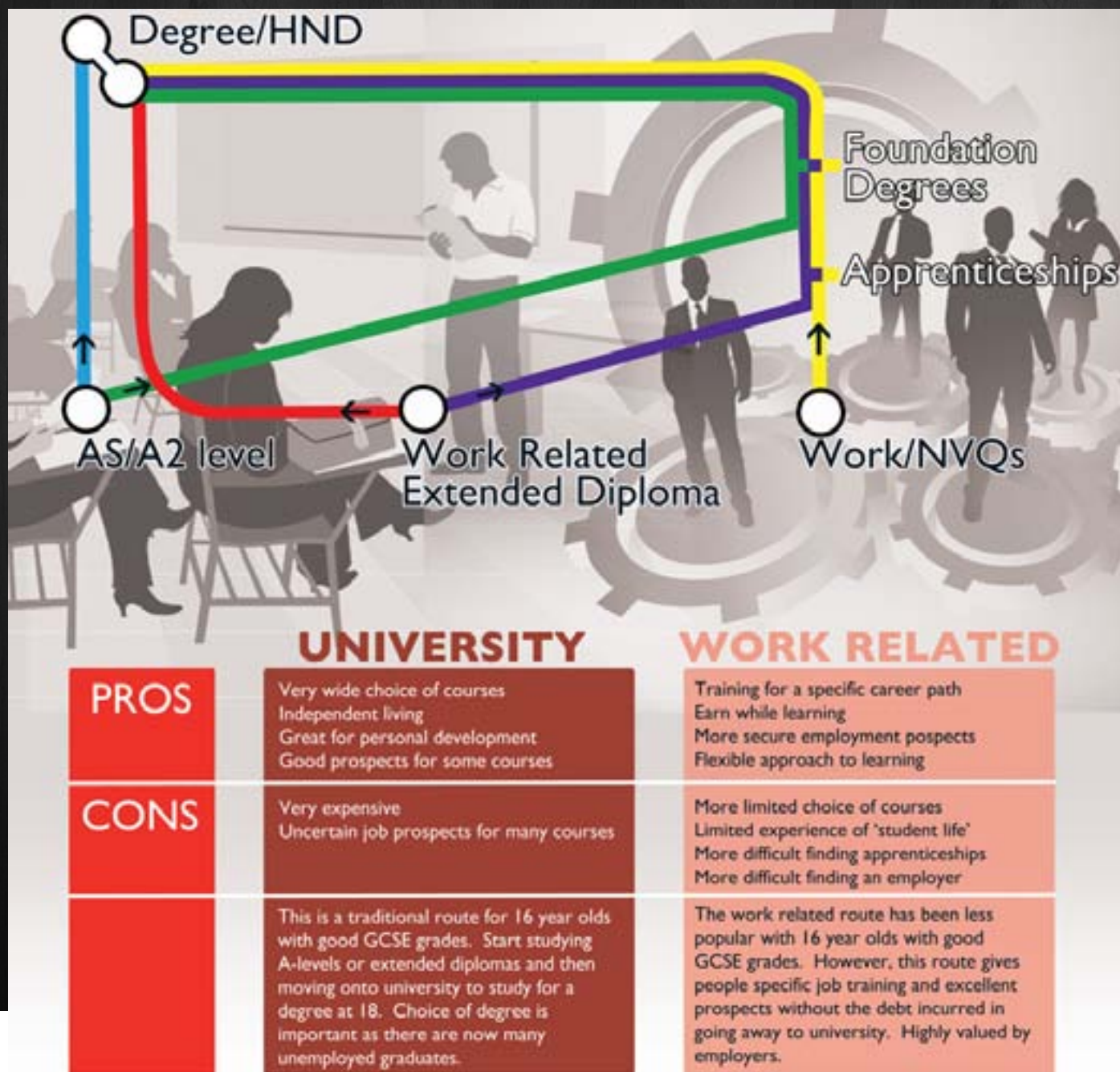


89% of apprentices would recommend an apprenticeship to other people in similar circumstances to themselves

Over 9 out of 10 apprentices are in work or education at completion of their apprenticeship

ROUTES TO HIGHER SUCCESS

The diagram below demonstrates the pros and cons of studying at university compared to undertaking a work-related course.



WHAT DO APPRENTICES GET PAID?

Apprentices get paid at least £90 a week, but an earnings survey showed that it is often a lot more, with an average salary of £170 per week. Some workers in the electro-technical sector get paid up to £210 per week. You also get at least 20 days holiday a year along with bank holidays. The benefit of getting the training is obvious - over a career, apprentices can earn over £100,000 more than those without training.

CELEBRITIES THAT DIDN'T GO TO UNI...



The College would like to offer you the chance to win a full or part-time degree course or an NVQ short course delivered at Pembrokeshire College. Just text LRN with the name of each celebrity to 60081. The competition is open to people aged 18 and over, closing date 1 June 2011. The winner will be contacted by the 10 June 2011.

WIN



FOUNDATION DEGREES

Foundation Degrees offered at the College:

- Sport (3 pathways)
- Childhood Studies
- Animal Science
- Business
- Process Operations and Maintenance*
- Architectural Technology

*Subject to validation

See pages 4-14 for details on all the degrees and foundation degrees offered at the College.

Foundation Degrees are degree level qualifications that combine academic study with work-based learning. Designed jointly with employers, they equip students with practical and relevant knowledge, understanding and key skills. Designed to equip you for a particular area of work they also give you the general skills that are useful in all types of business. So whether you're looking to change job, return to work or boost your career prospects, Foundation Degrees offer a route into higher education.

HOW DO I STUDY A FOUNDATION DEGREE?

You can study for a number of Foundation Degrees at Pembrokeshire College. If we don't offer the subject area you are interested in, you could choose to study via distance learning or with another college or university. Foundation Degrees normally take 2 years to complete on a full-time basis (longer if you're studying part-time).

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS AFTER A FOUNDATION DEGREE?

A Foundation Degree is a university-level qualification in its own right, equivalent to the first two years of an honours degree. Once you've achieved your Foundation Degree it can lead you straight into employment or you could choose to continue studying to 'top-up' to a full honours degree.

THERE ARE MANY BENEFITS TO STUDYING FOR A FOUNDATION DEGREE. A FEW OF THESE ARE OUTLINED BELOW:

Benefits for employed students:

- Gain an understanding of workplace practice theories and new subject knowledge;
- Develop critical reasoning and evidence-based evaluation skills;
- Develop transferable skills such as communication and group working;
- Gain a new perspective on working practices through discussion groups;
- Increase possibilities for progression at work; and
- Study at higher education level with the option to 'top-up' to a full honours degree.

Benefits for students looking to enter employment:

- Gain real business experience;
- Gain a broad knowledge of a specific industry;
- Develop and enhance practical knowledge and skills;
- Develop critical reasoning and reflective skills;
- Gain employer contacts that will be useful when seeking employment;
- Gain confidence; and
- Study at a higher education level with the option to 'top-up' to a full honours degree.

Benefits for employers:

You employees will

- Gain a broader insight into the job and the industry;
- Perform their job better;
- Bring up to date knowledge to the company;
- Have increased motivation and commitment to their work;
- Have increased confidence in applying skills and knowledge;
- Cascade new skills and knowledge acquired on the course to colleagues;
- Take on tasks they would not have tackled before; and
- Have better communication, team working and problem solving skills.

(Information abridged from www.notgoingtouni.co.uk)



HIGHER LEVEL NVQs

If you're looking to get a recognised qualification related to a specific industry or sector, an NVQ may be the route for you. NVQs (National Vocational Qualifications) are practical competence-based qualifications where you learn the skills and gain the knowledge to do your job effectively.

WHY WOULD I DO AN NVQ?

To gain practical skills and knowledge in the area in which you work. While studying for an NVQ you'll be carrying out your everyday job whilst also being assessed against a pre-determined set of national standards. The national standards outline what a competent person in a particular job should be able to do. As you progress through your course an assessor will measure your skills and knowledge against these standards until you meet them all and complete the qualification. Taking a higher level NVQ could be the most appropriate route if you already have skills in a specific area and are now looking to improve.

HOW DO I STUDY FOR AN NVQ?

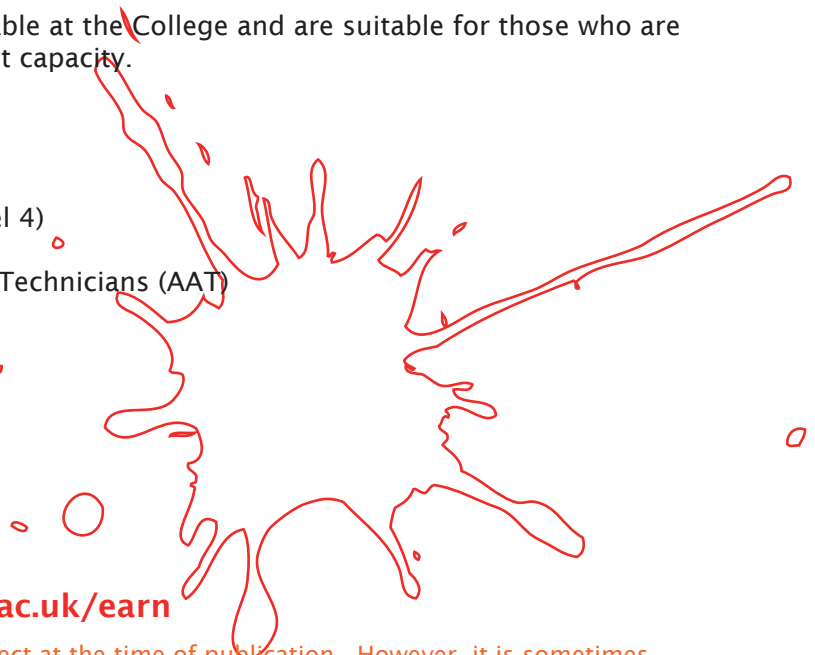
NVQs are assessed via practical assignments and a portfolio of evidence. You will be assigned a qualified assessor who will observe you in the workplace and test your knowledge and understanding as well as your performance. Within reason, there is no maximum time limit to complete an NVQ with the qualification designed to be taken at a pace to suit you. The average duration to complete a higher level NVQ is roughly two years.

WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS AFTER COMPLETING AN NVQ?

Successfully completing an NVQ can lead to further training or the next level of the NVQ. You could also progress to study on a higher education course such as a HNC, HND or Foundation Degree in a related area.

The following work related qualifications are available at the College and are suitable for those who are already working or aspire to work in a management capacity.

- NVQ 4 Management
- NVQ 5 Management
- NVQ 4 Business Administration
- ILM Introductory Diploma in Management (Level 4)
- ILM Diploma in Management (Level 5)
- NVQ 4 Technician – Association of Accounting Technicians (AAT)
- NVQ 4 Health and Social Care
- NVQ 4 Childcare
- NVQ 4 Children and Young People (3172)
- NVQ 4 Leadership and Management (for Care)
- NVQ 4 Occupational Health and Safety
- NVQ 4 Learning and Development



For more information visit www.pembs.ac.uk/earn

Disclaimer: The information in this prospectus was correct at the time of publication. However, it is sometimes necessary for the College to cancel or change details of courses offered. Please check information with admissions before applying as some courses are subject to validation. The College is an equal opportunities organisation and welcomes all members of the community. We aim to give everybody the same chance to succeed regardless of sex, age, disability, religion, race or ethnic group. This publication can also be viewed on-line in both English and Welsh, and is available in large print on request - www.pembs.ac.uk/downloads



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