



2021/22

Further Education &
Work-Based Learning
Course Guide

NORTHERN
Regional College

Covid-19 Update

Our priority is the health, safety and well-being of our staff, students and visitors. Each campus have safety measures in place to keep everyone safe when on-site and detailed guidance have been produced for both staff and students to help prevent the spread of Covid-19. In the event of further lockdowns, we have invested in our online teaching facilities and equipment with all staff fully equipped to work remotely from home ensuring you can continue your studies.

At the time of going to print we are still in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic. All information contained within this publication reflects 'typical' life at College as we hope to be beyond the pandemic when you start your studies with us in September. Most of our photography was taken pre-Covid restrictions.





Welcome

Congratulations on taking the next step towards building on your education and developing your future career. You are joining the College at an exciting period of transformation as we progress through our campus development plans but also during a time of global uncertainty.

I want to reassure you that the health, safety and well-being of our staff, students and visitors is paramount and we have measures in place to keep everyone safe on-campus. We have also invested heavily in our College Canvas Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) to deliver quality blended learning.

Blended learning will continue to play a key role in your learning experience, allowing lecturers to use a wide range of technology and digital platforms to engage and interact through apps, games and other programmes to deliver a first-rate student experience.

As you embark on your career journey, we have carefully selected each of the courses listed in this guide as programmes that offer real value to our students and are relevant to the needs of employers or to progression within education. Whether you are a recent school leaver, or you are returning to study after time away, this guide summarises the excellent opportunities available across our six campuses.

Whilst at the College you will most closely interact with our professional teaching staff. All of our lecturers have specialist expertise in their subject areas and many continue to work as professionals in industry.

This connection with industry is important to us and as a College we work closely with businesses to ensure our provision is relevant and reflects the needs of employers. No matter what subject or qualification you choose, your course will be geared towards helping you to enhance your career prospects.

If you already know what subject you are interested in you will find more detailed information on our website, so please make sure you visit www.nrc.ac.uk to find out more.

If you are still trying to decide on what to do next please make use of the careers service we offer across our campuses. Why not talk to one of our careers advisors who can discuss the options available to you? We would be delighted to see hear from you.

I hope you find this guide useful and informative – and I look forward to welcoming you as student of Northern Regional College in September 2021.

Professor Terri Scott
Principal & Chief Executive

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Coleraine



Ballymena

Campus Development

The College is embarking on an £84 million capital investment, delivering state of the art campuses on the current sites in Union Street, Coleraine and Farm Lodge, Ballymena. The projects are funded by the Department for the Economy.

Coleraine

There will be a new, purpose-built campus on the existing (but extended) site at Union Street Coleraine, due to open in 2023. The innovation zone will be a flexible area that can be adapted for a wide range of activities including cross curriculum project based learning and conferences. The training restaurant and hair and beauty salon will, at set times, be open to the public to provide our students with the opportunity to train in a realistic environment.

The College plans also include the sympathetic refurbishments of the former St Patrick's Church Parish Centre as a the stand alone performing arts centre for the new campus.

Ballymena

Our plans are for one campus for Ballymena with a new build on the existing Farm Lodge site, with the closure of Trostan Avenue and Lamont Building. The new campus is scheduled to open in September 2024.

From September 2021, a small number of courses currently offered in Ballymena (Farm Lodge) may be moved to alternative suitable locations, each location playing an important role in maintaining the College curriculum offering.

Find out more at
www.nrc.ac.uk



Study at Northern Regional College

At Northern Regional College you can shape the direction of your education and career. Our range of qualifications and wide selection of subject areas gives you choice in your learning. Whether you want to work towards a trade or progress to university you will find a course for your needs.

We offer Traineeships/ Apprenticeships/GCSE equivalent courses (Level 2 BTEC Diploma), A Level equivalent courses (Level 3 BTEC Extended Diploma) and

Excellent quality of teaching and learning

Many of our lecturers continue to work as industry professionals and offer extensive knowledge and experience of their specialist area.

Practical work-based structure

All courses are designed to provide you with the skills required to meet the needs of employers.

Financial support

Depending on your course of study you may be eligible for a travel pass or other financial support such as EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance), Access to Learning Fund, hardship payments, childcare assistance. Student Finance staff are available to advise you on other types of financial support you could access while at the College.

See website for details.

Modern equipment and facilities

All subject areas are delivered with the latest equipment and facilities to meet industry standards.

Progression

Our courses offer excellent progression routes. Qualifications are available from Level 1 through to Level 6 (Higher Education), all within the College. You can move onto more advanced qualifications in the same subject or into new areas.

Excellent industry links

The College has excellent links with local, national and international employers who provide students with valuable placement opportunities, guest lectures and site visits.



Online Open Day

Monday 1 March 2021

We are bringing our open day directly to you - you will be able to visit us online from the comfort of your own home to find out more about our courses and facilities.

Keep an eye on our social media channels and website for further details on our exciting virtual open day.

www.nrc.ac.uk



Our Campuses

Coleraine

Beresford Avenue
Coleraine
BT52 1HJ

Ballymoney

2 Coleraine Road
Ballymoney
BT53 6BP

Ballymena

Farm Lodge Buildings
Ballymena
BT43 7DF

Ballymena

Trostan Avenue
Building Ballymena
BT43 7BN

Magherafelt

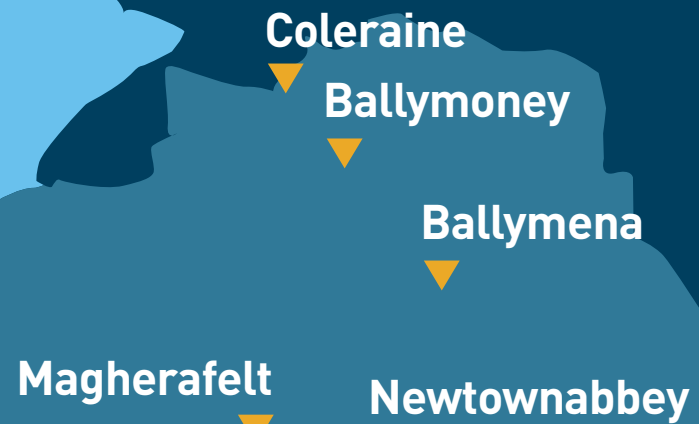
22 Moneymore Road
Magherafelt
BT45 6AE

Newtownabbey

400 Shore Road
Newtownabbey
BT37 9RS

Ballymoney

2 Coleraine Road
Ballymoney
BT53 6BP





Facilities

Libraries

Each campus has its own library with access to printed and digital resources, computers, Wi-Fi and a range of study areas and facilities.

Our digital resources can be accessed online 24/7 and include electronic-books, online journal articles, subject e-databases and a range of vocational online learning tools.

Inductions and guidance are provided at the beginning of each academic year. Throughout the year, dedicated library staff will support you in using the library and finding the resources you need to succeed on your course.

Teaching Facilities

You will be taught with the equipment and facilities needed to provide you with a high quality learning experience in your subject area. Our campuses are equipped with everything from standard teaching rooms to a wide variety of specialist equipment including engineering, sports and fitness, car maintenance, beauty, graphic design and science laboratories.

Learning Online

Computers and printers are available on all campuses. You will also have access to a wide range of learning resources on and off campus via the College's Canvas VLE. Many subject areas deliver some teaching online giving you more flexibility in when and where you study.

Canteen

Each campus has a canteen offering a selection of affordable snacks, sandwiches and meals. Meal deals, daily specials and healthy options are available throughout the week.

Seating Areas

Comfortable seating areas are available around the campuses for meeting friends and relaxing outside of class.

Free Wi-Fi

Free Wi-Fi is available at each campus. There are also designated Wi-Fi hotspots in each library for personal devices.

Entrepreneurship Club

As a student of the College, you will have the opportunity to join the Entrepreneurship Club. Whether you have a business idea or just thinking about it the College Entrepreneurship Club can provide you with the support you need to get started and grow an enterprise. The club offers you unique access to events, support, courses, product design, and much more to get your business started.

Through the Entrepreneurship Club you can explore and road test your ideas including accessing mentors and excellent facilities to bring those ideas to reality. You have the potential to start your learning journey as a student and complete as a business owner. You can also enhance your future prospects by attaining the Certificate in Entrepreneurship.

For further details, contact
EntrepreneurshipClub@nrc.ac.uk





Students' Union

All College students automatically become members of the Students' Union. The Union is responsible for representing the views of all students. You and your fellow students will elect someone in your class to be your representative and to feedback your views to the Students' Union and the College at various times throughout the year. The Union is run by the Student President along with the Student Leadership Team and Class Representatives. Meetings are generally campus based and held once per term.

As a member of the Students' Union, you will be able to:

- ▶ put yourself forward for election as class representative
- ▶ vote in College elections and attend meetings
- ▶ have your opinion heard across College through your class representative (if this isn't you)
- ▶ stand for election for Students' Union Officer posts if you are a class representative
- ▶ sit on College committees as deemed appropriate by the Students' Union/College

Ashlyn Close Student President

“My role is to listen and respond to your ideas and thoughts as well as keeping you updated on key issues that are affecting students in NI and across the UK. I look forward to welcoming you as a student at Northern Regional College.”

Supporting Students

Careers Advice and Guidance

Our team of Careers Advisers provide a professional, impartial and confidential advice and guidance service. We help you make informed careers choices and support you as you progress through your learning, training and work opportunities.

Education Support

We offer comprehensive education support tailored to your specific needs in order to ensure you have the support to attend College and to succeed on your course. If you are unsure about the support we can offer, we can offer transition visits prior to starting your course which will provide a personal review of your needs.



Counselling Services

Beginning a new course can be a stressful time. There may be occasions where you may need to speak to someone outside of your course about issues affecting you. Our College counselling service is available 24 hours per day, 365 days per year and is staffed by professionally trained counsellors who you can talk to on the phone or in person. Group counselling is also available.



How You Will Learn

Teaching and assessment methods vary but most courses are taught through traditional lectures and practical sessions. You may be taught on campus, by eLearning, or a combination of both (blended learning).

Teaching methods may include:

- ▷ Guest lectures from industry professionals or specialists
- ▷ One-to-one sessions with your lecturer
- ▷ Workshops
- ▷ Case studies
- ▷ Directed learning
- ▷ Independent study
- ▷ Visits e.g. to museums and exhibitions or into industry
- ▷ Productions
- ▷ Design studio work
- ▷ Laboratory work

Assessment methods may include:

- ▷ Formal examinations
- ▷ Practical exercises
- ▷ Coursework
- ▷ Online examinations
- ▷ Written assignments
- ▷ Reports
- ▷ Essays
- ▷ Case studies
- ▷ Reports
- ▷ Observation of skills
- ▷ Real-life industry projects
- ▷ Presentations

Industrial Visits

We have excellent industrial links with local, national and international employers who provide you with valuable seminars, visits and placement opportunities.





Digital Learning

On many of our courses teaching is delivered partly online and can be completed at home or on campus. We have invested heavily in online teaching facilities and computer equipment to provide our students with a high quality learning experience.

We are continually refining, expanding and enhancing our online course delivery, offering the flexibility of studying parts of your course online.

This means you can:

- ▷ Access course material online 24/7
- ▷ Experience interactive and engaging online programmes
- ▷ Enhance and develop your digital skills
- ▷ Balance study, work and family commitments

In addition to course materials provided by our lecturers, all students at Northern Regional College have access to online resources in topics such as employability, IT and study skills developed by industry experts.



Fees and Funding

The College has a dedicated Student Finance team who can provide you with support and assistance with applying for funding to support your studies and in accessing any additional College funds.

Where courses have additional mandatory expenses we make every effort to highlight them in the online prospectus. These may include uniforms, kits, IrishFA registration, residential visits, field trips, materials, security checks, computer equipment.

**For further information contact
Student Finance
on 028 9085 5000
ext. 1249 or 1239
or email
studentfinance@nrc.ac.uk.**

EMA

Traineeship/Further Education students aged between 16 and 19 may be entitled to receive a weekly EMA (Education Maintenance Allowance) payment of £30. This award is means-tested on household income.

Travel Pass

Students aged 19 or younger on 1 July and on a full-time Further Education/Traineeship course may apply for a Travel Pass or travel allowance. Other criteria and age restrictions may apply and you should contact the Education Authority for further information.



Further Education Award

Students enrolled on a Further Education course must be 19 or older on 1 July. This is a means tested award for full-time students and usually has a closing date. Early application is recommended. Other criteria and age restrictions may apply and you should contact the Education Authority for further information.

Access to Learning Fund

Students must be 18 or older at the start of the academic year. Assistance is means tested and students must have applied to all other sources of finance that are available to them in the first instance. This fund is administered by the College. Application criteria are available upon request.

Care to Learn Scheme

If you have care of a child then you may be able to get help with childcare and travel costs. You must be aged between 16 and 19 at the start of the course. This fund is administered by the College.

Childcare Assistance

Help with childcare costs may be available to both further and higher education students through Student Finance NI.

Other Sources of Help

There may be other sources of support available to you, such as free school meals, or the Disabled Student Allowance. Please refer to our website for further details.

Guide to Qualifications

There are different ways to achieve your career goals. You can work towards a range of qualifications at Northern Regional College, each with varied pathways and progression routes, which will allow for further study or employment.

Selecting which qualification is right for you can be complicated. We have provided a guide to give you an overview of the qualifications available to you at Northern Regional College.



Level 1 Course Type
Diploma (Vocational Qualification - NVQ)

Entry Requirements*
Check website for details

Study Time
Typically 1 year, full-time
2 years, part-time

Description
Diplomas (NVQs) are work-related qualifications that apply practical skills and knowledge gained at College directly into the workplace. These can be studied on a full-time basis, or part-time while in a job, work placement or on an apprenticeship.

Progression
Employment
Further Training
Level 2 Qualification

Level 2 Course Type
BTEC Diploma

Entry Requirements*
4 GCSEs Grade D-G or above or equivalent

Study Time
1 Year, full-time

Description
BTEC Diplomas are vocational qualifications and combine practical, career-orientated skills with academic study.

Progression
Employment
Further Training
Level 3 Qualification

Level 2 Course Type
Diploma (Vocational Qualification - NVQ)

Entry Requirements*
Check website for details

Study Time
1 Year, full-time

Description
Diplomas (NVQs) are work-related qualifications that apply practical skills and knowledge gained at College directly into the workplace. These can be studied on a full-time basis, or part-time while in a job, work placement or on an apprenticeship. Level 2 Diploma (NVQ) is typically equivalent to GCSE (A-C).

Progression
Employment
Further Training
Level 3 Qualification

Level 2 Course Type
Traineeship**

Entry Requirements*
4 GCSEs (D-G) including Maths and English grades D-F or equivalent

Study Time
Typically 2 years, full-time

Description
The Traineeship provides a high-quality vocational education and training programme at Level 2 aimed at those who aspire to work within a specific sector. The new Traineeship programme will allow you to achieve a full Level 2 qualification comprising of a vocational qualification (equivalent to at least 3 GCSEs in the chosen occupational area); vocational skills development; developing wider work ready skills and digital skills; work placement; literacy and numeracy qualifications at Level 2 (may include GCSE qualifications in English and Mathematics); and additional qualifications deemed necessary for work within a sector eg. Health and Safety, CSR, manual handling. This course is typically equivalent to 5 GCSEs.

Progression
Employment
Further Training
Level 3 Qualification

Level 2 Course Type
Apprenticeship**

Entry Requirements*
You must be aged between 16 and 24 years of age and in paid employment (at least 21 hours per week including College release). There may be additional entry requirements please check website for details

Study Time
2 Years, full-time

Description
Apprentices are employed as full-time members of staff and typically work for an employer three or four days a week. One or two days a week are spent at college, studying for nationally-recognised qualifications (such as a NVQ) in the same profession as the apprenticeship. Employers pay apprentices for the day(s) they are in College, meaning they earn a full-time wage. Level 2 is the level that most apprentices will start on.

Progression
Employment
Further Training
Level 3 Qualification

Level Course Type

3 Diploma (Vocational Qualification - NVQ)

Entry Requirements*

Check website for details

Study Time

Typically 1 year, full-time
2 years, part-time

Description

Diplomas (NVQs) are work-related qualifications that apply practical skills and knowledge gained at college directly into the workplace. These can be studied on a full-time basis, or part-time while in a job, work placement or on an apprenticeship.

Progression

Employment
Further Training
Higher Education -
Level 4-5 Qualification

Level Course Type

3 Access to University

Entry Requirements*

You must normally be 19 years of age or over at the date of entry to the course and provide evidence of basic competence in written, oral communication and numeracy skills. You will be requested to undertake a short, written assessment.

Study Time

1 Year, full-time
2 Years, part-time

Description

Access to university courses are designed to encourage and facilitate students who have been away from formal education but who wish to return, many with a view to progressing to higher education. Courses are modularised and set at A-Level standard.

Progression

Employment
Further Training
Higher Education -
Level 4-5 Qualification (including University Degrees and Foundation Degrees)

Level Course Type

3 Apprenticeship**

Entry Requirements*

4 GCSEs at
Grade C or above

Study Time

You must have a Level 2 Apprenticeship and be aged between 16 and 24 years of age in paid employment (at least 21 hours per week including College release). There may be additional entry requirements please check website for details.

Description

Apprentices are employed as full-time members of staff and typically work for an employer three or four days a week. One or two days a week are spent at college, studying for nationally-recognised qualifications (such as a NVQ) in the same profession as the apprenticeship.

Progression

Employment
Further Training
Higher Education -
Level 4-5 Qualification

Level Course Type

3 BTEC Extended Diploma

Entry Requirements*

4 GCSEs at
Grade C or above

Study Time

2 Year, full-time

Description

These qualifications combine practical, career-orientated skills with academic study. You will typically study a Subsidiary or 90 Credit/ National Foundation Diploma in one year and then continue to the extended diploma in the second year.

Equivalencies are:

Level 3 Subsidiary Diploma - 1 A-Level
Level 3 90 Credit Diploma/National Foundation Diploma - 1.5 A-Levels
Level 3 Extended Diploma - 3 A-Levels

Progression

Employment
Further Training
Higher Education - Level 4-6 Qualification (including University Degrees and Foundation Degrees)

Level Course Type

3 BTEC 90 Credit Diploma/BTEC National Foundation Diploma

Entry Requirements*

4 GCSEs at
Grade C or above

Study Time

1 Year, full-time

Description

Level Course Type

3 BTEC Subsidiary Diploma

Entry Requirements*

4 GCSEs at
Grade C or above

Study Time

1 Year, full-time



Level Course Type

Level 4 and 5 are Higher Education level courses.

View our courses online for further details.

* Entry requirements may vary for some courses. Check our website for the specific entry requirement for each course.

**Also referred to as Work-based learning. This 'umbrella' term is used to refer to courses that provide you with real-life work experiences whilst applying academic and technical skills to enhance your employment opportunities.

Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning

Where mature students wish to have prior education and/or experience taken into account, in lieu of meeting the full course entry requirements, they should contact the relevant Course Director by 10 August, as an application deadline will apply. Applicants must also refer to further details available online.

Apprenticeships

What is an Apprenticeship?

Apprentices are employed as full-time members of staff and typically work three days a week. Up to two days a week are spent at College, studying for nationally-recognised qualifications in the same profession as the apprenticeship.

- ▶ You must be employed from day one
- ▶ Some employers may require GCSEs
- ▶ It might be possible to do an apprenticeship with a current employer
- ▶ You work all year round, but your College classes run from September to July
- ▶ Employers pay you for the days you are in College, meaning you will receive a full-time wage in accordance with the national minimum wage

Around 600 apprentices train with us every year and we are expanding to include a broader range of professions. Apprenticeships are a popular way to learn skills, get qualifications and kick start a career.

ApprenticeshipsNI

Course Details

Apprenticeships offer training to people aged 16 and over who are employed for a minimum of 21 hours per week. Restrictions apply for those over 25.

Training

Your training support officer will meet with you and your employer to discuss your training needs and develop a training programme for you.

Timetable

Usually you are with your employer three days a week and at College up to two days a week.

Apprenticeships are offered from Level 2 to Level 3 with Higher Level Apprenticeships from Level 5 upwards. Level 2 is the level that most new apprentices will start on. Depending on your experience and previous qualification(s) you may be able to start at Level 3. Once you complete Level 3 you may be able to progress to a Higher Level Apprenticeship.

What is a Higher Level Apprenticeship?

A Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA) is a nationally accredited workbased programme similar to traditional apprenticeships but at a higher level (Level 5). It is designed to meet the needs of employers for higher skill levels and leads to qualifications equivalent to university level.

Current Higher Level Apprenticeships available at the College include:

- ▶ **Accountancy**
- ▶ **Computing**
- ▶ **Construction**
- ▶ **Construction Engineering with Surveying**
- ▶ **Engineering**
- ▶ **Supply Chain & Logistics**
(Subject to Approval)

Full course details can be viewed online.





Advice on how to secure an apprenticeship

Before starting your apprenticeship you must secure full-time employment. Below are some guidelines to assist you:

- ▶ Consider working with a suitable employer over the summer months to give you a better insight into the industry in which you are thinking of a career
- ▶ Remember to check that you are adequately covered by the employer's insurance, and that you have also received suitable Health & Safety training
- ▶ Phone, email or arrange to meet with as many local companies/employers as you can and remember to have an updated curriculum vitae (CV) ready to hand over, post, or email to employers
- ▶ Contact your local Careers Service, school careers teacher or a member of our College careers team to get useful information on your chosen career as well as help in preparing your CV
- ▶ You can contact a Department for the Economy (DfE) careers advisor by phone, Monday to Friday 9.00am to 5.00pm Tel: 0300 200 7820
- ▶ Scan your local press job section and online job sites for companies advertising apprenticeship opportunities, especially during summer months

How to Apply

You can apply online NOW for September 2021 entry.

Applications are made through our website

www.nrc.ac.uk

follow these steps:





What Our Students Say

Andrea Craig Level 3 in Travel & Tourism



Andrea was awarded a Vice-Chancellor Scholarship worth £10,000 to help financially support her studies on the International Tourism Management degree at Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU). She also became a Student Ambassador and, in this role, had an opportunity to represent not only the Business School but the University as a whole.

Now in her final year, Andrea said that her journey to the success she is now enjoying began when she opted to complete a Level 3 in Travel & Tourism at the College instead of staying on at school to do A-levels. Having achieved the top award of a triple Distinction* - the equivalent of 3 A*s at A-level - and accredited qualifications in World Host, Tour Guiding and Social Media Marketing she explains why she chose the vocational route,

"Most of my peers stayed at school to do A-levels but, because I was interested in tourism and hospitality, I just wanted to focus on that. If you're lucky enough to know your niche, a vocational qualification in that specific subject is a great preparation for university and makes the transition so much easier."

Once Andrea graduates next year, she is planning to apply for different graduate schemes in HR, Talent, Training and Management.



Michael Kearney, Rachel-Rose Mallon and Catriona O'Neill

Level 3 in Business



Level 3 Business students received top marks, each achieving a triple Distinction* grade which is the highest possible grade and is equivalent to three A*s at A-Level.

While at the College, both Michael and Catriona completed the Career Ready programme, a national charitable organisation which gives students real-life industry skills and knowledge as part of their preparation for the world of work.

Michael also worked part-time at JC Stewart, a local family run independent supermarket owned by DSP Supermarkets. He explains, *"My studies at the College have been really useful. I see so much of the theory I learned being put into practice every day here at JC Stewart. What we're taught at the College is very relevant and practical, meaning that when I'm in the workplace I have been able to understand why things are being done a certain way."*

Catriona continues, *"My time at the College was really beneficial as I was able to incorporate aspects of what I was taught in class - everything from people management to financial control - into a live environment. I now intend to undertake further studies within finance and investment management at Ulster University."*

Fellow classmate Rachel-Rose added, *"There was also a good range of courses on offer and lecturers were available to provide support and guidance to help me prepare for the world of work. The courses I completed at the College have helped develop my professional knowledge and transferable skills which will help my employability."* Rachel Rose has returned to the College to study Leadership and Management - all part of her long-term goal to have the knowledge and skills needed to run her own business.





Hannah Wilson
Level 3 in Animal Management

“Hannah completed a Level 3 in Animal Management and discovered *“going to College is so much easier when you enjoy what you’re studying.”*”

Hannah, who already had Level 2 Diploma in Sports and 7 GCSEs under her belt, said she enjoyed all aspects of the course which combines theory with ‘hands on’ experience of handling animals. Students cover a range of subjects including animal anatomy and physiology, animal welfare, managing animal accommodation, animal handling and safe working.

Hannah explains, *“Over the past two years, we worked with a variety of animals in class such as guinea pigs, rats and chinchillas, as well as more exotic animals like snakes, a bearded dragon and leopard gecko – which I had the job of looking after over the Christmas holidays. As part of the course, we had to complete 300 hours work experience and I did mine in Belfast Zoological Gardens where I shadowed zookeepers and had an opportunity to work with hundreds of different species of animals which was great.”*

“The Animal Management course really exceeded my expectations. I learnt so much over the past two years - even about things that I didn’t know I wanted to know!”



Oisín Campbell
Level 3 in Sport

“After completing GCSEs, Oisín decided to study the Level 3 Sports Diploma at the College because he enjoyed sport, but admits it wasn’t until after he had actually started the course that he realised how many careers opportunities there are in the world of sport.

Oisín, explains, “We covered a wide variety of topics and were introduced to new sports. The practical sessions could sometimes push you out of your comfort zone which was always a good learning experience.”

He continued: “The College teams up with local sporting organisations, giving us the option of volunteering with them. This gave me the opportunity to work with some fantastic groups, including Magherafelt Marvels Special Olympics Clubs and Peace Players which promotes diversity through sport.”

Through his love for volunteering with his local Special Olympics club he is pursuing a career in sports psychology at Liverpool John Moores University. His long-term career goal is to use his skills and knowledge as a sports psychologist to help special needs athletes prepare mentally and physically for their sports.



What Our Students Say

Emmet McAllister

Electrical Engineering Apprenticeship

Having studied A-Levels at St Louis Grammar School in Ballymena, Emmet had a change of heart and decided he wanted a practical career as an electrician instead of a desk job and said, *"Northern Regional College was the best place to learn how to do this."*

Emmet continued, *"What I enjoy most about the course is the practical side where I have learned how to wire and install containment. I have also gained many skills which will prepare me for my employment such as better hand eye co-ordination, planning and time keeping and I have worked on a variety of jobs with my employer which has helped greatly."*

"I would definitely recommend this course and the reason being – you can learn a trade that will be with you for life which allows for further study and the ability to travel around the world and skill find employment."

Emmet plans to qualify as an electrician and move to Australia or America.





Matthew Dougan
Bench Joinery Apprenticeship

“The College has a good reputation for a solid education”, this is one of the reasons Matthew outlined why he decided to start his career journey to becoming a qualified joiner at the College. Matthew continued to explain what he enjoyed most about his apprenticeship, “I have really enjoyed the practical and theory work of my course and have gained the skills to use the machines and hand tools in the workshop. I have also found my lecturers to be of an excellent standard.” Recognising the quality of teaching and learning as well as the practical course structure, he added, “I would definitely recommend this course to others.”

Ben Neill
Electrical Engineering Apprenticeship

“Having heard so many good reports about the College” Ben decided to enrol on the Electrical Engineering apprenticeship programme. He outlines his experiences to date of the course, “I have thoroughly enjoyed the practical work element and learning about PLCs and their capabilities and have also gained and developed so many skills – communication, teamwork, problem solving, initiative and enterprise, planning and organising and self-management.”

He continues, “I would definitely recommend this course as it is an easy way to get on track once you leave school and you are able to earn as you learn.”

Ben is due to complete his apprenticeship next year and plans to progress to the Higher Level Apprenticeship.



Courses Ballymena (Trostan Avenue)

Subject	Level	Duration
Access Diploma in Social Sciences (validated by Ulster University)	Level 3	1 Year
NEW Art and Design Skills	Level 2	1 Year
Art, Design and Media Practice	Level 3/4	1 Year
Aspire2Work	Inclusive Learning	1 Year
Barbering	Level 3	1 Year
Beauty Therapy	Level 2	1 Year
Beauty Therapy (Massage)	Level 3	1 Year
Business	Level 2	1 Year
Business	Level 3	2 Years
Catering and Professional Chefs	Apprenticeship Level 2	2 Years
Children's Care, Learning and Development	Level 2	1 Year
Children's Care, Learning and Development	Level 3	2 Years
Creative Digital Media Production	Level 2	1 Year
Creative Media Practice	Level 3	2 Years
Early Years and Health Studies	Level 2	1 Year
Food and Beverage Service	Apprenticeship Level 2	2 Years

For full course details and up-to-date information visit www.nrc.ac.uk



Courses Ballymena (Trostan Avenue)

Subject	Level	Duration
Hairdressing	Apprenticeship Level 2	2 Years
Hairdressing	Apprenticeship Level 3	2 Years
Hairdressing	Level 2	2 Years
Hairdressing	Level 3	1 Year
Health and Social Care	Level 2	1 Year
Health and Social Care	Level 3	2 Years
Industrial Art and Design (Art and Design Practice)	Level 3	2 Years
Plumbing	Traineeship Level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	2 Years
Professional Cookery	Level 2	1 Year
Professional Cookery (Introduction)	Level 1	1 Year
Professional Cookery (Preparation and Cooking)	Level 3	1 Year
Route2Work	Inclusive Learning	1 Year
Transition2College	Inclusive Learning	2 Years
Transition2Work	Inclusive Learning	1 Year

For full course details and up-to-date information visit www.nrc.ac.uk

Courses

Ballymena (Farm Lodge)

Subject	Level	Duration
Advanced Manufacturing Engineering (Development Technical Knowledge)	Level 3	2 Years
Applied Science (Biomedical Science)	Level 3	2 Years
Brickwork	Traineeship Level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	2 Years
Carpentry and Joinery	Traineeship Level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	2 Years
College Connect	Level 1	1 Year
Construction and the Built Environment	Level 3	2 Years
Electrical Installation	Apprenticeship Level 3	5 Years
Engineering	Traineeship Level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	2 Years
Information and Creative Technology	Level 2	1 Year
Information Technology/Computing	Level 3	2 Years
Light Vehicle Repair with Engineering	Level 3	2 Years
Motor Vehicle	Traineeship Level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	2 Years
Public Services	Level 3	2 Years
Sport	Level 2	1 Year
Sport (optional Irish FA specialism)	Level 3	2 Years
Travel and Tourism with WorldHost and Aviation	Level 3	2 Years

Please note that due to campus redevelopments at Ballymena (Farm Lodge) some courses may be relocated to alternative suitable locations

For full course details and up-to-date information visit www.nrc.ac.uk





Courses Ballymoney

Subject	Level	Duration
Access to Opportunity	Level 2	1 Year
Animal Care	Level 2	1 Year
Animal Management	Level 3	2 Years
Aspire2Work	Inclusive Learning	1 Year
Barbering	Apprenticeship Level 2	2 Years
Beauty Therapy	Level 2	1 Year
Beauty Therapy (Massage)	Level 3	1 Year
Business	Level 2	1 Year
Carpentry and Joinery	Traineeship Level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	2 Years
Children's Care, Learning and Development	Level 2	1 Year
Children's Care, Learning and Development	Level 3	2 Years
Construction and the Built Environment	Level 3	2 Years

For full course details and up-to-date information visit www.nrc.ac.uk

Courses Ballymoney

Subject	Level	Duration
Hairdressing	Apprenticeship Level 2	2 Years
Hairdressing	Level 2	2 Years
Hairdressing	Level 3	1 Year
Motor Vehicle	Traineeship Level 2	2 Years
Professional Cookery	Level 2	1 Year
Professional Cookery (Introduction)	Level 1	1 Year
Professional Cookery (Preparation and Cooking)	Level 3	1 Year
Route2Work	Inclusive Learning	1 Year
Transition2College	Inclusive Learning	2 Years

For full course details and up-to-date information visit www.nrc.ac.uk





Courses Coleraine (Beresford Avenue)

Subject	Level	Duration
Access Diploma in Social Sciences (validated by Ulster University)	Level 3	1 Year
Advanced Manufacturing Engineering (Development Technical Knowledge)	Level 3	2 Years
Animation and Visual Effects (Creative Media Practice)	Level 3	2 Years
Applied Science (Biomedical Science)	Level 3	2 Years
Business	Level 3	2 Years
Creative Digital Media Production	Level 2	1 Year
Digital Games and Virtual Reality Development (Creative Media Practice)	Level 3	2 Years
Engineering	Traineeship Level 2	2 Years
Health and Social Care	Level 2	1 Year
Health and Social Care	Level 3	2 Years

For full course details and up-to-date information visit www.nrc.ac.uk

Courses

Coleraine (Beresford Avenue)

Subject	Level	Duration
Information and Creative Technology	Level 2	1 Year
Information Technology/Computing	Level 3	2 Years
Interactive Media (Creative Media Practice)	Level 3	2 Years
Music	Level 3	2 Years
Performing Arts Practice	Level 3	2 Years
Sport (optional Irish FA specialism)	Level 3	2 Years
Sport and Exercise Sciences	Level 3	2 Years
Travel and Tourism	Level 2	1 Year
Travel and Tourism with WorldHost and Aviation	Level 3	2 Years
TV and Film (Creative Media Practice)	Level 3	2 Years

For full course details and up-to-date information visit www.nrc.ac.uk





Courses Magherafelt

Subject	Level	Duration
Access Diploma in Social Sciences (validated by Ulster University)	Level 3	1 Year
NEW Access to Education	Level 2	1 Year
Advanced Manufacturing Engineering (Development Technical Knowledge)	Level 3	2 Years
Aspire2Work	Inclusive Learning	1 Year
Barbering	Level 2	1 Year
Beauty Therapy	Level 2	1 Year
Beauty Therapy (Massage)	Level 3	1 Year
Business	Level 3	2 Years
Carpentry and Joinery	Traineeship Level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	2 Years
Children's Care, Learning and Development	Level 2	1 Year
Children's Care, Learning and Development	Level 3	2 Years
Civil Engineering	Apprenticeship Level 3	3 Years

For full course details and up-to-date information visit www.nrc.ac.uk

Courses Magherafelt

Subject	Level	Duration
NEW Construction and the Built Environment (optional Civil Engineering specialism)	Level 3	2 Years
Engineering	Traineeship Level 2	2 Years
Hairdressing	Apprenticeship Level 2	2 Years
Hairdressing	Level 2	2 Years
Health and Social Care	Level 2	1 Year
Health and Social Care	Level 3	2 Years
Information and Creative Technology	Level 2	1 Year
Information Technology/Computing	Level 3	2 Years
Motor Vehicle	Traineeship Level 2	2 Years
Route2Work	Inclusive Learning	1 Year
Sport (optional Irish FA/GAA specialism)	Level 3	2 Years
Transition2Work	Inclusive Learning	1 Year
Travel and Tourism	Level 2	1 Year

For full course details and up-to-date information visit www.nrc.ac.uk





Courses Newtownabbey

Subject	Level	Duration
Access Diploma in Social Sciences (validated by Ulster University)	Level 3	1 Year
NEW Access to Education	Level 2	1 Year
Advanced Manufacturing Engineering (Development Technical Knowledge)	Level 3	2 Years
Animal Care	Level 2	1 Year
Animal Management	Level 3	2 Years
Animation and Visual Effects (Creative Media Practice)	Level 3	2 Years
Applied Science	Level 2	1 Year
Applied Science (Analytical and Forensic Science)	Level 3	2 Years
Aspire2Work	Inclusive Learning	1 Year
Beauty Therapy	Level 2	1 Year
Beauty Therapy (Massage)	Level 3	1 Year

For full course details and up-to-date information visit www.nrc.ac.uk

Courses Newtownabbey

Subject	Level	Duration
Business	Level 2	1 Year
Business	Level 3	2 Years
Carpentry and Joinery	Traineeship Level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	2 Years
Children's Care, Learning and Development	Level 2	1 Year
Children's Care, Learning and Development	Level 3	1 Year
Children's Care, Learning and Development	Level 3	2 Years
College Connect	Level 1	1 Year
Creative Digital Media Production	Level 2	1 Year
Digital Games Development (Creative Media Practice)	Level 3	2 Years
Early Years and Childcare	Level 2	1 Year
Electrical Installation	Apprenticeship Level 3	5 Years
Engineering	Traineeship Level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	2 Years

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Courses Newtownabbey

Subject	Level	Duration
Hairdressing	Apprenticeship Level 2	2 Years
Hairdressing	Level 2	2 Years
Hairdressing	Level 3	1 Year
Health and Social Care	Level 2	1 Year
Health and Social Care	Level 3	2 Years
Information and Creative Technology	Level 2	1 Year
Information Technology/Computing	Level 3	2 Years
Interactive Media (Creative Media Practice)	Level 3	2 Years
Motor Vehicle	Traineeship Level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	2 Years
Performing Arts	Level 2	1 Year
Performing Arts Practice	Level 3	2 Years

For full course details and up-to-date information visit www.nrc.ac.uk

Courses Newtownabbey

Subject	Level	Duration
Plumbing	Traineeship Level 2 Apprenticeship Level 2/3	2 Years
Public Services	Level 3	2 Years
Route2Work	Inclusive Learning	1 Year
NEW Specialist Support for Teaching and Learning With Autism	Level 3	1 Year
Sport	Level 2	1 Year
Sport (optional Irish FA specialism)	Level 3	2 Years
Transition2Work	Inclusive Learning	1 Year
Travel and Tourism	Level 2	1 Year
Travel and Tourism with Aviation	Level 3	2 Years

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Contact Us

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Disclaimer

Whilst the College makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of this publication, it reserves the right to alter, add or remove any of the courses, or parts thereof, or any other matters of information referred to in this guide or any other literature, without prior notice.

Please note that the College's website is the most up-to-date source of information regarding courses and fees and we strongly recommend that you always visit the website before making any commitments.

All courses are subject to minimum enrolment numbers.

Equality Opportunity

If you require this document in an alternative format please contact equality@nrc.ac.uk

Northern Regional College is committed to the promotion of equality of opportunity in all of its activities. We aim to ensure that we provide a supportive, fair, inclusive and welcoming environment for all staff, students and visitors free from any form of discrimination or harassment.





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