BTEC National Extended Certificate in
Information Technology

Course Outline

This qualification is equivalent to one A-Level, 360 Guided Learning Hours (GLH) and has been designed to give learners the opportunity to develop their knowledge and skills in IT Systems, Systems Management and Social Media in Business.

Course Requirements

You must have at least five GCSEs Grade 4 - 9 including a Grade 4 in English Language and Grade 4 in Maths. Study of ICT at GCSE level is highly recommended.

Course Content

Unit 1 – Information Technology Systems - 120 GLH

Information Technology, IT, systems have a significant role in the world around us and play a part in almost everything we do. Having a sound understanding of how to effectively select and use appropriate IT systems will benefit students personally and professionally. Externally assessed via a 2 hour written exam (includes one resit opportunity).

Unit 2 – Creating Systems to Manage Information - 90 GLH

Students study the design, creation, testing and evaluation of a relational database system to manage information. In order to produce information to support many business processes as well as our social lives, relational databases are widely used to manage and process data. From the smallest in-house systems to stock control systems for large online retailers, databases are repositories of information that are a significant part of organizational operating requirements.
Externally assessed via a 10 hour Controlled Assessment.

Unit 3 – Using Social Media in Business - 90 GLH

In this unit students will explore different social media websites, the ways in which they can be used and the potential pitfalls when using them for business purposes. Students will develop a plan to use social media strategies for business purposes to achieve specific aims and objectives.
Internally assessed via coursework.

Unit 6 – Website Development - 60 GLH

Increasingly, organizations rely on websites to serve customers and in some cases, to generate revenue. With millions of web pages being created daily, the need for websites to be engaging, innovative and desirable is important.
In this unit, students will review existing websites, commenting on their overall design and effectiveness. Students will use scripting languages such as Hypertext Markup Language (HTML), Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) and JavaScript® and a simple text editor or rapid application development tools. Finally, students will reflect on the website design and functionality.
Internally assessed via coursework.

Progression

BTEC Nationals are widely recognised by industry and higher education as the signature vocational qualification at Level 3. When taken alongside other Level 3 qualifications, the qualification gives students the opportunity to progress to a Degree in Information Technology discipline or a Degree where Information Technology related skills and knowledge may be advantageous. The qualification can also support progression to employment directly or via an Apprenticeship.