



DIPLOMA



International Diploma in Computer Studies

Equivalent to year 1 of a 3 year UK honours degree | HE Level C (Certificate),
National Qualifications Framework (NQF) Level:4

Overview

The International Diploma in Computer Studies (IDCS) is the first year of the NCC Education IT Degree Journey. The programme gives students a broad introduction to IT, preparing them for further study or employment in the IT field.

During the teaching of the programme, students will be exposed to a balance of academic and vocational subjects in order to provide them with the necessary knowledge and skills to contribute to a range of IT-related functions.

On successful completion of the programme, students will be able to: continue study on the NCC Education International Advanced Diploma in Computer Studies (IADCS), continue study at a UK university or work in one of many areas of the IT industry.

The programme is designed to be delivered over a single academic year to full-time students, but may also be studied on a part-time basis, having considerable flexibility in its delivery. The programme is taught face-to-face by NCC Education's Accredited Partner Centres.

Entry Requirements

On entry a student must have at least one of the following:

- NCC Education International Foundation Year (IFY) or International Certificate in Computer Studies (ICCS) qualification.
- An international qualification which is deemed to be of a similar level to the NCC Education IFY or ICCS programme. This shall be agreed in advance with NCC Education.
- At least one 'A' Level pass or an appropriate School Leaver's Certificate.
- Vocational experience which is deemed suitable by NCC Education.

Applicants who are not NCC Education graduates or whose first language is not English will require either the minimum standard in the NCC Education Higher English Placement Test (HEPT) or a valid score of 5.5 or above in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) examination or equivalent.

Programme Structure

To complete the programme, students must study and pass eight 15-credit modules, each of which requires an average of 150 hours of study. Around 40 hours of this study is based in the classroom. In normal full-time delivery, the programme is delivered in two 15-week semesters (12 teaching weeks) in which four modules are studied.

This model can be adapted to other modes of delivery for full and part-time students.

Students must study the following six core modules:

- **Computer Technology** - presents a broad overview of a variety of computing technologies in order to give an appreciation of the key characteristics of the technologies employed in modern computer systems.
- **Systems Development** - covers techniques for the analysis, design and development of information systems.
- **Programming Methods** - provides a thorough grounding in the key concepts, techniques and methods for the development of software; applicable to a variety of programming languages.
- **Fundamentals of Hardware and Operating Systems** - develops practical skills in the maintenance and configuration of personal computers.
- **Business Communication** - a general introduction to interpersonal communication skills in the areas of business and computing applicable for study and work.
- **Networking** - gives a broad introduction to networking with a strong practical emphasis, the module ranges from the underlying media to the deployment of networks in business.

Students must also study any two of the following modules:

- **Java** - provides an introduction to the theory and practice of programming using this versatile object-oriented programming language.
- **Visual Basic** - provides an introduction to the theory and practice of programming using this popular language; the module has a particular focus on the user interface.
- **Web Design** - covers the underlying theory and practical skills necessary to contribute to the development of modern websites.
- **eBusiness** - considers the commercial and technical issues associated with conducting business on the web.
- **Organisational and Business Structures** - a broad introduction to management with a focus on the types, structure and information needs of a variety of organisations.





DIPLOMA

Assessment

Assessments for all modules will be offered in four assessment cycles each year (March, June, September and December).

The following modules are assessed by examination only:

- Business Communication
- Computer Technology
- Systems Development

The following modules are assessed by assignment only:

- eBusiness
- Organisational and Business Structures

The following modules are assessed by 40% examination and 60% assignment:

- Fundamentals of Hardware and Operating Systems
- Programming Methods
- Networking
- Java
- Visual Basic
- Web Design

Award Conditions

The NCC Education International Diploma in Computer Studies (IDCS) will be awarded when a student has successfully passed the six core modules and any two electives. A module is passed when an overall module mark of 40% or more is attained. Where a student needs to resit a module he/she must do so within the three-year eligibility period of the programme.

Duration

Normally one year full-time or two years part-time.

Delivery Method

Face-to-face.

Accreditation Status

NCC Education is accredited to award the IDCS by Ofqual (Office of the Qualifications and Examinations Regulator) in England. Ofqual Qualification reference number 100/6193/9.

Progression

The qualification allows entry to either the International Advanced Diploma in Computer Studies (IADCS), equivalent to year 2 of a typical UK honours degree, or the second year of many UK university programmes of study. Details of these can be found in the NCC Education University Articulations document and on the NCC Education website.

Further Information

More detailed programme information is available from your Accredited Partner Centre.

© NCC Education 2010/11, all rights reserved.

The information in this factsheet is correct at the time of publication. However, NCC Education reserves the right to make alterations to the programme at any time.



Full-Time



Part-Time



Classroom
Based



To learn more about NCC Education, its programmes, affiliations and partnerships, please visit the NCC Education website www.nccedu.com

For programme enquiries, please contact your Accredited Partner Centre