FIND YOUR FUTURE HERE

University of the Highlands and Islands
Orkney College

In this 8-week series we're introducing you to the wide range of expertise and options available at Orkney College UHI, and this week we're highlighting our Business Studies and Computer Studies departments

BUSINESS STUDIES

The Business Studies department at Orkney College UHI has continued to be innovative in delivery, course development and student support over the past year. Exciting new developments include:

- The addition of the BA (Hons) Events Management course which will allow students to progress into a variety of industry sectors.
- Updating our popular NC Administration course to include remote working and collaboration – a way of working that has accelerated this last year and is likely to continue in some form.
- The introduction of National Progression Award (NPA) courses in Travel & Tourism and Customer Service to allow for retraining and resilience to be sustained in our local economy. These are shorter courses delivered in intense blocks.
- Extending our current SVQ offering to include a Level 8 SVQ in Business & Administration which is on an equivalent level to a HND. If anyone has previously completed their HNC in Business and would like to carry on working while working towards a more advanced qualification, this course will be ideal.
- Carrying out market research with the aim of increasing our digital marketing SVQ and Apprenticeship opportunities to support local need.

These developments complement our existing range of courses, which include:

- NC Administration (SCQF5)
- Association of Accounting Technician (AAT) Level 5, 6 & 8 Accounting
- SVQs in Business & Administration (SCQF5, 6 & 8)
- NPA Administration: Office Skills and Services (SCQF5)
- HNC Business
- Diploma in Business & Management (SCQF Level 8)
- BA (Hons) Business & Management
- BA (Hons) Events Management

CASE STUDY – STUDENT

I'm a mature student, studying NC Administration through the Business Studies Department. Prior to starting the course, I had little knowledge of what was included in an Admin role. This course has opened my eyes in what is involved, and it has created a new range of opportunities of employment which I didn't think were possible. Working together as a class, we identified each other's strengths and learned from one another. I've learned how to use Microsoft programs and built confidence in speaking in front of a group.

Due to the pandemic, we've studied in college and at home. Our lecturers have worked hard and have been a great support during what has been a tough year. Without them and my fellow classmates, I wouldn't have gained the confidence to accomplish this. I would recommend this course for this exact reason, build confidence and to explore a new range of invaluable skills for the future.

Rachel Vincent, NC Administration

COMPUTER STUDIES

There has never been a better time to study computer related subjects at Orkney College UHI. Our courses offer you the unique opportunity to learn not only from local experts but from those around the UHI partnership and other universities.

Currently, there are approximately one million unfilled job vacancies in the UK. Given the recent boom in the local computer industry with new and exciting job opportunities now available on your doorstep, there has never been a better time to join Orkney College UHI and forge a career in computing.

So, whether your interest is in Games Design, Web Design, Hacking, Programming, Networking, Hardware or even just becoming more proficient at using the Microsoft Office suite, we are sure to have something to interest you.

We are delighted to announce that in the past academic year the department has moved into a new and upgraded lab. The new space offers us dedicated zones for teaching forensics, ethical hacking, networking and hardware strip downs. Employing industry standard tools and techniques, we hope to offer new and exciting courses to both existing full-time students, and to the wider public.

These developments complement our existing range of courses, which include:

- NC Computer Technologies with Games Design
- HNC Computing
- HND Computer Science
- BSc (Hons) Computing
- MSc Web Technologies*
- **Open Learning** – ECDL, Advanced ECDL, PC Passport

*Networked Course

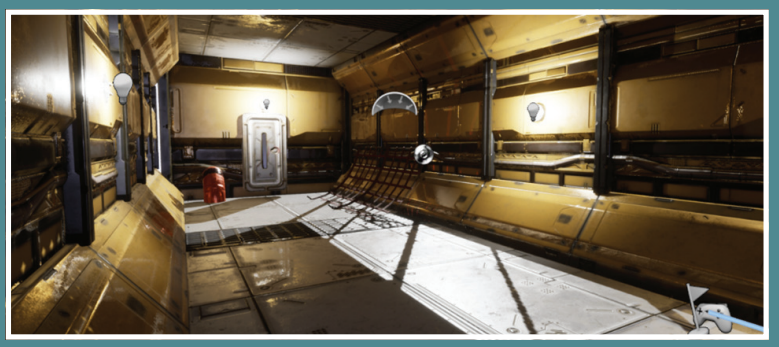
CASE STUDY – COLLABORATION

In the past academic year, the department has taken on its first two pieces of research and development, one local to Orkney and the other seeking ways to improve access to mental health across the north of Scotland. Our local project is in partnership with Orcades Marine and aims to develop a suite of a mobile tools for assessing workboat vessel stability prior to sailing and ship manoeuvres, helping improve the accuracy of their assessment ensuring safety for both vessel and crew. Utilising cutting edge technology and contemporary UX designs, the aim of the tool is to be a non-intrusive addition for skippers and will further enhance and reduce the time taken to perform this essential safety practice.

This exciting knowledge exchange partnership brings together Orkney College UHI based expertise with industry subject specialists in maritime, to enhance the industry and significantly contribute to the learning and teaching offered at Orkney College UHI.

CASE STUDY – STUDENT

Did you know that two of our previous students enjoyed their courses so much that they stuck around? AJ and David, who both took very different academic and professional journeys, eventually came full circle back home to Orkney College to work as lecturers. As students, they achieved top grades and academic awards and after some time gaining expertise and experience in the private sector, they now spend their time providing the knowledge and skills to educate the public, other departments as well as providing specialist skills within the computing sector.



Example(s) of games made in our NC class using industry standard Unreal Engine 4 - the same games design engine used to create AAA titles such as Assassins Creed!

Contact us:

Talk to us on our helpline **01856 569255** or email **orkney.college@uhi.ac.uk** to learn how we can find your future.

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