

**Pearson BTEC Level 4 Higher National
Certificate in Construction and the Built
Environment (Building Services) 2021/22**

2021-2022



**CONSTRUCTION & THE BUILT
ENVIRONMENT**

UXBRIDGE COLLEGE

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Welcome to the College from the Principal

A warm welcome to Uxbridge College. I am very pleased that you have chosen to pursue your studies at Uxbridge College and I wish you every success.

You will have been offered your place on the programme because you have shown the right ability, attitude and interest. It is really important that you settle into your course quickly and fully commit to your studies, if you are to fulfil your potential and set yourself up for a promising career or higher study pathway. It is a competitive world out there and this is your chance to excel.

Staff at HCUC Uxbridge College are committed to ensuring success for every learner. We have a very strong track record in achieving this for our learners, but need you to play your part. Published league tables over the last five years show that the College has performed consistently highly in comparison to the other 22 FE college corporations in London (we are rated number 1 for 16-18 Achievement), and indeed we compare very favourably with all the high schools locally and regionally. Our year-on-year solid track record of achievement should give you considerable confidence about your decision to study here.

Nowadays to improve your career prospects, it is not sufficient to just obtain your qualification and so the College is committed to providing you with a wider range of experiences to develop your employability and work-readiness skills, so sought after by employers. You should ensure you fully engage with all aspects of your College programme. Do also seek staff support if you are feeling uncomfortable about any aspect of the College.

In addition to ensuring that students are successful on their courses, we are always trying to improve things for students at Uxbridge College in other ways. For example, we place a great deal of emphasis on upgrading the resources and facilities students use, and have invested a great deal in new technologies to support learning. We also place a priority on developing our contacts with employers because we know that our students want us to support them in making such contacts as part of planning for the future.

First and foremost, though, we promote the highest possible standards of teaching, learning and support by Uxbridge College staff. This academic year, for example, we will again invest in a number of special projects to support our teaching staff to improve their skills further.

You are now part of this College and I hope you have an excellent experience with us. We expect behaviour and attitude that is mature and respectful at all times, so please do contribute well to ensuring we maintain a positive learning environment. I look forward to meeting as many of our students as possible during 2021/22

Yours sincerely

Dr Darrell DeSouza

CEO & Group Principal



1.2 Welcome to the College from the Head of School of Engineering

Welcome to Uxbridge College and to your course. This handbook is designed to give you a general overview of Uxbridge College and the School of Engineering, Technology, and Innovation (ENG TI).

We hope that you will enjoy your time of study with us and that the course will provide a stimulating experience – assisting both your personal development and future progression to higher levels of study, and employment in one of the most exciting and vibrant areas of endeavour available.

London continues to provide a wide range of fantastic employment opportunities, as major construction projects near completion and new ones are announced. Choose Uxbridge and allow us to motivate and support you throughout your programme of studies.

Neil Benjamin Miller
Head of School of Engineering, Construction &
the Built Environment, Technology and Innovation



1.3 Curriculum Map

Students will typically progress within the pathways, as shown in the Figure below:

Curriculum Map: 2021 to 2022

	16-18 Classroom	Apprenticeship	Construction Trad (L3 Plumbing L3 Electrical)
Level 2	B2ECNF/- UXA-1 Level 2 First Extended Certificate in in Construction and the Built Environment		
Level 3	B3XDNF- UXA-1 Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment B3XCNF- UXA-1 Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Extended Certificate in Construction and the Built Environment	B3XDNF- UXA-1 Pearson BTEC Level 3 National Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment	Level 3 Construction (L3 Plumbing L3 Electrical)
Level 4 HNC	Pearson BTEC Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Construction and The Built Environment (Building Services Engineering) Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 7, 8,9 and 10	Pearson BTEC Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Construction and The Built Environment (Construction) Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 13	Pearson BTEC Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Construction and The Built Environment (Civil Engineering) Units 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, and 20
Level 5 HND	Pearson BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Construction and The Built Environment (Building Services Engineering – Heating, Ventilation & Air-conditioning) Unit 22, 28, 31, 32, 35, 40 and 44	Pearson BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Construction and The Built Environment (Construction – Management) Units 22, 23, 24, 25, 32, 35 and 44	Pearson BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment (Civil Engineering) Units 22, 28, 29, 30, 32, 40 and 44

1.4 The HE Team

1.4.1 Staff Qualifications, Experience and Expertise

Dr Dashamir Marini is a graduate of University Polytechnic of Tirana where he obtained his master's degree in Mechanical Engineering. He worked for a number of years as a mechanical engineer with local companies. Dashamir was awarded an PhD degree from University Polytechnic of Milano with subject on optimization of HVAC systems in a low energy residential building.

In 2012, Dashamir took up a Postdoctoral position at National University of Ireland Galway. He worked closely with United Technology Research Centre Ireland on developing building information modelling energy models. He worked as Research Associate at Loughborough University and carried out research in several national/international projects, which consisted in building and energy systems. In 2018, he worked as Research Fellow at Brunel University where his research consisted on developing test rig and experiments related to air source heat pump system. Recently, he joined the Uxbridge College as lecturer and deliver teaching in building services and energy systems.

Dr George Baho has a PhD Degree in Civil Engineering with over 5 years of Industrial experience in civil engineering in general and in Geotechnical Engineering and Surveying and Mapping. He has over 20 years teaching experience in Higher Education and over 9 years in Further Education. His areas of expertise are soil water interaction, soft soil stabilization, mapping using aerial and satellite imagery, surveying and setting out engineering.

Contact details for individual tutors and the course leader will be given to you in class, by the tutors themselves. Contact details for your HE Curriculum Leader and Director are listed below.

1.4.2 Contact details of the HE Team

Contact details for individual tutors and the course leader will be given to you in class, by the tutors themselves. Contact details for your HE Curriculum Leader and Director are listed below.

Role	Name	Contact Details
Head of School	Neil Benjamin-Miller	01895 475221 NBMiller@uxbridgecollege.ac.uk
Section Manager	Mark Milner	01895 8533473 MMilner@uxbridgecollege.ac.uk
Programme/Course Leader	Dr Qutaiba Abessalam	01895 855303 qabessalam@uxbridgecollege.ac.uk
Course Lecturer	Dr Dashamir Marini	01895 475260 dmarini@uxbridgecollege.ac.uk
Course Lecturer	Dr George Baho	01895 475260 gbaho@uxbridgecollege.ac.uk

2. COURSE INFORMATION

2.1 College Calendar – 2021/2022

HE Induction Day – Friday 1 October 2021

HE programmes start week commencing – Monday 4 October 2021

The calendar below is fixed and all students are reminded that holidays cannot be booked within the dates below.

Term Dates	Starts	Ends
Induction Day	Friday 1 October 2021	
Teaching Block 1	Monday 4 October 2021	Thursday 22 October 2021
Teaching Block 2	Monday 1 November 2021	Friday 18 December 2021
Teaching Block 3	Monday 4 January 2022	Thursday 11 February 2022
Teaching Block 4	Monday 22 February 2022	Thursday 1 April 2022
Teaching Block 5	Monday 19 April 2022	Friday 28 May 2022
Teaching Block 6	Monday 7 June 2022	Friday 9 July 2022

2.1 Programme Code, Frameworks, and Specification

The Awarding institution for the qualification is Pearson Education Ltd. The Qualification codes stated by Ofqual Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) qualification numbers is Pearson BTEC Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Construction and the Built Environment: 603/0465/0.

The HNC offer at Uxbridge College provides a progression route for our level three learners who wish to advance their knowledge and their career prospects in the Construction Industry. It also allows direct entry from related employment, and to those seeking a career in the technical side of Construction. Our links with local Construction employers (roup Bywaters + Anders, AECOM, Arup, Atkins, CH2M, CIBSE, Clancy Consulting, Jacobs Engineering, Mott MacDonald, Ruskin Air Management, Waterman Group, VES Andover Ltd, Sanha UK Ltd, Frese Ltd) will benefit those who choose to study with us, as Industry related site visits are carried out to further enhance and widen the range of activities to help you successfully complete your qualification.

Uxbridge College is modern and well-resourced and provides an excellent environment for learners with a team of industry experienced lecturers to ensure your learning is relevant and up to date.

At Uxbridge College the units in Construction and the Built Environment (Building Services Engineering) programme are designated according to Pearson BTEC Higher National qualifications. They are aligned to the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Subject Benchmark Statements. These qualifications are part of the UK Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF).

The Level 4 BTEC Higher National Certificate in Construction and The Built Environment (Building Services Engineering) programme offers students a broad introduction to the subject area via a mandatory core of learning as well specialist civil engineering units that form a specific pathway (units 8, 9 and 10 below) plus an additional unit (7) allowing for the acquisition of skills and experience in civil engineering. This effectively builds underpinning core skills, with general specialisation, preparing the student for progression to L5 - the HND Construction and the Built Environment (Building Services Engineering) pathway.

This effectively builds underpinning core skills, with general specialisation, preparing the student for further specialisation at a Degree at Brunel university or other university

Pearson BTEC Level 4 Higher National Certificate in Construction and The Built Environment (Building Services Engineering)		Unit Credit	Level
Core Unit <i>Mandatory</i>	1 Individual Project (Pearson-set)	15	4
Core Unit <i>Mandatory</i>	2 Construction Technology	15	4
Core Unit <i>Mandatory</i>	3 Science & Materials	15	4
Core Unit <i>Mandatory</i>	4 Construction Practice & Management	15	4
Specialist Unit <i>Mandatory</i>	8 Mathematics for Construction	15	4
Specialist Unit <i>Mandatory</i>	9 Principles of Heating Services Design & Installation	15	4
Specialist Unit <i>Mandatory</i>	10 Principles of Ventilation & Air-conditioning Design & Installation	15	4
Additional Unit	7 Surveying, Measuring & Setting Out	15	4

The tables below outline the delivery Plan for BTEC Level 4 Higher National certificate in Construction and the Built Environment. The table incorporates both Full time and Part time learners for a duration of one year and two years respectively.

Delivery plan for Building Services Engineering pathway

		Full Time		
		Part Time		
Year 1	Semester 1	Unit 1 <i>Core Unit</i>	Unit 9 <i>Specialist Mandatory Unit</i>	HNC in 1 year
		Unit 2 <i>Core Unit</i>	Unit 10 <i>Specialist Mandatory Unit</i>	
	Semester 2	Unit 8 <i>Specialist Mandatory Unit</i>	Unit 7 <i>Additional Unit</i>	
		Unit 4 <i>Core Unit</i>	Unit 3 <i>Core Unit</i>	
Year 2	Semester 1	Unit 3 <i>Core Unit</i>		
		Unit 7 <i>Additional Unit</i>		
	Semester 2	Unit 10 <i>Specialist Mandatory Unit</i>		
		Unit 9 <i>Specialist Mandatory Unit</i>		
		HNC in 2 years		

tentative assessment planning with the assessor's name, assignment titles and dates related to the assignments for BTEC Higher Nationals Certificate- Construction and the Built Environment (Building Services Engineering), 2020 – 2021 are given in the table below:

Unit No & Title		Hand Out Date W/C	Hand In Date W/C	Summative Assessment Date W/C	Assessor
Assignment No & Title	Learning outcome				
Semester 1					
1 Individual Project (Pearson-set)					Dashamir Marini
To be confirmed by Pearson	LO1, LO2, LO3, & LO4	19.10.2020	15.2.2021	7.3.2021	
2 Construction Technology					George Baho
Site remediation and building services for construction substructure and superstructure	LO1, LO2, LO3, & LO4	19.10.2020	8.2.2021	14.3.2021	
8 Mathematics for Construction					Dashamir Marini
Application of statistical techniques and computational methods in construction	LO1, LO2,	12.10.2020	23.11.2021	6.12.2020	
Mathematical methods to solve vector, differential and integral calculus	LO3, & LO4	16.11.2020	22.2.2021	14.3.2021	
4 Construction Practice & Management					George Baho
Construction Companies, Structure, and the Practice in Today's Construction Projects	LO1, LO2, LO3, & LO4	19.10.2020	15.2.2021	7.3.2021	
Semester 2					
9: Principles of Heating Services Design & Installation					George Baho
1 Identify pre-design information required for a non-domestic heating system	LO1, LO2, LO3, & LO4	8.2.2021	31.5.2021	14.6.2021	
7 Surveying, Measuring & Setting Out					George Baho
1 Control Stations and Topographic Surveying	LO1, LO2,	15.2.2021	12.4..2021	26.4.2021	
2 Production, transferring and staking out of co-ordinates	LO3, & LO4	12.4..2021	7.6.2021	21.6.2021	
3 Science & Materials					Dashamir Marini
Material selection and performance evaluation to fulfil sustainability and H&S regulation	LO1, LO2, LO3, & LO4	15.2.2021	24.5.2021	14.6.2021	
10: Principles of Ventilation & Air Conditioning Design & Installation					George Baho
1. Identify pre-design information required for a non-domestic ventilation and air conditioning system.	LO1, LO2, LO3, & LO4	15.2.2021	7.6.2021	21.6.2021	

2.2 Unit Specification

Unit specification are given below to show the aims, Learning outcomes, and brief abstract about each unit:

Unit 1 Individual Project (Pearson-set) (Core Mandatory)	Unit code: R/615/1387
	Unit level: 4
	Credit value: 15
Aim:	
The aim of this unit is to support students in using and applying the knowledge and skills they have developed through other areas of their studies to complete and present an individual project. In addition, this unit will provide students with key study skills that will support them in further study.	
Unit abstract:	
This unit will enable learners to define, plan and undertake a project is a critical set of skills needed in various roles within the construction industry. Identifying appropriate information and analysing this, to formulate clear results or recommendations, is required to underpin many of the processes that inform construction projects.	
Students will be able to identify, define, plan, develop and execute a successful project by working through a clear process. They will develop a project brief; outlining a problem that requires a solution, as well as a project specification, the specific requirements of which the outcome must meet. They will research the problem, undertaking a feasibility study, and consider a range of potential solutions using critical analysis and evaluation techniques to test, select and contextualise their preferred solution. Students will provide a work and time management plan, keeping a diary of all activities, reflecting on their process and their learning throughout the project.	
Learning Outcomes:	
By the end of this unit students will be able to:	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Formulate a project that will provide a solution to an identified problem. 2. Manage a project within agreed timescales and specification; documenting the process throughout. 3. Evaluate potential project management solutions. 4. Produce a project report and deliver a presentation of the final project outcomes. 	

Unit 2 Construction Technology (Core Mandatory)	Unit code: Y/615/1388
	Unit level: 4
	Credit value: 15
Aim:	
The aim of the unit is to introduce the different technological concepts used to enable the construction of building elements; from substructure to completion, by understanding the different functional characteristics and design considerations to be borne in mind when selecting the most suitable technological solution.	
Unit abstract:	
The basic principles of construction technology have not changed for hundreds of years. However, the materials and techniques used to achieve these basic principles are constantly evolving; to enable the construction industry to deliver better quality buildings.	

On successful completion of this unit a student will be able to analyse scenarios and select the most appropriate construction technology solution.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

1. Explain the terminology used in construction technology.
2. Describe the different techniques used to construct a range of substructures and superstructures, including their function and design selection criteria.
3. Identify the different types of civil engineering/infrastructure technology used in support of buildings.
4. Illustrate the supply and distribution of a range of building services and how they are accommodated within the building.

Unit 3 Science & Materials (Core Mandatory)	Unit code: D/615/1389
	Unit level: 4
	Credit value: 15

Aim:

This unit aims to support students to make material choices to achieve the desired outcomes of a brief. This is approached from the perspective of materials being fit for purpose; as defined by testing standards and properties, but also by consideration of the environmental impact and sustainability. Awareness of health & safety is considered alongside the need to meet legislative requirements.

Unit abstract:

Science and material performance are intrinsically linked through the need to create structures and spaces that perform in both mechanical operation and in providing human comfort.

Upon successful completion of this unit students will be able to make informed decisions regarding material choices; based on understanding the structural behaviour of materials established through recognised testing methods, sustainability, context of build, and health & safety. Students will also be able to perform the calculations necessary to establish anticipated performance of the materials in-use and therefore determine their compliance with regulations and suitability.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

1. Review health and safety regulations and legislation associated with the storage, handling and use of materials on a construction site.
2. Discuss the environmental and sustainability factors which can impact on and influence the material choices for a construction project.
3. Present material choices for a given building using performance properties, experimental data, sustainability and environmental consideration.
4. Evaluate the performance of a given building in respect of its human comfort requirements.

Unit 4 Construction Practice & Management (Core Mandatory)	Unit code: R/615/1390
	Unit level: 4
	Credit value: 15
Aim:	
<p>The aim of this unit is to develop and provide students with a holistic understanding of construction practice and management processes. Students will investigate and research the modern construction industry, both from the practical skills embedded within the industry through to its linkage with development on-site and the connection with construction management; including roles within the industry.</p>	
Unit abstract:	
<p>The unit compares and investigates small, medium and large construction companies within the market place and how construction processes, for development, have evolved.</p> <p>Students will also explore how health & safety has evolved within the industry, including how the major stakeholders, from companies to site operatives, have embedded health & safety into their preferred areas of development and careers. In addition, students will explore Building Information Modelling and how it fits into construction processes/sequences ranging from domestic to large-scale and design and build projects.</p> <p>The knowledge from this unit will provide students with the understanding of modern construction and management; the skills, management of people and projects, and how health & safety have changed the perception of the construction industry.</p>	
Learning Outcomes:	
<p>By the end of this unit students will be able to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Describe the construction industry with reference to company structures and other activities. 2. Explain different types of construction companies in the market and their relationships within the tendering process. 3. Discuss the key stages in a construction project, and how Building Information Modelling informs the different stages. 4. Analyse how the construction industry has developed suitable collaboration strategies in support of greater recognition of health & safety. 	

Unit 7 Surveying, Measuring & Setting-out	Unit code: H/615/1393
	Unit level: 4
	Credit value: 15
Aim:	
<p>The unit aim to explore the techniques used to set up controls and conduct topographic surveys. It also aims to cover communication of results and methods of Setting-out structures.</p>	
Unit abstract:	
<p>Infrastructure and new buildings are essential requirements of modern life. In both construction and civil engineering there is a need to conduct initial surveys to assist the design team in establishing a clearly defined starting point. Once designed, the priority becomes to 'set out' the structures to the required accuracy to facilitate the construction process. Finally, 'as built' surveys are necessary to assist future maintenance and improvements to the built asset.</p>	

On successful completion of this unit students will be able to set up and assess the accuracy of control points. From these or any other control points the students will be able to complete a topographic survey or set out a structure. The students will also be able analyse errors in Setting-out and surveying.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this unit, a student will be able to:

- 1 Undertake a survey to establish a station network for horizontal and vertical control
- 2 Explain the process of undertaking a topographic survey
- 3 Apply industry standard techniques in the production, transferring and staking out of co-ordinates of multiple construction elements
- 4 Prepare a report on the causes of errors and techniques to improve accuracy, including the use of digital data.

Unit 8 Mathematics for Construction (Specialist Mandatory)	Unit code: K/615/1394
	Unit level: 4
	Credit value: 15

Aim:

The aim of this unit is to develop students' skills in the mathematical principles and theories that underpin the civil engineering and building services curriculum. Students will be introduced to mathematical methods and statistical techniques in order to analyse and solve problems within a construction engineering context.

Unit abstract:

Topics included in this unit are: dimensional analysis, arithmetic and geometric progressions wave and vector functions, differential and integral calculus, binomial and normal distribution, sinusoidal waves, and trigonometric and hyperbolic identities, among other topics.

On successful completion of this unit students will be able to employ mathematical methods within a variety of contextualised examples, interpret data using statistical techniques, and use analytical and computational methods to evaluate and solve engineering construction problems. Therefore, they will also gain crucial employability skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, analysis, reasoning, and data interpretation.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

1. Identify the relevance of mathematical methods to a variety of conceptualised construction examples.
2. Investigate applications of statistical techniques to interpret, organise and present data by using appropriate computer software packages.
3. Use analytical and computational methods for solving problems by relating sinusoidal wave and vector functions to their respective construction applications.
4. Illustrate the wide-ranging uses of calculus within different construction disciplines by solving problems of differential and integral calculus.

Unit 9: Principles of Heating Services Design & Installation (Specialist Mandatory)

Unit code:	M/615/1395	Aim: This unit will introduce students to the principles of the design and installation of heating systems for non-domestic buildings.
Unit level:	4	
Credit value:	15	

Unit abstract:

The buildings we use in everyday life – to work, study, socialise and live in – are increasingly complex in their design as well as being subject to more stringent environmental targets for emissions. Within these buildings, heating systems play a major part in maintaining the comfort of the occupants.

Subjects included in this unit are: the design process, pre-design/design brief, the production of design data, thermal comfort, calculation of U-values, heat loss calculation, total heating loads and heating plant capacity, heating media and distribution systems, system layouts, heat emitters, heat sources, heating system components, sizing and specification of heating system components, and commissioning, testing and handover procedures.

On successful completion of this unit students will understand the principles of the design, sizing and specification of non-domestic heating systems and components.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

1. Identify pre-design information required for a non-domestic heating system.
2. Analyse heating loads for non-domestic buildings.
3. Design a non-domestic heating system for a given building type.
4. Justify the selection of non-domestic heating system components and installation strategy.

Unit 10: Principles of Ventilation & Air Conditioning Design & Installation (Specialist Mandatory)

Unit code:	D/615/1926	Aim: The aim of the unit is to introduce students to the principles of the design and installation of these ventilation and air conditioning systems that are present in all of the buildings we use in everyday life.
Unit level:	4	
Credit value:	15	

Unit abstract:

The demands of modern living as well as the potential impact on the environment has meant that the building services engineer has become a key member of the building design team. The spaces that we occupy must be provided with ventilation to allow us to function and, where required, the addition of cooling helps to avoid the building overheating and maintains a comfortable environment for the occupants.

Subjects included in this unit are: the production of pre-design/design briefs, design data, cooling loads, total cooling loads, cooling plant capacity, building overheating, peak summertime temperatures, sizing and specification of ventilation and air conditioning system components, and the commissioning, testing and handover procedures.

On successful completion of this unit students will understand the principles of ventilation and air conditioning systems.

Learning Outcomes

By the end of this unit students will be able to:

1. Identify pre-design information required for a non-domestic ventilation and air conditioning system.
2. Analyse cooling load for non-domestic buildings.
3. Present a design for a non-domestic ventilation and air conditioning system for a given building type.
4. Justify the selection of non-domestic ventilation and air conditioning components and an installation strategy.

2.3 HN Global

Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals are supported by a specially designed range of digital resources, to ensure that tutors and students have the best possible experience during their course. These are available from the HN Global website, www.highernationals.com.

The HN Global is an online platform for all students studying their Higher National qualifications. It is free for students to use and contains 4 key sections:

- 1) Textbooks for core units – containing selections from textbooks chosen to cover the learning outcomes of the core units.
- 2) Study skills modules – resources and exercises to help develop your skills in areas like essay and report writing, giving presentations and critical thinking.
- 3) Career Development – access to online career services, including guidelines on CV writing, interview skills and a jobs board.
- 4) Forum – for you to discuss your subject with or ask questions of students and tutors from around the world.

To sign up, go to www.highernationals.com and complete your registration.

Also with HN Global, tutors can access Programme Specifications which contain useful information on programme planning and quality assurance processes. Tutors can also view Schemes of Work and Example Assessment Briefs, helping them create meaningful courses and assessments. HN Global also allows tutors to

create and annotate reading lists for their students and keep up-to-date on the latest news regarding HN programmes.

3 ASSESSMENT

3.1 Course Structure

It is important you know the structure of your course as this affects the units that you will study and how your grade is calculated.

The course you are on is a Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF) qualification. It is made up of units, each at a set level and with a certain number of credits.

3.1.1 RQF Levels

There are 9 Levels ranging from Entry (the lowest) 8 (the highest). The table below shows some qualifications and their levels. BTEC HNs levels have been highlighted.

Level 8	Doctorates (e.g. PhD / DPhil)
Level 7	Master's degrees (e.g. MA, MSc, MEng) Postgraduate diplomas Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)
Level 6	Bachelor's degrees (e.g. BA, BSc, BEng) Professional Graduate Certificate in Education Graduate certificates and diplomas
Level 5	Pearson BTEC HND Foundation Degrees (e.g. FdA, FdSc) Diplomas of Higher Education (Dip HE)
Level 4	Pearson BTEC HNC Certificates of Higher Education (Cert HE)
Level 3	BTEC Nationals (e.g. Level 3 Extended Diplomas, Diplomas) A Levels Level 3 NVQs
Level 2	BTEC Firsts (e.g. Level 2 Diplomas, Extended Certificates) GCSEs (Grades 9 to 5 or A* to C) Level 2 NVQs
Level 1	BTEC Level 1 Diplomas, Certificates and Awards GCSEs (Grades 4 to 1 or D to G)
Entry Level	Entry Level (1, 2 and 3): Pearson BTEC Entry Level Diplomas, Certificates and Awards

'Higher Education' refers to the courses that are on this list at levels 4 to 8.

3.1.2 RQF Units – credits and time

Each RQF qualification is made up of units. On HNCs and HNDs units are usually 15 credits in size - or a multiple of 15 (e.g. 30, 45).

These units have been designed from a learning time perspective, and are expressed in terms of Unit Learning Hours (ULH). ULH represent the total hours that a student needs to achieve the required learning outcomes, for a given Unit.

The ULH for a 15-credit unit is 150 – which includes 60 hours of Guided Learning and 90 hours of independent study.

3.1.3 Guided Learning

This is when a tutor is with you, giving you specific guidance towards learning aims. This includes:

- lessons, lectures and tutorials in class, workshops or the LRC with a teacher
- live webinars or telephone tutorials led by a teacher
- E-learning supervised by a teacher
- work based learning supervised by a tutor
- Any supervised assessment activity (for instance exams with invigilators, or observation of you making a presentation etc.).

Guided Learning Hours are usually on your timetable and you are expected to attend 100% of them.

3.1.4 Independent Study

For a 15-credit unit there are **90** unit learning hours that are not guided learning. This is the time you are expected to spend working on your own – e.g. reading up on the subject, conducting research, e-learning, watching podcasts / webinars / videos etc. or work based learning. It also includes the time you spend completing the work by your teachers.

You can complete independent study anywhere – inside the college (e.g. in the LRC) or outside. If you need to access specialist equipment, please talk to your teacher to help arrange it. Please note that there may be some that you are not permitted to use without supervision (e.g. engineering workshops).

You can still communicate with teachers and other students during your independent study time, but you will have to arrange this yourself. You should find out from your teachers when you can see them in their office, or best communicate with them outside timetabled classes.

An important part of Higher Education is being organised so that you attend all of your guided learning and spend enough time completing independent study on your qualification.

3.1.5 Total Qualification Time

If you add up all of the ULH on your qualification you get the Total Qualification Time (TQT). This is an estimate of the amount expected to be required for a student to achieve the qualification. Remember that this includes both guided learning and independent study.

The Total Qualification Time (TQT) for a Higher National Certificate (HNC) = 1,200

The Total Qualification Time (TQT) for a Higher National Diploma (HND) = 2,400

NB:

Total Guided Learning for a Higher National Certificate (HNC) = 480 hours

Total Guided Learning for a Higher National Diploma (HND) = 960 hours

3.2 RQF Pearson Higher National Qualifications (HNs) in Construction and The Built Environment (Building Services Engineering Pathway)

Pearson publish specifications which give the details of the units available and the rules of how they must be combined to make a valid qualification.

The Pearson BTEC Higher National Certificate (HNC) in Construction and The Built Environment (Building Services Engineering) is a Level 4 qualification made up of 120 credits.

- This is usually made up of 8 level 4 units, each worth 15 credits.
- There may be fewer units if some are worth more credit.

The Pearson BTEC Higher National Diploma (HND) in Construction and The Built Environment (Building Services Engineering) is a Level 5 qualification made up of 240 credits. 120 credits are at level 4 and 120 at level 5.

- This is usually 8 level 4 units, each worth 15 credits
- AND
- 8 level 5 units, each worth 15 credits.
 - There may be fewer units if some are worth more credits.

Note that the HNC is equivalent to the first year of an HND – Level 4 units have to be studied before progressing onto Level 5 units.

In the specification, there are core units, specialist units and optional units:

- Core are mandatory for all students studying the qualification
- Specialist units are mandatory for students studying a Civil Engineering pathway within the qualification.

These are aligned to professional body standards or vendor accredited certification. Note that these units may also be available as optional units to students on other pathways or a general route.

- Optional units can in theory be completed by any student as part of their programme.

3.3 Pearson BTEC Higher Nationals in Construction and The Built Environment (Building Services Engineering Pathway)

Pearson BTEC HN qualification in Construction and The Built Environment (Building Services Engineering) has been designed by selecting units from the Pearson specification. The programme will include all the mandatory core and specialist units, and then a selection of optional units. The optional units selected have been chosen because:

- They match the strengths of Uxbridge College (both staff expertise, resources including equipment and lab experiments)
- To ensure you have a good range of knowledge to allow progression to a range of employment or further study

- To enable you to apply for specific job roles once completed
- To meet entry requirements for university top-up degree programmes
- To meet the requirements of employers / sponsors of students

The combination of units chosen will provide you with the correct amount of credit and TQT, at the correct level(s) to mean that successfully completing them will earn you the HNC or HND qualification. Your tutors' choice of units is outlined in section 1 and 2 of this handbook. If you think that different additional units should be delivered, please talk to your tutor as soon as possible. They may not be able to offer everything you want but we have changed programmes before to include units requested by students – especially where these are required for progression to employment or University.

Section 2.2 cover the delivery Plan for BTEC Level 4 Higher National certificate in Construction and the Built Environment. The table incorporates both Full time and Part time learners for a duration of one year and two years respectively. The flow chart given in the same section the typically progress within the pathways.

Pearson BTEC Level 5 Higher National Diploma in Construction and The Built Environment consists of the Level 4 Higher National Certificate from the Civil Engineering pathway plus an additional 120 credits at Level 5 delivered via corresponding specialist pathway. At Level 5, the pathway will be:

- Building Services Engineering HVAC

3.4 Learning & Assessment

Information in the following pages includes extracts from Uxbridge College policies on Assessment, Internal Verification, Student Submission of Internally Assessed Work and Academic Malpractice. Full copies of these policies are available if you require further information.

3.4.1 Units

Each unit on your qualification has a specification written by the awarding body. These are available from the Pearson website and your tutors may make them available to you. Every unit specification includes:

- The unit title and code number.
- Unit type, level and credit value.
- Introduction – a summary of the purpose, aims and focus of the unit, as well as highlighting the key knowledge, skills and understanding gained while studying.
- Learning outcomes - this is a list of all you need to know, understand or be able to do to pass the unit.
- Essential content – identifies the key phrases or concepts for each learning outcome. Your tutors use this to plan the teaching on your course and they will deliver all of this content to you as part of your course.
- Assessment Criteria – these are statements of the evidence you need to produce. Each learning outcome will have several criteria linked to it. Your tutors use criteria to create assignments.
- Recommended resources – suggested reading (including journals and websites) and links to other related units.

Your tutors use these unit specifications to complete a Scheme of Work, showing the topics you will cover in every week of your programme. The Scheme of Work will closely match the unit content and may indicate how it is to be delivered (e.g. classroom teaching, distance learning, lectures, seminars, practical sessions, work experience etc.).

3.4.2 Assessment of Units

Assessment checks that effective learning of the unit content has taken place. Assessment on HNC and HND qualifications is mainly through the completion of assignments, designed by your teachers.

Pearson may offer pre-approved assignments which your teachers can opt to use instead of writing their own.

For one Core unit of the HNC and two Core units of the HND, Pearson set a theme. **This does not mean you will have to sit an exam.** You will still be completing assignments - either written by your teachers or suggested by Pearson.

3.4.3 Assignments

Assignment briefs for each unit will be issued to you while you are studying those units. This allows you to get guidance on how to complete the assignments from your tutors while you are working on the unit content they refer to.

3.4.4 Assignment briefs

- Set your particular tasks or activities to do (e.g. an essay, presentation, project or experiment) and tell you what evidence you need to produce (e.g. a written report, a presentation to group, a completed product). These tasks or activities will be representative of those undertaken in the vocational sector relevant to your programme. If you complete the task or activity as required, you will have provided evidence that you have met one or more assessment criteria.
- State the assessment criteria they are designed to assess. There are usually one, two or three assignment briefs for each unit, with each assignment covering one or more assessment criteria.
- May be broken down into separate Tasks requiring you to produce various different forms of evidence.
- Will cover all of the assessment criteria for one or more learning outcomes (i.e. you won't get separate assignment briefs for Pass, Merit and Distinction criteria – though there could be different tasks).

It is important that you understand what evidence assignments are asking you to produce. To help use the glossary of terms and evidence at the back of this handbook (Appendix 3).

3.4.5 Submission of Assignments

Assignment briefs will have a deadline for submission of the work. You must submit all of your assignments by the submission dates given. Your teachers may have additional rules regarding submission of assignments – for example a particular place where they must be by the deadline.

Make sure you know these rules. Failure to do so will affect your grades and possibly your completion of the qualification.

Your tutors will give you further information and guidance on completing assignments during timetabled sessions and often provide you with resources (e.g. notes on Moodle, videos on Google classroom, reading lists etc.) that will help you to do so.

3.4.6 Draft submission and feedback

To help you achieve the highest grade you can, your teachers will give you feedback on draft assignments before the deadline.

Teachers will tell you when to bring in your drafts and when you will get feedback on them. For every assignment you will get one opportunity to have your draft work looked at – for some longer assignments you may be given a second opportunity.

The feedback on draft assignments will include:

- comments on your attempts to meet assessment criteria
- actions for you to complete to improve your work.

Please note that the deadline on the assignment brief does not change – you must complete any actions identified by your tutor before the submission date.

NB: This is your only opportunity to use your teacher's feedback to improve your work. Make sure that you read it carefully and if you don't understand it, ask.

If you do not bring in drafts when asked, teachers do not have to give you another opportunity to do so, or provide you with any feedback before you submit the work.

Feedback is usually written so that you can refer back to it throughout the year, and use it to help you improve any assignments that you are working on.

3.4.7 Turnitin

All written work that you submit must first have been uploaded to Turnitin – a piece of software that has been developed to check student submissions for accurate referencing of sources. Work uploaded to Turnitin will generate an 'originality report'. This report will highlight occurrences of other people's work that has been used or quoted in your assignments and will give you an overall 'originality' percentage.

Although you must not plagiarise other people's work, when writing assignments, it is good academic practice to correctly use referenced sources to support your ideas. Referencing is expected and necessary at this level of study. (See 'Appendix 1 – Study Guide' for more information.)

An originality report should show that you have correctly referenced all of the sources used in your work. It is recommended that you use Turnitin reports to check your assignments before they are submitted for marking. If you check and find you have not correctly referenced all of the sources used in your work, you should update it and check again before submitting it for marking.

Any assignments submitted for marking that contain incorrect referencing or suspected cheating will be dealt with under the College Academic Malpractice Policy (see section K for more details)

If you have a written assignment due, you must remember to upload it to Turnitin before submission.

3.4.8 Authentication

When you submit finished work for marking you must sign it to confirm that it is your own work and has been completed according to the rules of the qualification.

If you sign work which is not your own then you have committed academic malpractice, which Uxbridge College treats very seriously (see section K for more details).

3.5 Marking and Grading

Once your assignment has been submitted it will be marked and returned to you within 3 (working) weeks. Marked assignments show you which assessment criteria you have met, which you haven't met, and why.

Marking and feedback will show where in your work, or how, you have met criteria. If not all criteria have been met, feedback will state why you did not meet them.

Feedback must not tell you how you can improve your evidence to meet any criteria you haven't achieved.

This is because you may be able to submit the assignment again – see Resubmissions (below). Feedback may give you advice on how you could improve future assignments.

When you have completed all the assignments for a unit and they have been marked you will receive a unit grade. This reflects the highest level at which you have met all of the assessment criteria in the unit.

Units are provisionally graded Unclassified, Pass, Merit or Distinction. Grades are only confirmed at the end of the academic year by the Assessment Board.

- To achieve a Pass you must have met all of the Pass criteria for the unit
- To achieve a Merit you must have met all of the Pass and all of the Merit criteria
- To achieve a Distinction you must have met all of the Pass, Merit and Distinction criteria

Just completing your assignments doesn't mean you will get a Pass (or better) for the unit.

You have to meet all of the Pass criteria to achieve a Pass – if you complete all assignments for a unit but do not meet all the Pass criteria the unit will be graded as Unclassified.

If you do not complete all the assignments for a unit then you do not automatically get an unclassified grade. You will instead have failed the unit – see Section H) to see what this means.

If you don't pass a unit, then you do not earn the credits associated with it and so may not achieve the minimum amount of credit at the level required to achieve the HNC or HND qualification.

3.5.1 Resubmission

If your work met all of the Pass criteria contained in the assignment brief, you may not resubmit it to get higher grades. You have only one opportunity to achieve Merit and Distinction grades.

If your work was submitted on time but did not meet all of the Pass criteria contained in the assignment brief, you will be expected to re-submit it.

You will be asked to re-do the assignment wherever possible but you may have to complete a new one – for example if the original assignment was an exam.

No further guidance or support can be given to you while you complete a resubmission and only one resubmission per assignment is permitted.

If you need to resubmit any assignments for a unit, then your unit grade will be capped at a Pass.

If your resubmission still does not meet all Pass criteria, then the unit grade is Unclassified.

If your assignment was submitted late, you cannot resubmit it. See section F).

3.6 Late Submission of Work

3.6.1 Extensions to deadlines

If you know that you are going to be unable to meet the submission date, you must speak to your teacher at least 3 working days before the deadline.

If you are unable to meet an assessment deadline due to accident, illness or severe emotional or mental stress you should complete an extenuating circumstances application form (see back of handbook) and submit it with supporting evidence (e.g. a Doctor's letter).

Only the Head of School and Section Manager may give extensions to deadlines. These will only be granted on an individual basis depending on the specific circumstances.

If you are given an extension to the deadline you have until this date to complete the assignment. If your work is submitted by this date, it will be marked and graded as described in section E.

3.6.2 Missing deadlines

If you submit an assignment after the submission date without an agreed extension or an accepted extenuating circumstances claim, it will still be marked but:

- late work may not be marked at the same time as other students, and may take longer than usual to come back to you
- feedback on late work may also be reduced
- **no re-submission is permitted. If you don't achieve a Pass (or higher) you have failed, the unit and possibly the whole course.**

Also remember that if you submit work late you may not be able to achieve Merit or Distinction grades depending on the requirements of the assignment.

3.7 Assessment Boards

To ensure that assessment is conducted with rigour, probity and fairness, the final decision on unit grades (and therefore progression onto the second year of a course and overall qualification grade) are taken by Assessment Boards. Assessment Boards ensure that rules have been consistently applied across all HE programmes and are a requirement of the awarding organisations.

At Assessment Boards the team that delivered your qualification present the grades they have awarded for every unit for every student to an independent panel. Students do not attend. The panel examines the grades awarded in the light of internal and external monitoring reports. They will then either ratify the grades awarded or, if there are doubts about the quality of assessment, ask for further internal verification (IV) to confirm them.

Any refer grades (where you haven't completed or passed a unit) and defer grades (where you weren't able to complete a unit because of valid extenuating circumstances) will be individually discussed.

The Board will then make the recommendations for awards and progression.

The Assessment Board meets at the start of July. If at the Assessment Board your record shows that you have work outstanding or units with a referral grade you may not be recommended for progression (to the HND / Year 2) or for an award. There is no guarantee you will be able to complete missing work after this time.

If you know that you will not have achieved at least a Pass grade in all units by the Assessment Board, you should write to your tutor explaining why, so that the assessment board can consider your request.

The board could decide to give you more time to complete this work, or a final resubmission opportunity. If so they will decide what conditions apply (e.g. new deadlines). The decision on any further opportunities also depends on whether original work was submitted on time and if you made use of feedback opportunities.

If you have not achieved a Pass grade in any unit, the board can – in exceptional circumstances - recommend that you repeat it the following year. You would have to attend all lessons in the unit and complete all of the assignments again, and the highest grade you can achieve for the unit will be a Pass. There will be additional fees to pay for any repeated units, and these will depend on the size and content.

Following the assessment board meetings, decisions will be sent to you by your tutor.

Appeals against the decisions made by assessment boards can be made using the procedure for appeals against your assessment decision. See Section J for more detail.

The confirmed unit grades are sent to the Awarding Organisation who will produce a certificate for you. The Awarding Organisation sends certificates to the Examinations Department at Uxbridge College who will forward them to you as soon as possible.

Students recommended for progression (to the next year of their programme or to the HND diploma) will be written to by their tutors with details of how to enrol.

3.8 Overall Grade Calculation

Each qualification has an overall grade of Pass, Merit or Distinction.

3.8.1 HNCs

To achieve an HNC you need to have:

- Completed units with 120 credits at level 4
- Achieved at least a Pass grade in units with a total of **105** credits or more at Level 4

This means that you can still gain the overall qualification if you have:

- an Unclassified grade in one level 4, 15 credit unit
- at least a Pass grade in all the others.

3.8.2 HNDs

To achieve an HND you need to have:

- Completed units with 120 credits at level 5
- Achieved at least a Pass grade in units with a total of **105** credits or more at level 5
- Completed units with 120 credits at level 4
- Achieved at least a Pass grade in units with a total of **105** credits or more at Level 4

You can still gain the overall qualification if you have:

- an Unclassified grade in one level 5, 15 credit unit
- an Unclassified grade in one level 4, 15 credit unit
- at least a Pass grade in every other unit.

3.8.3 Unit and Qualification Points

If you have failed any unit (i.e. not got at least an unclassified grade), then you have not completed it and will not have earned enough credits to complete the qualification.

Completed units are allocated points per credit:

- Unclassified 0 points
- Pass 4 points
- Merit 6 points
- Distinction 8 points

So a 15 credit unit will total 0 points for U, 60 for P, 90 for M and 120 for D.

For the HND, only level 5 units earn points.

Points are totalled and the overall qualification grade awarded based on the following boundaries:

Pass	420-599 points
Merit	600-839 points
Distinction	840 points or more

NB – if you have achieved a Distinction in 7 units worth 15 credits and Unclassified in 1 unit worth 15 credits, then you would still earn enough points to be awarded an overall Distinction grade.

Please note that Universities and Employers may have entry requirements that require you to achieve high grades in specific units or even across all of your units.

3.9 Internal & External Monitoring

Uxbridge College engages in numerous activities to maintain the standard of assessment on your qualifications and to ensure that they meet national standards.

3.9.1 Internal Verification (IV) of Assignment Briefs

Before assignment briefs are issued to students they will be internally verified. An Internal Verifier (a member of staff with specialist subject knowledge) will examine the assignment briefs to ensure that:

- they enable students to achieve Awarding Body criteria

- they are fit for purpose
- the context is relevant to the students
- the guidelines and instructions are clear
- they do not discriminate against students as a result of gender, race, disability, sexuality, age or faith group.

You may see a stamp, signature or date on assignment briefs to confirm they have been IVd.

3.9.2 IV of Assessment Decisions

A proportion of assessed work from your qualification will be internally verified. The internal verifier (IV) – who must not be the person who assessed the work – will check that the assessment decisions made are justifiable and that the written feedback and guidance given to you is appropriate. Work must be internally verified from every unit of the qualification, from every person assessing work on the qualification and from every student on the qualification. The IV gives feedback to the assessor about their assessment decisions – they do not communicate directly with students. This process should be completed within the three-week turnaround for marking assignments and should not delay the return of your marked work.

You may see a stamp, signature or date on marked work to confirm it has been IVd.

3.9.3 Standardisation

If different teachers mark work for the same unit (e.g. if there are two or more groups studying the same unit with different teachers), they meet and complete marking exercises to ensure that they all apply assessment criteria consistently across units and qualifications and that their marking agrees with awarding organisation requirements.

3.9.4 External Examination

External Examiners are subject specialists, employed by the awarding organisation to make sure that Uxbridge College is running qualifications correctly. External Examiners visit the College annually to:

- ensure that the national standard of the qualifications is maintained.
- check the accuracy and consistency of assessment decisions by sampling those made by your tutors.
- evaluate the effectiveness of the delivery of the qualification and of the assignment briefs.
- examine Uxbridge College's commitment to maintaining and improving quality.

When they visit External Examiners will want to talk to students. You should be asked if you would like to meet with them although you are not required to. External Examiners will want to check your understanding of the assessment and grading requirements and to ask you about the assessment and resources on your qualification. External Examiners complete a report sent to both the College and the awarding organisation which will contain any actions that we are required to take. Copies of external examiner reports will be made available to students.

3.9.5. Quality Management Review (QMR)

A reviewer from the awarding organisation visits Uxbridge College every year to provide advice and guidance and to check that qualifications are being delivered correctly by checking course plans and records (including student work). They do not usually meet students during QMR.

3.9.6 Academic Standards

The Academic Standards section of Uxbridge College monitors the quality of the qualifications being delivered and the effectiveness of strategies in place to raise standards and improve quality. It does this by inspecting each department within the College every year and then making and monitoring recommendations. Academic Standards are also responsible for managing the External Examination process and monitoring the College's work in meeting any action plans.

3.9.7 Higher Education Academic Standards Committee (HEASC)

The HE Academic Standards Committee is part of Uxbridge College's Academic Board, which oversees the development and quality monitoring of all programmes. Chaired by the Vice Principal – Curriculum and Standards, the HE Academic Standards Committee meets at least once a term where it monitors all HE provision in the College.

Key duties include:

- reviewing and assessing key performance indicators such as achievement, attendance and punctuality on HE qualifications
- receiving reports (from Unit Review questionnaires, the National Student Survey, External Examiners, Academic Standards and Pearson) and monitoring the actions taken to address any issues raised
- working to identify and address any common themes running across all HE qualifications.

Staff representatives from every higher education course attend HEASC, as do Academic Standards staff, the Head of Guidance & Information Services, the Head of Marketing and the HE student year representatives. See the section on student representation and engagement for more information.

3.10 Academic Appeals (Against Assessment Decisions)

We take great care to ensure that work is marked fairly and within the national standard.

If you are unhappy about your marks please see your Tutor first – they will explain your grading decision further. Remember, you are only awarded marks for results, not effort, and you must ensure you have met all the assessment rules in this handbook.

If you are still unhappy about your grade, the College has a formal Appeals Against Assessment Decisions Procedure. In simple terms it means that if you disagree with any of the assessment decisions that have been made on your course (including those by the assessment board), in some circumstances you can appeal for the decision to be changed. This does not necessarily mean that the assessment decision will be changed but that someone will investigate for you and tell you the decision.

Appeals must be based on one or more of these reasons:

- the assessment procedures were not conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Awarding Body, the College's Higher Education Assessment Policy or in accordance with College requirements
- the assessment was based on inadequate, incorrect or biased information
- your performance was adversely affected by illness or other circumstances which was for good reasons unable to be made known to the assessor at the time of assessment against which appeal is being made
- the assessment decision may seriously hinder full accreditation or progression.

If you are going to make a formal appeal you must do so as soon as possible after you get your result and **not more than 30 calendar days** after you do so.

3.10.1 Appeals Procedure

3.10.1.1 Informal Procedure

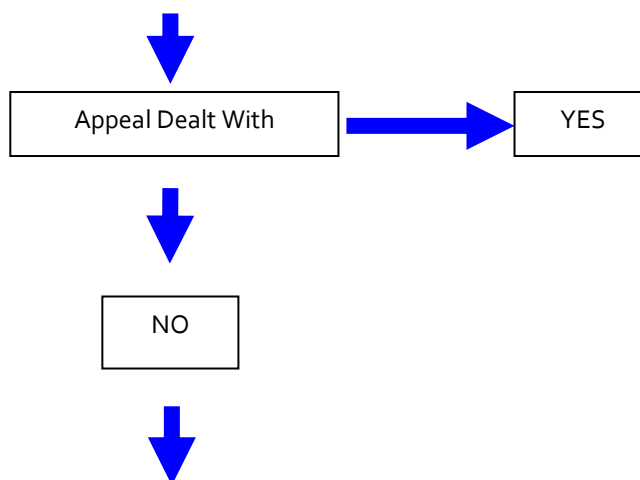
(full policy Page 2, Section 5.0)

I have an appeal. What can I do?

Talk to my course tutor, Course Team Leader/ Section Manager or Head of School. Their names are:

Tutor.....

CTL/SM.....



3.10.1.2 Formal Procedure

You are not satisfied with the decisions that were made in the informal stage

Write formally to the Vice-Principal stating your name, the name of the assessor and course tutor of your course, details of the assessment decision and why you think it is wrong (refer to Grounds for Appeal).

3.10.2 Exceptions

There are certain circumstances under which the College Appeals Against Assessment Decisions Procedure is superseded. Details of this are contained within the full policy (available on the Intranet and College internet).

3.10.3 The Office of the Independent Adjudicator

If you are still not satisfied after the formal appeal has been completed, you can complain to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator – we will give you the details of how to do this. The OIA is an independent body that runs the student complaints scheme for all organisations in England and Wales delivering Higher Education. The OIA cannot re-mark the work or change the grade, but they can make sure that College assessment and appeal procedures were carried out correctly and fairly.

3.11. Academic Malpractice

The College has an Academic Malpractice Policy which deals with all forms of cheating in assessment (the full policy is available on request). Types of cheating include:

- directly copying or paraphrasing the work of others and presenting it as your own (plagiarism)
- getting someone to produce all or part of your work (personation)
- working together with other students to produce work and submitting it as your own individual work
- copying another student's work with or without permission
- knowingly allowing a student to copy your work
- resubmitting previously graded work
- using forbidden notes or books in producing work or tests
- presenting work downloaded from the internet/online sources as your own
- fabrication of results (including experiments, research, interviews, observations)
- deliberate destruction of another student's work
- giving your work to another student so that they can copy from it.

By signing work submitted for marking you are confirming that it has been completed according to the rules of the qualification. It is important that you ask your tutor if you are not sure about any of the rules as anyone caught cheating will face penalties as described in the College Academic Malpractice Policy.

Uxbridge College may use Turnitin to look for evidence of academic malpractice in any of your assignments.

Possible penalties include disqualification from units or even the entire qualification. This could affect your ability to successfully complete your programme of study and could lead to exclusion from the College.

4. HE STUDENT REPRESENTATION & ENGAGEMENT

Uxbridge College believes that the best way of constantly improving our higher education courses is by collecting and acting on student feedback. Student views are given the highest priority and so we want to hear from you. There are several ways that you can get involved:

4.1 Student Representatives

Being a student representative is a great way to help improve the quality of higher education at Uxbridge College (and to improve your CV and UCAS personal statement).

4.1.1 Tutor Group Reps

Every HE group is asked to elect a Rep. The role of Tutor Group Reps is to collect the views (both good and bad) of everyone in their group, discuss these with College staff and to feedback responses to the group.

Tutor Group Reps' contact details are supplied to Student Support so that they are included in whole college (i.e. including FE students) activities - such as tutor group rep training events and student council meetings.

Tutor Group Reps will be invited to termly meetings with the Head of School (with the Reps from all other courses in the school) and to termly meetings with the HE Year Reps (with the Reps from all other HE courses in the College).

After these meetings the Tutor Group Reps should share with their group the details of what was said and any information they may have been given.

4.1.2 HE Year Reps

The role of HE Year Reps is to collect the views of the HE Tutor Group Reps at termly meetings and to report them formally at the HE Academic Standards Committee (held three times a year) to senior College staff. They will then feedback to the HE Tutor Group Reps what was said at HEASC.

One HE Year Rep (usually from the 2nd year) is also invited to attend the Governors' Stakeholder and Scrutiny Committee meetings, where they should advise the Principal and Corporation of HE Student needs and how well these are being met.

For the summer term HE class rep meeting, the HE Year Reps prepare an annual report for discussion and ratification. HE Year Reps then formally present this to the Vice Principal - Curriculum and Standards.

Uxbridge College recognises that this is a significant role and therefore formally recruits (and rewards) HE Year Reps from the new first year students each October. HE Year Reps will usually continue in the role in their second year.

NB: HE Year Reps do not have to be HE Tutor Group Reps too.

4.2 HE Co-ordinator

The HE Co-ordinator is a member of staff who helps the HE Tutor Group and Year Reps in their roles. The Co-ordinator can suggest discussion topics, provide an agenda and help arrange HE Rep meetings, record student views, suggest formats for Reps' reports, proofread the annual report and help with presenting views at HEASC.

The HE Co-ordinator may also send important or interesting information out to HE Reps for them to share with their group.

4.3 Student Surveys

Students will be invited to share their views and opinions of their course, tutors and the college regularly. This includes:

4.3.1 Unit Reviews

Twice a year students will be asked to complete a review questionnaire. You will be asked to evaluate the teaching and learning, assessment and feedback, resources and environment and the content of the units you are studying. These results are presented at HEASC where your tutors will be asked to comment and state what they are going to do to improve the course.

4.3.2 The National Student Survey (NSS)

The NSS is an external survey run on behalf of the government by a marketing company. It runs every year between January and April and is for students on the second year of a full-time HND.

These students will be asked to complete an online survey, the results of which will be published on the Unistats website to help advise prospective students. Results are published in September every year and are used to judge Student Satisfaction at every University, College and private provider that delivers Higher Education in the UK.

4.3.3 Destinations of Learners from HE (DLHE)

The Government runs DLHE surveys that take place about 6 months after you finish any HE qualification and then several years afterwards as well to see what you have gone on to do.

If you complete an HNC Diploma and then return to study on an HND Diploma you will be contacted as part of the DLHE whilst still at college.

iv) Pearson Annual Student Survey

Each year Pearson will ask all students around the world who are studying BTEC Higher National Qualifications to complete a survey about their student experience. Results will help Pearson to continue to develop these qualifications.

4.4 Tutorials

Your timetable may include tutorial and / or study skills sessions. These are to support and guide you through your studies. This will include identifying and developing the higher level skills needed on your course.

4.5 Learning Plans

There will be profiling periods throughout the year when you will receive feedback from your tutor on all aspects of your progress, including assignment and unit achievement. You will work with your tutor to review your progress and set targets for yourself, committing yourself to achievement and identifying support issues.

4.6 Complaints

At Uxbridge College, we try to get things right every time but on occasion things may go wrong. If this happens, we want to hear from you so that we can improve things.

If you have a complaint or concern you should first speak to your tutor. If you feel unable to do this or are not satisfied with their response, you can make a formal complaint. Complaints Forms are available from Reception, the Learning Centres or the Student Support Centre.

One of the Student Support Officers will be able to explain the process to you and help you complete the form.

On receipt of your complaint we will:

- acknowledge your complaint within five working days
- investigate your complaint and provide a written response by an appropriate manager.

When you complain please supply as much information as possible to help us investigate (e.g. date, time, location, names / descriptions of people involved, what the problem was, what anyone present said / did).

You can submit complaints anonymously, or as part of a group.

If you feel able to provide your contact details though we will be able to respond to you or ask for more detail if required.

4.7 Office of the Independent Adjudicator

If you are not satisfied with the response to a complaint you can complain to the Office of the Independent Adjudicator – we will give you the details of how to do this. The OIA is an independent body that runs the student complaints scheme for all organisations in England and Wales delivering Higher Education.

5. RULES & RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1 Code of Conduct

This Student Code of Conduct applies to all students of the College. Students are required to abide by the Code of Conduct and College Rules and Regulations.

Uxbridge College expects all students to:

- Help to maintain a pleasant environment for everyone
- Show respect for others and uphold the Equality and Diversity Policy
- Be polite and behave in a manner which will not cause offence to others
- Show respect for property and possessions
- Uphold the good reputation of the College, either on site or off site
- Follow health & safety and evacuation procedures
- Wear and display a college ID card at all times, and never lend an ID to anyone else
- Observe the College no smoking rule which applies indoors and outdoors in all areas of the College (except designated outdoor places)
- Conform to the College's policy on the use of Information Technology Facilities
- Dress appropriately for undertaking College activities, and observe the no hats and hoods rule.

The College will not tolerate:

- Acts of vandalism, spitting and dropping litter
- Bullying, threatening or abusive behaviour, whether verbal or physical or via electronic means such as text messaging, e-mails or online forums
- Harassment in any shape or form
- Swearing or language that is offensive to others
- Fighting or any form of loud or aggressive behaviour
- Any form of criminal activity
- Attempts to convert individuals to religious faiths or political causes
- Use of the premises to promote a political or religious cause
- Use, possession or being under the influence of illegal substances
- Possession and/or misuse of alcohol during the College day
- Use of mobile telephones, personal music systems or other electronic equipment in class, unless approved by the teacher
- Eating or drinking in non-designated areas of the College
- Unauthorised use of hardware, software, student email or data belonging to or used by the College
- Action which is likely to promote or increase the potential for disruption to the College, its students, staff or property
- Any activity which is likely to bring the College's name into disrepute.

Those found in breach of this code will be subject to disciplinary action, which may lead to exclusion from the College.

5.2 Attendance & Punctuality

5.2.1 Attendance

Students admitted to any course of study in Uxbridge College are required to attend regularly and punctually. Students should be active participants in their own learning and as such, many units depend upon full student participation and interaction.

It is the students' responsibility to make sure they understand their timetable and they know where and when their classes will take place. Students who miss a significant number of lectures normally obtain poor end of year results. Picking up a set of notes after the lecture or copying somebody else's lecture notes is a poor substitute for actually attending a lecture and absorbing its content.

If you are absent for periods of longer than three days please notify your tutor, and in the case of illness you should obtain a medical certificate where appropriate, particularly if you wish the illness to be considered as an extenuating circumstance in respect of coursework or examinations.

Attendance is monitored and students who are not participating in lectures, tutorials, seminars and practicals on a regular basis may be withdrawn.

5.2.2 Punctuality

All students are required to arrive on time for all classes and other scheduled activities and should remain for the duration of the teaching session. Not only does late arrival and early departure from lessons impact your own learning, it is also disruptive, impolite, and unprofessional. The disruption caused is also unfair to your peers and tutors.

Failure to attend regular lessons without providing satisfactory reasons is deemed to be unsatisfactory.

5.3 Equal Opportunity – a Simple Guide

You will hear the phrase 'equal opportunities' many times at College, and throughout your life. It's an important phrase for us and for you, so please take a moment to read this section.

Uxbridge College has a written 'Equality and Diversity policy' about equal opportunities, which is available in the Learning Centres. Its message is that:

- All learners are equally important to us
- All learners need different sorts of help
- We will give whatever help we can to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity to achieve their qualifications and reach their goals.

We encourage and expect respect between all students, staff and visitors to the College. We refuse to allow discrimination (unfair treatment) against anyone because of their age, gender, ethnic origin, disability, sexuality, gender reassignment, or faith. We welcome and celebrate the diversity of students and staff in the College.

Please help us make sure everyone at Uxbridge College feels valued, and no-one is discriminated against. Treat staff, students, visitors and neighbours with respect. Do not allow yourself to get involved in any form of bullying or harassment, including name calling and insults. If you feel that you are not being treated fairly and with respect, or if you think that discrimination is taking place, please let a tutor, someone in Student Support or any other member of staff know.

5.4 Religious Observance

Our Statement on Religious Diversity states:

“Uxbridge College is a secular college devoted to embracing diversity and tolerance. All faiths are treated equally in accordance with our policy on Equality and Diversity and Code of Conduct. Our resources are dedicated to learning and therefore we do not provide any specific facilities related to one religious activity.”

College resources exist primarily for the delivery of learning activities, but where practicable, arrangements will be made for people to carry out essential religious observance. Vacant rooms are notified to reception for the purposes of prayer but there are no dedicated prayer rooms and students should not pray in corridors.

Wherever possible rooms will be allocated for prayer at lunchtimes. Timetables of these rooms will be made available on Moodle.

You are asked to pray either before or after classes.

Ramadan lasts for approximately one month. In respect of our students the Principal advises that, during this period, Muslim students who are fasting at this time may bring water into classes and also biscuits to break their fast.

Students must attend classes as normal.

Please also remember that students who are unwell, pregnant or breastfeeding can become weak and are normally exempt from fasting.

The College will consider formal requests for absence for students wishing to observe essential religious celebration, up to a maximum of two days per academic year. The application for absence must be made to the Head of School a minimum of a week in advance on the form below:

PART A (to be completed by student and forwarded to Attendance Co-ordinator)

STUDENT NAME (print)

STUDENT ID NUMBER

COURSE / CODE

DATES / TIMES FOR WHICH EXCEPTIONAL LEAVE IS REQUESTED:

DATES(S)

TIME(S)

REASON FOR REQUEST

SIGNATURE OF STUDENT

SIGNATURE OF AC:

DATE:

Students receiving permission for such leave of absence, should be aware that classes will be run as normal and that responsibility rests with them, their independent study, and liaison with their teachers to ensure they are not disadvantaged by any lost learning opportunity.

For purposes of bursary claims and register of attendance students will not be penalised for absence, where permission has been properly sought and granted, for religious observance.

5.5 Learning Support for HE Students

The College welcomes students with disabilities and / or learning difficulties. Students may be able to get support with their studies if they have a:

- long-term health condition
- mental health condition
- specific learning difficulty, e.g. dyslexia, dyspraxia

To get this support you must apply for and be granted Disabled Students Allowance (DSA). DSA is a grant that covers the additional study related costs that you will incur because of your disability or specific learning difficulty. DSA is not means tested and doesn't have to be repaid.

Applications for DSA can take several weeks so if you have not already applied, you must do as soon as possible. However, you can apply for DSA even if you have already started your course. You can get information about DSA - and an application form - from the DSA website. Use the links below:

DSA Website - www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas

DSA Application Form - www.gov.uk/disabled-students-allowances-dsas/how-to-claim

Please read this information carefully as it gives details of the evidence of your disability or specific learning difficulty that you will need to supply when you apply.

Please speak to the Information Centre for further information about applying for DSA.

When you are granted DSA you will receive a Notification of Entitlement, stating the support they will pay for. DSA may help with the costs of:

- specialist equipment, e.g. a computer if you need one because of your disability
- non-medical helpers, e.g. Note Taker, Communication Support Worker, Proof Reader
- extra travel because of your disability
- 1:1 specialist study skills support
- other disability-related costs of studying.

If you haven't already, please discuss your needs with your tutor as soon as possible. Your tutor may need time to put arrangements in place for you.

For information about Learning Support please contact the Learning Support Team helpline on 01895 853308/853415.

5.6 Health & Safety

Uxbridge College complies with the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 and it is the duty of everyone to comply with this Act.

Health and Safety procedures will feature very strongly throughout your course. We make no apology for this, as safety is one area that we cannot allow you to learn by experience!

At no stage should you be asked to operate a machine or piece of equipment or use potentially hazardous chemicals and other substances without risk assessment and adequate training.

You must wear appropriate protective clothing in certain workshops, kitchens, laboratories, craft rooms or leisure facilities. If, during your course you fail to wear the required clothing you will not be allowed into these areas.

5.6.1 Fire alarms / evacuations

Both staff and students are required to evacuate the building when the fire alarm sounds. Each classroom details the nearest fire exit and displays the college fire procedure. Security barriers automatically deactivate throughout the college so an immediate escape can be made. At the Uxbridge Campus, people are required to gather on the lawn near the staff car park, over the pedestrian crossing. The Fire Department will send two fire engines to the college so staff must ensure that the road remains clear of standing people. No-one may re-enter the building until the alarms have been turned off and the Fire Department have declared the premises to be safe. The Duty Manager will indicate when people can begin to re-enter the building

Occasionally the fire alarms are tested whereby a brief alarm signal will sound. These are the only occasions when evacuation is not required and staff will be notified of these prior to the testing via email.

5.6.2 First Aid

The College does not have a First Aid department. Instead, some staff with First Aid qualifications have volunteered to be First Aiders. The list of First Aiders is kept with the reception staff at both the Hayes and Uxbridge campuses.

If a First Aider is required, please contact the main reception desk who will then get a First Aider for you.

5.7 Safeguarding

We want all students at Uxbridge College to feel safe. Types of issues you may feel worried about:

- Physical / Sexual abuse
- Self-harm
- Bullying (including online)
- Domestic violence

- Forced marriage
- Radicalisation / Terrorism.

If you are worried about anything, please contact a member of the Student Support Team:

At Uxbridge Campus

Room A011 (situated off the Mall)
Or telephone 01895 853380.

At Hayes Campus

The Student Lounge (situated off the Refectory)
Or telephone 01895 853643.

Confidentiality

All information about you and your personal life is treated with complete confidence at all times. If exceptional circumstances arise that give us good grounds for believing that you will cause harm to yourself or others, then it is possible we may need to share information with someone else. In such circumstances we would talk to you first.

Safeguarding..... Everyone’s Responsibility

6. LEARNING RESOURCE CENTRES, MOODLE & GOOGLE APPS

Learning Resource Centres (LRCs)

The Learning Resource Centres are located on the second floor at both sites. At Uxbridge use the stairs located in B block. At Hayes proceed up the main stairway in the refectory.

Opening hours for Uxbridge and Hayes sites:

Term time - Monday to Thursday: 8.30am - 7.00pm and Friday: 10.00am - 4.00pm.
Holiday opening - please see notice boards for information as this may vary.

Resources available:

Essential subject specific resources are available for all courses studied at Uxbridge College including: course books, magazines, newspapers, CDs and DVDs.

LRC e-resources are available 24/ 7 from Moodle including e-books (ebrary and Dawsonera), e-journals (Infotrac) and reference material from Britannica Online and Oxford Reference.

If you need help accessing any of our resources, hardcopy or electronic, please ask at the desk.

There are over 100 PCs available at both LRCs. Silent room PCs need to be booked at the desk. If you need any IT or Moodle help please ask.

LRC Events

The LRCs run a series of student centred events to promote literacy. These involve author visits, poetry performances and world book night. Get involved and make the most of your time at the college!

Debating Club

Do you want to improve your presentation and debating skills? Why don't you join our debating club? We enter national debating competition and last year won the regional Debating Matters competition. Ask at the LRC for more details.

Study Skills Sessions

Research and study skills help is always available in the LRCs, please ask for assistance whenever required to find the most useful resources for your course and use them correctly.

Tutorials are available on time management, essay writing, exam revision and techniques. Please see the LRC page on Moodle for details.

HE students have the following LRC privileges:

- up to 8 books are allowed to be taken out at one time
- clearly marked dedicated HE resources
- free British Library inter library loans
- a dedicated HE Study Room with PCs for HE student use only.


Logging into College PCs


When logging into college PCs your username is your ID number, your first password is College50.


Username: **4000001**

Password: **College50**

The first time you login you will be prompted to choose a new password, your new password must be at least 8 characters long, contain at least one capital letter and one number.

 Example: **Ux14**
(This is less than 7 characters)

 Example: **uxbridge**
(This does not contain a number or capital letter)

 Example: **Uxbridge14**

Logging into Chromebooks and Google Apps

Google Docs is the standard way to create and store documents at Uxbridge College. Your Uxbridge College Google account gives you unlimited storage for the duration of your study programme. When the time comes to graduate you can take your Google account with you!



Google Apps includes Google Drive, this App allows you to create and store documents in the cloud, providing you with unlimited free storage. Creating and storing documents within Google Drive means you never have to use a memory stick again!

Why Google Apps are used by hundreds of local employers including Transport for London, Waitrose and [millions worldwide!](#) **Google** **Apps?**

When logging into Google Apps and Chromebooks your username is your college email address (IDnumber@uxbridge.ac.uk), your password is the same as you use for college PCs

Username: **40000001@uxbridge.ac.uk**
Password: **College50**

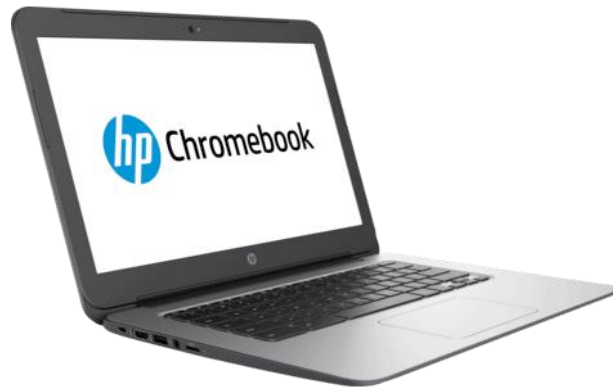
It is recommended that all students download the Google Drive App to access their college documents on the go.

Download here - <https://www.google.com/drive/download/>

You can access your college Google Apps via My Uxbridge, your homepage or by heading to [Google.com](https://www.google.com), clicking 'Sign In', then entering your college email address and network password.

Your college Google Apps account also includes access to your college email account.

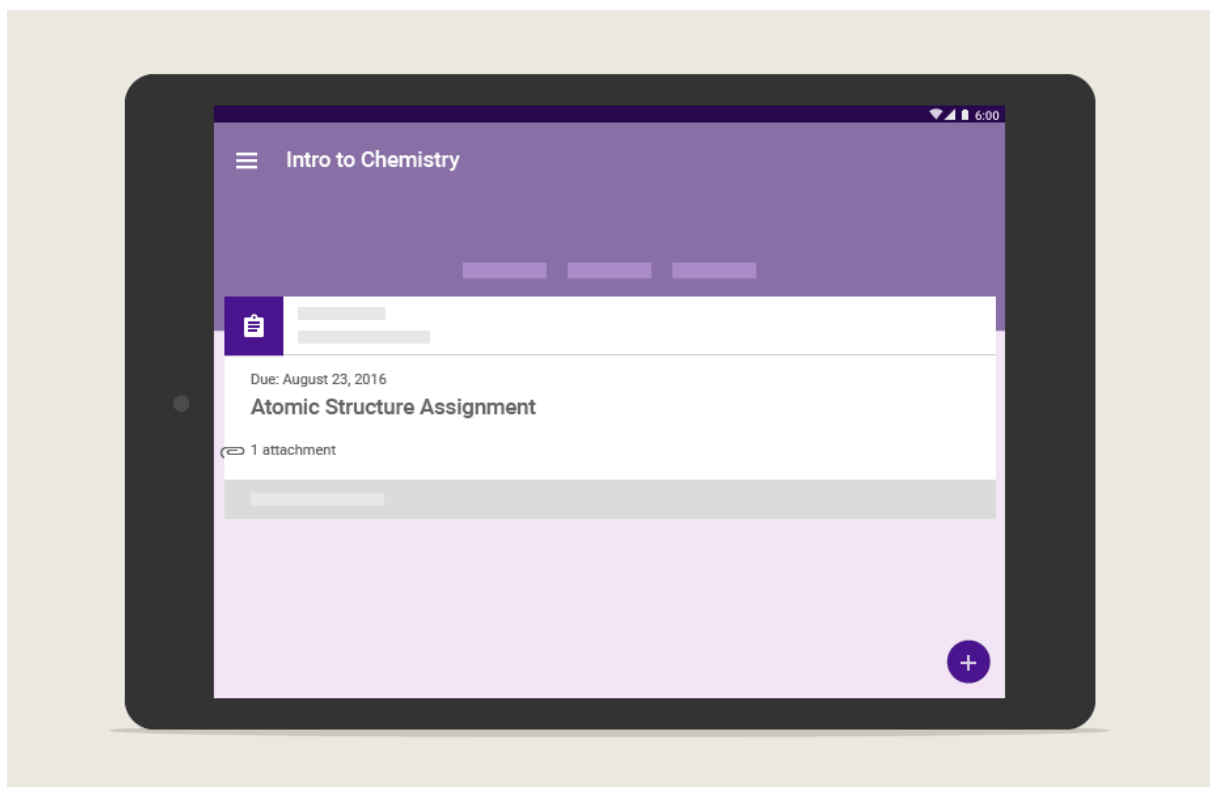
Throughout your study programme you will also have access to Chromebooks, laptops that allow you to directly access the web and your Google Docs. Chromebooks can be borrowed directly from the LRCs at Uxbridge and Hayes, and must be returned same day by 7pm.



For help and support with using Moodle or Google Apps, please contact the eLearning team on 01895 853522 (Monday to Friday 9am to 5pm).

Google Classroom and Moodle

Throughout your study programme your teacher will post information, updates and assignments online via Google Classroom.



It is recommended that all students download the Google Classroom App as this will be used extensively throughout your course, available here -

<https://support.google.com/edu/classroom/answer/6118412?hl=en>

Your lecturer may also post assignments via a system called Moodle, particularly if you are enrolled on a HND course. Moodle can be accessed by searching the web for 'Uxbridge College Moodle' or directly here - <http://vle.uxbridge.ac.uk/>

My Uxbridge

You can access your timetable, gradebook and attendance information from anywhere via the 'My Uxbridge' App.

7 - STUDENT SUPPORT

7.1 The Student Support Team

The Student Support Team is here to help you with any problem or difficulty that might be having an effect on your learning or success at College. We are not here to judge but to listen and help. The problem may not be directly linked to your studies to have an effect on your happiness or success at College, for example:

- Financial support such as bursaries and accessing the hardship funds
- Travel and transport i.e. applying for Oyster cards
- Difficulties with your course and workload
- Personal and relationship difficulties
- Health, including diet, smoking cessation and sexual health
- Support is offered to all students who get into trouble and reach Stage 3 of the College's Disciplinary process.

We offer the highest standards of confidentiality, however sometimes we may have to break this if we feel that you or others are at risk, but we will keep you informed if this is the case.

We have external agencies that we may refer you to if required e.g. counselling or support agencies.

The Student Support Officers can be found in Student Support on both campuses – off the Mall in Uxbridge and in the Student Lounge next to the Refectory in Hayes. They can be contacted on 01895 853380.

7.2 Financial Support

Resolving your worries and leaving you free to concentrate on your studies is something that Uxbridge College will endeavour to assist you with. Specialist advisers can help you to deal with issues such as housing, finance, childcare, student grants and benefits or other concerns. For students who are experiencing financial difficulties, assistance towards course costs may be available.

7.3 Careers Guidance

Uxbridge College is committed to helping individuals achieve their full potential.

We provide student-centred and impartial information, advice and guidance (IAG) to all learners at the College who want to find out more about their career options or continuing education.

The service offers advice and support to help you to:

- Financial support such as bursaries and accessing the hardship funds
- Travel and transport i.e. applying for Oyster cards
- Difficulties with your course and workload
- Personal and relationship difficulties.

You can access the services in a number of ways:

- 1) Drop in to the Information Centre, near main reception, between 10:00am-5:00pm
- 2) Ring the IAG team on 01895 853309
- 3) E-mail you questions or request an appointment to careersteam@uxbridgecollege.ac.uk
- 4) Online services via Moodle.

College Learning Resource Centres hold a range of careers-related resources which can support your progression.

7.4 Events, Activities & Facilities

HE Lounge

There is a room exclusively for the use of HE students located in The Mall on Uxbridge Campus.

Sports

We have a range of sporting activities available to everyone in the College including Football, Basketball, Badminton, Netball, Cricket and much more. Look out for the activities schedule advertised around the College or pop into Student Support to ask. Also, the More Energy fitness gym offers discounts for students.

Health and Fitness Facilities

There are More Energy Fitness Centres at both the Uxbridge and Hayes campuses. A special reduced membership rate is available for students. Facilities include multi-gyms with machine weights, Olympic weights, rowers, steppers and treadmills. Fitness classes are available at the Hayes Campus.

OPENING TIMES

Hayes Campus Monday to Friday 7.00am – 5.00pm

Uxbridge Campus 8.00am – 5.00pm*

*usage may be restricted at times.

For more information, please call **01895 853753** or visit www.more-energy.co.uk

Distinction Hair & Beauty Salons – Hayes Campus

Come along to have your hair done or for beauty treatments provided by our students. They offer top quality treatments at amazing value, in our professional standard salons and are fully supervised.

To book an appointment call 01895 853666.

Revisco Restaurant

Our catering students produce and serve great quality food, at fantastic prices, in our bistro-style training restaurant at Hayes. Open for lunch Tuesday to Friday between 12-2pm (during term time) and for occasional gourmet evenings.

For menus or to book a table please call 01895 853730.

Refectories

Both campuses have a refectory, open from breakfast to dinner, offering a wide selection of reasonably priced daily specials, cooked meals, sandwiches, snacks, and drinks to suit every taste.

Car parking

The College has limited parking on both sites and parking permits are available to purchase when you enrol.

8- DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURE

In the unfortunate event of a student not complying with the rules and regulations set out in this handbook, disciplinary action will take place. In summary the procedure is as follows:

The formal stages are:

- **Stage 1 – First Written Warning** - Course Team Leader / Section Manager (chairperson) - Academic Tutor (presenting person) - Attendance Co-ordinator.

An agreed plan for improvement and realistic deadlines are set and if the deadlines / targets are not met the student will be moved to:

- **Stage 2 – Second Written Warning** - Section Manager /Head of School (chairperson) - Course Team Leader / Section Manager (presenting person) - Attendance Co-ordinator.

If the targets agreed at stage 2 are not met, then:

- **Stage 3 – Formal Disciplinary Hearing** - Curriculum Director (chairperson) - Student Support Manager (or other nominated officer).

Prior to the disciplinary hearing the Student Support Manager will ensure the student:

- is given written notice of the hearing date and time
- is informed of the date at least five working days in advance
- is notified of his/her right to bring a parent or other appropriate adult
- is informed of his/her right to call witnesses
- has a copy of all documents which the panel intends to consider

For Stage 3 disciplinary hearings and appeals, students under the age of 19 are expected to be accompanied by their parent(s) or appropriate adult (e.g. carer or guardian).

Possible outcomes of stage 3 disciplinary hearings:

- no further action
- written warning
- final written warning
- exclusion.
- **Stage 4 – Appeal**- Principal or Vice Principal (chairperson).

If the student fails to attend a disciplinary hearing or an appeal hearing, a decision will be made in his/her absence. The student will be notified within 5 working days of the hearing.

ALL DISCIPLINARY HEARINGS WILL BE CONDUCTED FAIRLY AND WILL SEEK TO ESTABLISH THE TRUTH.

APPENDIX 1 – STUDY GUIDE

A) How to Write Essays

Writing an essay is important for you for a number of reasons:

1. It gives you the chance to research a project in depth
2. It helps you to focus your thinking on a topic.

The plan

A plan is essential for good essay writing. The type of plan and the amount of detail you include is your personal choice. The plan is important because:

- your ideas and resources are brought together and displayed before you
- your plan gives an outline and shape to your essay
- you can establish a line of argument in the plan
- your plan can prevent errors, repetition and unnecessary waffle
- using a plan enables you to produce your essay much quicker
- with a plan, you can concentrate on expressing ideas and writing with confidence, before committing yourself to the final details.

Points to consider in the plan:

1. use plenty of space - it will be easier to read follow and add to
2. plan in pencil with a rubber - you can then rearrange and correct
3. leave a margin - still more notes can be added
4. analyse the questions - this leads to a line of argument
5. state the line of argument - this gives a direction to the essay and helps with the introduction
6. separate out the main idea or areas of knowledge and make them subheadings - they may provide paragraphs
7. fill in any facts, figures, quotations, comments, ideas which fit subheadings - these form main body of essay
8. keep your notes at hand - you need them to look up details
9. use text books - to check notes and to get extra information.

The introduction

The introduction introduces the essay or argument. It should be a statement of intent, wherein you say how you are going to proceed. It is important to you, the writer, because it gives direction. It is also important to the reader and for the impression it first gives.

The introduction should give the following information:

1. an assessment of the topic – to show that you are aware of what you are going to discuss
2. a line of argument, theme or idea – outline how you intend to proceed
3. a transition to the start of the argument – smoothly linked to the first paragraph.

- Do not use your best or most important points in the introduction
- Do not start with an answer to the question.

You might also consider writing your introduction to a pattern, for example, about two sentences for each of the three points suggested above.

Structuring the essay

To begin with you must think in paragraphs. Some people suggest the six paragraph rule – that you should be able to find six areas to discuss (this can be expanded to seven, eight etc. depending on required length of the essay).

Selecting information

You should have at your disposal more facts and knowledge than you need to answer any particular essay. It is important to be selective, and to use only relevant information. A few things can help:

1. reading/lots of research
2. discussing ideas and points with others
3. thinking and note-taking as ideas come to you.

For each piece of information, you choose to use, you must be sure why you are using it.

Logical argument

Information must be used in a logical way. Every idea, comment and observation must be supported by evidence (facts or reasons). Giving reasons and evidence leads to building up a logical argument. Where there are opposing pieces of information or a conflict of view, express them both. It is your duty to do justice to all sides of the argument.

B) General Presentation

All work must be submitted with a cover sheet. Ensure that each assignment is submitted in a transparent protective cover for marking. Do not insert each page of the essay in a plastic pocket. For final presentation of all coursework in a file at the end of your programme of study – all assignments should then be hole punched and separated by clearly labelled dividers.

Typing - all essays should be word-processed. Word-process on one side of A4 paper only. Always prepare two copies – keeping one for yourself in hard copy as well as electronically.

Sequence - the essay should have a cover sheet, main body of writing which should include an introduction, argument/discussion, conclusion, appendices (extra things and illustrations) and a reference list/ bibliography.

Pagination - page numbers should begin on the first page (not cover sheet) of the text, following the preface (if used) and continue to the end of the work. They should be placed at the bottom of the page.

Headings - section and chapter headings (in bold text) should always begin on a new page – you can use subheadings to introduce new topics and these should also be identified in bold text. Subsections should be differentiated from the main text by using extra spacing.

Illustrations - must be captioned and numbered. They may be placed throughout the text or placed at the end of the essay. They must be good quality and they should be preferably scanned in to your essay, but if that is not possible then they must be good photocopies, neatly trimmed and spray mounted. A list of illustrations must be included with your work with references to source.

C) Referencing Your Reading – Reference Lists & Bibliographies:

What's the difference between a reference list and a bibliography?

The reference list is used to cite all the items you have made direct reference to in your text (by the author's name and year of publication). The list is organised alphabetically by the names of the authors (or originators) of the work.

During the course of your reading you may have used material for extending your knowledge of the subject, but from which you do not make specific reference.

A bibliography lists all these items, again alphabetically by author. This is generally included after the reference list. Both may also contain research evidence taken from electronic material such as the Internet.

(the above paragraph is taken from: Bucks and Chilterns University handbook (2006) who acknowledge Learning Resources Services, University of Northampton).

Where do you put it?

The reference list and bibliography should come at the very end of the essay. Essays without references and bibliographies will be considered incomplete, and in some cases will not be marked. The reason for the harsh stance is because of the danger of PLAGIARISM (see section 4 Part K) Academic malpractice.

All essays must include a bibliography as well as a reference list.

How do you compile them?

Keep a list of the full bibliographical details of every work consulted during your research. Prepare a notebook in alphabetical order so that you can add new items without any trouble. Make a note of which you have directly used in your text and those you have not so that you can separate them later.

The Harvard Method

The preferred system for referencing is the Harvard Method which is thought to be more student friendly. The Harvard Method is sometimes known as the "author/date" system. In it a work is referred to by its author's name, year of publication and page number in the text in brackets, while its full reference appears only once in a reference list or bibliography at the end of the essay. The need for footnotes is therefore not necessary.

EXAMPLE

Bayley, S, (1991) *Taste*, London, Faber and Faber

Note: Book or journal titles should be underlined or italicised.

The order is: Author, surname/first name, date, title, place, publisher.

Periodical entry:

Periodical entries must give exact references to journal issue numbers and page numbers.

Jones, Lynn (1987) "Literature Review" in *British Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 50, 9 September, 308

If more than one book by an author appears in the bibliography these should be listed in order of publication (earliest first).

Citation of electronic sources – the Internet

The most important thing to remember when using any electronic source is that it is ephemeral by nature. That means that the source may not be there when a revisit is made. The date is therefore necessary at the end of the citation. These can be placed alongside your book lists.

EXAMPLE

References:

Bayley, S, (1991) *Taste*, London, Faber and Faber

Lifelong Learning Uk. (2008) *New Overarching Professional Standards for Teachers, Tutors and Trainers in the Lifelong Learning Sector*. [Online]

Available

from:<http://www.standardsverificationuk.org/documents/professional_standards_for_itss_020107.pdf> [accessed 4th October 2008].

Bibliography:

Keeley-Browne, L (2007) *Training to Teach in the Learning and Skills Sector*, Harlow, Essex, Pearson Education Ltd.

APPENDIX 2 – EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES APPLICATION FORM

*Please complete this form (in full) and return it to the School Office together with any supporting evidence **within 5 working days** of the event for which the extenuating circumstances are claimed. Forms returned after this deadline will only be considered at the discretion of the Head of School under exceptional circumstances.*

Student Name:..... Student Ref:
Programme of Study: Year:

Assignment/assessment (s) affected by claimed extenuating circumstances

Unit Number	Unit Title	Tutor	Assignment / Assessment Title	Deadline
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Reason for the claimed extenuating circumstances

(Please give a brief overview of the reasons – further detail can be appended on a separate sheet if necessary)

.....
.....
.....

Additional evidence supplied

(e.g.: medical certificate, solicitor’s letter, copy of death certificate, police report)

.....
.....
.....

Please note: It is the responsibility of the student to ensure that all documentation to support their claim is attached to this application form.

Student Name: Student Signature:

Please tear off this strip and return to the student

Student Name: Assignment/Assessment:

Date Application Received:

School Representative Name: Tutor Name and Signature.....

APPENDIX 3 – GLOSSARY

Glossary of terms used for assignments. This is a summary of the key terms used to define the requirements within units.

Analyse	Present the outcome of methodical and detailed examination either: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● breaking down a theme, topic or situation in order to interpret and study the interrelationships between the parts and/or● of information or data to interpret and study key trends and interrelationships. Analysis can be through activity, practice, written or verbal presentation
Apply	Put into operation or use. Use relevant skills/knowledge/understanding appropriate to context
Arrange	Organise or make plans
Assess	Offer a reasoned judgement of the standard/quality of a situation or a skill informed by relevant facts
Calculate	Generate a numerical answer with workings shown
Compare	Identify the main factors relating to two or more items/situations or aspects of a subject that is extended to explain the similarities, differences, advantages and disadvantages. This is used to show depth of knowledge through selection of characteristics
Compose	Create or make up or form
Communicate	Convey ideas or information to others
Create/construct	Skills to make or do something, for example, a display or set of accounts
Critically analyse	Separate information into components and identify characteristics with depth to the justification

Critically evaluate	Make a judgement taking into account different factors and using available knowledge/experience/evidence where the judgement is supported in depth
Define	State the nature, scope or meaning
Describe	Give an account, including all the relevant characteristics, qualities and events
Discuss	Consider different aspects of a theme or topic, how they interrelate, and the extent to which they are important
Demonstrate	Show knowledge and understanding
Design	Plan and present ideas to show the layout/function/workings/object/system/process
Develop	Grow or progress a plan, ideas, skills and understanding
Differentiate	Recognise or determine what makes something different
Discuss	Give an account that addresses a range of ideas and arguments
Evaluate	Work draws on varied information, themes or concepts to consider aspects, such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● strengths or weaknesses ● advantages or disadvantages ● alternative actions ● relevance or significance. Students' inquiries should lead to a supported judgement showing relationship to its context. This will often be in a conclusion. Evidence will often be written but could be through presentation or activity
Explain	To give an account of the purposes or reasons
Explore	Skills and/or knowledge involving practical research or testing
Identify	Indicate the main features or purpose of something by recognising it and/or being able to discern and understand facts or qualities
Illustrate	Make clear by using examples or provide diagrams
Indicate	Point out, show
Interpret	State the meaning, purpose or qualities of something through the use of images, words or other expression
Investigate	Conduct an inquiry or study into something to discover and examine facts and information
Justify	Learners give reasons or evidence to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● support an opinion ● prove something is right or reasonable
Outline	Set out the main points/characteristics
Plan	Consider, set out and communicate what is to be done
Produce	To bring into existence
Reconstruct	To assemble again/reorganise/form an impression
Report	Adhere to protocols, codes and conventions where findings or judgements are set down in an objective way
Review	Make a formal assessment of work produced. The assessment allows learners to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● appraise existing information or prior events

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● reconsider information with the intention of making changes, if necessary.
Show how	Demonstrate the application of certain methods/theories/concepts
Stage and manage	Organisation and management skills, for example, running an event or a business pitch
State	Express
Suggest	Give possible alternatives, produce an idea, put forward, for example, an idea or plan, for consideration
Undertake/carry out	Use a range of skills to perform a task, research or activity. This is the summary of the type of evidence you may be asked to produce
Case study	A specific example to which all students must select and apply knowledge
Project	A large scale activity requiring self-direction of selection of outcome, planning, research, exploration, outcome and review
Independent research	An analysis of substantive research organised by the student from secondary sources and, if applicable, primary sources
Written task or report	Individual completion of a task in a work-related format, for example, a report, marketing communication, set of instructions, giving information
Simulated activity/role play	A multi-faceted activity mimicking realistic work situations
Team task	Students work together to show skills in defining and structuring activity as a team
Presentation	Oral or through demonstration
Production of plan/business plan	Students produce a plan as an outcome related to a given or limited task
Reflective journal	Completion of a journal from work experience, detailing skills acquired for employability
Poster/leaflet	Documents providing well-presented information for a given purpose