![SERC logo]

HIGHER EDUCATION PROSPECTUS 25-26

REAL LEARNING

In partnership with:

LIVERPOOL JOHN MOORES UNIVERSITY | Pearson | QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY BELFAST | The Open University | Ulster University

BANGOR | DOWNPATRICK | LISBURN | NEWTOWNARDS

CONTENTS

SPORT

WELCOME

Welcome to SERC's Higher Education prospectus where you will find a valuable range of learning and development opportunities. We are delighted that you are considering Higher Education at SERC. SERC's Higher Education courses have the same standard and the same academic rigour as universities.

In 2023-24, the achievement rate for our full-time HE students was more than 95%, rounding off a year of success for SERC students and staff. We are immensely proud of our learners and their achievements and celebrate their success every year at our graduation ceremony.

We are committed to delivering real learning for real life, working with partners in industry, education, business and government to create an experience which prepares our graduates for employment and for the challenges of the wider world. Browse our prospectus, explore our website and come and talk to us at an open evening to find out more about the real advantages of studying HE at SERC.

Tommy Martin
Principal and Chief Executive

HIGHER EDUCATION STUDY

WHAT WE OFFER

We offer degrees, foundation degrees, Higher National Diplomas (HNDs), Higher National Certificates (HNCs) and Higher Level Apprenticeships (HLAs).

SERC also provides postgraduate-level qualifications and professional development qualifications which are accredited by professional industry bodies. Achievement of these qualifications demonstrates a student's depth of knowledge and understanding of a subject as well as a commitment to succeed within the industry.

In addition, we deliver Level 7 qualifications with the Chartered Management Institute (CMI) and through City and Guilds.

ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

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My favourite part of my course is being able to work with the animals. The animal house in SERC Bangor Campus has a wide range of animals to work with, including guinea pigs, mice, quail, geckos, bearded dragons, salamanders, corn snakes, spiders, mantises, fish and axolotls.

99

Moxxie McCormick
Pearson BTEC HNC in Animal Management

OUR HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERS

- Liverpool John Moores University
- The Open University
- Queen's University Belfast
- Ulster University
- Pearson
- Accounting Technicians Ireland (ATI)
- Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI)
- Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD)
- Chartered Management Institute (CMI)
- Counselling and Psychotherapy Central Awarding Body (CPCAB)
- Open College Network Northern Ireland (OCNNI)
- Northern Council for Further Education (NCFE)
- Vocational Training Charitable Trust (VTCT)
- Chartered Institute of Export & International Trade

QUALIFICATIONS EXPLAINED

After Further Education or A-Levels, there are many Higher Education pathways and progression routes to further study or into employment. At SERC, you can access a variety of qualifications at different levels, all of which are recognised by employers and universities. You can also progress within SERC as the table on page 12 shows. You can click on the link below to find full details of the qualifications. Each course listing will include the relevant entry requirements specific to that course. In all cases certain GCSE grades may also be required. Industrial or other experience may also be acceptable as part of APL (Accreditation of Prior Learning process).

CLICK HERE

DEGREE
(Level 6)

This is a Higher Education qualification that helps you develop a true understanding of a subject. The qualification is designed to help you develop your analytical and writing skills, while developing technical skills for the world of employment. At SERC we offer both full-time and part-time degree options. We also offer a top-up degree option in specialist subject areas.

FOUNDATION DEGREE
(Level 5)

This is a Higher Education qualification that combines academic study with work-based learning. Designed jointly by universities, colleges and employers, foundation degrees are available in a range of subjects. They are designed to equip you for a particular area of work, as well as giving you the skills that are useful in any type of job. Following a foundation degree, you can progress to a relevant SERC top-up degree or university to achieve a degree qualification. Foundation degrees provide a clear progression route to a bachelor's degree programme, or into employment.

HIGHER NATIONAL DIPLOMA, HND
(Level 5)

A Higher National Diploma (HND) is a vocational qualification that provides students with practical skills and theoretical knowledge for a specific career. This is usually studied full-time over two years. You will complete an HNC in year one of the course. An HND can lead on to a degree programme or directly into employment.

HIGHER NATIONAL CERTIFICATE, HNC
(Level 4)

A Higher National Certificate (HNC) is a vocational qualification that prepares students for the workforce with practical skills and theoretical knowledge. HNCs are Level 4 qualifications and are usually completed in one year full-time or two years part-time. If you are already in employment, a part-time HNC develops the technical skills which you can put into practice in your current job. Higher National qualifications are highly valued by employers and can also count towards membership of professional bodies and other employer organisations. They focus on learning by doing, and give skills that you can use in a particular job as well as providing opportunities for progression.

PROGRESSION CHART

	Full Time / Part Time Options	Employer Based Options	Typical Entry Requirements
LEVEL 6	• Degree • 1 year Top-Up Degree* • Professional Qualifications	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)	Level 3 qualification (B-TEC, A-levels) * Level 5 qualification (HND, Foundation Degree)
LEVEL 5 Progression Opportunities to Level 6	• Higher National Diploma • Foundation Degree • Professional Qualifications	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)	Level 4 or relevant level 3 qualification
LEVEL 4 Progression Opportunities to Level 5 and 6	• Higher National Certificate • Professional Qualifications	Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA)	Level 3 qualification (BTEC, A-Levels)

PROGRESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION (LEVEL 4 OR ABOVE)

Restart	Vocational Route	Academic Route	Training Route
Access Diploma	Advanced Tech & Extended Diploma	A Levels	Apprenticeship

FURTHER EDUCATION (LEVEL 3 & BELOW)

STUDY TO SUIT YOUR LIFE

The SERC pathway to a Higher Education qualification can be taken full-time, part-time or a combination of both. Many courses allow you to move between the two patterns of study at the end of a year, enabling you to succeed whilst meeting other commitments.

PERFORMING ARTS

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If you have an interest in acting for theatre and screen, or the background and theory side of acting, then this course is for you. I'd absolutely recommend this course. SERC has made Higher Education feel comfortable and easy to do.

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Dylan Craig
Pearson BTEC HND in Performing Arts

FULL-TIME COURSES

You can apply for our HE full-time programmes directly through our website or via the UCAS website.

UCAS

SUBJECTS WE OFFER

- Animal Care
- Art & Design
- Bio Sciences
- Business & Management
- Computing/Software Engineering/Networking
- Construction Studies
- Early Years
- Health & Care

- Hospitality & Catering
- Engineering
- Media
- Motor Sport
- Music
- Performing Arts
- Sport & Recreation
- Travel & Tourism

🔍 **serc.ac.uk/full-time**

Click to view all Higher Education full-time courses

❝

I hated school, but since starting SERC I've begun to realise how much I love education. Graphic design has such a broad job market – different places require different design skills – and it's great that the HND course makes you well-rounded in all types of design areas, from motion graphics to illustration and even photography.

❞

Lauren Hegan
Pearson BTEC Level 5 HND in Graphic Design

GRAPHIC DESIGN

ANIMAL CARE

Code: 10994
Pearson BTEC HND in Animal Management
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

The qualifications aim to widen access to higher education and enhance the career prospects of those who undertake them. This course is designed to prepare students for a career in the animal industry or progression to related degree programmes, normally at second year of entry.

ART & DESIGN

Code: 11164
Pearson BTEC HNC in Fine Art
Bangor
Duration: 1 Year

This course will allow you to explore a diverse range of fine art topics and industries available, helping you to find your speciality and area of interest. It gives students with an enquiring creative mind the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to achieve high performance in the fine art environment.

Code: 11163
Pearson BTEC HNC in Graphic Design
Bangor
Duration: 1 Year

This course will allow you to explore a diverse range of graphic design topics and industries available, helping you to find your speciality and area of interest. It gives students with an enquiring creative mind the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to achieve high performance in the graphic design environment.

BIO SCIENCES

Code: 10612
Pearson BTEC HNC in Applied Sciences
Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Duration: 1 Year

The learning experience is a combination of laboratory based training, field work, theoretical knowledge and e-learning. The programme incorporates a number of talks by experts from the industry and includes visits to industries, university laboratories, hospital laboratories and conservation areas. This programme is delivered using a range of on-campus and online synchronous and asynchronous approaches.

BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

Code: 10806
BSc (Hons) Business Management (Validated by Liverpool John Moores University)
Bangor
Duration: 3 Years

As a Business Management student, you will become competent in:
- digital analytical expertise
- managing finance with appropriate tools
- understanding financial markets
- people management development
- marketing of products and services
- planning and project management delivery.

Business simulation tools are used in a number of core modules to replicate real-world work scenarios. Using various applications, students work in small groups and compete to develop the best business strategies for success including business growth, market dominance, ethical business and sustainability goals. Live business projects (with real organisations) allow students to put business theory into practice and help realise genuine business opportunities.

COMPUTING/SOFTWARE ENGINEERING/NETWORKING

Code: 11002
Foundation Degree in Cloud Computing Technologies (Validated by The Open University)
Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

As the cloud continues to ascend, reshaping the technological landscape, the demand for cloud computing experts is skyrocketing. From infrastructure as a service to software as a service, the cloud offers a world of possibilities, empowering businesses and individuals alike.

This course will serve as your cloud compass, guiding you through the vast expanse of cloud technologies and architectures. Explore the intricacies of virtualisation, scalability, and security, and become a master of the cloud. Cloud computing is a global phenomenon, connecting people and organisations across the digital sphere.

Code: 11004
BSc (Hons) in Cloud Computing Technologies (Validated by The Open University)
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 1 Year

This is a 1 year top-up honours degree in cloud computing technologies. Applicants must hold the foundation degree above or a level 5 in a computer related discipline for direct entry.

Code: 11001
Foundation Degree in Cyber Security and Digital Forensics (Validated by The Open University)
Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

From the mundane to the extraordinary, computer systems permeate every aspect of our lives. The demand for skilled IT professionals is skyrocketing and this course will introduce you to an array of IT topics and industries.

Code: 11003
BSc (Hons) in Cyber Security and Digital Forensics (Validated by The Open University)
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 1 Year

This is a 1 year top-up honours degree in cyber security and digital forensics. Applicants must hold the foundation degree above or a level 5 in a computer related discipline for direct entry.

Code: 10622
Pearson BTEC HND in Computing (Software and Games Development)
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

Are you ready to dive into a world of endless possibilities? The IT industry is booming, and the demand for skilled professionals has never been higher. From the latest gadgets to ground breaking innovations, technology is shaping our world in incredible ways.

This course will be your digital passport, granting you access to a vast array of IT topics and industries. Explore the cutting edge of technology, discover your passion, and become a key player in the digital revolution.

CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

Code: 11237
Pearson BTEC HND in Construction Management
Bangor
Duration: 2 Years

This programme will provide you with the skills to enable you to meet changing circumstances, whether these arise from a shift in your own sphere of employment, promotion to supervisory or management roles or from general changes in construction practices and the information technology environment.

Industry related projects will help develop skills like teamwork, planning, problem solving and communication, all of which you may need in the work place.

HNC/HND courses are well recognised by employers and they will see that you have the technical skills and knowledge to perform related roles within their business.

EARLY YEARS

Code: 10665
**Foundation Degree Early Childhood Studies
(Validated by Queen's University Belfast)**
Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

There is a huge demand for workers who are qualified at level 5 in the early years sector. The Early Childhood Studies programme focuses on the key theories, concepts and application of working practices with children in the age range 0 to 8 years. On this course you will develop many transferable practical and analytical skills which are valued highly by employers, including the ability to think and reflect critically about your work and the setting you work in. Our Early Childhood Studies Foundation Degree will give you the knowledge and skills that you need to work in a range of roles in the early years sector, including early years settings, primary schools, family support, social work, charities and healthcare settings and will allow for progression to the BA degree. Join us to become a skilled early years practitioner in this dynamic profession.

HEALTH & CARE

Code: 10637
Pearson BTEC HNC in Healthcare Practice
Lisburn & Newtownards
Duration: 1 Year

Are you passionate about caring for others, seeking career progression or looking for a practical and accessible way to enter or grow within the health care sector? By studying an HNC in Health Care Practice, you gain foundational knowledge and real-world skills, paving the way for a fulfilling and impactful career in areas like adult care, midwifery, mental health or community health. Healthcare roles are highly secure and well-regarded in society.

HOSPITALITY & CATERING

Code: 11051
Foundation Degree in Culinary Arts (Validated by The Open University)
Bangor
Duration: 2 Years

The culinary sector is a dynamic and diverse field that combines creativity, skill, and passion for food, offering numerous career opportunities ranging from cooking and baking to food management and entrepreneurship. An Open University culinary arts degree from SERC offers chefs a high-quality education, exposure to diverse cuisines, and invaluable hands-on experience.

With a fully accredited programme composed of contemporary and industry specific modules, both practical and theoretical, graduates will be well-prepared for the successful development of their careers in the industry.
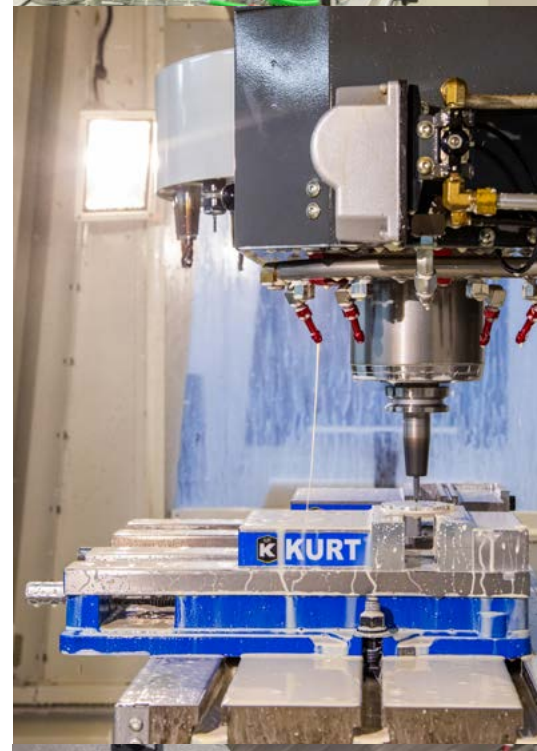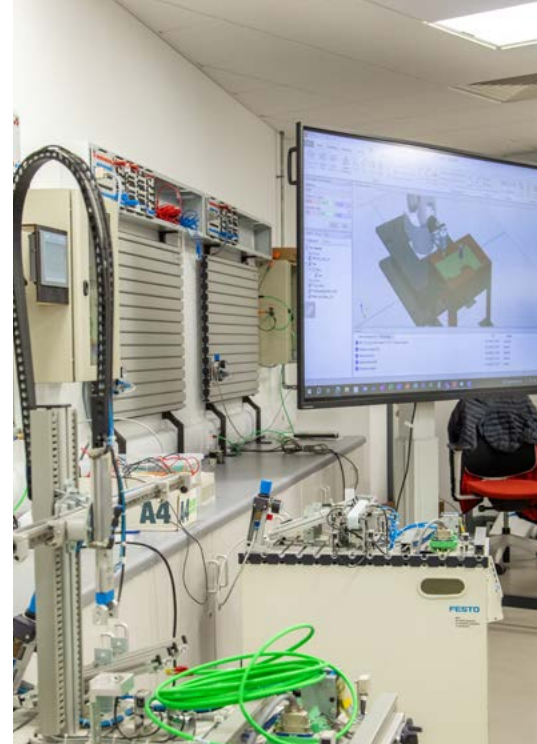
Code: 11206
Foundation Degree in Tourism, Hospitality & Event Management (Validated by Ulster University)
Bangor
Duration: 2 Years

The tourism, hospitality and events industry is a vibrant and evolving international sector which offers a multitude of career choices and global opportunities. This course will provide you with a fundamental understanding of tourism, hospitality and events and enable you to specialise in one or more of these component areas of this dynamic industry. You will be presented with opportunities to acquire and enhance academic, technical and meta-skills which will help you to successfully apply for relevant jobs within the tourism, hospitality & events industry.

MANUFACTURING & GENERAL ENGINEERING

Code: 10706
Foundation Degree in Mechatronic Engineering (Validated by Ulster University)
Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

Studying Mechatronics at Level 5 offers a broad and versatile foundation in engineering principles, making it an excellent choice for those looking to enter the engineering field or advance their careers. This program provides a comprehensive understanding of various engineering disciplines, with a slant towards manufacturing automation. It equips students with practical skills and theoretical knowledge that are highly valued by employers and opening up diverse career opportunities. Additionally, it serves as a stepping stone for further education, such as progressing to a Level 6 Bachelor's Degree in engineering.

Code: 10616
Pearson BTEC HNC in Engineering (General)
Bangor
Duration: 1 Year

Studying General Engineering at Level 4 offers a broad and versatile foundation in engineering principles, making it an excellent choice for those looking to enter the engineering field or advance their careers. This program provides a comprehensive understanding of various engineering disciplines, with a slant towards manufacturing automation. It equips students with practical skills and theoretical knowledge that are highly valued by employers, enhancing employability and opening up diverse career opportunities. Additionally, it serves as a stepping stone for further education, such as progressing to a Level 5 HND or a bachelor's degree in engineering.

MEDIA

Code: 10967
Pearson BTEC HNC in Film & Television Production
Bangor
Duration: 1 Year

This course will allow you to explore a diverse range of creative media topics and industries available, helping you to find your speciality and area of interest. It gives students with an enquiring creative mind the skills, knowledge and understanding they need to achieve high performance in the creative media environment.

MOTOR SPORT

Code: 11091
Foundation Degree in Motorsport Engineering (Validated by The Open University)
Bangor
Duration: 2 Years

On completion of the course it is envisaged that students will have acquired a high level of motorsport engineering skills and relevant industrial exposure to allow them to gain employment within the motorsport sector. The course allows you to develop an understanding of the relationship between key areas of motorsport technologies including engine technologies, chassis design, emerging technologies and sustainability issues. You will also develop skills to effectively plan, present and manage motorsport projects.

MUSIC

Code: 10625
Pearson BTEC HND in Music
Bangor
Duration: 2 Years

This course will provide you with a stimulating and challenging programme of study that will be both engaging and memorable, delivering the essential subject knowledge that you will need to progress successfully into further study or the world of work. You will undertake a substantial core of learning in the Higher National Certificate in year one, and can build on this in the Higher National Diploma, in year two with optional units linked to your specialist area of study. Content is continually refreshed so that it is closely aligned with professional body, employer and higher education needs. We provide a varied approach to assessment that supports progression and different learning styles. We deliver a qualification designed to meet the needs and expectations of students aspiring to work in an international music environment.

PERFORMING ARTS

Code: 10626
Pearson BTEC HND in Performing Arts
Bangor
Duration: 2 Years

This course will provide you with a stimulating and challenging programme of study that will be both engaging and memorable, delivering the essential subject knowledge that you will need to progress successfully into further study or the world of work. You will undertake a substantial core of learning in the Higher National Certificate in year one, and can build on this in the Higher National Diploma in year two with optional units linked to your specialist area of study. Content is continually refreshed so that it is closely aligned with professional body, employer and higher education needs. We provide a varied approach to assessment that supports progression, accommodating and enhancing different learning styles. We deliver a qualification designed to meet the needs and expectations of students aspiring to work in an international performing arts environment.

SPORT & RECREATION

Code: 10708
Foundation Degree in Sport, Coaching and Fitness (Validated by Ulster University)
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

The Foundation Degree in Sport, Coaching and Fitness provides learners with an opportunity to develop a diverse range of related skills through a breadth of core sporting modules. The course is a balance of theoretical and practical aspects allowing for the underpinning of established knowledge in an environment that promotes understanding in application.
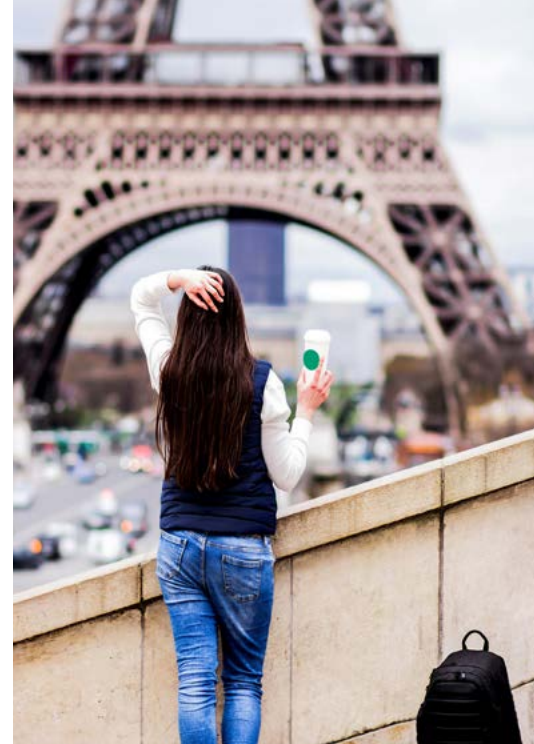
TRAVEL & TOURISM

Code: 10638
Pearson BTEC HNC in International Travel and Tourism Management
Lisburn
Duration: 1 Year

Studying travel and tourism offers a range of benefits and insights into a dynamic industry with travel and tourism being one of the largest sectors worldwide, contributing significantly to economies and job creation. it includes roles in hospitality, event planning, travel management, and destination marketing. This course allows students to investigate sustainable tourism practices and develop skills including customer service, problem-solving, marketing, and HR management.

"

The course is exciting, fascinating and the tutors are incredibly supportive. I have also made many friends while on this course. It feels like one big, amazing community.

"

Charmayne Gourley
Pearson BTEC HNC in Applied Sciences

PART-TIME COURSES

SUBJECTS WE OFFER

- Animal Care
- Beauty & Holistic Therapies
- Bio Sciences
- Business & Management
- Computing/Software Engineering/Networking
- Construction Studies
- Early Years
- Health & Care
- Hospitality & Catering
- Manufacturing & General Engineering

serc.ac.uk/part-time

Click to view all Higher Education Part-Time courses

ANIMAL CARE

Code: 10811
Pearson BTEC HNC in Animal Management
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

BEAUTY & HOLISTIC THERAPIES

Code: 10807
VTCT (ITEC) Level 4 Diploma in Spa and Salon Management
Downpatrick
Duration: 1 Year

Code: 10722
VTCT Level 4 Certificate in Sports Massage Therapy
Lisburn
Duration: 1 Year

Code: 10724
VTCT Level 4 Diploma in Aromatherapy for the Complementary Therapist
Lisburn
Duration: TBC

Code: 10725
VTCT Level 4 Diploma in Reflexology for the Complementary Therapist
Lisburn
Duration: 1 Year

Code: 10726
VTCT Level 5 Certificate in Sports Massage Therapy
Lisburn
Duration: 1 Year

BIO SCIENCES

Code: 10612
Pearson BTEC HNC in Applied Sciences
Bangor, Downpatrick & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

Code: 10036
ATI Level 4 Certificate for Accounting Technicians
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 1 Year

Code: 10037
ATI Level 5 Diploma for Accounting Technicians
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 1 Year

Code: 10806
BSc (Hons) Business Management (Validated by Liverpool John Moores University)
Online
Duration: 5 Years

Code: 10924
CIPD Level 5 Associate Diploma in People Management
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 1 Year

Code: 10855
Management Development Programme (MDP)
Online
Duration: ?

COMPUTING/SOFTWARE ENGINEERING/NETWORKING

Code: 11004
BSc (Hons) in Cloud Computing Technologies (Validated by The Open University)
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

Code: 11003
BSc (Hons) in Cyber Security and Digital Forensics (Validated by The Open University)
Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

Code: 11002
Foundation Degree in Cloud Computing Technologies (Validated by The Open University)
Bangor
Duration: 3 Years

Code: 11001
Foundation Degree in Cyber Security and Digital Forensics (Validated by The Open University)
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 3 Years

Code: 10634
Pearson BTEC HNC in Computing
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

Code: 10614
Pearson BTEC HNC in Building Services Engineering
Bangor
Duration: 2 Years

Code: 10635
Pearson BTEC HNC in Civil Engineering
Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

Code: 10613
Pearson BTEC HNC in Construction Management
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

EARLY YEARS

Code: 10073
CACHE Level 5 Diploma in Leadership for Children's Care, Learning and Development (Management)
Downpatrick
Duration: 2 Years

Code: 10665
Foundation Degree in Early Childhood Studies (Validated by Queens University Belfast)
Newtownards
Duration: 3 Years

HEALTH & CARE

Code: 10126
CPCAB Level 4 Diploma In Therapeutic Counselling
Newtownards
Duration: 2 Years

Code: 10941
Foundation Degree in Integrative Counselling Practice (Validated by Ulster University)
Lisburn
Duration: 3 Years

Code: 10937
Level 4 Certificate in Counselling Skills (Validated by Ulster University)
Lisburn
Duration: 1 Year

Code: 10642
NCFE CACHE Level 5 Diploma in Leadership for Health and Social Care Services (Northern Ireland)
Downpatrick
Duration: 2 Years

Code: 10639
Pearson BTEC HNC in Social and Community Work (Social and Community Work Practice)
Newtownards
Duration: 2 Years

Code: 10637
Pearson BTEC HNC in Healthcare Practice
Newtownards
Duration: ?

HOSPITALITY & CATERING

Code: 11051
Foundation Degree in Culinary Arts (Validated by The Open University)
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 3 Years

MANUFACTURING & GENERAL ENGINEERING

Code: 10616
Pearson BTEC HNC in Engineering (General)
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

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With a good balance of practicality, research and learning, I feel as though the course topics have well prepared me, not only for my next steps onto university, but also for the line of work I wish to enter.

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Chloë Winter
Foundation Degree in Sport, Coaching and Fitness (Validated by Ulster University)
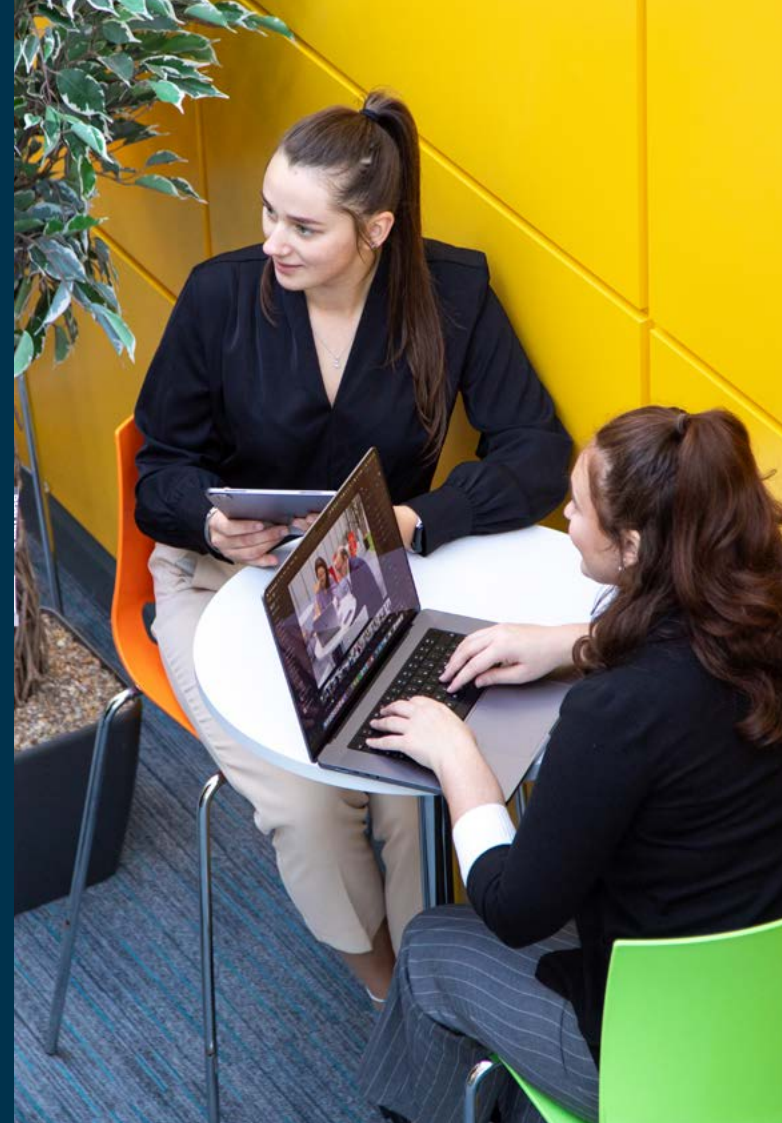
HIGHER LEVEL APPRENTICESHIPS COURSES

SUBJECTS WE OFFER

- Business & Management
- Computing/Software Engineering/Networking
- Construction Studies
- Early Years
- Health & Care
- Hospitality & Catering
- Manufacturing & General Engineering

🔍 **serc.ac.uk/apprenticeships**

Click to view all Higher Level Apprenticeship courses

WHAT IS A HIGHER LEVEL APPRENTICESHIP (HLA)

A Higher Level Apprenticeship (HLA) lets you earn while you learn, gaining accredited qualifications whilst developing skills sought by employers and relevant to the local economy. They provide an opportunity for new and existing employees to take their studies to a higher level while working in their chosen field.

BENEFITS OF AN HLA

Earn while you learn: you are employed and paid at least the minimum wage

Qualifications without tuition fees, so no student loan

Apply your learning directly in the workplace

A clear pathway for career progression

Mentoring to support you throughout your HE programme

ELIGIBILITY

You need to be employed, or about to take up employment, with a Northern Ireland-based company

Working a minimum of 21 hours per week (including time spent in "off-the-job" training)

Individual entry requirements will depend on the apprenticeship chosen

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>
> I never thought I would be able to reach this level in my education. What I've accomplished since I started SERC has been amazing.
>
> 99
>
> **Gemma Diamond**
> Foundation Degree in Culinary Arts (Validated by The Open University)

CULINARY ARTS

BUSINESS & MANAGEMENT

Code: 10186
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Accounting Technicians Level 5
Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

COMPUTING/SOFTWARE ENGINEERING/NETWORKING

Code: 11069
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Cyber Security and Digital Forensics
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 3 Years

CONSTRUCTION STUDIES

Code: 10190
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Building Services Engineering (HVAC)
Bangor
Duration: 2 Years

Code: 10975
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Civil Engineering
Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

Code: 10191
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Construction Management
Bangor & Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

EARLY YEARS

Code: 10195
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Leadership for Children's Care Learning and Development (Management)
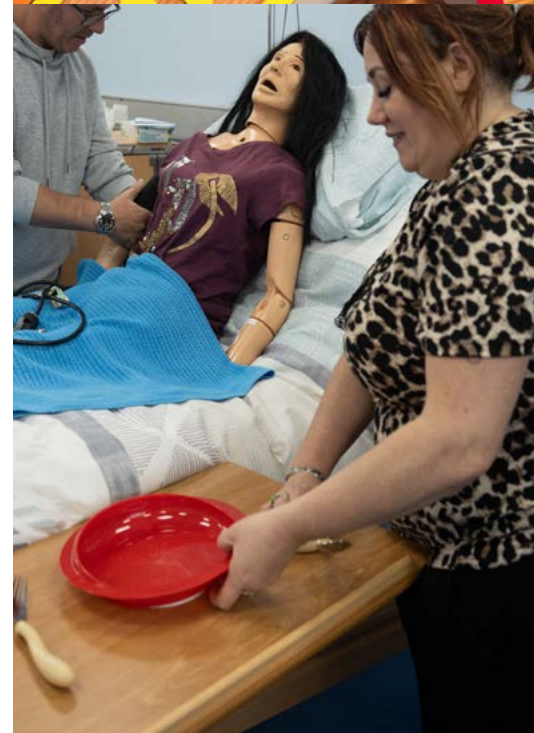**Downpatrick**
Duration: 2 Years

HEALTH & CARE

Code: 10193
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Health and Social Care
Downpatrick, Lisburn & Newtownards
Duration: 2 Years

HOSPITALITY & CATERING

Code: 11052
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Culinary Arts
Bangor & Downpatrick
Duration: 1 Year, 2 Years & 3 Years

Code: 11207
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Tourism, Hospitality & Event Management
Bangor
Duration: 3 Years

MANUFACTURING & GENERAL ENGINEERING

Code: 11056
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Advanced Technician Mechanical & Manufacturing (General)
Lisburn
Duration: 2 Years

Code: 11146
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Industry 4.0 Manufacturing (Validated by The Open University)
Bangor
Duration: 3 Years

Code: 10196
Higher Level Apprenticeship in Mechatronics
Bangor & Lisburn
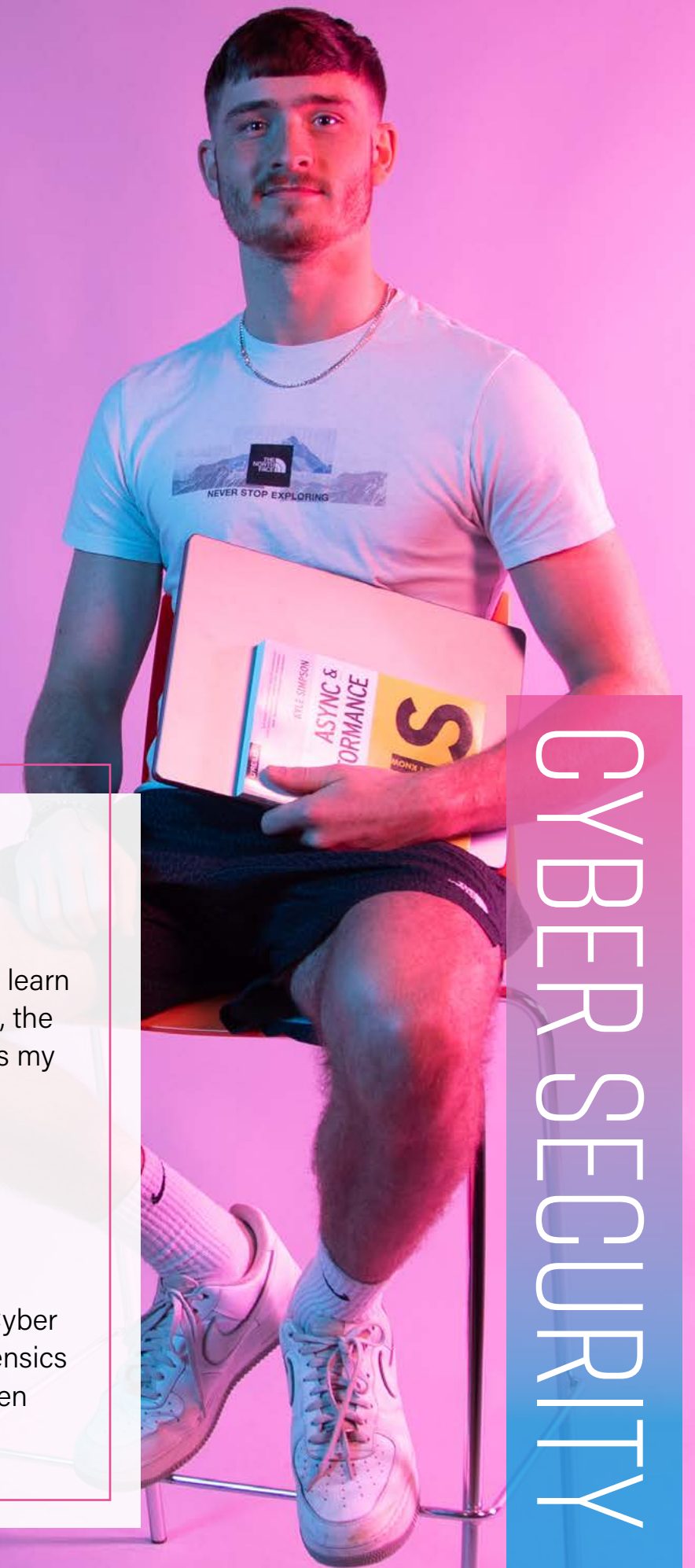**Duration: 1 Year & 3 Years**

> 66
>
> There's so much you can learn and do with this course, the network security topic is my favourite.
>
> 99
>
> **Oskar Dudgeon**
> Foundation Degree in Cyber Security and Digital Forensics (Validated by The Open University)

CYBER SECURITY

WHY

STUDY AT SERC?

>>> >>>>>>

INDUSTRY 4.0

> **"**
>
> My favourite part of the course is writing the code, but I'm embracing and enjoying the other parts of the course too, which cover learning about pneumatics, electronics and blueprints.
>
> **"**
>
> **Ryan Boyd**
> Foundation Degree in Industry 4.0 (Validated by The Open University)

WHY SERC?

The Student Experience
Higher Education at SERC is a different route to your destination.

Our courses lead to recognised, respected qualifications and offer progression to employment or to the next stage of education.

SERC offers courses validated by Liverpool John Moores University, The Open University, Queen's University Belfast, Ulster University and awarding bodies such as Pearson and VTCT. We work in small classes or in workshops, more personalised support!

Study closer to home, with lower fees than a university course – see course details for information on fees and charges. **Click here to visit the student finance page**

Learning is rooted in meeting practical challenges and working on projects to develop teamwork and self-management skills. Courses include work placements, and in some cases offer work experience abroad. **Click here to visit the international page**

We have industry-experienced, qualified tutors and state-of-the-art facilities.

CELEBRATE SUCCESS

Every year, Higher Education students from SERC celebrate their efforts and academic achievements at the college's annual graduation ceremony. Family, friends and SERC staff gather to honour the graduates' attainments in degrees, foundation degrees, higher national qualifications, and professional development courses.

The event is always special, with guest speakers, music and refreshments. Higher Education Excellence Awards are presented to those who have shone especially brightly during their time at SERC.

Click link below to watch the video of the 2024 event at the Waterfront Hall, Belfast.

CLICK HERE

JOIN A WINNING TEAM

SERC consistently scores highly
above the UK benchmark
in the National Student Survey.

In **2023-24** the achievement rate for full-time HE students at SERC was
more than 95%

In **2023-24** most of our full-time HE students
achieved higher grades
on their qualifications, including merits, commendations, distinctions, 2:1 and first-class honours degrees.

REAL SKILLS FOR REAL LIFE

At SERC we know it is important to educate the whole person, which means we don't just deliver paper qualifications, we develop rounded individuals with the personal and interpersonal skills needed to navigate life. We know, too, that these skills are valued by employers.

Transversal skills (T-skills) and Meta-skills (M-skills) are behaviours and competencies which underpin the learning of other skills and knowledge. They include critical thinking, team work, creativity, problem-solving, time management and learning skills.

SERC puts these at the centre of the educational experience to build confidence and prepare our students for the challenges of modern life and work.
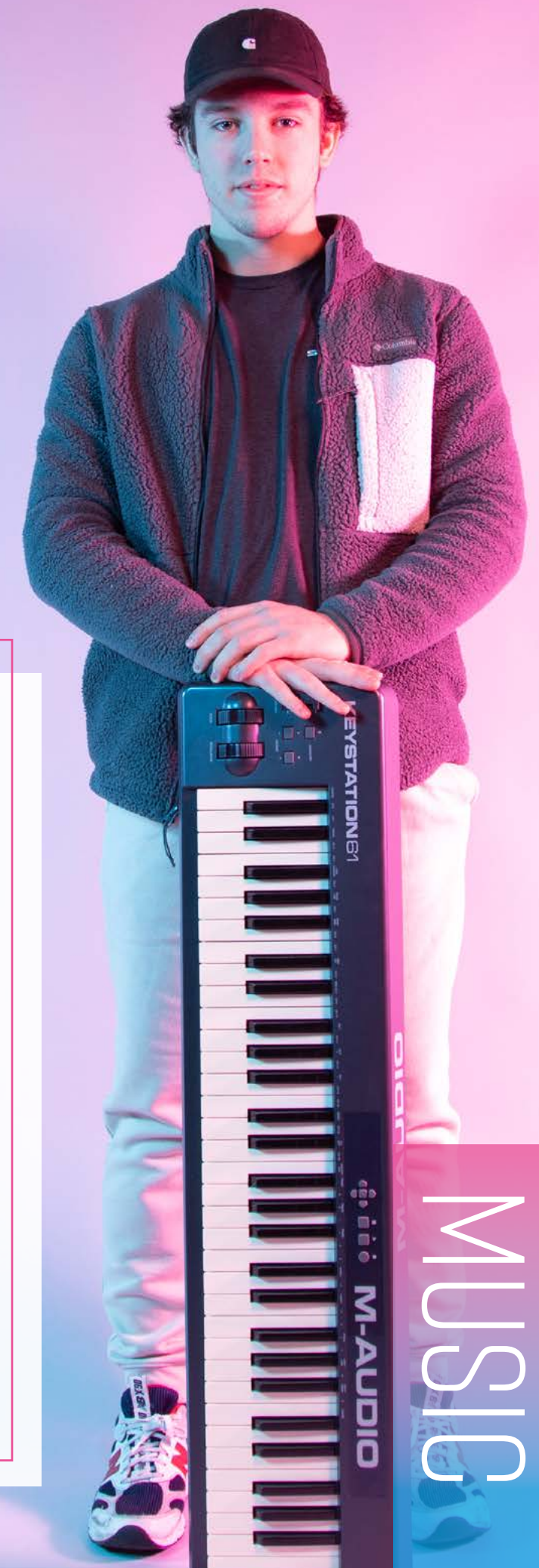
> The people really make the course, especially with a subject like music where we need to work together on certain projects; it's a great environment for teamwork. The building we learn in, SERC SPACE Bangor Campus, gives us so much room for creativity, especially with all the modern equipment available to us.
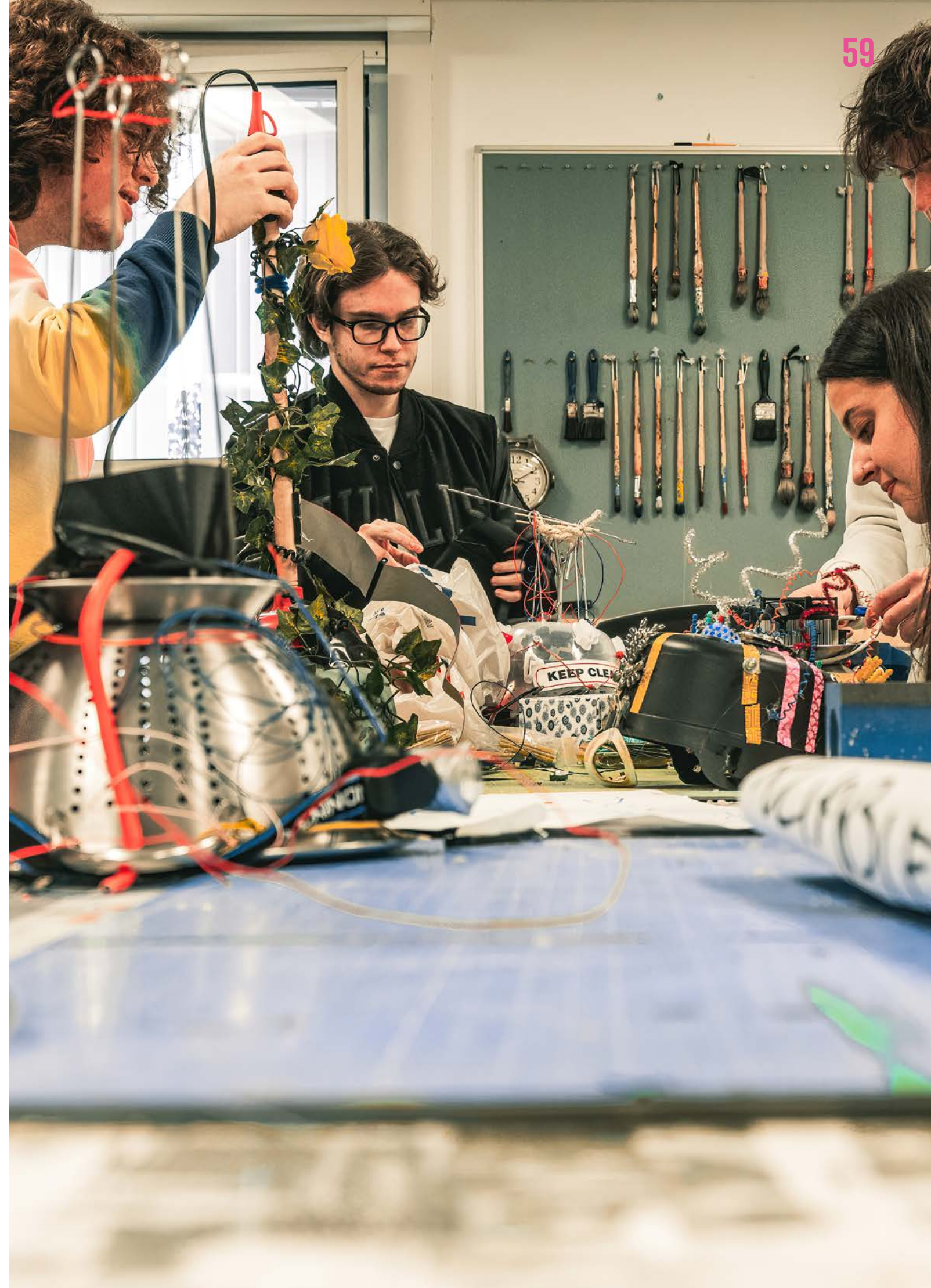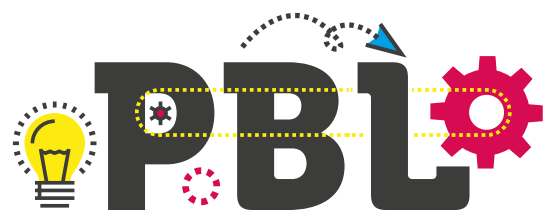
James Porter
Pearson BTEC HND in Music

MUSIC

PROJECT BASED LEARNING (PBL)

SERC has developed a 12-step Project-Based Learning (PBL) process which will help you develop the skills, attitudes and behaviours to succeed in the world of work.

PBL uses industry-focused projects to engage students in addressing real-life challenges by working as a team to design solutions. You will collaborate in small groups, learn from each other and develop skills in a fun way. It encourages learning from experience and develops teamwork, time-management and communication skills. Regardless of whether you prefer to learn using written instructions or using your imagination to produce new creations, PBL will make you more employable.

THE STUDENT VOICE

STUDENTS' UNION

The SERC Students' Union is a democratic body, elected by the student community to work on behalf of and for the benefit of students. SERC Students' Union delivers a programme of events and activities for the SERC student community to advocate, enrich and enhance student life for all our students. All students, both full-time and part-time, are members of the Students' Union and can stand for office such as class representative, welfare officer etc. **Click here to find out more.**

GO GREENER!

SERC was awarded the prestigious Green Gown Award for our commitment to promoting sustainability. Students and staff are invited to get involved in progressing this commitment through eco communities and involvement in projects. **Click here to find out more.**

STUDENT BUSINESSES

SERC provides a range of activities through which you can develop enterprise skills. All full-time students spend some time being guided by their lecturer to develop enterprising ideas. There are also dedicated workspaces for students which you can use to develop your ideas, and a team which can support you to develop and establish your own business. **Click here to find out more.**

STUDENT SUPPORT

SERC is committed to supporting all students to meet challenges and achieve their aims. The College has an extensive network of support services and also works with a range of agencies to make sure help is there whenever it is needed.

Pastoral Care
We work with Ascert, Aware, Inspire and the HSC to help you to overcome challenges and achieve your goals.

Learning Support
If you have additional needs, we have the facilities and staff to work with you to help you succeed.

Student Finance
It can be difficult to juggle your finances when you're a student. SERC publishes a range of guides and has a team of advisors to support you.

Careers
Our award-winning careers advisors can help you plan your path to achieving your ambitions.

Student Carers
If you have caring responsibilities at home, we understand that this can have an impact on your learning. We have a dedicated support service to offer help and advice.

Learning Resource Centres
If you need a place to study or help in finding resources to support your learning, we have Learning Resource Centres on each main campus with printed books and e-books and quiet study areas.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Click titles for more information

NEXT STEPS

01

Step 1
Click here to browse our Higher Education courses.

02

Step 2
Click here to get advice from our careers team.

03

Step 3
The application and admission process can be found by clicking here.

Come and meet tutors and advice teams and explore our facilities at an open evening:

6 March 2025 | for full-time courses

5 June 2025 | for full-time and part-time opportunities

66

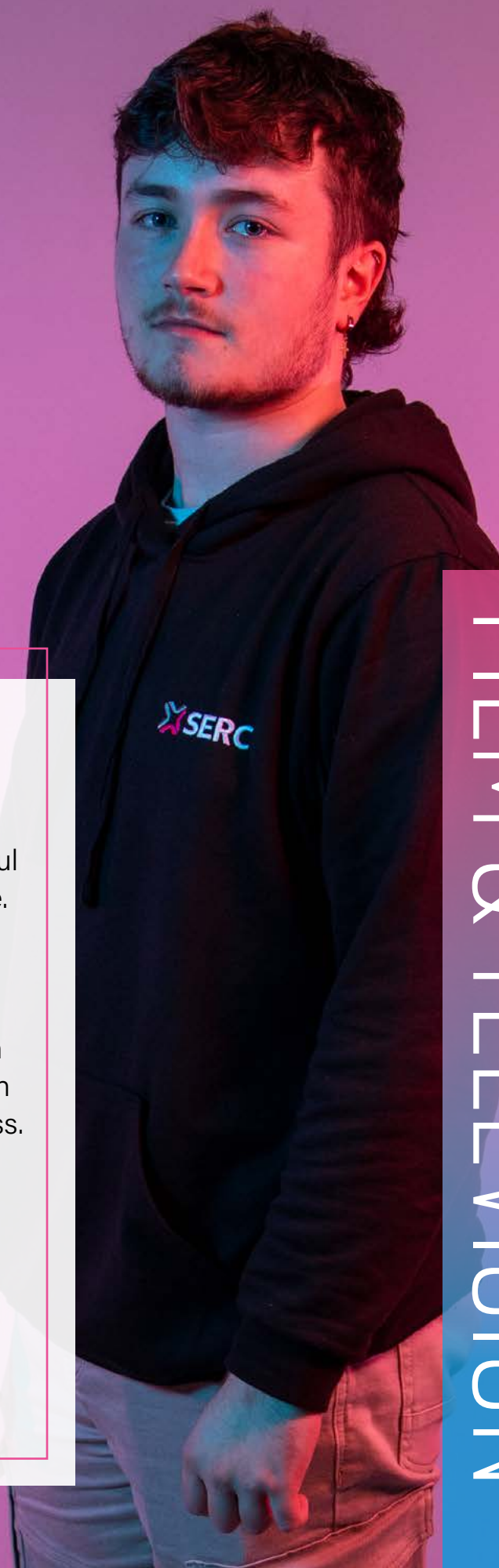I love how down to earth, helpful and professional the tutors are. The course covers a lot of different areas of film, such as storyboarding, how to use cameras, and post-production elements like editing. ...It's been an eye-opening learning process.

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Lewis McCready
Pearson BTEC HNC in Film & Television Production

FILM & TELEVISION

REAL LEARNING AT SERC

Apply Now for courses starting in 2025/26

Click to visit our social media sites