

# SOMERSET COLLEGE QUALIFICATIONS IN CONSTRUCTION



2016/17

A Partnership Institution with  
Edexcel and Plymouth University

A close-up photograph of a person wearing a red t-shirt, looking through the eyepiece of a yellow and black surveying instrument, likely a level or theodolite. The person's face is partially visible, focused on the instrument. The background is a blurred green field.

A recent report by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) suggests that more than 182,000 additional construction jobs will be needed across the UK between 2014 and 2018.

It's easy to take the built environment for granted. After all, for many of us, it's just a backdrop to our lives. But for construction students, it's the only thing they want to look at.

Construction professionals quite literally build the world around us. So if you fancy playing a part in shaping the future, this is the area of study for you.

Our courses involve a mix of practical and theoretical learning, work placements and include plenty of time getting hands-on in our well-equipped workshops. You can be certain that studying at Somerset College will lay the foundations for a fulfilling and successful career.

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## OPEN DAY

The best way to find out whether Somerset College is for you is to come along to our Open Day. You can take a good look around and talk to our staff about the course you are interested in.

Saturday 14 November 2015

We also run a number of subject Open Days throughout the year. For further information visit [www.somerset.ac.uk](http://www.somerset.ac.uk) or call 01823 366 331.

## GET IN TOUCH

Write, email or visit us - we're always happy to talk to you.

The Helpzone  
Somerset College  
Wellington Road  
Taunton TA1 5AX

Calling from the UK 01823 366 331  
Calling from outside the UK +44 1823 366 331

[enquiries@somerset.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@somerset.ac.uk)  
[www.somerset.ac.uk](http://www.somerset.ac.uk)

## APPLYING

To apply for these courses, please visit [www.somerset.ac.uk](http://www.somerset.ac.uk) or call the Helpzone on 01823 366 667.

# HNC IN CONSTRUCTION & THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (CIVIL ENGINEERING)

2 years part-time, 1 day per week (apply to College)

*Awarding body: Edexcel*

Would you like to work towards a nationally recognised qualification that builds on the skills you have already developed in the workplace, to enhance your employability? If so, our Higher National Certificate in Civil Engineering is the perfect course to choose.

These professional qualifications provide the perfect foundation for a career in civil engineering. They are also a great basis from which to study a degree and blend theoretical and practical aspects of the discipline.

In the first year you will cover:

- Applied Mathematics
- Science and Materials
- Civil Engineering Technology
- Site Surveying Procedures

The second year covers:

- Design Principles and Application
- Engineering Geology and Soil Mechanics
- Structural Analysis and Design
- Group Project

## Teaching and assessment

There are no external examinations on this course. Instead, each module is assessed by means of a series of internally set assignments that involve a combination of scenario-based tasks linked to project work, practical exercises, timed tasks, individual study and presentations.

## Entry requirements

People come to this course from a range of backgrounds, and there is no single specific entry requirement. However, applicants would be expected to have at least one of the following:

- A National Award in Construction
- AS/A2 Levels
- A National Certificate in Civil Engineering
- A National Diploma in Construction
- Other appropriate qualifications
- Relevant work experience

## Where does it lead?

Completion of the HNC in Construction and the Built Environment (Civil Engineering) enables you to apply for membership of the Institute of Civil Engineers. With this behind you, the world of work presents a variety of possibilities.

Our students have gone on to pursue careers such as:

- Civil Engineer
- Project Manager
- Highway Engineer
- Site Manager
- Utilities Engineer
- Structural Engineer

Alternatively, graduates may apply to study the discipline at degree level.

## HND IN CONSTRUCTION & THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT (CIVIL ENGINEERING)

2 years full-time, 1 day per week (apply to College)

Awarding body: Edexcel

Would you like to work towards a nationally recognised qualification that builds on the skills you have already developed in the workplace to enhance your employability? If so, our Higher National Diploma in Civil Engineering is the perfect course to choose.

These professional qualifications provide the perfect foundation for a career in the construction industry. They are also a great basis from which to pursue degree-level study in Civil Engineering, and blend theoretical and practical aspects of the discipline.

The programme is equally suited to those who may wish to progress on from the HNC in Civil Engineering to study at Level 5 or achieve a professional qualification to allow the application for chartered status in the future. The HND may be used as the Technical Certificate for a Higher Apprenticeship in Construction Site Management (Civil Engineering with Sustainability).

In the first year you will cover:

- Health, Safety and Welfare for Construction
- Measuring, Tendering and Estimating
- Applied Mathematics for Complex Engineering Problems
- Management Principles and Applications for Construction

The second year covers:

- Transportation for Construction and the Built Environment
- Advanced Civil Engineering
- Hydraulic Principles and Applications
- Research Project

### Teaching and assessment

There are no external examinations on this course. Instead, each module is assessed by means of a series of internally set assignments that involve a combination of scenario-based tasks linked to project work, practical exercises, timed tasks, individual study and presentations.

### Entry requirements

The HNC in Construction and the Built Environment (Civil Engineering) is a prerequisite to study for the HND in Civil Engineering. However, other Level 4 qualifications may be considered as recognised prior learning for entry onto the programme.

Employment in the civil engineering/construction industry is helpful but not a prerequisite. All applicants will be considered on individual merit and interviewed to ensure they have the potential to achieve this qualification.

### Where does it lead?

Our graduates have gone on to pursue careers such as Civil Engineering, Project Management, Highway Engineering, Site Management, Utilities Engineering, Civil Engineering Surveying or Structural Engineering.



The improving economy and government efforts to boost private finance have helped the UK enter the top 10 most attractive markets for infrastructure investment.<sup>1</sup>

### INDUSTRY LINKS

We have been delivering professional courses for over 20 years, and have built strong links with industry to ensure we develop courses which answer the training and development needs of local, national and international industry sectors.

### GUEST SPEAKERS

Our courses are enriched by industry experts from across the sector, providing real-life perspectives on subject theory.

**MACE**

**BAM Construct UK**

**Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors**

**Chartered Institute of Building**



### CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

<b>Contracts Manager</b>	£35,000+
<b>Consultant Civil Engineer</b>	£35,000+
<b>Contracted Civil Engineer</b>	£35,000+
<b>Senior Site Manager</b>	£30,000+
<b>Site Engineer</b>	£30,000+
<b>Building Control &amp; Planning</b>	£30,000+
<b>Senior Building Manager</b>	£15,000 - £23,000
<b>Site Manager</b>	£15,000 - £23,000
<b>Senior Quantity Surveyor</b>	£15,000 - £23,000
<b>Site Supervisor</b>	£15,000 - £23,000



## HNC IN CONSTRUCTION & THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

2 years part-time, 1 day per week (apply to College)

Awarding body: Edexcel

These courses equip you with a nationally recognised qualification that enhances your workplace skills and prepares you to advance your career in the construction industry.

These are professional qualifications that provide the ideal foundation for further study, or to help you secure a job.

The HNC consists of eight units, covering key knowledge and practical skills for the sector.

The first year covers:

- Applied Mathematics
- Science and Materials
- Construction and Maintenance of Buildings
- Site Surveying Procedures

The second year covers:

- Measurement Processes
- Health, Safety and Welfare
- Group Project
- Design Principles and Applications

### Teaching and assessment

There are no external examinations on this course. Instead, each module is assessed by means of a series of internally set assignments that involve a combination of scenario-based tasks linked to project work, practical exercises, timed tasks, individual study and presentations.

### Entry requirements

People come to this course from a range of backgrounds, and there is no single specific entry requirement. However, applicants would be expected to have at least one of the following:

- A National Award in Construction
- AS/A2 Levels
- A National Certificate in Construction
- A National Diploma in Construction
- Other appropriate qualifications
- Relevant work experience

### Where does it lead?

There are more than 30 career choices within the construction professions, so the HNC really does open doors. In addition, you could go on to study at degree level for any of the following roles:

- Architectural Technologist
- Building Surveyor
- Quantity Surveyor/Estimator
- Site Manager
- Building Control
- Building Services Engineer
- Facilities Management
- Planning
- Construction Management
- Housing and Property Development



## STUDENT & STAFF



**GARY PARSONS**  
HNC in Construction & The Built Environment  
(Civil Engineering)

I work for the council and decided to study in order to improve my technical knowledge of the industry and progress my career. It's surprised me how much I'm enjoying learning, even the theory. I hadn't realised what's involved in the construction industry and how complicated it is.



We recently went on a field trip to Watchet for our geology module. It really cemented the theory and made it relevant which will help me when I have to write about it.

I'd happily recommend the College - it has everything I need. The lecturers are really helpful and knowledgeable, the campus is modern and the new science labs are fantastic, and really well resourced.

“There is a need for trained, skilled talent in the industry, and it's satisfying to help people start or progress their careers.”

**IAN HODGE**

Lecturer  
HNC/D in Construction & The Built Environment

I started working at Somerset College in 1984 after completing PhD research into digital mapping at Glasgow University. Back then, I was at the forefront of converting survey and map information into computer generated graphics. I was fortunate to secure a rare position at Somerset College teaching digital mapping, specialising in mapping sciences. This allowed cartography to develop alongside surveying to develop geographic information systems, a common digital decision making tool.

I find teaching a rewarding profession. There is a need for trained, skilled talent in the industry and it's satisfying to help people start or progress their careers. We keep the course current by talking to project managers and civil engineers, and take students on visits to explore different work environments. Many of our HNC students work in industry, so they bring and share current trends with the group. All the course work is based in real situations, giving students a true representation of the world of work. For those that aren't lucky enough to be employed yet, we work very hard to provide solid leads into employment - one of our students has just secured a place with Midas.

The course has been running for over 20 years and we have very good results and an excellent reputation. Students travel some distance to study this challenging course.

## HND IN CONSTRUCTION & THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

2 years full-time, 1 day per week (apply to College)

*Awarding body: Edexcel*

These courses equip you with a nationally recognised qualification that enhances your workplace skills and prepares you to advance your career in the construction industry.

These are professional qualifications that provide the ideal foundation for further study, or to help you secure a job.

This programme is suitable for those wishing to progress from the HNC in Construction and the Built Environment to study at Level 5 or achieve a professional qualification which allows them to apply for chartered status.

The course covers some of the key knowledge and practical skills required in the construction sector. It is an eight unit qualification with the HNC units as a prerequisite. The HND may be used as the Technical Certificate for a Higher Apprenticeship in Construction Site Management (with Sustainability).

The first year covers:

- Management Principles and Application
- Environmental Impact of Construction
- The Technology of Complex Buildings
- Building Services, Design, Installation and Maintenance

The second year covers:

- Structural Behaviour and Detailing
- Conversion and Adaptation of Buildings
- Contractual Procedures and Procurement
- Research Project

### Teaching and assessment

There are no external examinations on this course. Instead, each module is assessed by means of a series of internally set assignments that involve a combination of scenario-based tasks linked to project work, practical exercises, timed tasks, individual study and presentations.

The HND is a two year part-time day release course, held one day a week, with attendance between 9am and 5pm running over 30 weeks from September to May.

### Entry requirements

The HNC is a prerequisite to study for the HND in Construction and Built Environment. Other Level 4 qualifications may be considered as recognised prior learning for entry onto the programme.

Employment in the Construction Industry is helpful but not a prerequisite. Applicants are considered on individual merit, and interviewed to ensure they have the potential to achieve this qualification.

### Where does it lead?

There are more than 30 career choices within the construction professions, so the HNC really does open doors. In addition, you could go on to study at degree level for any of the following roles:

- Architectural Technologist
- Building Surveyor
- Quantity Surveyor/Estimator
- Site Manager
- Building Control
- Building Services Engineer
- Facilities Management
- Planning
- Construction Management
- Housing and Property Development



## LEVEL 6 NVQ DIPLOMA IN CONSTRUCTION SITE MANAGEMENT (CONSTRUCTION)

Maximum 2 years, flexible start (apply to College)  
Workplace & distance learning

*Awarding body: Edexcel*

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This course converts prior learning and workplace experience into a professional qualification without the need to sit formal exams. It provides a stepping stone to Chartered Membership of the CIOB and demonstrates a senior level of competence to colleagues, employers and clients.

There are several pathways within the qualification such as Building & Civil Engineering and Residential Development & Conservation. Each pathway comprises a suite of units, some of which are mandatory and others offering a choice of options. Examples of these include:

- Developing Working Relationships
- Controlling the Project Programme
- Selecting Work Methods
- Health, Safety & Environmental

### Teaching and assessment

Progress is made by collecting relevant evidence in order to demonstrate your competence against a pre-set range of assessment criteria, governed by the National Occupational Standards. Evidence can take many forms including documents, photographs, video, written reports, witness testimonies or recorded interviews. Evidence signposts are provided by us and these help to decipher the requirements set by the awarding body by giving you specific information. In-house assessment is independently internally verified and externally verified by the Standards Verifier representing the awarding body.

### Entry requirements

Students need to have relevant experience and be working at, or towards, the appropriate level that allows the collection of evidence required by the awarding body. This will be assessed when interviewed by the College at the outset.

### Where does it lead?

You can move directly to the Professional Review stage of the route to Chartered status of the CIOB, without the need for exams or the CMP course. It provides the Construction Managers CSCS black card. This qualification increases the possibility of career advancement, enhanced career development opportunities and promotion. Alternatively, you could progress to a related NVQ at a higher education level available at the College.

## CHARTERED MEMBERSHIP PROGRAMME (CMP)

### Route to full membership of CIOB

10 months, part-time (apply to College)  
Distance learning and 8 workshops

*Awarding body: Chartered Institute of Building*

This course converts construction management experience into chartered status of a professional institution by providing the MCIOB designation. This is recognised and respected both across the UK and internationally, and engenders confidence in you from colleagues, employers and clients.

The course is suited to a wide range of senior construction personnel such as Site Managers, Project Managers, Contracts Managers, Commercial Managers, Senior Quantity Surveyors, through to Local Authority Officers, Senior Company Executives and Company Owners. The course recognises prior experience and develops this to convert you to Professional Chartered Status.

You will cover four modules:

- Construction Technology
- Health, Safety and Environment
- Management
- Contract and Commercial Practice

#### Teaching and assessment

Learning resources, information and revision packs will be provided by Somerset College as well as lunch and refreshments during the workshop sessions. The sessions are held in a very pleasant learning environment within Genesis, a Sustainable Construction facility at Somerset College.

#### Entry requirements

CIOB now rely on an 'Approved Provider' to assess the suitability of potential candidates. Somerset College charges to cover the cost of this process.

The College will therefore assess entry level attainment by looking at your background, experience and occupational competence. The course requires approximately five years of management experience in the construction environment, either site-based or office related.

We also look at your CV and ask you to undertake an interview, either at the College, at your place of work or over the telephone to discuss your involvement in the following:

- Construction technology
- Management competencies
- Projects
- People

Successful completion of this process results in notification to the CIOB who then register you as an Associate Member (ACIOB) or Student Member. You can start the course once this is confirmed.

#### Where does it lead?

Following the successful completion of the CMP course, the Professional Review will be required in order to achieve Chartered status [MCIOB]. This is an online submission which will be scrutinised by a review panel. CIOB has instructed course providers to manage the professional review process. Mentoring is included in the course delivery.

The CSCS 'White Card' for Professionally Qualified Person (PQP) is automatically acquired on reaching chartered status, subject to completing the Managers CITB Health & Safety Test. This is the highest level CSCS Card.

MCIOB status has been independently benchmarked as being comparable to a Bachelor Degree under the English Qualification and Credit Framework (QCF). It is recognised as the mark of a construction professional across the UK and indeed internationally.

Those who have achieved MCIOB status will be able to use the new designation of 'Chartered Construction Managers' as opposed to 'Chartered Builders' if they prefer. MCIOB can provide access to Associate Membership of other professional bodies. It also allows access to Chartered Environmentalist (CEnv) status if you are working in an appropriate role.

With appropriate experience and if you are working at the required level, MCIOB can be upgraded to Fellowship FCIQB.



## STUDENT & STAFF



### CHRIS KITTO Level 6 NVQ Diploma in Construction Site Management

I'm a Site Manager at S C Forecourts Ltd and we work across the country, specialising in new builds, renovations and petrol station redevelopments. I wanted to expand my knowledge of the industry and gain a recognised qualification, and colleagues recommended the College. When I contacted the tutors they were really helpful - answering all my questions and explaining how the course is delivered and assessed.

Since starting, the tutors conduct site visits and are always available should I need them. Occasionally I attend sessions at the College, but the best part of the course is how flexible it is - it fits around my hectic lifestyle, rather than the other way around.



### TREVOR PAYNE

#### Lecturer

Sustainable Construction & Construction Professions

Prior to teaching, I ran a family carpentry, joinery and contracting company for 20 years, working as a sub-contractor. We sold the business and moved into construction site management with a PLC business called McCarthy & Stone who are market leaders in retirement and sheltered homes. I quickly moved from site management to project management and finally contracts management.

After taking voluntary redundancy during the recession, I was head hunted by a Scottish training provider and retrained as an NVQ assessor at senior level. I gained a basic teaching qualification with an A1 Assessors Award. Those qualifications, along with my MIOB through the Chartered Institute of Builders, allowed me to assess NVQs, covering the UK. After two years of travelling across country, I started at Somerset College. I was initially employed to develop the sustainability knowledge hub programme, linking local businesses to each other and the College.

I really enjoy teaching on the Level 6 NVQ and CMP qualifications. Both courses offer a route into chartered status for construction professionals without an academic background but a wealth of experience. This mirrors my own career path, so I empathise with my students and enjoy helping them progress their careers.

“The course fits around my lifestyle,  
rather than the other way around.”

# TEACHING

Experience the joy of making  
a difference



## CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION

### Incorporating the Diploma in Education and Training

2 years part-time (apply to College)

*Awarding body: Plymouth University*

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This nationally-recognised course dramatically enhances your employability as a teacher. It leads to the award of a Certificate in Education incorporating the Diploma in Education and Training, at NQF Level 5.

During the course, you will complete the following four modules:

- Learning, Teaching and Assessment
- Theories and Principles of Managing Learning Environments
- Curriculum and Society
- Wider Practice and Professional Development

#### Teaching and assessment

Teaching and learning methods include classroom-based group sessions, small group work, discussions, micro-teaching, teaching through a variety of ILT resources, observations of practice and individual tutorials.

Assessment is through a variety of methods and submission of a professional portfolio that evidences your teaching practice and development.

To receive the Certificate, you should successfully complete a minimum of 130 hours of professional practice, including eight observed sessions over the two years of study.

#### Entry requirements

To enter the course, you will need to evidence your ability to fulfil the following requirements:

- Appropriate professional practice (a minimum of 100 hours of direct teaching practice plus 30 hours additional professional practice over the duration of the course). This should be in a teaching role that carries the full range of responsibilities, whether on a full-time, part-time, fractional, fixed term, temporary or agency basis in the Further Education and Skills sector. Appropriate practice is considered to be, for example, a further education college (including HE in FE), teaching in a sixth form college, grant funded work-based learning, offender learning, community/adult education and the public sector.
- Access to a subject-specialist mentor (already qualified with the PGCE or Certificate in Education and available to observe your teaching practice and meet with you on a regular basis).
- An appropriate subject and/or professional qualification, usually at Level 3.
- English qualifications at NQF Level 2 and Maths at Level 1, with the potential to achieve Level 2 in Maths to achieve QTLS (Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills) in the Further Education and Skills Sector.
- A working knowledge of appropriate ICT skills.
- A commitment to professional development as a teacher, tutor or trainer.
- Positive references from two referees.
- A willingness to undertake personal study of approximately 207.5 hours per module.
- The intention to attend all the course sessions.
- A successful interview.

- An enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance, registration with the Independent Safeguarding Authority and completion of a criminal convictions self-declaration form (there is a fee for this, and the College will send further details as part of the admissions process). This course may involve regular access to children and/or vulnerable adults (also known as regulated activity).

## POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN EDUCATION

### Incorporating the Diploma in Education and Training

2 years part-time (apply to College)

*Awarding body: Plymouth University*

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This nationally-recognised teacher training course is for people working in the Further Education and Skills sector. It leads to the award of a Postgraduate Certificate in Education, at NQF Level 7 or Professional Graduate Certificate in Education NQF at Level 6.

The course comprises four core modules:

- Learning, Teaching and Assessment
- Theories and Principles of Managing Learning Environments
- Curriculum and Society
- Wider Practice and Professional Development

#### Teaching and assessment

Teaching and learning methods used include classroom-based group sessions, small group work, discussions, micro-teaching, teaching through a variety of ILT resources, observations of practice and individual tutorials.

Each module is assessed by an assignment or equivalent, as well as the submission of a professional portfolio showing evidence of the required teaching practice and development.

To receive your PGCE, you should successfully complete a minimum of 130 hours of professional practice, including eight observed sessions over the two years of study.

#### Entry requirements

To enter the course, you need to show that you can fulfil the following requirements:

- Appropriate professional practice (a minimum of 100 hours of direct teaching practice plus 30 hours additional professional practice over the duration of the course). This should be in a role that carries the full range of teaching responsibilities, whether on a full-time, part-time, fractional, fixed term, temporary or agency basis in the Further Education and Skills sector. Appropriate practice is considered to be, for example, a further education college (including HE in FE), teaching in a sixth form college, work-based learning, offender learning, community/adult education and the public sector.
- A subject-specialist mentor (who is already qualified with the PGCE or Certificate in Education and is available to observe your teaching practice and meet with you on a regular basis).
- An appropriate degree.
- English qualifications at NQF Level 2 and Maths at Level 1, with the potential to achieve Level 2 in Maths to achieve QTLS (Qualified Teacher Learning and Skills) in the Further Education and Skills Sector.
- A working knowledge of appropriate ICT skills.
- A commitment to professional development as a teacher, tutor or trainer.
- Positive references from two referees.
- An enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) clearance, registration with the Independent Safeguarding Authority and completion of a criminal convictions self-declaration form (there is a fee for this, and the College will send further details as part of the admissions process). This course may involve regular access to children and/or vulnerable adults (also known as regulated activity).

- A willingness to undertake personal study of approximately 207.5 hours per module.
- The intention to attend all the course sessions.
- A successful interview.



## SOMERSET COLLEGE

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Somerset College produces the University Courses Prospectus 2016/17 in 2015, which may be over a year before you start your studies. We endeavour to ensure that all the information provided is correct at time of printing, but courses are regularly reviewed and updated so details may change. We make every effort to publish up-to-date information on our website, [www.somerset.ac.uk](http://www.somerset.ac.uk). If a particular service or facility described in this prospectus is of great importance to you, please contact us to ensure its continued availability before you apply.

Occasionally a course listed in the prospectus may be withdrawn or replaced after the prospectus has been printed. Please contact us to check the status of your course before you apply.

*Somerset College reserves the right to amend information at any time. Please note that this prospectus does not form part of any contract between you and Somerset College.*



If you would like this publication in an alternative format please ring 01823 366 331