

**YOUR STEPPING STONE TO UNIVERSITY
AND A NEW CAREER**



**ACCESS TO
HIGHER EDUCATION**

AT TRURO AND PENWITH COLLEGE





ANDY JOHNSON | ACCESS TO SCIENCE

“The Access course has got me back into the mindset of learning, of trying to understand new and difficult concepts and working through problems. It’s reminded me the importance of discipline and self-motivation. Going back into education was challenging after previous experiences, but the College and the staff genuinely want you to do well, and I was surprised at how much support was there.”

After years of trying to find a job role that felt like the right fit, Andy decided it was time for a change. Looking for a career that would mean helping people as well as supporting his family, Andy began to look at training to gain a science qualification with the aim of joining the NHS and becoming a Radiographer or Sonographer. Despite having an English degree already, Andy knew in order to pursue this new career, he would need to have a science qualification under his belt, and therefore enrolled on the Access to Science course at Truro College, progressing to a Medical Imaging (Diagnostic Radiography) degree.

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION

“I coordinate the Access to Higher Education provision at the Truro Campus; I work with a highly experienced team to provide a range of courses for adults looking to return to education”

Jolene Hogan - Access to HE Coordinator



Duration

Courses normally start in mid-September and finish at the end of May. Taught hours vary between 11 - 15 hours per week depending on the pathway chosen. Courses usually run over three days giving greater flexibility to work alongside the course (i.e. 9.15am to 4.15pm).

The Credit System

The course is credit based. Students need to complete 15 ungraded credits at Level 2 or 3 and 45 graded credits at Level 3. Most credits are gained by continuous assessment or assignments.

Funding

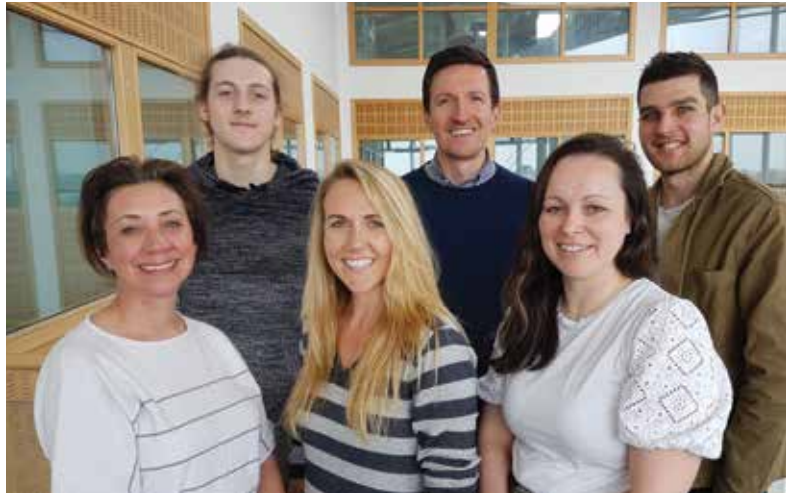
Funding is dependent on your age and previous qualifications. If you are aged 19-23 years and do not hold a Level 3 qualification you could be entitled for full funding. Alternatively, you could be eligible for an advanced learner loan that could be written off on completion of the Access course and a higher education course. Please contact the College for further information on 01872 267000 or by email on enquiry@truro-penwith.ac.uk.

Progression Routes

The Access to Higher Education programme is designed to give students the necessary grounding to progress to higher education courses and is an accepted alternative to A Levels and other more traditional routes to university. Progression is possible to a range of university courses at the University Centre Truro & Penwith and the majority of British universities.

In previous years, students have been accepted on a wide range of higher education courses including Anthropology, Applied Psychology, Chemistry, Dental Therapy and Hygiene, Fashion Contour, Fine Art, Computer Security, Conservation and Ecology, Film and TV Production, Geology, Law, Occupational Therapy, Mining Engineering, Nursing and Midwifery, Paramedic Science, Radiography, Zoology and Undergraduate Medicine.

COURSE CONTENT



All Access courses are comprised of 45 credits of subject related graded units. For example, the Nursing and Human Sciences Access course is comprised of graded units in Biology, Psychology and Sociology.

In addition, all students complete 15 credits of ungraded units, which usually includes HE study skills and examination technique and practice. For more detailed information about each Access course, please search the Truro and Penwith College website.

HE Study Skills

The Study Skills unit is a defining element of any Access course. Students gain vital skills to prepare for study at higher education, including note taking, presentation skills, essay writing, referencing and support with writing a personal statement.

Examination Technique & Practice

This unit focuses on effective revision techniques and evaluation skills, and includes closed book examinations related to the subjects covered in each of the Access courses. This is excellent preparation for the exams that may be completed in higher education.

Information Technology

Whatever your level of confidence in IT, we will help you to develop your skills in word processing, presentation software and spreadsheets. Whilst this is not taught as a separate subject, IT skills are embedded into the Access course. We have a large network of computers with internet access, an extensive eLibrary and a diverse range of software available for students to use.



KATIE | ACCESS TO CREATIVE ARTS

“The Access to Creative Arts course has changed my life, my perception of my capabilities, and allowed me to use my academic and artistic flair to springboard my new career. I have discovered a lifelong passion for Ceramics, Photography, Life Drawing and Painting.”

Katie returned to education after having her son as she was looking to explore what she was passionate about and decided it was time for a career change. Katie joined the Access to HE Creative Arts course at Penwith College, which aims to build practical skills and creative potential through a series of themed projects, culminating in a Final Major Project and exhibition. Since completing the course, Katie progressed to achieving teaching qualifications, and is now helping others find their creative identities.

ACCESS COURSES AT TRURO COLLEGE

CREATIVE MEDIA & PHOTOGRAPHY

Creative Media and Photography students will study photography and moving image production alongside other relevant disciplines such as graphic design. The course aims to develop students' portfolios to enable them to progress to higher education and to go on to seek employment in the industry. Successful students have progressed to degrees in Post Production Editing, Business and Digital Marketing, Film, Media and Photography, and Film and TV Production.

ART & DESIGN



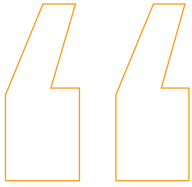
Students on the Access to Art and Design course will learn to experiment and explore visual language through workshops in order to produce independent and original outcomes. The course will include two and three dimensional activities across drawing, painting, photography, sculpture and printmaking. Successful students have progressed to degrees such as Drawing, Fine Art, Illustration and Animation and Fashion Contour.

COMPUTING

Students will study Software Development, Web Design, Networking, Computer Systems and Maths. This is a course intended to ensure that students gain sufficient experience in order to secure progression to university. Successful students have progressed to a variety of degrees including Computer Security, Computer Technology and Web Development.

HUMANITIES, TEACHING & LAW

Students will study units in History, Psychology, Sociology and Law/Human Rights. An integrated teaching process allows students to develop the confidence and skills to achieve across a range of humanities and social science subjects at undergraduate level. Successful students have progressed to a wide variety of humanities based degrees including Archaeology, Psychology, Teaching, History and Law.



I cannot praise the Access to Science course enough; it didn't just build confidence but also really helped with my degree because everything that it covered was very relevant to what I then did at university.



MEDICINE

Students will study Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Epidemiology and Maths, and in addition will plan, implement and a practical project. This will give students the knowledge and skills necessary to progress to a medicine and health related degree such as Medical Sciences, Medicine, Dentistry or allied health professions.

NURSING & HUMAN SCIENCES

Students will study Human Biology, Psychology and Sociology, together with the core subjects. This course is not only for those interested in a career in nursing, but can also lead to a wide range of Higher Education courses in health related fields including Midwifery, Occupational Therapy and Physiotherapy. Students have also progressed to degrees in Psychology and Sociology.

PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIAL WORK

Students will study Psychology, Sociology and Social Work. This is an academic course intended to give students the skills necessary to progress to appropriate courses in higher education. The qualification could be suitable for those wishing to become social workers, or to pursue related studies in higher education such as Criminal Psychology, Psychology, Sociology and Social Science.

SCIENCE

Students will study Biology, Chemistry and Maths and will plan, implement and write up a practical project. This will give students the knowledge and skills necessary to progress to a science or health related degree. Successful students have progressed to a variety of degrees including Biomedical Science, Biochemistry, Chemistry, Conservation and Ecology, Dietetics, Dental Therapy and Hygiene, Geology, Mining Engineering, Nutrition, Optometry, Paramedic Science, Physiotherapy, Radiography and Zoology. In addition, students could potentially progress to foundation degree pathways in Physics and Engineering.

ACCESS COURSES AT PENWITH COLLEGE



The courses offered at Truro and Penwith College are designed for a wide spectrum of individuals from various backgrounds, which gives them depth and vitality. The teaching and support you receive from staff ensures that you will succeed.

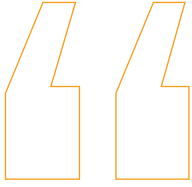
CREATIVE ARTS

This course is designed to develop your creative potential and prepare you for progression to a higher level of study at university or art college. It is aimed at adult learners who would like the opportunity to retrain in art and design. The course will enable you to gain a broad understanding of subjects within the art and design framework. These will include drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, textiles and will equip you with the opportunity to identify the area of specialism most tailored to your aspirations and ability.

There will also be a structured programme of contextual studies, which explore art movements and cultural issues associated with your study of art and design practice.

CREATIVE MEDIA & GAMES

The Access to Creative Media & Games course has been designed to allow progression into a plethora of job roles in games development, film production, graphic design, concept art, storyboarding and photography. The course has been designed for students to explore the different technical skills used in a variety of job roles, which will allow them to choose a more specialist degree. They will be able to expand their knowledge and practice in their chosen area during the final project module.



Completing the Access to Humanities course has enabled me to gain the skills, confidence and qualifications to continue onto higher education and achieve my long term goals.



HUMANITIES

Humanities students study English, Psychology and Sociology, which allows learners to progress to a wide range of humanities and social science subjects at undergraduate level. As with other Access courses, learners develop their research, academic writing and IT skills, leaving students well prepared for progression to higher education. Successful students have progressed to a wide variety of degrees including Teaching, Business Studies, English, Geography, History, Psychology, Sociology, Social Work, Building Surveying and Law.

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

This course provides students with a qualification that leads into a chosen career in the health and social care sector. Students will study Human Biology, Psychology and Sociology, together with the core subjects. This sector is diverse and holds multiple career pathways. This course is ideal for those wishing to progress to university studying toward careers in Adult Nursing, Children's Nursing, Social Work, Counselling, Care Management, Midwifery, Primary Teaching, Occupational Therapy, Social Science, Youth and Community Work and more.



If anyone is considering returning to education this is certainly the path I would recommend, as it is an experience that I know has given me the launchpad for my future career.



SUE TREBILCOCK | ACCESS TO COMPUTING

“The Access course was absolutely fantastic! I came back into education to show myself and the world that I could do it. I wanted to set an example and I knew I had it in me, but I wouldn’t have been able to do it without the support I received from my Access Tutor. He believed in me and knew what I was capable of. It’s never too late! I’m living proof. I’m 65 next year and I’m not retiring, I’m starting again! ”

Sue had been out of Education for nearly 50 years after leaving school without qualifications before she decided to take on an Access course at Truro College. With her aim being to get on to a University course and pursue her dream of graduating, she also took GCSE English and Maths alongside her Access course. Sue not only enjoyed her course, but received distinctions across the board winning the ‘Keith Fletcher Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement’ during her time as an Access student. Sue is now enrolled on the FdSc Cyber Security degree at the University Centre Truro and Penwith and is keen to inspire others to go for what they have been dreaming of.

PROGRESSION ROUTES

The University Centre Truro & Penwith has a range of complementary university level qualifications in partnership with the University of Plymouth, University of Greenwich and Pearson that can be studied after an Access course, right here in Cornwall.

ART & DESIGN

- > HND/C Art & Design
- > FdA Design Craft Maker
- > FdA Film, Media & Photography
- > FdA Silversmithing & Jewellery

COMPUTING

- > FdSc Computer Technologies
- > HNC Computing
- > FdSc/HNC Cyber Security
- > FdEng Software Engineering

CREATIVE MEDIA & PHOTOGRAPHY

- > FdSc Film, Media & Photography

HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

- > HND/C Applied Psychology
- > FdA Childhood Education
- > FdA Teaching & Learning
- > FdSc Nursing Associate
- > FdSc Youth, Social & Community Studies

HUMANITIES, TEACHING & LAW

- > HND/C Applied Psychology
- > FdSc Archaeology
- > HNC/FdA Business
- > FdA Childhood Education
- > FdA History, Heritage & Culture
- > FdSc Law with Business
- > FdSc Law with Criminology & Criminal Justice
- > FdA Teaching & Learning

NURSING & HUMAN SCIENCES

- > BSc Adult Nursing
- > BSc Mental Health Nursing
- > FdSc Nursing Associate
- > BSc Operating Department Practitioner

PSYCHOLOGY & SOCIAL WORK

- > HND/C Applied Psychology
- > FdSc Youth, Social & Community Studies

SCIENCE

- > HND/C Applied Sciences (Biology)
- > BSc Adult Nursing
- > BSc (Hons) Applied Sport & Health
- > FdSc Health and Wellbeing
- > BSc Mental Health Nursing
- > FdSc Nursing Associate
- > BSc Operating Department Practitioner
- > FdSc Sports Therapy

Progression routes correct at time of print.

Visit the College website for up-to-date university level course details.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants need to fill in an application form (available from the College or online at truro-penwith.ac.uk) and will then be invited to the College for an interview, where you will have the opportunity to discuss your choice. Qualifications are not necessary to join the course, but some universities do have specific GCSE requirements which can be discussed at interview.

You will need motivation, determination and a desire to apply for a university course and will have our support in doing so. We welcome mature students from a range of different backgrounds.

For more information and advice, please contact us using the details below.

If you require this document in any other format please contact Truro & Penwith College on 01872 305000

GET IN TOUCH

Call us

01872 305000 (Truro College)
01736 809000 (Penwith College)

Visit us

truro-penwith.ac.uk/access

Email us

enquiry@truro-penwith.ac.uk

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