

Mechanical Engineering HTQ Higher National Certificate

Course Overview

This is a one-year full-time programme that culminates in the award of a Higher National Certificate (HNC) in Engineering. If you have chosen a career in engineering, this level 4 course offers students willing to follow a mechanical engineering pathway with both advanced knowledge and a clear understanding of how it is applied in the industry. The HNC in engineering course is designed to enable students who may have come through a vocational route to progress into higher education, building on the knowledge gained at level 3. On successful completion of the HNC, you will be eligible to enrol on the level 5 HND (Higher National Diploma) in the respective specialism. Higher Technical Qualifications (HTQ) at levels 4 and 5 are an alternative to apprenticeships or degrees. They may suit you if you want an employer-led study programme, approved by the Institute for Apprenticeships and Technical Education. HTQ will also focus on the knowledge and skills required by industry.

What you will learn

Over the course of this one-year Higher National Certificate mechanical engineering programme, you will study the following units over two days: Engineering design - Engineering maths - Managing a professional engineering project - Production engineering for manufacture - Mechanical principles - Fluid mechanics - Fundamentals of thermodynamics and heat engines - Quality and process improvement. A project or suitable industry visit may also be undertaken to develop industry-based knowledge and skills.

Entry Requirements

Standard entry to this course requires: a) Minimum of 32 UCAS points from a recognised level 3 qualification in a related subject (e.g. T-Level, BTEC National or A-levels) Or b) Higher-level qualification in an unrelated subject area, with a relevant industry experience. c) You are expected to hold GCSE English and Maths at grade 4 and above, or any equivalent qualification. We welcome applicants who do not match standard entry requirements but who can demonstrate the ability to study this subject at university level and who can evidence relevant experience. An interview may be required to ascertain prior achievement.

Course Progression

On successful completion of the HNC you will be able to apply to study for a further year to obtain a level 5. Upon completion of level 5, you could easily progress into a top-up degree course. This qualification is well regarded throughout the industry and the academic world. Career opportunities include managerial and technical positions in mechanical or electrical and electronics engineering.

What Happens Next

Application to level 5 courses must be made through college website. For most of our learners employment is the next step of their journey.

Course Details

Course Code	P00265
Start Date	14/09/2026
Study Hours	Full Time
Duration	1 year
Campus	Abbey Park Campus
Level	4

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