

A+ Programme National Extended Certificate in Business

Ofsted Outstanding Provider

Course Level: Level 3

Campus: Newcastle

Subject Type: Accounting, Business, Travel & Legal

Course Overview:

Explore the practical applications of business theory and principles in our Applied Business course. Students explore topics such as entrepreneurship, business ethics, and global markets. From understanding business finance to developing marketing campaigns, students learn how to apply business concepts in real-world scenarios, developing the skills to identify business opportunities, develop plans, and execute strategic initiatives for growth and success.

What's Covered:

The Extended Certificate in Business is for you if you are interested in learning about the business sector alongside other fields of study, with a view to progressing to a wide range of higher education courses, not necessarily in business-related subjects.

It is designed to be taken alongside other qualifications as part of a two-year programme of learning. Units covered:

- Exploring Business
- Developing a Marketing Campaign
- Personal and Business Finance
- Recruitment and Selection Process

This course is designed to be studied alongside 2 A Levels and combines brilliantly with Economics, Law, Maths, English and Geography.

100%

pass rate

61.5%

achieved D*-D in 2025

Entry Requirements:

A minimum of five GCSEs at grade 5 or above including maths and English Language, in subjects relevant to your A Level or A+ Programme subject choices.

Assessment Information:

Assessment is specifically designed to fit the purpose and objective of the qualification. It includes a range of assessment types and styles suited to vocational qualifications in the sector. There are three main forms of assessment that you need to be aware of: external, internal and synoptic. To summarise you will sit 2 external examinations, one in each year and complete coursework which is assessed internally for the remainder.

Fees and Financial Support:

This course is free for anyone aged 16 – 18.

College Maintenance Allowance (CMA):

Anyone with a gross household income under £35,000 can receive financial support to cover college related costs such as transport, meals, course equipment and uniform. Bursary support is based on individual circumstances and will be allocated to best suit your individual needs. A range of other financial support is available depending on your personal circumstances. For more details visit nscg.ac.uk/finance

Progression:

Studying business provides an excellent general qualification for many careers. You will be able to use this multi faceted qualification to progress easily into Higher Education because universities recognise the independence of thought and critical awareness that business courses develop. Many employers appreciate the skills and knowledge that Business students will have gained during their studies. Having a business qualification will give you the ‘edge’ because you will have very relevant employability and transferable skills which employers are constantly looking for. In addition you will have studied the ‘key’ business disciplines which could then lead to a career in marketing, finance, operations management etc.

On a personal level, you will find that your awareness of business issues will enhance your understanding of the business and commercial environment. You will be actively encouraged to keep abreast of current and business related affairs.

What else do I need to know?

Think of what you're capable of. Then think beyond it.

Step up to a top university or move into a competitive programme like Medicine or Law with our Honours Programme. Perfect for ambitious and high-achieving students.

The Honours Programme is an additional pathway for students whose aspirations are to progress onto highly competitive courses at top universities, such as those in the Russell Group. Once accepted onto the programme, you’ll be expected to commit extra time every week to this intensive support pathway.

Find out more here

How do I find out more?

If you wish to find out more you can contact by emailing: alevel.newcastle@nscg.ac.uk