

HNC Computing for England (Network Engineering)



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Subject Area	Digital
Course Type	Higher Education
Study Level	Level 4
Delivery Mode	Full-time
Duration	1 Academic Year
Start Date	September 2025
Course Code	PFHN056

Course Summary

This course offers you a broad introduction to network engineering. By the end of the course, you will be able to demonstrate a sound knowledge of the foundational concepts of computer networks, including hands-on practical experience. You will be able to communicate accurately and appropriately and will have the qualities needed for employment that require some degree of personal responsibility.

In addition to the technical skills and knowledge, you will also gain a range of transferable skills to ensure effective team working, take independent initiative, solve problems and have an adaptable and flexible approach to network engineering, showing resilience under pressure, and meet challenging targets within a given resource.

The course will prepare you for a range of careers in computing, including network engineering, software engineering, data analytics, security, intelligent systems, applications development and testing.

There will also be an opportunity to achieve a vendor accredited certifications. A programme of events brings experts from industry or visiting academics in the subject area to present to students. The School of Computing runs a series of 'Tech Talks' where

industry specialists speak to students, local employers and stakeholders. The School of Computing also holds an annual Student Conference. This features talks from alumni who are now working successfully in industry.

What You Will Learn

You will learn:

- Principles and practices of the contemporary global computing environment
- Organisations, their diverse nature, purposes, structures and operations and their influence upon the external environment
- CPD, staff development, leadership and reflective practice as methods and strategies for personal and people development.
- Computing and computer applications, software development, networking and media systems.
- How technologies interrelate and communicate with one another, support processes and lead to a computerised solution to a problem.
- Programming and coding skills
- Client relationship management and develop appropriate policies and strategies to meet stakeholder expectations.

Transferable skills include self-reflection, including self-awareness, communication, team working, showing resilience under pressure and project management.

Modules

- Programming
- Networking
- Professional Practice
- Database Design and Development
- Security
- Planning a Computing Project (Pearson set)
- Computer Systems Architecture
- Website Design and Development

Entry Requirements

48 UCAS tariff points with a minimum of three GCSEs at Grade C/4 or above and

including Mathematics and English. Applicants who do not meet the criteria for Mathematics and English will be considered and will be invited for interview where they will sit a numeracy and literacy skills assessment.

The School of Computing welcomes applications from candidates who do not meet the above criteria. Where this is the case, applicants will be invited for interview at which they will be expected to provide a portfolio (either physical or digital) that:

Demonstrates industry experience or a relevant venter qualification in a Computing discipline;

OR

Provides examples of computer skills appropriate to Level 4/5 study. Examples could include:

- Network administration and automation
- Website development
- Database design
- Programming skills
- Network security
- Data security
- Candidates will also be required to undertake literacy and numeracy skills assessment along with a Computing aptitude test.

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