



Access to Higher Education (HE) Diplomas

What is an Access to HE Diploma?

These courses aim to prepare mature students for entry into HE by providing the underpinning knowledge and skills needed to progress onto a degree course at a university or college.

Who are Access to HE Diplomas aimed at?

Access courses are designed for learners who are over 19 and wish to study at HE level, but lack the formal qualifications needed to meet the entry requirements. Even if you haven't written anything since you were in school many years ago, it doesn't matter. Access courses are designed to help you achieve your goals and develop existing and new skills. To be successful on the course you must:

- have a commitment to studying;
- be prepared to attend regularly;
- spend extra time on study outside college hours.

Where can I study an Access to HE Diploma?

In York, a range of Access courses are offered at York College. You can find out more about their courses on their website: www.yorkcollege.ac.uk/access.

You can search Access courses offered elsewhere in the country at www.accesstohe.ac.uk.

Find out more about Access to HE Diplomas

visit www.accesstohe.ac.uk

How much does an Access to HE Diploma cost?

Course fees vary depending on your age when you start your course. Course fees for 2015/16 at York College are £1,775 if you are aged 19-23 when you start the course, and between £3,000-£4,000 if you are 24 or over, depending on the subject studied. You should contact the Customer Service Unit at York College (01904 770400) to confirm the current course fees.

Once you have been offered a place on an Access course, you will be eligible to apply for an Advanced Learner Loan. The loan means that you will not have to pay any tuition fees up front and will only pay back the loan when your salary rises above £21,000. If you go on to successfully complete a degree programme after your Access course, your loan will be written off - so in effect your Access course could be free.

There is an Advanced Learner Loan Bursary Fund available, to help with course related costs such as travel and childcare costs.

There will also be the cost of books and materials to consider, although these costs should be minimal.



Want to know more
about your options?

visit www.higheryork.org

What are the entry requirements?

For York College Access courses, you usually require a level 2 (GCSE or equivalent) qualification in English and Maths. If you do not have these formal qualifications, you may be asked to complete a pre-Access course prior to starting the Access course itself. You also need to show that you have the motivation, commitment and life skills to cope with the requirements of higher education.

How long does it take to complete the course?

All of York College's Access to HE Diplomas are offered full-time over one academic year (32 weeks). You will typically be required to attend College 3-5 days a week, with independent study on top of this.

What subjects could I study?

The following Access to HE Diploma pathways are available at York College:

- Allied Health Professions
- Art, Design and Media
- Business
- Computing
- Education Professions
- Humanities
- Nursing and Midwifery
- Science
- Social Science

Each course is divided into units of study, made up of core units (which you must study) and optional units which you can choose from.

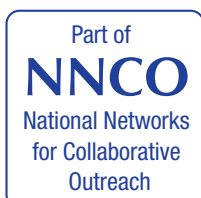
You can find out more about York College's Access to HE Diplomas at: www.yorkcollege.ac.uk/access.

What assessment methods are used?

A range of assessment methods are used, including essays, reports, presentations and examinations.

What do I get at the end of the course?

At the end of the course, providing you have passed the units, you will have built up enough credits to be awarded the Access to HE Diploma. An Access to HE Diploma is a nationally recognised entry qualification for degrees and professional training courses. The qualification is also recognised by employers.



www.higheryork.org

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