



North Highland College University of the Highlands and Islands

Computing Science - National 4 (SCQF 4)

Overview of course

Students will gain awareness of the importance that computing professionals play in meeting the needs of society today and for the future, in fields which include science, education, business and industry. They will study topics including web design, programming and databases.

Entry requirements/criteria

- Studying at national 4 level
- Relevant subject experience
- Satisfactory reference

Additional attributes North Highland College UHI would look for

Some prior knowledge of Computing Science will be advantageous for students undertaking this course but this is not essential providing students can demonstrate an interest in the subject.

Students will be expected to -

- Be prepared to work hard all session
- Catch up on work missed if they are absent
- Ask for help if they need it
- Complete weekly homework task
- Submit homework on time
- Complete homework to a high standard
- Revise throughout the session
- Access and use the virtual learning environment

Therefore, the following attributes and skills are important for applicants –

- Motivation for learning
- Commitment to take personal responsibility for learning
- Confidence to ask questions
- Dedication to completing work out with class
- Basic IT skills
- Independent study skills

What can students do after this course

On completion of this course students could progress onto the Computing Science National 5 course.

Additional information on this course for Guidance Teachers

Computing Science is an excellent choice for any student who wants to understand more about the world they live in – with computing being such an integral part of our lives, the course deals with some of the issues that this brings. The course breadth will prepare students for the world of work and further study in Computer Science. The depth of understanding and application required to pass the course will place students at a significant advantage if pursuing further study in this subject area.

Students will need to take an active role in their learning by applying the theory they've learnt to real life situations to be successful on this course.

Although classes are once a week, students will need to commit to regular private study in between classes to consolidate their learning. Private study tasks will be issued to students but individuals must take responsibility for completing these tasks. Since learners will be expected to take greater responsibility for their own learning and the development of their study skills, this course offers excellent preparation for any student considering progression to College or University study in any subject.

Many class activities are completed in groups, and as the class is made up of students from various schools and full time College students this is an excellent opportunity to make new friends and develop skills in working with others which will be an important for students considering entering the world of work or continuing to study at College or University.

The National 4 course is accessible to students who can demonstrate an interest in the subject even if they have no prior experience of computing science study.