

A Welsh version of this document is available



Cardiff and Vale College  
Coleg Caerdydd a'r Fro

[cavc.ac.uk](http://cavc.ac.uk)



# Higher Education Course Guide

## 2023/24



# Welcome

## to Cardiff and Vale College

This guide to Higher Education (HE) courses at Cardiff and Vale College (CAVC), contains all the information you need about studying our university level courses. CAVC offers a range of HE qualifications in partnership with expert universities in a wide range of subjects, from HNCs to PGCEs.

We pride ourselves on the exceptional support we offer our students and the personal approach to our teaching. The College is well placed to develop courses that meet the needs of employers in the region and our outstanding facilities provide real-world environments in order to fully prepare you for your future career.

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# Why choose CAVC?

On Campus  
and Online



## Quality education

**We are the first College in Wales to go through the Gateway Quality Review**

– which means that you can be confident that your academic experience meets the quality standards expected of a university course. The College can also now award its own vocational Higher Education courses.

**As the first and only Microsoft Showcase College in the country** we are experts at delivering high quality online learning so whatever happens, you continue to have a great experience and your learning continues.

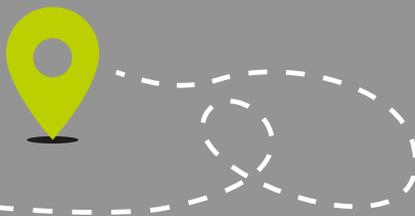


QAA



## Train for the career you want

Career-focused  
courses to boost  
your chances of  
securing your  
ideal career



## Support for you

A key feature of our Higher Education programmes is the exceptional support we provide to our students. In fact, Cardiff and Vale College scored 9% higher than the sector average for academic support and 12% higher for assessment and feedback. (National Student Survey, 2022).



## Personalised teaching

The College offers a university experience with a difference – keeping class sizes small, with usually around 15 people each, to ensure a **high quality, supportive and personalised** teaching approach.

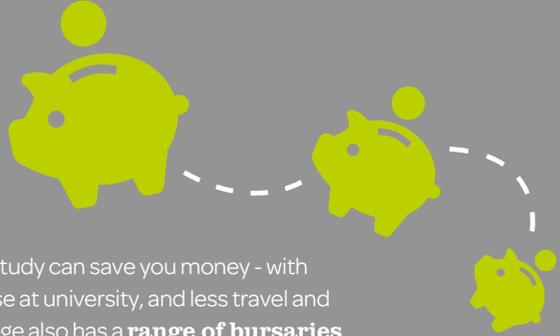


## Professional and specialist teaching

**We have specialist lecturers** who are fully engaged with their industries and keep up with the latest trends and developments. Expertise comes from both the College and its partner universities.

## Save money

Staying close to home while you study can save you money - with course fees often lower than those at university, and less travel and accommodation costs. The College also has a **range of bursaries** to support your studies – visit: [cavc.ac.uk/he](http://cavc.ac.uk/he) to find out more.



## World-class facilities

You will have access to industry specific teaching rooms and dedicated facilities at all sites for Higher Education study. This includes a HE Centre at our landmark **£45m City Centre Campus**. You will also be able to access the facilities of the partner university.

# Our sites



## City Centre Campus

City Centre Campus is our main hub in the capital city. Just a five minute walk from Cardiff Central Train Station and a ten minute walk from the city centre, this campus includes six different buildings all within a few minutes' walk. Most of our university level courses are taught at this campus. The 16,000m<sup>2</sup> building in the Central Cardiff Enterprise Zone boasts 130 teaching rooms, including specialist labs, workshops, studios, IT suites, general teaching rooms and two vast learning and skills centres as well as a Higher Education area.

The campus offers an onsite fine-dining restaurant, spa and salon, coffee shop, convenience store, specialist strength and conditioning gym and refectory.

Within just a few minutes' walk of this building are several specialist facilities. For HE, these include:

**CAVC Creative Arts Academy** - the main hub for our creative course provision. A new, dedicated space in Cardiff city centre with specialist facilities.

**CAVC Construction Training Centre** - a specialist centre for construction trades and professions.





## Cardiff International Sports Campus

With inspirational sporting facilities including a gym, fitness suites, 3G pitches, professional athletics track, classrooms and learning centre. Our Higher Education courses in sport are delivered here where students can study and train in a first class professional sporting environment.



## Barry Campus

Our main hub in the Vale of Glamorgan. Several of our Higher Education courses are taught at this campus.

This large site houses a huge range of facilities including The Glamorgan Suite restaurant; academi urbasba salon; specialist construction, building services and automotive workshops; a dedicated art and design floor and a wide range of teaching and learning spaces. There is also a busy canteen, shop and coffee shop on site for learners and plenty of on-site parking. Or just hop on a bus from Cardiff or the Vale and get dropped off just outside the campus gates.





## International Centre for Aerospace Training (ICAT)

Our International Centre for Aerospace Training is a centre of excellence for aerospace right next to Cardiff Airport. This fantastic facility houses aerospace courses at all levels, including our Aircraft Engineering Degree programme delivered in partnership with Kingston University. Complete with aircraft hangar and several aircraft, ICAT offers a state-of-the-art specialist environment for anyone wishing to enter this industry.





I chose to study at Cardiff and Vale College because of the small class sizes, the wealth of knowledge the teaching staff have and the fantastic facilities at ICAT.

The tutors here are really supportive. If you don't understand an aspect of the work, you get plenty of one-on-one time with the teaching staff who are all very patient.

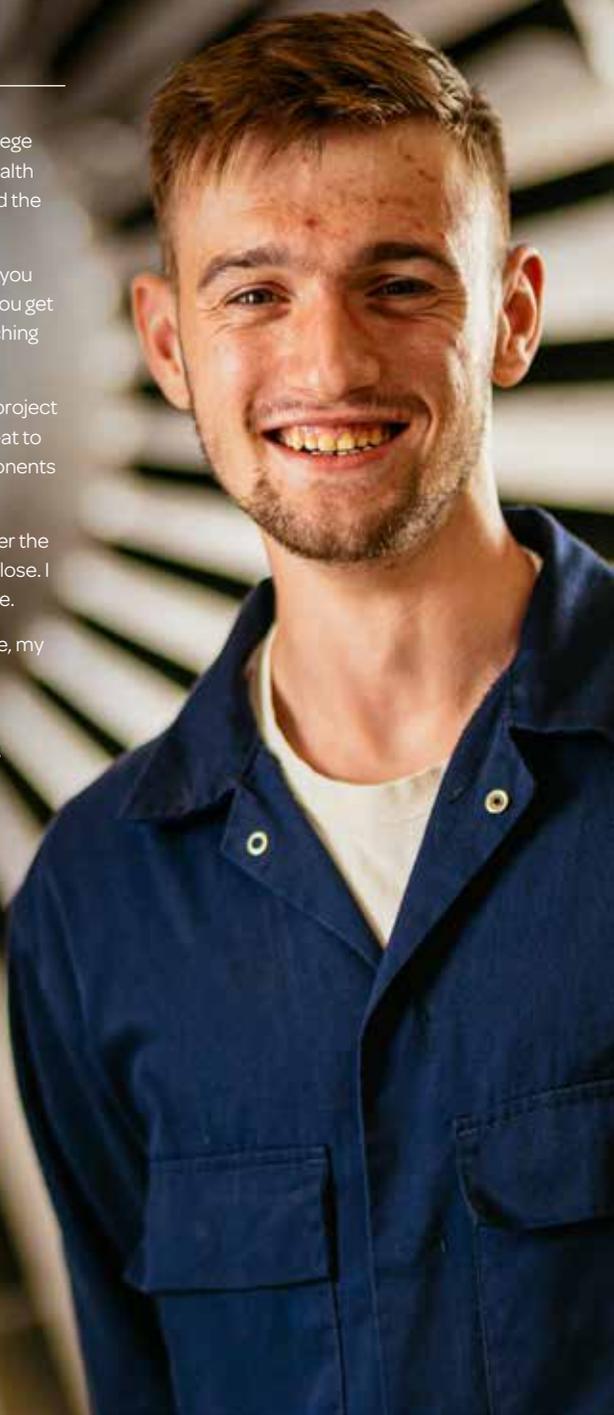
The highlight of my course was our group project where we built a working glider. It was great to see both the electronic and design components coming together.

I've really bonded with my classmates over the last three years and we've become very close. I know I have made some friends for life.

I hope that after finishing my studies here, my career will really take off!

**Harri Stallard**

BEng (Hons) in Aircraft Engineering



# Support we provide:

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## Financial advice

There is a range of financial support available from Student Finance Wales for both full and part-time students, with loans to cover the tuition fees and a mix of grant and loan for living costs.

Detailed information can be found on our website and your eligibility will depend on your personal circumstances and your chosen course. Our Customer Service Team includes specialist advisors who can offer more information and guidance in this area.

Contact us for full details or you can also visit [studentfinancewales.co.uk](http://studentfinancewales.co.uk)

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## Welsh provision and support

CAVC is proud to be Welsh.

We are committed to ensuring learners continue to use and develop their Welsh skills and provide opportunities to do this as well as submit work and be assessed in Welsh.



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## Careers

Our Careers and Ideas Team offers advice and guidance with job applications, work experience opportunities and progression to further study.

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## Support for learners with additional learning needs

Our specialist team is dedicated to supporting learners through their course with specialist support for learning difficulties or physical disabilities including dyslexia, dyspraxia, visual/hearing impairment, mobility issues, ADHD, autism and serious illness.

Higher Education students can apply for the Disabled Students' Allowance. Find out more by visiting: [cavc.ac.uk/hesupport](http://cavc.ac.uk/hesupport). You can apply for the Disabled Students' Allowance before or during your course although we recommend that you do so as soon as possible as it can take some time to get everything in place.



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## Counselling support

Our professional counselling team are on site to support students.

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## International students

Our experienced team can assist with student visas, accommodation options, health care, travel and many other aspects of life in Cardiff and the UK.

For more information email:  
[international@cavc.ac.uk](mailto:international@cavc.ac.uk)



I've really enjoyed my time here at Cardiff and Vale College. I've been able to work on a lot of live projects, where industry professionals come in with a brief for us to work on that same day.

Small class sizes mean that my individual ambitions and aspirations are recognized, so the teaching staff can aid and assist me in reaching my goals. Here we're taught that our classmates here will be each other's contacts in the industry, not our competitors.

If you are someone who enjoys learning about design and getting their hands dirty with practical projects, then this is the course for you.

**India Lloyd-Evans**

Foundation Degree in Product Design



# Our partners

We work in partnership with a number of expert universities in Wales and England to deliver Higher Education qualifications. So although you will be studying at Cardiff and Vale College – you will graduate with a university qualification from one of our expert partner universities.

Our partner universities:



Cardiff  
Metropolitan  
University

Prifysgol  
Metropolitan  
Caerdydd



Cardiff and  
Vale College is  
a collaborative  
partner of the  
University of  
South Wales



Prifysgol Cymru  
Y Drindod Dewi Sant  
University of Wales  
Trinity Saint David

Kingston  
University  
London

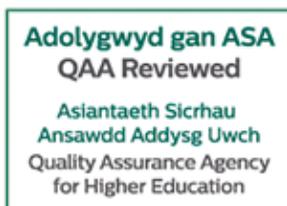


UNIVERSITY OF  
WEST LONDON  
The Career University

## Quality Assurance

**As the first College in Wales to go through the Gateway Quality Review**

– you can be confident that your academic experience meets the quality standards expected of a university course. The College can also now award its own vocational Higher Education courses.





I decided to study for my BSc after completing a BTEC at the College. I spoke with my tutors, who were really supportive, and they told me about the HE options here.

I'm really enjoying this course. I'm learning a lot and I've even had the chance to participate in a WorldSkills event, competing with other students at colleges and universities from all over the world!

If you are considering studying at Cardiff and Vale College, I would say go for it! I have had fantastic support throughout. The experience that I've had at the College has been absolutely amazing, and the people that I've met have been incredible.

**Ellie Mitchell**

BSc (Hons) Cyber Security



# What is the right course for me?

Below is a guide to the different types of Higher Education courses and qualifications offered at CAVC.

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## Foundation Degree (FD)\*

Foundation Degrees are studied over two years, full-time (approx. three years part-time) and provide a stand-alone qualification but also offer progression opportunities for further study.

A Foundation Degree carries the same weight as two thirds of a bachelor's degree. Upon successful completion of a Foundation Degree, you have the opportunity to 'top-up' to a full degree with one of our partner universities.

Foundation Degrees combine academic and work-based learning and are intended to equip you with skills and knowledge relevant to industry.

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## Higher National Diplomas (HNDs)

A work-related qualification that will advance your career, give you practical skills and lead to higher study. HNDs take two years to complete full-time and are Level 5 qualifications that are highly valued by employers. HNDs combine academic and hands-on practical and vocational learning that will develop the skills you need for the workplace.

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## Higher National Certificates (HNCs)

Higher National Certificates (HNCs) are Level 4 vocational qualifications. They take one year to complete full-time and are practical-based courses that can prepare you for either work after completion or studies at degree level.

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## Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)

A Diploma of Higher Education, like a HND, takes two years to complete full-time. They are both vocational courses and both carry the same credit value. The difference comes down to the method of assessment. A HND is mostly practical in the way it assesses students, whilst a DipHE follows a slightly more traditional assessment route.

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## Degree courses – BA (Hons), BSc (Hons), BEng (Hons), BMus (Hons)

Cardiff and Vale College offers some exciting full degree courses. These are delivered in partnership with a number of universities and equip you with a full degree qualification in your area of interest.



## Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (PgCE) / Professional Certificate in Education (ProfCE)

In partnership with the University of South Wales, CAVC offers both these qualifications in Post-compulsory Education and Training to enable you to gain a nationally recognised qualification to teach in the post-compulsory sector.



Because of different chapters in my life I left school, went to college then straight into work. But teaching was still my passion, so one day I thought 'Let's just go for it!'

I chose Cardiff and Vale College because it's got a good reputation and it's local and easily accessible to me. The staff have been absolutely brilliant. The support has been fantastic and the teaching is second to none. This course has really helped me; pushing me and developing my skills.

I'd recommend studying at Cardiff and Vale College, the application process is really simple and there are people here to help you all the way.

**Muhammad Faiz Azman**  
PGCE

\*For more information regarding the defining characteristics of Foundation Degrees you may refer to the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Foundation Degrees Benchmark Statement.

# Our courses

Below is a list of our Higher Education courses. To view full details including modules, locations, partners, fees and more, visit: [cavc.ac.uk/uni](http://cavc.ac.uk/uni)

## Business and IT

BSc (Hons) Cyber Security  
HND Business  
HND Computing

## Teaching And Early Years

FD Education Learning & Development  
ProfCE Post Compulsory Education and Training  
PgCE Post Compulsory Education and Training (Welsh)

## Creative Arts

FD Graphic Communication  
BA (Hons) Electronic Music Production (top up)  
BMus (Hons) Music Performance & Recording (top up)  
DipHE Music Performance & Recording  
DipHE Electronic Music Production  
FD Game Art & Design  
FD Product Design  
FD Contemporary Artist Designer  
HND Technical Make Up Artistry, TV, Film & Theatre

## Engineering, Construction and The Built Environment

BEng (Hons) Aircraft Engineering  
HND Aeronautical Engineering  
HNC/D Construction & Built Environment Pathways:  
- Construction & Built Environment  
- Construction & Built Environment (BSE)  
- Construction  
- Civil Engineering  
- Surveying  
- Building Services Engineering

## Health, Care and Social Sciences

FD Healthcare Play Specialism  
FD Health & Social Care Management  
FD Youth & Social Care  
FD Psychology  
Certificate of HE Substance Misuse  
HND Complementary Healthcare

## Sport and Public Services

FD Sports Conditioning Rehabilitation and Massage  
FD Applied Coaching & Analysis in Football Performance  
HND Public & Emergency Services



I really enjoyed both the academic and practical elements of my course. I love being outdoors, so it was great to have the opportunity to go on an excursion with my class and undertake work out in the field.

In the past, I've struggled with my dyslexia, but I was able to access the Skills Centre and the tutors were really supportive throughout my course. A highlight was when the Welsh Ambulance Service gave a presentation to our class. They then gave us an opportunity to gain some valuable work experience as a Community First Responder.

The College provided me with all the skills and knowledge I needed to succeed in my new role as a Combat Medical Technician.

**Bethan Thomas**

HND in Public and Emergency Services



# How to apply

## Full-time

Applications for full-time courses must be made via UCAS (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). You can visit our website at [cavc.ac.uk/uni](http://cavc.ac.uk/uni) for course details and links to the relevant UCAS webpages.

## Part-time

You will need to apply directly to the College. You can do so by clicking 'Apply Now' on the relevant course information sheet on our website.

For more information visit: [cavc.ac.uk/apply](http://cavc.ac.uk/apply) or speak to one of our Student Services team via our Live Chat function on our website.

## Open Evenings

We run Open Evenings throughout the year across all of our campuses. For dates and booking information: [cavc.ac.uk/openevenings](http://cavc.ac.uk/openevenings)

