

NEWBATTLE
ABBAY
COLLEGE

Colaiste Abaid a' Bhatail Nuaidh



PROSPECTUS 2017-18

ABOUT US



As 'Scotland's Adult Education Residential College', we offer adults the opportunity to experience a high quality transformative learning experience within a historic heritage site. Our motto is 'Sero Sed Serio' (Late but in Earnest), and describes our students, who are mostly 19 years of age or over, returning to education after diverse life experiences. We also support young people at points of transition.

Taking the first steps back into education can be daunting, but at Newbattle we are aware of that and aim to provide the right sort of support. Our learners benefit from high quality teaching in tutorial groups. Our tutors are committed to helping learners build their confidence and enjoy their learning experience.

The college is set in 125 acres of beautiful parkland, just outside Edinburgh and the historic 16th century building and peaceful surroundings make it a unique place to learn and study, to take stock and embark on new opportunities. When the 11th Marquis of Lothian generously gifted this former Cistercian monastery to the people of Scotland, he wanted those who never had an education to benefit. 80 years later, the college still operates with the same principles. Our core strengths are academic excellence and student support which means our teaching is centred around you. Why not make Newbattle Abbey College the next chapter of your life?

Ann Southwood
Principal





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ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION COURSE

SCQF Level 6

Our 1 year full-time Arts and Social Sciences Course is part of the Scottish Wider Access Programme (SWAP) and offers a unique residential learning experience to adults aged 19 or over, with few or no qualifications. If students complete the course successfully, they can progress to higher education. Over 75% of our students progress to higher education programmes every year. Currently, our former students are studying Literature, Politics, Psychology, Social Work and History in a range of universities across Scotland.

Most students will study on a residential basis but we also offer some non-residential places under special circumstances. Newbattle offers a unique experience to students:

- ▶ It is one of the few places in the UK where you can enjoy residential living.
- ▶ Our courses are tailored to adults with few or no qualifications.
- ▶ It is a transformative learning experience.
- ▶ We offer high quality support and extensive preparation for higher education.

COURSE CONTENT

- ▶ SOCIOLOGY
- ▶ MATHS
- ▶ CREATIVE WRITING
- ▶ PHILOSOPHY
- ▶ LITERATURE
- ▶ COMMUNICATION
- ▶ ICT
- ▶ HISTORY
- ▶ PSYCHOLOGY
- ▶ POLITICS





ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

HIGHER NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (HNC) SOCIAL SCIENCES ASSOCIATE STUDENT SCHEME

SCQF Level 7

Our 1 year full-time HNC Social Sciences is an Associate Student Scheme in partnership with Queen Margaret University. Students who successfully complete this course will progress to Year 2 in certain undergraduate programmes at Queen Margaret University. Students may also choose to apply to Year 1 undergraduate courses in other universities. This course is available on a residential and non-residential basis.

COURSE CONTENT

- 👉 SOCIOLOGY
- 👉 PSYCHOLOGY
- 👉 POLITICS
- 👉 HISTORY
- 👉 PHILOSOPHY

What is an Associate Student?

Newbattle Abbey College and Queen Margaret University have developed a new way to achieve a degree. As an Associate Student, you will be fully enrolled as a Queen Margaret University student from day one, but you will study the first year of your degree course at Newbattle Abbey College to complete an HNC. On successful completion, you will have a guaranteed place at Queen Margaret University for 2nd year in the following courses:

- ▶ BSc (Hons) Psychology
- ▶ BSc (Hons) Psychology & Sociology
- ▶ BSc (Hons) Sociology or Public Sociology

For more information please see QMU website www.qmu.ac.uk

What are the benefits for me?

- ▶ If you are unsure about making the leap from school to university, studying at college can be a good way to prepare yourself. One of the benefits for you may be that you get to study for a year in smaller classes than university. As you work through your HNC, the college will prepare you for the more independent learning style and the academic standards required at university.
- ▶ If you have been out of education for a while, or have been working in industry and now want to gain a relevant qualification, college may also be a more suitable entry route for you. Colleges specialise in helping people returning to education after a break and learning styles are a lot more vocational and practical. The first year of the Associate Student route is designed to reflect these types of learning styles.
- ▶ You may have found that your Higher results after school were not good enough to get you into university, or they were not up to date if you took your school qualifications a while ago. The Associate Student routes offer entry to Queen Margaret University degrees with slightly lower entry qualifications because the first year is spent at college.
- ▶ As you progress through your HNC course, we will arrange visits to the university campus, workshops on academic skills and guest lectures – this will ensure you are prepared for your transition to 2nd Year at Queen Margaret University.
- ▶ You will be in a class where there are other Associate Students, so you will be able to make friends with the people who you will study with for four years, before joining a bigger cohort of students at Queen Margaret University in 2nd Year.

Entry Requirements and Application Process

Applicants will be expected to have 3 Highers at level C, preferably in English or Social Science subjects, including Modern Studies, Psychology, Sociology, History, Geography and Religious, Moral and Philosophical Studies. Students who have successfully completed an SCQF Level 6 course, including Literature and Higher Communication, will also be considered. For mature students, life skills and experience in the workplace may allow entry, subject to availability. Students can progress to BSc (Hons) Psychology, BSc (Hons) Psychology and Sociology and BSc (Hons) Public Sociology.

All applications are through UCAS (code P5B9).

Applications can be made to UCAS until the end of June or until the course closes.

ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

PREPARATION FOR FURTHER EDUCATION

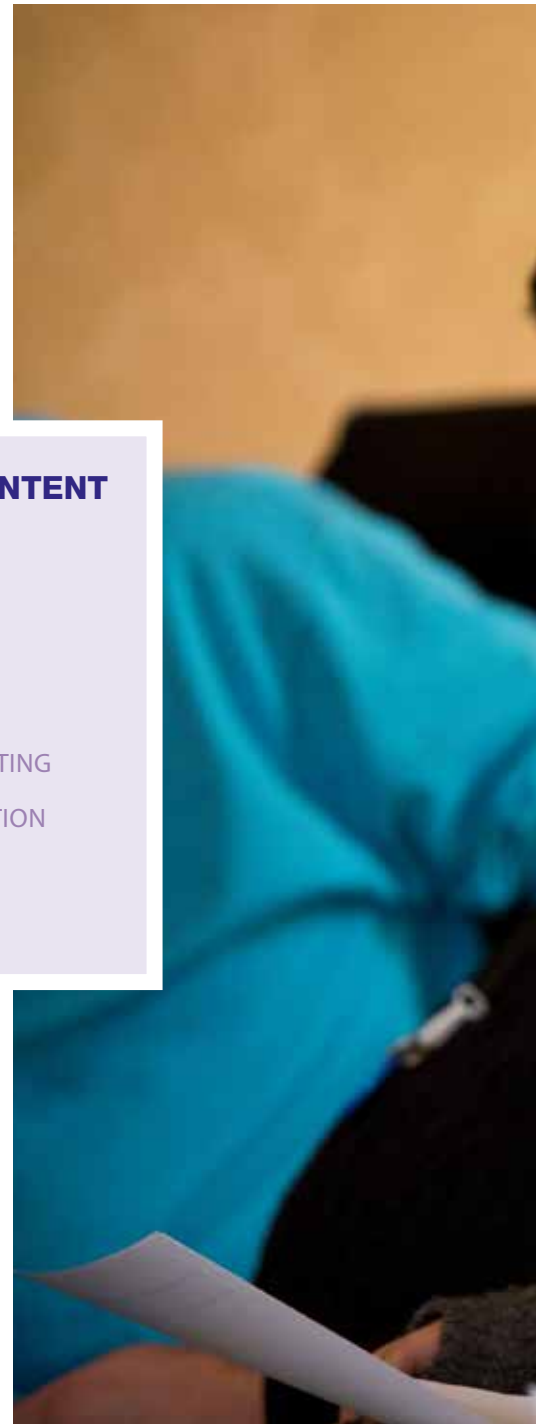
SCQF Level 4

Our 6 month part-time Preparation for FE Course offers adults an opportunity to prepare to return to full-time study. The course is delivered in partnership with ELM (Employment and Learning in Midlothian).

If students successfully complete the Preparation for FE Course, they may progress to other options at Newbattle or other colleges.

COURSE CONTENT

- 👉 SOCIOLOGY
- 👉 PSYCHOLOGY
- 👉 POLITICS
- 👉 HISTORY
- 👉 CREATIVE WRITING
- 👉 COMMUNICATION
- 👉 ICT
- 👉 NUMERACY





RURAL SKILLS PROGRAMME

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (NC) RURAL SKILLS

SCQF Level 4

This 1 year full-time practical course offers an introduction to gardening and estate maintenance in the college's Community Garden, Italian Garden, woodlands and 125 acre estate.

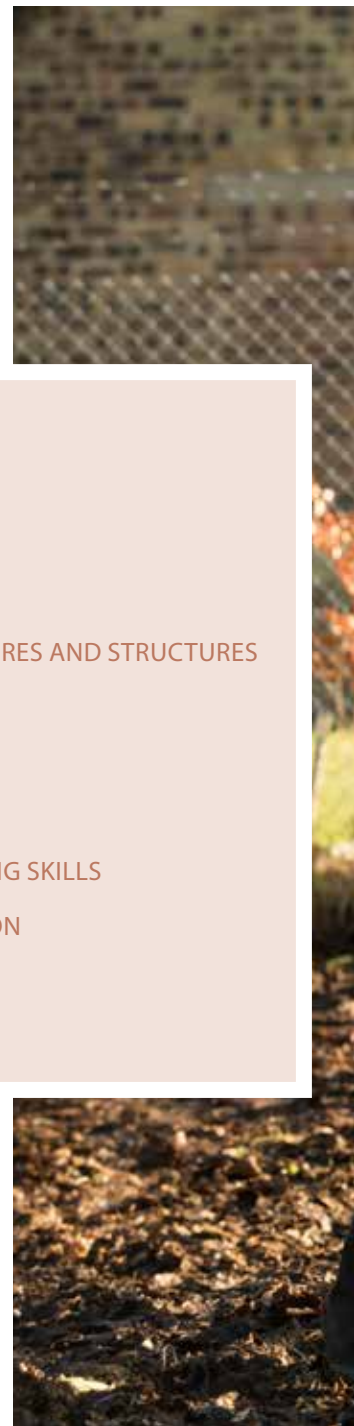
The college provides all protective equipment and tools. The course runs for 3 days a week in college with an additional ½ day of private study. Work experience is arranged in partnership with Forestry Commission Scotland. Students who complete this course successfully may move on to study specialist courses at land-based colleges.

Entry Requirements

There are no entry requirements for this course but an interest in working outdoors is required.

COURSE CONTENT

- 👉 TREE AND SHRUB PLANTING
- 👉 RURAL ESTATE MAINTENANCE
- 👉 TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT
- 👉 CONSTRUCTING RURAL FEATURES AND STRUCTURES
- 👉 WORK EXPERIENCE
- 👉 ENTERPRISE SKILLS
- 👉 SOFT LANDSCAPING
- 👉 INTRODUCTION TO GARDENING SKILLS
- 👉 RURAL SPECIES IDENTIFICATION
- 👉 CORE SKILLS
- 👉 EMPLOYABILITY





CELTIC STUDIES

NATIONAL CERTIFICATE (NC) CELTIC STUDIES

SCQF Level 6

This 1 year full-time course is designed for students who wish to develop knowledge and skills in Celtic culture, Celtic history and heritage, Gaelic language, the Politics of the Celtic nations and traditional music and dance. This course includes a residential cultural visit to Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in Skye to develop Gaelic language skills.

Entry Requirements

The course is open to all candidates but is aimed particularly at school leavers and mature applicants. Candidates should ideally have 3 National 5s, or equivalent, one of which should be English. Work experience or volunteering in the creative and culture industries will be considered for mature students.

COURSE CONTENT

- ✦ CELTIC STUDIES: AN INTRODUCTION
- ✦ STORYTELLING IN THE CELTIC TRADITION
- ✦ HERITAGE INDUSTRY IN SCOTLAND
- ✦ CONTEMPORARY GAELIC LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
- ✦ GAELIC: SPEAKING AND WRITING FOR NEW LEARNERS
- ✦ GAIDHLIG: SPEAKING AND WRITING FOR FLUENT LEARNERS
- ✦ HISTORY OF THE CELTS IN SCOTLAND
- ✦ POLITICS IN THE CELTIC NATIONS
- ✦ LITERATURE

Optional units include:

- ✦ INVESTIGATING ARCHAEOLOGY
- ✦ COMMUNICATION 4
- ✦ FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY
- ✦ CONTEMPORARY GAELIC MUSIC AND SONG
- ✦ MUSIC: SONGWRITING
- ✦ SCOTTISH DANCE
- ✦ CREATIVE WRITING



CELTIC STUDIES

ACCESS TO HIGHER EDUCATION COURSE

SCQF Level 6

Our 1 year full-time Celtic Studies course is part of the Scottish Wider Access Programme (SWAP). This course is available on a residential and non-residential basis for adults aged 19 or over with few or no qualifications. If you complete the course successfully, you can progress to higher education programmes such as Celtic Studies and Gaelic and Primary Education. This course includes a residential cultural visit to Sabhal Mòr Ostaig in Skye to develop Gaelic language skills.

Newbattle offers a unique experience to students:

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- ▶ COMMUNICATION 4
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- ▶ POLITICS IN THE CELTIC NATIONS
- ▶ LITERATURE
- ▶ MATHS

Optional units include:

- ▶ INVESTIGATING ARCHAEOLOGY
- ▶ FAMILY HISTORY AND GENEALOGY
- ▶ CONTEMPORARY GAELIC MUSIC AND SONG
- ▶ MUSIC: SONGWRITING
- ▶ SCOTTISH DANCE
- ▶ CREATIVE WRITING





SHORT COURSES

In 2017-18 Newbattle will offer short courses in:

Beekeeping

Learn about the honey bee, the hive, how to carry out a hive inspection, the tools you need to start up a hive, the problems you might encounter and, of course, how to harvest your honey!

Observe practical bee handling in our college apiary and help put together wax frames to prepare for next year's harvest.

Gaelic Language

Gaelic language classes for Beginners and Improving Beginners are available at Newbattle or in community locations in Edinburgh.



Resource Room

A WELCOMING PLACE TO STUDY

Newbattle is one of Scotland's smallest colleges and is a supportive and welcoming place to study.

Support for Learning

All students have a Personal Tutor, who meets them regularly to support their learning and advise on next steps.

Small Tutorial Groups

All subjects offer tutorial support, designed to enhance learning and prepare students for higher education.

Additional Support

Newbattle welcomes applications from adults with a disability, health issue or specific learning difficulty, including dyslexia. Counselling facilities are also available. We encourage students to provide full details in their application.

WHAT ELSE DOES NEWBATTLE OFFER?

ICT

The college has 2 fully equipped Learning Centres open 7 days a week. Our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) allows students to access learning resources 24 hours a day within and outwith college. Our classrooms are fully equipped with state of the art ICT, including Smartboards.

Student Residency

Our student residency, adjacent to the main building, includes student kitchen facilities. All food is provided by the college but there is also a shared kitchen where you can make meals or refreshments. The chef is very helpful with any dietary needs you may have, such as food intolerances or allergies.

There are shared toilets, baths, shower rooms and laundry facilities on each floor of the Residency. Students with a particular medical condition may request an en suite room, subject to medical evidence.

Wifi is available in the residency and students with televisions are responsible for their own licences.

The main building, which is open until midnight, has TVs, a pool table and table tennis facilities. Students often use the crypt, which was part of the undercroft of the old abbey, for social activities (especially Hallowe'en parties as the setting is ideal!).

Here's what one of our residential students said about the college: *"You can wake up at 8am, have a quick shower and breakfast and be in class in five minutes. It's great, no travel, no traffic and no bills!"*

Student Common Room

This includes a pool table, television and DVD facilities and offers a relaxed informal environment for students.

Library and Resource Room

Newbattle's beautiful library offers a quiet and comfortable place to study. Students can also access learning materials in the Resource Room.

College Grounds and Community Garden

Our extensive estate and woodlands offer a unique historic location for study. Students also help to develop our Community Garden.

Student Activities

Newbattle's Student Representative Council is an asset to the college and organises a range of social activities. These include Burns' Suppers, Hallowe'en parties, trips and social activities throughout the year. Students also take part in college festivals, community events and Newbattle's Rough and Ready Choir.



WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

Ellie Hope

HNC SOCIAL SCIENCES

I am currently studying the HNC course in Social Sciences. The partnership with Queen Margaret University is excellent and provides preparation for university life. Newbattle has great links with QMU and this support has advised me on options for higher education. Previous to this course I studied the Arts and Humanities (SWAP) course. The college has helped me so much by encouraging me to get back into education after a long gap. The courses are really interactive and the classroom sizes are fairly small so all lessons are engaging. The lecturers are brilliant they go to great lengths to help everyone achieve their full potential. The college has an extensive support network to make life at Newbattle accessible to everyone regardless of their learning needs. Newbattle has helped me develop an academic frame of mind and has helped with my transition to university. It is a relaxing learning environment set in a beautiful building. Overall the atmosphere in the college is friendly, welcoming and unique. I would encourage anyone to study at Newbattle for a diverse life-changing learning experience.



Kirsty Elder

SWAP CELTIC STUDIES

I studied on Newbattle Abbey College's Celtic Studies Swap course last year. I wanted to go on to study Primary Teaching with Gaelic at Edinburgh University. I am now in my first year at Edinburgh University and the course I did at Newbattle Abbey College has been a really good foundation. As I was returning to studying after several years, the course at Newbattle Abbey helped me develop my study skills, like essay writing and research.



Although I didn't grow up with Gaelic, there is Gaelic in my family so getting a chance to learn the language was a real treat too. It has been a really special experience and meant that we were invited to visit places like Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the Gaelic College in Skye.

Now that I'm at university I can really appreciate the benefits of everything that Newbattle Abbey College taught me and I'm looking forward to a future career as a primary teacher.

Michael Harris

NC RURAL SKILLS

I really enjoyed my time at college and met new friends. I learned new skills like planting and using new tools. The tutors go the extra mile for students. The one thing I would like for the future is to maybe consider a HNC in Rural Skills. In all, I really liked my time at Newbattle and would recommend it to anyone looking to get started in Rural Skills.



I discussed with the SWAP office the possibility of returning to education and they suggested Newbattle Abbey College. I jumped on the 95 and kept my eyes peeled for the usual 60's campus but I couldn't find it. What I did find was a 16th century country house built on a 12th century monastery set in beautiful grounds.

Being a residential student meant that I had easy access to study spaces, resources in the library and study groups. Given the small size of the college you know pretty much every student and staff member and they know you. This helps to build a sense of belonging and solidarity (especially important when the deadlines start to loom). A strong ethos of support and encouragement from the staff helps to build your confidence which I think may be the vital missing ingredient for adults returning to education.

Paul Marshall

SWAP ARTS & HUMANITIES

Newbattle Abbey College is unique: from the first walk down the path to graduating in the Drawing Room; from walks in the grounds to studying in the library; from the first tentative steps back into education to beginning a degree at university there is no other experience like it.



Armed with the skills developed at Newbattle I am now 'battling' History and Scottish History at the University of Edinburgh and I still haven't managed to tear myself away from Newbattle as I work as one of the sub-wardens.

What Education Scotland said about Newbattle Abbey College

In November 2015, Education Scotland conducted a review of Newbattle. The very positive review report was published in January 2016. Here are some highlights from the report:

“Relationships between learners and teaching staff are exceptionally positive and are based on mutual respect.”

“College staff are highly committed to providing the best possible learning experience for learners and to providing high levels of personal support.”

“Successful completion rates in full-time further education (FE) programmes and full-time higher education (HE) programmes are significantly higher than the national sector performance levels.”





What Education Scotland said about Newbattle Abbey College

“Partners have a very high regard for the college for its clear commitment to learning as a transformational tool, for its leadership in realising initiatives and for the quality of what it delivers.”

“The college has a strong focus on quality and a good track record for achievement and progression of learners.”

“The Student Representative Council (SRC) engage in various college committees including the Board of Directors. SRC members participate actively in these committees and there are many examples of college decisions which have been influenced by SRC input.”





FINANCE

A Further Education Bursary is available for all full-time students, aged 19 or over on the following courses:

- ▶ Arts and Humanities - Access to Higher Education
- ▶ Access to HE - Celtic Studies
- ▶ NC Celtic Studies
- ▶ NC Rural Skills
- ▶ Preparation for Further Education

For further details contact:

Administration Office
Newbattle Abbey College

Email: office@newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk

Tel: **0131 663 1921**

HNC Social Sciences

Students ordinarily resident in Scotland have their tuition fees paid for them. You must apply to the Student Awards Agency for Scotland (SAAS) to have your fees paid. Your entitlement to Tuition Fee and Bursary support may be affected if you have already undertaken degree level studies. You should consult SAAS for further guidance.

Student Awards Agency for Scotland
Gyleview House
3 Redheughs Rigg
Edinburgh
EH12 9HH

Tel: **0300 555 0505**

Web: www.saas.gov.uk

Email: www.saas.gov.uk/contact.htm

CONTACT DETAILS

To speak to someone directly about any course, call us on: **0131 663 1921**

Newbattle Abbey College is located 7 miles south of Edinburgh and is served by a regular bus service.

Newbattle Abbey College
Newbattle Road
Dalkeith
Midlothian
EH22 3LL

Email: office@newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk

Web: www.newbattleabbeycollege.ac.uk

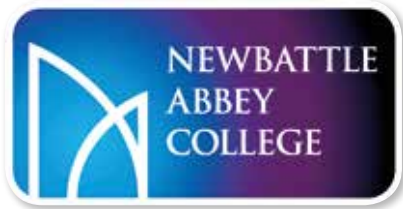
By Bus

Take the First X95 (Edinburgh-Hawick). Ask the driver to alert you at Newbattle Abbey College stop. Download X95 timetable from our website.

By Rail

The nearest railway station from Edinburgh Waverley is Eskbank. You can use the National Rail Journey Planner to find the most convenient route from your location.





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