


advanced apprentices welcome here!

We welcome applications from holders of Advanced Apprenticeships for direct entry to undergraduate degrees, Foundation Degrees or Higher National Certificates/Diplomas in appropriate subject areas.

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- > University of Brighton
 - > University of Chichester
 - > Central Sussex College
 - > Chichester College
 - > City College Brighton and Hove
 - > Northbrook College Sussex
 - > Plumpton College
 - > Sussex Coast College Hastings
 - > Sussex Downs College

> what do I need to know?

Advice on applying

Applications should be made through UCAS (www.ucas.ac.uk). There are deadlines for application and a lot of advice and guidance on the website. If you are pretty sure which course you want to do, you can also approach a university or college directly and they will guide you through the system. Their websites are on the back of this leaflet.

Finance

Universities and colleges charge fees which you may have to pay back, but help is available in the form of grants, loans, scholarships and bursaries. Some of these you have to pay back, others you don't.

You won't need to start paying anything back until you're earning at least £15,000 (as of February 2011). Funding rules are changing so for the latest information check out:

What routes are available

The following pages show some examples of higher education courses available from universities and colleges in Sussex which welcome applications from advanced apprentices in September 2011. You can read how people like you have successfully gone on to higher education in sectors like engineering, health and social care, early years education and business and administration.

> www.learning-opportunities.org.uk/financial-help-for-study



Advanced Apprenticeships

are considered to be equivalent to 2 A level passes and could include NVQ level 3, BTEC National or a City & Guild level 3 and Key Skills/Functional Skills at level 2 or 3. Once you have obtained these level 3 qualifications you can go on to a higher education course such as a foundation degree, higher national certificate, higher national diploma or even a higher apprenticeship.

> progression routes for engineering

Case study 1 > Vinnie Copper

When Vinnie Copper left school, he started a four year apprenticeship with HPC engineering based in Burgess Hill. This involved enrolling on a full time course at Central Sussex College to study an ONC and NVQ level 2.

In his second year he continued the ONC at the college on day release and started NVQ level 3 at HPC. In the third year he continued level 3 NVQ and enrolled on their Higher National Certificate in Engineering which is a higher education course. He was able to finish his apprenticeship and then complete the next level of higher education by gaining a Higher National Diploma in Engineering.

He has recently decided he wanted to go a step further and is currently studying an

honours degree in Engineering and Management Studies at the University of Portsmouth. Vinnie says, "I chose university to extend my knowledge and expand my choice of future." He says his favourite things about being at university are "freedom of learning and work based study."

There was a clear path to studying higher education at the college but he admits that finding an honours degree course that allowed him to keep working was difficult. Ultimately, he expects to benefit because he will gain a "greater knowledge and understanding of general work studies and patterns, and better business knowledge."

Where can I study?

Foundation Degree in Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
University of Brighton

Foundation Degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
Sussex Coast College Hastings

Honours Degree in Mechanical Engineering
University of Brighton

Honours Degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering
University of Brighton

BTEC Higher National Certificate/Diploma in a specified Engineering discipline
Central Sussex College

They will have an eye for detail and be very practical – a maths and science background isn't essential as plenty of support is offered in these areas within College. The majority of HNC/HND candidates secure employment in a short space of time.

Dr Masoud Ahary, HE Manager,
Faculty of Engineering,
Central Sussex College

(Right)
Vinnie Copper



> progression routes for health and social care

Case study 2 > Jon Anderson

Jon Anderson had not done as well as he hoped in his A-levels and was working as a porter at Clifden House, a residential care home in Seaford. He decided to train to become a care worker and completed the level 2 and 3 apprenticeships in health and social care through Baldwin Training, a private training provider.

In February 2012, he began studying the Diploma in Adult Nursing at the University of Brighton. After 18 months, if his results are good, he will convert on to the BSc (Hons) course and will qualify in 2014.

Jon's ambition is to become a paramedic. He will continue working occasionally at Clifden but will also undertake a number of six week work placements as part of his training.

He sees his apprenticeships as part of a pathway leading to becoming a nurse: "If I hadn't completed my levels 2 and 3 then I wouldn't have the skills and knowledge to progress to university."

His message to other advanced apprentices considering going to university is "Definitely do it! It's opened so many doors for me in my future."

Where can I study?

Foundation Degree in Health and Social Care in one of four strands:

- Mental Health and Psychosocial Care
 - Acute and critical care
 - Children, family and public health
 - Supporting long term care
- University of Brighton

Honours Degree in Nursing in one of three strands:

- Adult
 - Child
 - Mental Health
- University of Brighton

If I hadn't completed my levels 2 and 3 then I wouldn't have the skills and knowledge to progress to university

Jon Anderson



> progression routes for children's care, learning and development

Case study 3 > Becca Sperry

Becca Sperry completed a level 2 CACHE Certificate in Childcare and Education at Chichester College, then went on to complete an Advanced Apprenticeship in Early Years Care and Education at Northbrook College.

She is now studying the Foundation Degree in Early Years Care and Education at Northbrook and will graduate in December 2012. She admits to finding the cost of university a bit of a struggle, but with the help of her tutor and her colleagues at work found ways around this. Becca enjoys being able to share her knowledge and experiences with the other

students on the course and with colleagues at work as well as meeting new people.

She is working at Reflections Day Nursery in Worthing where she runs the toddler section and is also the Senior Nursery practitioner. This makes it challenging to fit studies around her work pattern. She is also still getting used to writing academically after being out of education for several years but she is persevering because she wants to progress in her career and gain more knowledge about Early Years. She hopes to continue to a BA (Hons) and Early Years Professional Studies. Her message to other apprentices? "If it is something that you have your mind

set on then don't let anything hold you back. Think of the prospects it could bring."

(Right)
Becca Sperry

Where can I study?

Foundation Degree in Early Years Care and Education
University of Brighton

Foundation Degree in Playwork
University of Brighton

Foundation Degree in Working with Young People
University of Brighton

BA (Hons) in Youth Work
University of Brighton

Foundation Degree in Early Years Care and Education
Northbrook College Sussex

Foundation Degree in Early Years Care and Education
University Centre Hastings

Foundation Degree in Early Childhood
University of Chichester

The value of advanced apprenticeship is that they combine workbased learning, practical experience and a development of key professional knowledge and skills – the Foundation Degrees build on this and extend the knowledge and skill base, whilst providing a route to professional recognition.

Mark Price, Principal Lecturer,
School of Education,
University of Brighton



> progression routes for business and administration

Case study 4 > Emma

Emma started work as an administration apprentice. After getting promotions, she had reached the point where it would benefit her career progression to go to university and get a higher level of qualification.

The entry requirements for the Foundation Degree in Business & Management at Chichester College were an A-level or equivalent and her Advanced Apprenticeship in Management was accepted as equivalent. Emma says, "I enjoy the freedom that my course gives me, to be able to have my job and also to study part-time towards my degree. I also enjoy the fact that my course has similar-minded people to myself, and we can bounce ideas and concepts about, and tend to help each other."

"I enjoy applying the knowledge gained through study and exam to my current role."

She warns, however, that it can be hard work: "The lessons can sometimes be unexciting, and you have to be really driven and want to get your qualification, in order not to become disengaged. I normally have to take annual leave before assignments and exams are due in, otherwise I would not have time to get everything done!"

But Emma reckons it will be worth it in the long run: "It has allowed me to pick up theories and build upon things that I first touched upon in my Advanced Apprenticeship in Management. I have the knowledge to apply the theories in my day to day role."

Where can I study?


Foundation Degree in Management
University of Chichester

Foundation Degree in Business and Administration
Chichester College

Foundation Degree in Hospitality and Event Management
City College Brighton and Hove

Foundation Degree in Business
City College Brighton and Hove and part-time at University Centre Hastings

Foundation Degree in Travel and Tourism Management
City College Brighton and Hove



I have found that my apprenticeships have benefitted me in my degree; I have used my actual experience in relation to the modules, and as such find it easier than my peers, and get consistent high marks.

Emma

> inspired? what do I do now?

For advice

Learning Opportunities in the South East gives free advice and guidance for people in work who want to improve their qualifications:

> www.learning-opportunities.org.uk

UCAS is the place to apply for higher education courses and has lots of advice about how to make a successful application:

> www.ucas.ac.uk

myfuturesussex.com is part of Connexions and gives advice and guidance on life and education choices for young people:

> www.myfuturesussex.com

For courses

Foundation Degrees in the South East is a directory of all Foundation Degrees and HNCs/HNDs in the South East of England:

> www.foundation-degrees-in-the-southeast.org.uk

To find out more about the courses on offer, go to the universities' and colleges' websites:

University of Brighton > www.brighton.ac.uk

University of Chichester > www.chi.ac.uk

University Centre Hastings > www.uch.ac.uk

Central Sussex College > www.centralsussex.ac.uk

Chichester College > www.chichester.ac.uk

City College Brighton and Hove > www.ccb.ac.uk

Plumpton College > www.plumpton.ac.uk

Northbrook College Sussex > www.nbc.ac.uk

Sussex Downs College > www.sussexdowns.ac.uk

Sussex Coast College Hastings > www.sussexcoast.ac.uk