

Department: ?

UCAS course Code: N/A

Awarding Body: The University of Northampton

Mode of Study: FT

Start Date: September 2010

Subject area: Education

Course Level: 5

Duration: 2 years

End Date: June 2012

Entry requirements:

Participants must demonstrate the ability to undertake intermediate degree level study, through prior qualifications at NVQ level three or equivalent. Appropriate levels of numeracy and literacy are required to support learners in schools and usually a minimum of two years' experience working as a teaching assistant.

Applicants require a positive employer's reference, from the headteacher (or equivalent) stating their support for study during term-time.

How to apply

Application is made directly to The University of Northampton. Telephone : 08003582232. The application deadline date for this course is 1st July 2010

Key Features

- Recognised qualification for teaching assistants
- Employment-based course designed to fit with participants' work
- Attend taught sessions one day per week during school terms
- Modular exemption for those with prior experience and/or qualifications
- Highly experienced and supportive tutor team
- High routes of progression to Honours degrees and Teacher Training programmes

Course content

The course is relevant to participants' working context and individual professional development needs. It is designed to fit in with their work as

teaching assistants. Modules support participants in developing excellent models of practice underpinned by theoretical understanding. Participants will be supported by school-based mentors in the workplace, as well as personal tutors. Modules are designed to support participants for developing the Higher Level Teaching Assistant (HLTA) standards and to extend their professional competence beyond this level. There is some modular exemption for participants who have already achieved appropriate higher education qualifications and for participants who have already achieved HLTA status.

Stage one

A modular programme designed to develop knowledge and experience helping support learners, thus enabling work based experiential learning. Successful completion of this stage of the course gives participants 120 Level 4 CATS points.

Stage two

These modules involve participants in broadening and deepening their understanding of learning and teaching. It follows the same modular structure as stage one. Successful completion, gives participants 120 Level 5 CATS points. At 240 CATS points, the award forms the basis upon which participants may progress, via a third year to the BA (Hons) Learning and Teaching degree.

Typical modules include

- Professional Studies in Learning and Teaching
- Work-based practice
- Special Educational Needs
- Subject-based studies core-curriculum and cross-curricular issues

Assessment:

Assessment is by the submission of coursework including assignments, practical projects, presentations, observations and portfolios of work practice.

Next steps and career opportunities

This degree leads directly to the BA (Hons) Learning and Teaching degree. Appropriately qualified candidates may then apply to an Initial Teacher Training course as a route to Qualified Teacher Status.