

Build your A-Team with Higher and Degree Apprenticeships

Lifechanging



University of
Sunderland



Accredited by:



Digital and Technology
BSc (Hons) Digital and
Technology Solutions

HIGHER AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS AT A GLANCE

Higher and degree apprenticeships are suitable for both **new** and **existing** staff.

Apprentices split their time between **university study** and the **workplace** and are employed throughout.

The courses can be **tailored** to meet the needs of employers.

Larger organisations can use their **apprenticeship levy** and government top-up to pay for tuition and professional fees of higher and degree apprenticeships.

For smaller employers, the government pays **90%**, with the remainder co-invested by the business.

“Degree apprenticeships give a good balance of both academic study and a strong practical grounding in the company. This is a great opportunity to develop our own team and bring in new blood in the form of apprentices.”

Malcolm Duffield,
Technical Lead, Northumbrian Water



Cover image: Erin Bryden,
Degree Apprentice at Northumbrian Water

HIGHER AND DEGREE APPRENTICESHIPS – THE BASICS

Transform your business performance and build your A-Team with a new government initiative which brings together the best of higher education and vocational training. Higher and degree apprenticeships are a cost-effective solution for all employers to acquire the latest higher level industry skills and knowledge. The courses integrate academic study with practical application in the workplace and can lead to a Higher Education certificate, diploma or undergraduate degree and professional accreditation or membership.

Higher and degree apprenticeships are suitable for both new staff and your current workforce, enabling you to attract fresh talent and upskill, motivate and retain existing employees. Apprentices split their time between university study and the workplace and are employed throughout.

Larger organisations can use their apprenticeship levy and the government top-up to pay for tuition and professional fees of approved apprenticeship standards such as our higher and degree apprenticeship courses.

For smaller employers that do not incur the apprenticeship levy, the government pays 90%, with the remainder co-invested by the business. Further incentives are available for smaller businesses and organisations that employ younger apprentices or those who have formerly been in care or who have an Education and Health Care plan.

“We knew that the University of Sunderland would work with us to make sure that the degree apprenticeship was designed to fit our business needs and would give our apprentices the best possible opportunity to be able to work and progress in Accenture.”

Karen Marshall,
Apprentice, Education and
Employment Lead at Accenture



WHY WORK WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF SUNDERLAND?

Internationally recognised for the quality of our teaching and research, the University of Sunderland has been providing higher education since 1901. We're an ambitious university with a global reach – as well as our two campuses in Sunderland, we also have 1,750 students studying at sites in Canary Wharf, London and in Central, Hong Kong. A further 9,000 students study in their own countries as part of transnational partnerships.

Our courses are developed in partnership with employers and we have a strong track record of supporting organisations such as Nissan and the NHS with bespoke work-based learning and access to world-class technical facilities and expertise. We're one of a select group of universities to be successfully delivering higher and degree apprenticeships with businesses already.

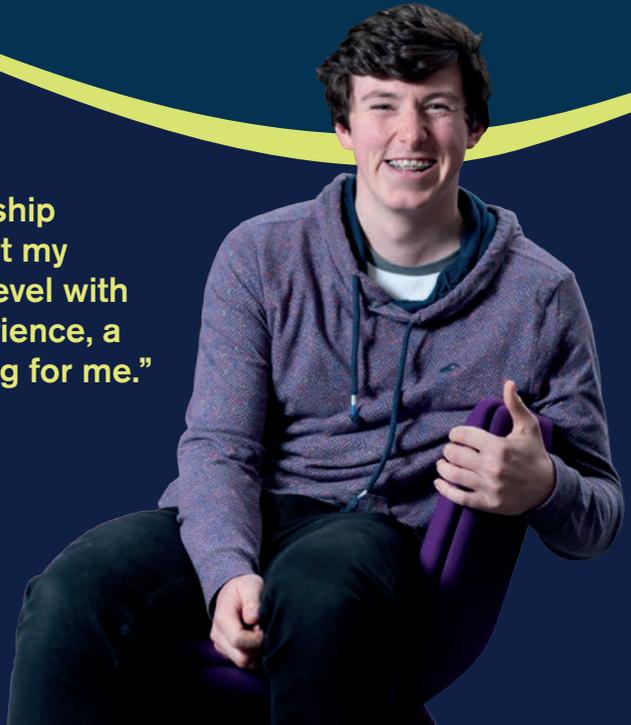
Our campuses provide state-of-the-art specialist equipment and cutting edge technology and we're well known as 'the friendly university'. That's because we genuinely care about the wellbeing of our students and we'll ensure that your apprentices have the best possible support whilst studying with us.

“Our Digital and Technology Solutions Degree Apprenticeship is a great opportunity for businesses to get involved and for them to develop a knowledgeable workforce by upskilling existing staff and attracting fresh talent to address the needs of their business.”

Caron Brown,
Programme Leader, Digital and Technology Solutions Degree Apprenticeship, University of Sunderland

“The degree apprenticeship means a chance to start my career at a really high level with three years' work experience, a degree and a job waiting for me.”

Liam Shanley,
Degree Apprentice at Accenture



COURSE OVERVIEW

This course combines the practical and theoretical fundamentals of software and information systems development and leads to an undergraduate degree (BSc (Hons) Digital and Technology Solutions). It is ideal for new or existing staff with level 3 qualifications (eg A-levels or equivalent). The course has been awarded the Tech Industry Gold standard by the Tech Partnership, an industry body representing a number of high tech businesses and industries in the UK. As such, it meets employer-relevant standards and offers apprentices the best possible development opportunity.

BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYERS

- Developed in conjunction with global professional services firm Accenture, national water company Northumbrian Water and micro business Geek Talent, the course can be tailored to meet the needs of a wide range of industry partners
- The course provides an opportunity to bring digital technology and business requirements together and enables apprentices to examine and apply new developments in computing such as cybersecurity
- Apprentices experience a wide range of learning activities so that they are well-prepared to work individually and in teams on analytical problem solving, and in practical scenarios of design, building, testing and evaluating business and software solutions
- Feedback from work-based mentors indicate that the contribution of their apprentices had exceeded expectations in terms of the knowledge and skills they had developed and were able to put into practice

“Balancing working life whilst still having an education is great for anyone – it gives a realistic perspective of how businesses are evolving and how you can be involved.”

Erin Bryden,
Degree Apprentice at Northumbrian Water



COURSE STRUCTURE

The course is delivered using a blended approach to learning via lectures, seminars, coaching, group work, computer-based learning and independent study. Our apprentices use PCs, Macs, commercial games consoles and mobile devices including their own phones as well as appropriate technologies in the workplace. We have a dedicated Learning Lab for interactive group work scenarios.

There is a strong element of work-based learning and project work. We'll work closely with you to ensure that modules are relevant to your business and that there are flexible study arrangements in place to fit with work commitments. Apprentices complete a range of coursework, portfolio and practical assessments designed to test the necessary attributes for a successful digital and technology solutions graduate.

YEAR 1

Level 4 (Certificate in Digital and Technology Solutions)
Fundamentals
120 credits

- Fundamentals of digital and technology solutions – information systems, systems development, data cybersecurity, business organisation, IT project management and computer and network infrastructure

YEAR 2

Level 5 (Diploma in Digital and Technology Solutions)
Principles and solutions in the workplace
120 credits

- Principles of digital and technology solutions
- Principles of software engineering
- Digital and technology solutions in the workplace

YEAR 3

Level 6 (BSc (Hons) Digital and Technology Solutions)
Applications and advanced skills and techniques
120 credits

- Advanced skills and techniques in digital and technology solutions
- Software engineering applications
- Degree apprenticeship project

Opposite page:

1. City Space, City Campus, Sunderland
2. The David Goldman Informatics Centre, Sir Tom Cowie Campus at St Peter's, Sunderland
3. Sir Tom Cowie Campus at St Peter's, Sunderland

Duration

Typically delivered over three years for the full undergraduate degree with apprentices attending one day per week.

Location and facilities

The course is delivered from our Sunderland campus and apprentices have full access to our IT and library resources, support services and Students' Union membership.

Entry requirements

For entry in May 2017, the usual entry requirements are 240 tariff points from at least two A-levels together with GCSE Maths and English or successful completion of a level 3 apprenticeship. For entry from September 2017 new tariff points apply – please visit ucas.com for further information on the changes to tariff points. In addition to tariff points, an employer may set other requirements.

Enrolment

Enrolment is in May 2017 and September 2017 (although this may be varied to meet the needs of the employer).

Fees and funding

There are different ways for the employer to fund the costs of higher and degree apprenticeships, which may include government levies already paid for by the employer or specific funding opportunities which may be available. For a discussion around your specific requirements please contact:

T: 0191 515 3555
apprenticeships@sunderland.ac.uk

Please contact us if you would like a chat about our current higher and degree apprenticeships or to discuss developing new courses with us.

T: 0191 515 3555
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sunderland.ac.uk/apprenticeships



For more information on higher and degree
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