

What is the course about?

The construction sector is vital in contributing to the Islands economy and in providing the essential infrastructure to support other sectors. In light of the current economic climate it is more essential than ever to gain skills and qualifications in this area, to improve future prospects and career progression. All our tutors are experienced master craftsmen and women and progression through the course might be able to provide an opportunity for an apprenticeship or full time employment in the construction industry.

Plumbers install water and heating systems in buildings and fix rainwater guttering. Plumbers cut, bend, join, weld and fix pipes and sheets made from metals and plastics.

This qualification is aimed at learners aged 16 and above who aspire to be skilled in their chosen trade, by progressing through an apprenticeship and working towards becoming a master craftsman.

What are the entry requirements?

You will need to have a minimum of 1 GCSE grade C in Maths/Science/English or Multi Skills Qualification at merit grade.

Mature entrants (over 18) may be allowed entry if they can demonstrate that they have an equivalent to the academic criteria via CV and interview. Additionally you will need to be employed and registered with the Department of Enterprise, who can be contacted on 685808. As applications for this craft are usually high and available student spaces are strictly limited, you are encouraged to make an application to College and begin seeking an employer as soon as practicable. Whilst applications will be administered upon receipt, enrolments will only commence on/after the official results date for GCSE's. Therefore only when an applicant can demonstrate they meet the entry requirements and there is space on the course will enrolment take place.

What subjects will I study?

The course is broken down into units and includes:

- Health, Safety and Welfare in Construction
- Understand how to apply scientific principles with mechanical services
- Carry out site preparation and pipework fabrication
- Domestic cold water
- Domestic hot water
- Domestic central heating systems
- Rainwater and above ground drainage systems

A course specific handbook can be found on the City & Guilds Website:

<http://www.cityandguilds.com/qualifications-and-apprenticeship/building-services-industry/plumbing/6189-plumbing-and-domestic-heating>

How will I be assessed?

The course commences September. Each unit is split into practical and theory elements. Self-study is part of the course and students are also set written assignments that will require some research and time management.

Most units have a practical and theory exam, both of which must be successfully completed in order to progress through the course. Students that already have a D in English or Maths will be given the opportunity to re-sit one free of charge as part of their life skills development.

The apprenticeship framework is delivered over 3 years:

1st Year: Two days at College (in the craft area) and employed in the craft

2nd Year: Day release & block weeks at College and employed in the craft

3rd Year: Day release & block weeks at College and employed in the craft

Note: Students that do not meet the required milestones will not progress onto the next level of qualification.

What are my progression options?

Successful completion of this course will assist students in progressing onto the register of Manx craftsmen and craftswomen, employment in either the domestic, commercial or industrial sector, start your own business or Level 3 National Diploma in Construction and the Built Environment.

Who should I contact?

Please contact the Programme Area Secretary on 648205 or email applications@ucm.ac.im.