

RE-

SHAPING

YOUR

FUTURE

**MAKING THE MOST OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN CORNWALL**

Find out how Higher Education can help you breathe new life into your career -  
or start a new one entirely at [www.cuc.ac.uk](http://www.cuc.ac.uk)



**COMBINED UNIVERSITIES IN CORNWALL**



**TAKE YOUR CAREER BACK INTO YOUR OWN HANDS AND DISCOVER THE TRANSFORMATIVE POTENTIAL OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN CORNWALL.**

These pages show you the incredible difference that returning to education can make to your life, career, confidence, opportunities and earning potential.

Turn the page and start your journey...



————— Life is rarely simple. Your career path may have a hit a few bumps, your personal circumstances changed or maybe you just fancy a change of direction. Higher education gives you **an incredible opportunity** to breathe new life into your career or to begin a new one entirely.

#### NEW SKILLS, NEW OPPORTUNITIES

Re-entering education may seem a little daunting but the benefits of gaining a new qualification and additional skills make it a great choice for anyone wishing to boost their prospects. Cornwall's colleges and universities have an array of options that can help you to:

**Advance your career:** Adding new skills to your existing set can help with promotion or increase the variety and quality of jobs available to you. Do you want to apply for positions that were previously out of reach?

**Get back on track:** If you have been made redundant, an additional qualification can make all the difference to finding work again. Boost your confidence and acquire new skills, while demonstrating to potential employers that you are pro-active and motivated. "The e-commerce course at Truro College helped give me confidence in my own ability to succeed in securing a full-time job," says Mark Andrews, who now works at The Range as their e-commerce manager.

**Boost your business:** If you're self-employed, there are many courses that can help you to grow your business – from e-commerce to project management. Part-time, short courses and distance learning study options allow you to fit your educational goals around your current working day.

Emily Tarrant runs a web design agency, Webfooted Designs, and completed a Project Management short course at Truro College to help her business become more efficient.

————— ***"The course tutor really helped make the course a success for me. She was excellent at explaining the subject matter in such a way as to make it easily applicable to my business and this enabled me to put techniques into practice immediately."***

*"I decided to return to education after 20 years working within the equine industry. Since starting the foundation degree course, I've set up my own business which provides an Equine Behaviour Consultancy service. I've found the lecturers at Duchy to be excellent and the reputation for equine is first class."*

Rose Scofield, who is studying BSc(Hons) Equitation at Duchy College

Higher education doesn't just mean full-time courses. There are now more study options and course options than ever before. You can fit your goals around your existing life, no matter how busy it is.

#### THE RIGHT COURSE FOR YOU

From sports massage to project management, e-commerce to professional writing, Cornwall's colleges and universities offer an incredible range of courses, allowing you to find the option that matches your interests, needs and aspirations.

CUC's easy to use course finder includes all the higher education courses available in Cornwall and allows you to search by subject area and keyword:

[www.cuc.ac.uk/courses](http://www.cuc.ac.uk/courses)

#### COURSE OPTIONS

**Access Diploma:** provides the relevant qualification for many degree and HE courses. Examples include nursing and computing.

**University level short courses:** offer flexible, part-time study. Examples include Business Management, Hospitality & Tourism, IT, Sustainability and Professional Writing.

**Foundation degrees:** combines academic study with work-based learning. Examples include Art & Design and Sport & Leisure.

**HND:** offers vocational training with a strong grounding in practical skills. Examples include Sound Engineering and Complementary Therapies.

**NVQ:** 'competence-based' qualification designed to teach practical, work-related skills and knowledge. Five levels available. Examples include Health & Social Care and Furniture Making.

**Bachelors degrees:** BA, BSc, BM. Minimum three years of study. Examples include Renewable Energy, English and Graphic Design.

**Postgraduate study:** Masters, doctorates, certificates and diplomas. Examples include Television Production and Minerals Engineering.

#### STUDY OPTIONS

**Full-time:** usually from one to three years in length.

**Part-time:** allow you to enter higher education while maintaining a part-time job.

**Evening study:** gives you the flexibility to work during the day.

**Short courses:** range from one-day workshops to weekly classes over three months, providing a great introduction to a variety of subjects - or just a chance to top up your skills and boost your earning potential.

**Distance learning:** delivered entirely online, offering great flexibility if you want to study and continue your job or have commitments that keep you at home.

**Blended learning:** delivered predominantly online but with some lectures and workshops. Like distance learning, these courses are perfectly suited to people who want to carry on working while they study.

*"I chose to study part-time. I wanted to add depth to my 12-year career as an illustrator but I couldn't afford to not work and I didn't want to lose a lot of my existing contacts. It's been hard work but necessary for the way I live and work. The part-time MA is spread out over a much more manageable schedule than the full-time course."*

Caroline Pedler MA Illustration,  
University College Falmouth

————— Millions of pounds have been invested into Cornwall's higher education infrastructure in recent years. The **diversity** of courses, quality of teaching and specification of facilities is now outstanding – so you can gain new skills, experience and contacts without giving up the Cornish lifestyle you love.

#### ON YOUR DOORSTEP...

Cornwall's facilities make it a fantastic place to re-enter higher education. Whether you're looking to start a business, sharpen your skills or train for a new profession, you'll find high specification facilities to match your chosen subject, headed up by some of Europe's leading lecturers, technicians and professionals.

#### UNLIMITED POSSIBILITIES

Alongside career support from your chosen institution, Unlocking Cornish Potential (UCP) can open the door to your career. UCP matches talented graduates with progressive Cornish companies to fuel innovation, growth, creativity and economic prosperity in Cornwall. Find out more at [www.cornwall.ac.uk/ucp](http://www.cornwall.ac.uk/ucp).

#### CORNWALL'S CHANGING FACE

Cornwall's business landscape is changing. It is pioneering low carbon development, expanding its creative industries and investing in its growing digital economy (including £132 million into Next Generation Broadband over the next three years).

This means plenty of exciting jobs if you have the right skills. The average starting salary for a graduate in Cornwall is now £19,307 (source: Unlocking Cornish Potential).

**Over £50 million has recently been invested into Cornwall's higher education facilities.**

Recent developments include:

- [Redevelopment of Truro and Penwith College's Penzance Campus](#)
- [University College Falmouth's Performance Centre](#)
- [Cornwall Council's Pool Innovation Centre, managed by the University of Plymouth](#)
- [University of Exeter's Environment and Sustainability Institute](#)
- [Dental Education Facility and European Centre for Environment and Human Health at Treliske](#)

...So you'll have access to the most up-to-date, purpose-built campuses and industry standard facilities.

**POOL INNOVATION CENTRE**

# Returning to education is an investment in your future.

## HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?

Your main costs are your tuition fees and your living costs. Maximum full-time student tuition fees are:

- £3,375 for 2011/12
- Up to £9,000 for 2012/13 (only applies to first-time students entering HE after September 2012). This will vary by institution and you should ask your chosen university or college.

If you're thinking about becoming a part-time student, you should contact the universities and colleges you are interested in to find out about the fees.

## IS THERE HELP AT HAND?

Yes. Tuition Fee Loans help you pay for your studies. These are for the full cost of your tuition fees, and are paid directly to your university or college. From 2012/13, tuition fee loans are also available for part-time students, who spend at least 25% of their time studying.

You do not pay your tuition fee loan back until you graduate and start earning. For example, the starting salary for a newly qualified teacher is around £21,500. Someone on this wage would make monthly repayments of less than £30 a month. Graduates who earn more will repay more each month.

There are also Maintenance loans to help with your living costs. The amount you can borrow depends on a variety of factors, including where you live and when you will start your course.

## IS IT JUST LOANS? IS THERE ANY HELP I DON'T HAVE TO PAY BACK?

Yes. Maintenance grants are also available to eligible students to help with your living costs (like accommodation, food and books), depending on your household income. These grants DO NOT have to be paid back.

## WHEN DO I HAVE TO PAY IT BACK?

Under current arrangements, if you begin your course before September 2012 you won't have to start re-paying your Tuition Fee or Maintenance loans until you are earning at least £15,000. If you start studying in September 2012 or later, you will not start paying back your Tuition Fee loan until you are earning at least £21,000.

## WHAT OTHER HELP COULD I GET?

You may also be eligible for one or more of the following:

**From 2012/13** there will be a new £150m National Scholarship Programme to help students from lower income families. This is still to be finalised.

**Bursaries and scholarships:** These are available to help with tuition fees and don't have to be paid back. Contact the university or college of your choice to find out more.

**What if I'm on benefits?** If you're currently receiving benefits and want to know how these may be affected by returning to study, please contact the student services team at the university or college you are looking to attend.

**What if I have children?** You could be entitled to additional financial support, including a Childcare Grant and Child Tax Credits.

## WHERE CAN I FIND OUT MORE?

Please visit [www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance](http://www.direct.gov.uk/studentfinance) for more information and contact the universities and colleges you are interested in with any questions regarding course fees and financial help available.



*"As I wanted a career change I realised that now was the time to do it. I have found I can easily fit my job around my studies. I wanted to stay in Cornwall to study so being able to attend Truro College with such great facilities was really convenient. The College has everything you need."*

**Matt Wing**, FdA Action Photography,  
Truro & Penwith College



*“After being made redundant, I wanted to improve my skills base, refresh the knowledge I already had and gain additional qualifications through further education. I’ve now launched my own property renovation business.”*

**Kevin Richards,**  
Truro & Penwith  
College

————— Returning to study really can change the direction of your career and the quality of your life. And if you need any more evidence...

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**Kevin Richards** completed SUCCESS courses in Business Management, Project Management and Innovation & Entrepreneurship with Truro & Penwith College. Initially funded by Response to Redundancy, Kevin’s studies have now led him to establish his own property renovation business.

————— *“I would encourage others to think about higher education as a way to improve job prospects without any hesitation. Not only has this been a great learning experience, it has also proven invaluable in terms of confidence building and the networking opportunities have been superb.”*

**Dave Franks** is currently studying for a FdSc Conservation & Countryside Management at Duchy College, Rosewarne:

————— *“Being green and kind to the environment has always interested me. Having been a motor cycling instructor I really loved teaching but the industry changed and I had to reconsider my career. This course is brilliant and as a mature student they couldn’t have helped me more. I really hope that following my degree I will be able to contribute something positive to the next generation.”*

**Tommy Tonkins** went back to education to do the MA in Multimedia & Broadcast Journalism at University College Falmouth. He’s now Communications Officer at international disaster relief charity, ShelterBox:

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————— *“Doing the MA provided me with a wide and varied skill set that has proved invaluable in my professional life and continued development. The course is delivered to the highest professional standard and, particularly in its teaching of multimedia, provided me with the knowledge, skills and enthusiasm needed to establish myself in the working world. Had it not been for the knowledge and skills I gained whilst doing the course I would not be in the job I am today.”*

**Jane Hutchinson** started with the European Computer Driving License to get some basic office skills, and was then encouraged to join the Access to HE IT and Multimedia course at Cornwall College. She then took the FdSc IT at Cornwall College and is currently doing the 3rd year ‘top up’ to BSc(Hons) Computing at the University of Plymouth.

————— *“Returning to education is probably the best decision I have ever made! I rediscovered the excitement of learning. I made new friends. I have begun a new career and am hoping to do a PGCE next year to teach in the Post Compulsory sector. It’s not been easy and each day brings a new challenge but it’s been the best time of my life!”*

# Higher Education in Cornwall is delivered by six independent universities and colleges who co-operate through the **Combined Universities in Cornwall** partnership.



## UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

The University of Exeter is an established, well respected university with an outstanding research record and three campuses – including one at Tremough, shared with University College Falmouth. Strengths at Exeter's Cornwall campus include geography, biosciences, politics, modern Celtic studies, English, mining and renewable energy. The campus is home to the Environment and Sustainability Institute. [www.exeter.ac.uk](http://www.exeter.ac.uk)

## UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH

Recognised for its enterprise culture and commitment to sustainability and graduate employability, Plymouth is a comfortable commute from Cornwall – approximately 60 miles from Truro. The university offers an array of study options and subject areas range from engineering to the creative industries to marine science. The University of Plymouth also approves many of the degree courses at Cornwall College, Truro & Penwith College and Treliske as part of its extensive region-wide partner network. [www.plymouth.ac.uk](http://www.plymouth.ac.uk)

## UNIVERSITY COLLEGE FALMOUTH

A pioneering specialist multi-arts institution with an international reputation for excellence in Art, Design, Media, Performance and Writing, UCF plans to gain university title by 2013/14, and become one of the top five specialist creative institutions in the world. Its high specification, industry-standard facilities and excellent learning environment attract students and lecturers from all over the world. Tremough Campus is shared with the University of Exeter. [www.falmouth.ac.uk](http://www.falmouth.ac.uk)

## PENINSULA COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

PCMD is a partner college of the Universities of Exeter and Plymouth and the NHS. Its Cornish base is at the Knowledge Spa, at the Royal Cornwall Hospital in Truro, and in 2007 PCMD opened the first new dental education facility in the UK in 40 years. The college specialises in providing clinical education and undertaking research of the highest standard. It offers Bachelor degrees in Medicine, Clinical Science and Dentistry as well as a wide range of postgraduate courses and research opportunities. [www.pcmd.ac.uk](http://www.pcmd.ac.uk)

## CORNWALL COLLEGE

Cornwall College has seven campuses across Cornwall with a wide range of courses. As well as degree courses in Business, IT, Creative Arts, Health & Social Care, Science, Engineering, Sport and Tourism, Cornwall College incorporates Duchy College and Falmouth Marine School and specialises in land-based, animal-related and marine studies. Qualifications offered include honours degrees, foundation degrees and degree-level short courses approved by the University of Plymouth. [www.cornwall.ac.uk](http://www.cornwall.ac.uk)

## TRURO & PENWITH COLLEGE

From evening and short courses to Apprenticeships, Higher National Diplomas, Foundation degrees, short university level courses (“SUCCESS courses”) and degrees (in association with University of Plymouth), Truro & Penwith College offers core business and specialist skills in media, humanities, sciences, performance, ICT, sports science, social care and public services, health and beauty, environment and public health. [www.trurocollege.ac.uk](http://www.trurocollege.ac.uk)

— There are no fewer than **13 different places** in Cornwall where you can take a university level course. Here's a whistle-stop tour of them all:



### TRURO & PENWITH COLLEGE

#### Truro Campus

Truro College's modern, fast-growing campus includes the stunning new Fal building, purpose-built for the College's university level students. If the sports, music and drama activities on campus aren't enough to fill your spare time, the bright lights of Truro are only a short bus ride away.

### TRURO & PENWITH COLLEGE

#### Penzance Campus

It's all happening in Penwith. England's westernmost college has embarked on a major expansion of its campus and its range of courses. With Penzance on the doorstep and the splendours of Mounts Bay and St Michael's Mount within easy reach, inspiration is never in short supply.

### UNIVERSITY OF EXETER & UNIVERSITY COLLEGE FALMOUTH

#### Tremough Campus

With a complete student village on the Campus, Tremough is home to Cornwall's biggest student community. The Campus is shared by University College Falmouth and the University of Exeter. Tremough recently saw the opening of a new £19 million Performance Centre, and continues to develop. A suite of impressive new facilities is set to open next year, including the £9 million multi-disciplinary research and development laboratory, the Academy for Innovation & Research (AIR); The Exchange, a £10 million high-spec learning and resources space; and the £30 million Environment and Sustainability Institute, a world-class environmental research centre. This meeting of minds and first class facilities makes Tremough a uniquely vibrant place, with an active students' union and plenty of clubs and societies to get involved in.

### POOL INNOVATION CENTRE

#### Pool

Home to some of Cornwall's most dynamic companies, Pool Innovation Centre provides a vital link between the worlds of education and business/ enterprise excellence. Offering inspirational short courses and evening courses, students can top up on skills and get mentorship to boost them into the business world with confidence. Cornwall Council's Pool Innovation Centre is managed by the University of Plymouth. Two more Innovation Centres are planned for Tremough and Treliske.

### UNIVERSITY COLLEGE FALMOUTH

#### Woodlane Campus

Maybe it's the subtropical gardens, maybe it's the glimpses of artworks taking shape through studio windows, but there is definitely a uniquely intimate and creative feel to Woodlane. With generous studio and floor space, graphic design suites equipped with industry standard software, a fashion studio and even an outdoor sculpture canopy, Woodlane will fire your imagination and ignite your ideas.

### THE KNOWLEDGE SPA

#### Truro

Don't be fooled by the serene, airy atmosphere of the atrium – the Knowledge Spa is a thriving hotbed of medical education and research. Positioned on the edge of the Royal Cornwall Hospital site in Truro, the building houses an ultra-modern lecture theatre, seminar rooms and specialist medical areas, including a new Dental Education Facility and European Centre for Environment and Human Health. The state of the art facilities are also used by third, fourth and fifth year students from Peninsula College of Medicine and Dentistry and student nurses from the University of Plymouth's Faculty of Health and Social Work.

### CORNWALL COLLEGE

#### Newquay

There's a close-knit, family feel to Cornwall College Newquay. With courses focused on the natural world, it's a place where like-minded people share their enthusiasm for wildlife and the environment. How many other colleges can boast an en suite zoo?

### DUCHY COLLEGE

#### Stoke Climsland

The campus is rural, but it's a hive of activity. Set in the rolling hills between Bodmin Moor and Dartmoor, Duchy College's Stoke Climsland campus is home to a broad range of agricultural, equine, environmental management and sports courses. There are student residences on site and an active social scene with a definite emphasis on the great outdoors.

### DUCHY COLLEGE

#### Rosewarne

Set in 47 hectares of countryside, Duchy College Rosewarne specialises in horticulture, providing outstanding facilities for garden design, crop production, floristry, conservation and veterinary nursing. The College enjoys close links with the Eden Project and the Cornwall Wildlife Trust, fuelling the students' passion.

### CORNWALL COLLEGE

#### Camborne

Sited at the foot of Carn Brea and surrounded by the iconic relics of Cornwall's proud industrial past, Cornwall College Camborne is helping to provide the skills needed by local businesses today. The campus has a strong university level community.

### CORNWALL COLLEGE

#### Saltash

Just across the Tamar from Plymouth, the campus at Saltash is a supportive and friendly site, specialising in business, information technology and early years. Recently upgraded facilities include a specialist building for higher education students.

### FALMOUTH MARINE SCHOOL

#### Falmouth

Where better to study marine science, boatbuilding and marine leisure than the historic port of Falmouth and its surrounding coastline? As well as its boatbuilding and engineering workshops and marine science lab, Falmouth Marine School boasts a well-equipped watersports centre.

### CORNWALL COLLEGE

#### St Austell

Overlooking Carlyon Bay, Cornwall College, St Austell is the county's largest building. Offering teaching, sport and performing arts programmes, the campus has its own theatre, dance and music studios, fitness suite and access to a range of professional sports facilities. University-level students have their own area with common room and internet access.

## COMBINED UNIVERSITIES IN CORNWALL

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This brochure is produced by Combined Universities in Cornwall. Combined Universities in Cornwall (or CUC for short) is a partnership of six universities and colleges delivering university level education in the county. This joined up approach means that the people of Cornwall get maximum benefit from the money being invested in higher education. CUC is not a university in itself – students are recruited and taught by the individual universities and colleges.

If you require this information in an alternative format, please contact the CUC Office on Tel: **01209 721070** or Email: [info@cuc.ac.uk](mailto:info@cuc.ac.uk)

Design: [www.a-sidestudio.co.uk](http://www.a-sidestudio.co.uk)  
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**PENINSULA COLLEGE  
OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY**  
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*"I was in the army as an engineer but had always been into outdoor sports. The course is good as it covers a wide range of sports. I've also been coaching the Pathfinder students, which has been really rewarding."*

**Gareth Williams** FdSc Adventure  
Sports Coaching, Duchy College,  
Stoke Climsland

**CORNWALL CAMPUSES**

- 1 TRURO & PENWITH COLLEGE  
*Penzance Campus*
- 2 DUCHY COLLEGE  
*Rosewarne*
- 3 POOL INNOVATION CENTRE  
*Pool*
- 4 CORNWALL COLLEGE  
*Camborne*
- 5 TRURO & PENWITH COLLEGE  
*Truro Campus*
- 6 THE KNOWLEDGE SPA  
*Truro*
- 7 UNIVERSITY OF EXETER &  
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE FALMOUTH,  
*Tremough Campus*

- 8 UNIVERSITY COLLEGE FALMOUTH  
*Woodlane*
- 9 FALMOUTH MARINE SCHOOL  
*Falmouth*
- 10 CORNWALL COLLEGE  
*St. Austell*
- 11 CORNWALL COLLEGE  
*Newquay*
- 12 CORNWALL COLLEGE  
*Saltash*
- 13 DUCHY COLLEGE  
*Stoke Climsland*





**COMBINED UNIVERSITIES IN CORNWALL**

Learn more at [www.cuc.ac.uk](http://www.cuc.ac.uk)

