



# International Foundation Diploma for Higher Education Studies (Pre-University)

NCC Education is a UK awarding body, regulated by Ofqual and well established in the UK and worldwide. The International Foundation Diploma for Higher Education Studies (IFDHES) is a valuable one-year pre-university qualification. It is designed for speakers of English as a foreign language who are seeking to gain entry to Higher Education qualifications that are taught and assessed in English.

The IFDHES prepares students with the essential English language skills (both generic and academic) together with key transferable study skills, cultural knowledge and mathematical understanding, as well as an understanding of the essential concepts of business and economics (Business electives) or the essential concepts of computing and programming (Computing electives).

The syllabus and assessment are suitable for students aged 16 and over.

This qualification is recognised and valued by many universities and employers, both in the UK and other countries. There are in fact over 50 university progression routes to UK and overseas universities.

In particular, this qualification is a pathway to NCC Education's Level 4 (MQF Level 5) Diploma in Business or Diploma in Computing and greater employment opportunities.

## What is your next step?

Diploma in Business UK Level 4 / MQF Level 5  
Diploma in Computing UK Level 4 / MQF Level 5



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**Apply now:**  
[stcmalta.com/apply](https://stcmalta.com/apply)

**Study Options**  
Full Time

**Duration**  
1 Academic Year  
120 CATS (60 ECTS)

**Assessment**  
Assessment through examinations  
and coursework assignments

**Entry Requirements**  
Secondary School Certificate AND  
English IELTS 4.5 OR  
NCC Education Standard English  
Placement Test.

**Location**  
STC Higher Education  
Block D, Giorgio Mitrovich  
Street, Pembroke, Malta

MQF Level 4 • UK Level 3

# YOUR FIRST STEP STARTS HERE

## Six Core Modules

### ◆ Developing English Language Skills

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The aim of this module is to significantly develop students' English language skills towards being independent users of English, able to communicate effectively beyond simple everyday contexts. It aims to systematically improve all four skills of reading, writing, listening and speaking and enable students to acquire a broad range of grammatical and lexical knowledge which they can use confidently and effectively.

### ◆ Advanced English Language Skills

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This module aims to develop students into advanced users of English, with the emphasis being on each student taking control of their own learning in order to focus their skills development on those areas most applicable to their real-life situations and future study plans.

### ◆ English for Academic Purposes

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This module helps students develop their understanding and use of the key linguistic skills necessary to engage effectively in an academic environment where the medium of instruction is English.

### ◆ Study and Communication Skills

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This module equips students with the skills needed to succeed in university. Students learn to critically reflect and analyse their own study habits and identify ways to improve. They also learn the necessary skills to cope with lectures, conduct independent research, write academic papers and give formal oral presentations.

### ◆ Culture Studies

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This module enables students to gain awareness and increased understanding of other cultures and their own alongside the impact of a more digitised world on those cultures. This prepares students for studying with students from different cultures and working for multi-national companies.

### ◆ Foundation Mathematics

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The aim of this unit is to consolidate the students' existing learning in the different areas of mathematics whilst at the same time introducing new topics appropriate across a range of academic disciplines.

## Two Optional Modules - Computing

### ◆ Introduction to Computer Science

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This unit aims to provide a sound knowledge and understanding of fundamental computer science topics. It covers the fundamental concepts relating to a wide range of computer hardware and software, the characteristics of hardware components, how data, images and sound are represented in a computer system, the fundamental concepts of computer networks, and cultural, ethical and legal issues related to computing.

### ◆ Introduction to Programming

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This module makes extensive practical use of the modern programming language Visual Basic Express to illustrate the classic programming principles of Sequencing, Selection and Iteration in the context of object-oriented computer programming.

## Two Optional Modules - Business

### ◆ Introduction to Business

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The aim of this module is to give students an introduction to the purpose, types and organisation of business. Students will also familiarise themselves with a range of business concepts and apply these when looking at both familiar and unfamiliar organisations.

### ◆ Introduction to Accounting and Economics

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This module provides an introduction to the key principles of Accounting and Economics. It is designed for students who have never studied business subjects before.