

Award Title	Access to HE Diploma (Social Sciences)	
Qualification level	Level 3 within the NICATS framework of levels.	
Total credit value	60 credits.	
Number of credits at specific levels which comprise the Access to HE qualification	A minimum of 45 credits must be achieved at Level 3, with the remaining 15 credits to be achieved at Level 2 or above.	
Credit value and level of mandatory units	For the mixed Level 2/Level 3 model, a minimum of 24 credits at level 3 and 3 credits at level 2 to be achieved through specified named mandatory units. For the Level 3 model, a minimum of 24 credits to be achieved through specified named mandatory units	
Credit value and level of optional units	The remaining credits to be achieved through a choice of named optional units.	
Credit value and level of credits permitted through credit transfer and the award of credit through APL	The APL rules apply to both mandatory and optional units.	
	No more than 30 credits required for the award of the Access to HE Diploma may be awarded through APL or credit transfer.	
	For the mixed Level 2/Level 3 model, no more than 21 credits required at Level 3 for the award of the Access to HE Diploma may be awarded through APL or credit transfer. For the Level 3 model, no more than 30 credits for the award of the Access to HE Diploma may be awarded through APL or credit transfer.	
	No credit is awarded where previous learning has already been certificated; students will be exempted from relevant credit requirements.	
Other requirements	APL or credit exemption will normally be awarded only for subjects or units relevant to the named Diploma.	
	Centres should advise learners to contact their intended receiving HE institution before the commencement of their Access to HE programme to ensure that the subject choices made and any APL awarded are appropriate for progression to their proposed undergraduate course.	
	Full completion of a subject must occur within three years of initial enrolment.	
	Full completion of the Diploma must occur within five years of initial enrolment.	
	There is no time restriction imposed on the date when level 2 and level 3 qualifications submitted for exemption were achieved. Centres must assure themselves that the related skills are still current and are not obliged to accept applications for APL exemption where they consider this is not the case. The Ascentis Accreditation of Prior Learning (APL) and Concurrent Learning System must be adhered to. Centres must ensure that any qualifications submitted for APL meet the intended receiving HEI's policy relating to validity and currency.	
	The Literacy and Numeracy test at Level 2 will not count towards the QAA-recognised Access to HE Diploma.	
Titles of mandatory units	Level	Credit value
HE Toolkit	3	3
Study Techniques	2	3

plus a minimum of 1 of the following sets of units at Level 3

Set 1

Foundations in Approaches to Social & Community Welfare	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Approaches to Social & Community Welfare	3	6
Topics and Themes in Approaches to Social & Community Welfare	3	6
Practical Skills in Approaches to Social & Community Welfare	3	6

Set 2

Foundations in Care Studies: Mental Health	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Care Studies: Mental Health	3	6
Topics and Themes in Care Studies: Mental Health	3	6
Practical Skills in Care Studies: Mental Health	3	6

Titles of mandatory units	Level	Credit value
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Set 3

Foundations in Care Studies: Policy, Principles and Practice	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Care Studies: Policy, Principles and Practice	3	6
Topics and Themes in Care Studies: Policy, Principles and Practice	3	6
Practical Skills in Care Studies: Policy, Principles and Practice	3	6

Set 4

Foundations in Criminology	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Criminology	3	6
Topics and Themes in Criminology	3	6
Practical Skills in Criminology	3	6

Set 5

Foundations in Economic and Social Change 1700-1870	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Economic and Social Change 1700-1870	3	6
Topics and Themes in Economic and Social Change 1700-1870	3	6
Practical Skills in Economic and Social Change 1700-1870	3	6

Set 6

Foundations in Economic and Social Change 1870-1939	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Economic and Social Change 1870-1939	3	6
Topics and Themes in Economic and Social Change 1870-1939	3	6
Practical Skills in Economic and Social Change 1870-1939	3	6

Set 7

Foundations in Information & Communications Technology	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Information & Communications Technology	3	6
Topics and Themes in Information & Communications Technology	3	6
Practical Skills in Information & Communications Technology	3	6

Set 8

Foundations in Human Physiology	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Human Physiology	3	6
Topics and Themes in Human Physiology	3	6
Practical Skills in Human Physiology	3	6

Set 9

Foundations in Psychological Perspectives	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Psychological Perspectives	3	6
Topics and Themes in Psychological Perspectives	3	6
Practical Skills in Psychological Perspectives	3	6

Set 10

Foundations in Social Issues in Health Care	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Social Issues in Health Care	3	6
Topics and Themes in Social Issues in Health Care	3	6
Practical Skills in Social Issues in Health Care	3	6

Set 11

Foundations in Sociological Perspectives	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Sociological Perspectives	3	6
Topics and Themes in Sociological Perspectives	3	6
Practical Skills in Sociological Perspectives	3	6

Set 12

Foundations in Understanding Drugs & Substance Misuse	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Understanding Drugs & Substance Misuse	3	6
Topics and Themes in Understanding Drugs & Substance Misuse	3	6
Practical Skills in Understanding Drugs & Substance Misuse	3	6

Titles of optional units	Level	Credit value
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Set 1

Foundations in Approaches to Research with Vulnerable Adults	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Approaches to Research with Vulnerable Adults	3	6
Topics and Themes in Approaches to Research with Vulnerable Adults	3	6
Practical Skills in Approaches to Research with Vulnerable Adults	3	6

Titles of optional units	Level	Credit value
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Set 2

Foundations in Care Studies: Understanding Supporting Client Needs	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Care Studies: Understanding Supporting Client Needs	3	6
Topics and Themes in Care Studies: Understanding Supporting Client Needs	3	6
Practical Skills in Care Studies: Understanding Supporting Client Needs	3	6

Set 3

Foundations in Counselling	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Counselling	3	6
Topics and Themes in Counselling	3	6
Practical Skills in Counselling	3	6

Set 4

Foundations in Education Studies	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Education Studies	3	6
Topics and Themes in Education Studies	3	6
Practical Skills in Education Studies	3	6

Set 5

Foundations in English Language and Literature	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in English Language and Literature	3	6
Topics and Themes in English Language and Literature	3	6
Practical Skills in English Language and Literature	3	6

Set 6

Foundations in Gender, Sexuality and Society	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Gender, Sexuality and Society	3	6
Topics and Themes in Gender, Sexuality and Society	3	6
Practical Skills in Gender, Sexuality and Society	3	6

Set 7

Foundations in Law	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Law	3	6
Topics and Themes in Law	3	6
Practical Skills in Law	3	6

Set 8

Foundations in Mathematics	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Mathematics	3	6
Topics and Themes in Mathematics	3	6
Practical Skills in Mathematics	3	6

Set 9

Foundations in Outdoor Education and Adventure Experience	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Outdoor Education and Adventure Experience	3	6
Topics and Themes in Outdoor Education and Adventure Experience	3	6
Practical Skills in Outdoor Education and Adventure Experience	3	6

Set 10

Foundations in Recreation in the Mountain Environment	3	3
Theories and Perspectives in Recreation in the Mountain Environment	3	6
Topics and Themes in Recreation in the Mountain Environment	3	6
Practical Skills in Recreation in the Mountain Environment	3	6

LEVEL 2 GCSE EQUIVALENTS

Set 1

Foundations in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent English	2	3
Theories and Perspectives in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent English	2	3
Topics and Themes in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent English	2	3
Practical Skills in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent English	2	3

Set 2

Foundations in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent Mathematics	2	3
Theories and Perspectives in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent Mathematics	2	3
Topics and Themes in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent Mathematics	2	3
Practical Skills in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent Mathematics	2	3

Set 3

Foundations in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent Science	2	3
Theories and Perspectives in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent Science	2	3
Topics and Themes in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent Science	2	3
Practical Skills in Level 2 GCSE Equivalent Science	2	3

Introduction to Business Studies	2	6
Introduction to Care Studies: Children	2	6
Introduction to Care Studies: Mental Health	2	6
Introduction to Care Studies: Older People	2	6
Introduction to Care Studies: People with Learning Difficulties	2	6
Introduction to Citizenship (Institutions and Society)	2	6
Introduction to Citizenship (Law and Employment)	2	6
Introduction to Computing, Practical Skills, Database & Spreadsheets	2	6
Introduction to Counselling Skills	2	6
Introduction to Counselling Theories	2	6
Introduction to Criminology	2	6
Introduction to Education Studies	2	6
Introduction to Education Studies: Early Years	2	6
Introduction to English Language	2	6
Introduction to English Literature	2	6
Introduction to Food Science and Nutrition	2	6
Introduction to Health Education	2	6
Introduction to Health and Safety in the Workplace	2	6
Introduction to Health Studies (Health Concepts and Health Care)	2	6
Introduction to History	2	6
Introduction to Human Growth and Development	2	6
Introduction to Human Physiology	2	6

Titles of optional units	Level	Credit value
Introduction to Interpersonal Skills	2	6
Introduction to Law	2	6
Introduction to Photography	2	6
Introduction to Principles of Care: Issues in Client Care	2	6
Introduction to Principles of Care: Services to Other People	2	6
Introduction to Psychological Concepts	2	6
Introduction to Psychological Methodology	2	6
Introduction to Reflective Practice Skills	2	6
Introduction to Social Policy and Administration	2	6
Introduction to Sociological Concepts and Perspectives	2	6
Introduction to Sociological Methods	2	6
Introduction to Statistics	2	6
Introduction to Understanding Drug Use and Misuse	2	2
Introduction to Word Processing, Internet and Email	2	2
Introduction to Work Experience: Education	2	2
Introduction to Youth Work: Working with Young People	2	6