

UHI Argyll Jargon Buster

Academic study	Knowledge, taught as part of further or higher education.
Academic year	The college year, runs from August until June.
Brightspace	The university's Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) where students access classes, resources, and assessments.
Bursary	A financial grant for FE students that is given to eligible students. You apply for it through UHI Argyll, and it does not need to be repaid.
Campus/Centre	This describes the buildings and grounds of a university when they are grouped together.
Conditional	If you are given a conditional offer, this indicates that the university is prepared to offer you a place subject to certain conditions such as passing exams in particular subjects at specific grades or have a positive interview.
Unconditional	An unconditional offer means that the university is prepared to offer you a place without having to pass any more exams.
Connected learning	Teaching that uses information technology to combine face-to-face and online learning.
Credits	A numerical value given to each unit as a measure of its size and the amount of learning required to complete it. The higher the credit, the harder and more important the unit.
EMA	Education Maintenance Allowance - Financial support given to eligible 16 to 18 year olds studying full-time courses at Further Education level.
Entry requirements	Each course has specific entry criteria. For some you will need to have a certain level of knowledge in a subject before you begin.
FE	Further Education – courses at SCQF level 6 and under.
Fee waiver (College fee waiver/ Scottish fee waiver)	Students who meet the eligibility criteria can apply to have their tuition fees paid. This happens automatically for eligible Full-time FE students.
Full time	Courses last 34 weeks normally starting in Autumn and finishing at the end of May. Generally requiring 3 days per week in college.
Funding	Bursary or Student Awards Agency Scotland (SAAS) funding for eligible students who are studying education courses.

Hardship	Eligible full-time students can apply for the hardship fund to help with general living costs or rent.
HE	Higher Education - This describes education from an HNC up to an Honours Degree. HE can be studied at college or university.
HNC	Higher National Certificate - A vocational qualification that takes one year to complete full-time, or two years part-time.
HND	Higher National Diploma - A vocational qualification provided by higher and further education colleges. It takes two years to complete full-time, or three to four years if you study part-time.
Infill	Infill Units - An infill unit achieves one or two SQA credits, studying selected units from a full-time course.
Modules	A component of study which forms part of your degree course. The course modules can be mandatory (ie. they must be taken by a student, within the defined year), or optional (the course module is one of several modules from which a student can make a selection).
MyDay	This is the University's online student portal, designed to assist you in easily navigating the various services you will be using during your study.
NC	National Certificate - These are first level courses which usually require one year of study.
Networked	Collaborative internet-based education whereby learners can connect with resources, teachers, and other students in various locations.
NPA	National Progression Awards - Assess a defined set of skills and knowledge in specialist vocational areas.
NQ	National Qualification - NQs are taken by students in secondary schools and colleges and allowing learners to progress from one qualification to the next.
Online Study	Lectures delivered via UHI Argyll's virtual learning environment.
Outlook (Microsoft Outlook Email)	Microsoft Outlook is email and calendar software used by UHI Argyll for students and staff.
Part Time	Classes and learning are spread out over a longer period of time as you study fewer units at once, therefore it will take you longer to complete your course.

PAT (Personal Academic Tutor)	Students on Higher Education courses are allocated a key person for support during their studies.
PDA	Professional Development Awards - Flexible qualifications for industry, training and education and can be used to either extend or broaden professional and vocational skills.
Personal Statement	Part of the application process, your personal statement is your opportunity to tell us more about yourself and why you are interested in studying your chosen subject.
PLSP	Personal Learning Support Plan - created for students with disclosed needs to support the student during their studies.
Remote Study	Students are classed as remote when they are not local to a UHI Argyll centre.
SAAS	Student Awards Agency for Scotland (Scottish Higher Education Funding Agency) - Higher Education students apply to SAAS for student fees, bursary and/or student loan
Scottish Domiciled Student	To meet the standard residency eligibility criteria, you must be ordinarily resident in Scotland on the relevant date for the start of your course and have been living in the United Kingdom for the past three years. You cannot move to Scotland just to study.
Semester	A term in college or university, typically lasting seventeen weeks at UHI Argyll.
Servicedesk (Unidesk)	Self-Service Portal found on UHI MyDay where students/staff log a helpdesk request and check its progress; report IT faults/connection issues etc.
Short Full Time	A condensed full-time course usually completed within one semester. Normally 17 weeks but could be shorter/longer.
Student Adviser	Students on Further Education courses are allocated a key person for support during their studies.
Student Loan	Money you can borrow to help pay for your living costs while at college or university available on application to SAAS.
SVQ	Scottish Vocational Qualifications are work-based qualifications. They work as a guarantee that someone can do their job to the national standards for their sector.
Tuition Fees	All colleges/universities charge tuition fees for their courses.
UCAS	UCAS - (Universities and Colleges Admissions Service) - Organization that manages applications for higher education institutions.

UHI Records (Student Records)	The administrative centre for the maintenance of the university's student records and associated activities for students and staff.
Units	A component of study which forms part of your course. The course units can be mandatory (ie. they must be taken by a student, within the defined year), or optional (the course unit is one of several units from which a student can make a selection).
Username/ID	A special name given to a person to uniquely identify them on UHI Argyll's network.
VC	Video conferencing allows multiple people to meet and collaborate face to face long distance by video in real time through the internet. E.g. Microsoft Teams
VLE	Brightspace is UHI Argyll's virtual learning environment where students access classes, resources, and assessments.