



Muscat College

## Higher National Diploma Programmes

In Academic Affiliation with the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA), UK

### Academic Affiliation with the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA):

SQA is unique and reputed institution over the UK and Europe. It is the national body in Scotland responsible for the development, accreditation, assessment and certification of national qualifications other than university degrees. The Scottish Qualifications Authority supervises the programmes for the: Higher National Certificate (HNC) and the Higher National Diploma (HND) and issues the award certificate.

The overall aim of the SQA is to manage the qualifications system below degree level to allow candidates to fulfill their potential to participate in the economy, society and communities of Scotland. There are approximately, 1470 centers approved to offer SQA range of qualifications. In 2001 the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) approved Muscat College as an "SQA Centre" similar to the other centers.

### Merits of the SQA Programs:

1. The syllabus is designed to meet the changing requirements of the labour market. They are subject to continuous evaluation and improvement by the SQA.
2. The system is flexible enough to allow a candidate to enroll for one credit to maximum of 5 credits per semester according to the candidates intellectual and financial capabilities.
3. The system is carefully designed to evaluate both knowledge and skills acquired.
4. Candidates may wish to join the job market at certain exit qualification which suites best their circumstances with an open opportunity to re-join whenever they decide to do so.
5. Availability of part time studies.

### Available Programmes:

- Higher National Diploma in Business
- Higher National Diploma in Accounting
- Higher National Diploma in Computing: Technical Support
- Higher National Diploma in Computing: Software Development
- Higher National Diploma in Quantity Surveying
- Higher National Diploma in Construction Management

### Programmes Entry Requirements:

(1) Success in the General Education Diploma ( General Secondary ) or its equivalents to join programmes in Departments:

- a – Business & Accounting
- b – Computing

(2) Obtain General English Language Certificate or its equivalent.

To join courses in Built Environment Engineering Department the conditions are:

- Success in the General Education Diploma or its equivalent from the science stream with Pure Mathematics & Physics.
- Applicant should have a minimum score of 65 % for Pure Mathematics \*\*

\*\* In case the applicant couldn't meet the above condition, a chance may be given if he/she gets a grade of ( B ) or better in the College Mathematics Course.

### Programme Structure:

Credits are basically the units which make up the programme. Each unit is assigned a Credit value: 0.5, 1.0, 1.5 or 2.0 credit. Each credit value is equivalent to 8 credit points. A typical one credit will involve 80 hours of academic work, about half of which will be independent study, with the remaining being spent in lectures, tutorials, seminars, practical, case studies and directed study.

Courses are made up of core and optional units. In each semester, students will be taking 15- credits, depending on their circumstances. Students will be guided by their Academic Advisor on the number of credits to take at the beginning of each semester.

### Awarded Certificates:

The SQA will award certificates to students who successfully complete the approved programmes as per the following:

Program Title	Certificate awarded on exit after the successful completion of the minimum credit points	
	Year One: Higher National Certificate (HNC)	Year Two: Higher National Diploma (HND)
Business	Higher National Certificate in Business	Higher National Diploma in Business
Accounting	Higher National Certificate in Accounting	Higher National Diploma in Accounting
Computing: Technical Support	Higher National Certificate in Computing	Higher National Diploma in Computing: Technical Support
Computing: Software Development		Higher National Diploma in Computing: Software Development
Quantity Surveying	Higher National Certificate in Construction	Higher National Diploma in Quantity Surveying
Construction Management		Higher National Diploma in Construction Management
Minimum Required Credit Points	96 (12 credits)	240 (30 credits)
Accredited Award as per the National Framework	Certificate	Diploma