

#### VENUE AND DURATION OF COURSE

John Ruskin College, Selsdon Park Road, Croydon CR2 8JJ. Two years, Full-time.

#### WHAT ARE T LEVELS?

T Levels are a new qualification, equivalent to three A levels. Designed in direct collaboration with employers, the two-year courses combine a mix of classroom and industry experience to equip you with the knowledge and skills to take your next steps towards your chosen career, an Apprenticeship, or a Degree.

#### WHO IS THIS COURSE FOR?

The core element of a T Level in Digital Support & Services will boost your knowledge in a range of topics such as programming, coding, the use of data and the different platforms of delivery in the digital industry. It's a cutting-edge subject, so you'll also learn about the potential security risks that organisations can face and how to analyse problems and identify solutions through computer programs.

You'll then choose a specialism designed to support your interests, so you can get deeper into your chosen subject and build up the skills you need for your future job. You can choose from specialist modules in either Digital Infrastructure, Network Cabling or Digital Support.

The course is ideal if you are aged 16 to 18 and want a career in Software and Digital Design as, for example, a Programmer, Web Designer, IT Business Analyst, Systems Designer, Software Development Technician or Digital Marketer. During this course you will gain a mix of academic and practical skills. By the end, you will be able to apply these to a real work environment by completing a 45-day placement within the digital industry.

#### ENTRY REQUIREMENTS:

5 GCSEs grade 9-4 (A\*-C) including English, Maths and IT/Computing or BTEC Level 2 (Merit/Distinction) Diploma/Extended Certificate in ICT or Computing and GCSEs grade A\*-C (9-4) in English and Maths.

The typical student will likely have:

- a clear idea of the industry sector they wish to pursue as a career
- an idea of the type of job role they'd like to explore
- taken an active choice not to pursue an Apprenticeship (either due to lack of availability or the wish to remain in full-time education).

#### WHAT QUALIFICATIONS WILL I GET?

On completion of the T Level, you will receive an overall grade of pass, merit, distinction, or distinction\*. You will get a nationally recognised certificate which will show your overall grade and a breakdown of what you have achieved.

#### COURSE CONTENT

The technical qualification is split into two component parts:

1. **Core Component**  
The knowledge and underpinning concepts, theories and principles as well as core skills for the digital sector.
2. **Occupational Specialism: Digital Support Service – Cyber Security**  
The occupational specialism provides students with knowledge and skills required to enter employment or further study in the specific occupational area.

The core content provides a broad understanding of the digital industry. You will learn about:

- How digital technologies impact business and market environment
- The ethical and moral implications of digital technology
- Using data in software design
- using digital technologies to analyse and solve problems
- digital environments, including physical, virtual and cloud environments
- legal and regulatory obligations relating to digital technologies
- the privacy and confidentiality of personal data
- the technical, physical and human aspects of internet security
- planning digital projects
- testing software, hardware and data

The occupational specialism component covers:

- Analysing a problem to define requirements and acceptance criteria aligned
- Changing, maintaining and supporting software
- Discovering, evaluating and applying reliable sources of knowledge
- Designing, implementing and testing software
- Creating solutions in a social and collaborative environment
- Applying ethical principles and managing risks in line with legal and regulatory requirements when developing software

## **STUDY METHODS**

During the first year, you will cover the key digital and business principles and prepare for core exams and projects. The second year will be more practical where you will have the opportunity to apply your knowledge in the classroom and workplace.

## **HOW IS THE COURSE ASSESSED?**

The core component will be assessed through a project set by employers in the industry and two externally-set tests. The occupational specialism content will allow you to develop the relevant skills in preparation for your career in the digital industry. This is assessed through a project that is created in conjunction with relevant employers.

## **WHERE NEXT?**

**Further Studies** – you can go on to do a higher-level Apprenticeship, or related University Degree at East Surrey College or elsewhere. Successful completion of this course is worth up to 168 UCAS points – please check with your chosen University that they accept T levels.

**Career Opportunities** – achieving this qualification will give you an advantage when applying for a job in Software Production and Design in the Digital Industry.

## **COURSE FEE**

If you are under 19 on 31/08/2025, tuition is free. If you are 19 or over, please consult Client Services for advice and guidance on funding and eligibility. Please be aware that there may be additional costs for equipment and educational visits. This information will be available from the curriculum staff at interview.

## **WHAT TO DO NEXT**

If you have any outstanding queries please contact our Client Services team on 01737 788444 or at [clientservices@esc.ac.uk](mailto:clientservices@esc.ac.uk). To apply online for this course please visit [www.esc.ac.uk](http://www.esc.ac.uk).

## **Disclaimer:**

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