

s p o t l i g h t

course

Floristry

The City and Guilds National Certificate in floristry is a one year full-time course available to school leavers or mature students seeking a career change. The course, which is suitable for those with no previous floristry experience, comprises 10 units of study, with some industry experience included. Subjects covered include floral decoration, wedding designs, funeral and sympathy designs, starting photography, and business operations and sales.

There is also a comprehensive programme of visits, which includes trips to the London Flower Market, wholesalers and trade shows. There is usually also an optional visit to Holland. The course gives students a thorough grounding in the requirements of the floristry industry, allowing them to develop a wide range of skills as well as experience the buying, preparing, handling and selling of flowers to the public.

Writtle College is situated in rural Essex, just outside the university town of Chelmsford and within easy reach of central London. The students attend college for three-and-a-half days a week, with the remainder of the week free to explore London and the surrounding countryside.



Name of course: City and Guilds National Certificate in floristry
Dates of course: September to June
Length of course: 1 year
Number of students: 15
Age/qualification requirements: over 16 years old; sufficient English language level
Accommodation: 410 places available on campus, costing UK£77

(US\$107) to UK£86 (US\$120) per week, including 10 meals a week
Cost: UK£4,125 (US\$5,775)

Extra costs: floristry toolbox and equipment UK£40 (US\$56)

Agency commission: n/a

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Underwater skills

The underwater skills programme at Seneca College in Canada teaches students underwater construction techniques and commercial diving skills.

Topics covered during the programme include underwater systems and equipment, re-compression chamber operations, physiology, diving physics, construction techniques, underwater welding and cutting, salvage and deep diving. Students spend 50 per cent of their time in the classroom and the rest of their time putting theory into practice in actual field conditions.

During the second part of the programme, students are challenged with projects of increasing levels of difficulty and may dive every day of the week. During the months of May and June the students travel to Warton, Ontario where they spend 10 days on the underwater skills deep diving barge. Here the students perform tasks using hot-water suits, advanced diving systems and techniques such as surface decompression procedures.

Upon completion of the programme, students are qualified as unrestricted surface supplied divers, which allows them to work as divers throughout the world.



Name of course: underwater skills programme
Dates of course: September to June
Length of course: 1 year
Number of students: 50
Age/qualification requirements: over 18 years old
Accommodation: local housing apartments and on-site residence

Cost of course: CAN\$2,200 (US\$1,386)

Extra costs: CAN\$400 (US\$252)

Agency commission: yes

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