

A typical week at college studying an HNC

The following timetable and accompanying notes were written by a university student who is currently studying at Queen Margaret University in Edinburgh. Before the student begun her university studies she previously completed the [HNC in Social Sciences at Edinburgh College](#). An HNC is a Higher National Certificate course which takes one year of full-time study to complete at college. The timetable and notes are intended to provide school pupils with a realistic picture of a typical week in college studying at HNC level. It's worth remembering that HNC timetables will vary depending on the subject, college and lifestyle of the student.

- The lectures 'Sociology' and 'Psychology' were for 3 hours long with a 10/15- minute break half-way through.
- I travelled around 50 minutes to an hour on train to get to the campus, which I sometimes used to prep more for that morning lecture.
- At the beginning of the academic year, on Thursdays I would travel at 10am instead of my usual time as I would not have a large workload that required me to spend a lot of time at the campus library.
- Each of my classes (excluding maths) had around 3 assessments, with an end of year 'graded unit' on top of that.
- Some lecturers made their lecture slides available in advance of the lecture so that's why I was able to prep beforehand in some cases.
- My course did not have an assessment that required group work however there were some activities where we worked in groups.
- I applied to a maths night class to make sure I had a good enough grade within that class as some universities required Maths to get onto my chosen course. This was three hours once a week, so it was fast-paced and the most challenging.
- I was able to get direct entry into year 2 of the Psychology and Sociology degree at Queen Margaret University because I successfully completed my HNC. I also had to get at least a 'B' pass in my graded unit of the HNC plus a pass on all my other assessments in order to be able to go into year 2 of the Queen Margaret degree. You do not get the graded unit mark without passes in the other classes.

Name of college course: HNC Social Sciences
 College: Edinburgh College
 University you went onto: Queen Margaret University
 University course and year of entry: BCs (Hons) Psychology and Sociology (2)



A typical student week at college studying HNC

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | Sunday |
|----------|--------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------------------------|---|---------------------|--|----------|
| 8-9.00 | | Travelling | | Travelling to Library | Travelling | | Rest Day |
| 9-10.00 | Prep for the following week lectures | History Lecture | Breakfast | | Psychology Lecture | Spend some time with friends or family | |
| 10-11.00 | | | | Politics Lecture | | | |
| 11-12.00 | | English Lecture | | | | | |
| 12-13.00 | Food Shop for the Week | Lunch or Library | Look over work that needs done | Lunch | Lunch | | |
| 13-14.00 | | Sociology Lecture | | Research Methods Lecture | Criminology Lecture | | |
| 14-15.00 | | | | | | | |
| 15-16.00 | Clean the Flat | | | Travelling to Maths class at another campus | Travelling Home | | |
| 16-17.00 | | Travelling Home | Washing Clothes | | | | |
| 17-18.00 | | | | Maths lecture | | | |
| 18-19.00 | | Make Dinner | Make Dinner | | Make Dinner | | |
| 19-20.00 | | | | | | | |
| 20-21.00 | | Speed clean of Flat | | | | | |
| 21-22.00 | | | | Travelling Home | | | |