

JOINT PRESS RELEASE

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NEW E-LEARNING PLATFORM LAUNCHED

The award-winning distance learning programme for security professionals developed by the Security Institute in conjunction with Perpetuity Training aims to provide:

- An opportunity to learn security management skills and knowledge that is rooted in academic theory
- Flexible learning
- Academic certification
- Membership of a professional security body (Syl)

The two Security Management courses currently on offer are a BTEC Level 3 Advanced Certificate and a BTEC Level 5 Professional Diploma. These specialist courses not only allow security professionals the opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills but also provide routes to Security Institute membership.

Course materials are written and maintained by highly qualified and well respected security professionals allowing students to draw from a wealth of expertise in their learning, and tutors are on hand throughout to support students as they work towards gaining their qualifications. All coursework is marked by assessors holding Master-level qualifications, to ensure high standards and that accuracy is maintained.

Historically, the courses have been delivered via CD-ROM supported by hard-copy text books allowing security professionals from around the world to join the courses. Access to course materials is now even easier with the launch of a stimulating new online learning platform – www.syilearning.com (see below). The learning experience is further enhanced by social networking media (i.e. Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn).

The screenshot displays the Syl Learning website interface. The top navigation bar includes the Syl Learning logo and the text 'Virtual Learning Centre > Security Compendium'. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column contains a sidebar with 'Administration' (Profile) and 'My courses' (Certificate Course, Crosswords, Diploma Course, Security Journal, Security Management Bulletins, Self Assessments, The Security Compendium). The right column, titled 'Topic outline', lists various subjects under 'The Security Compendium', including English Law, Irish Criminal Law, Management, Fire Prevention & Control and Health & Safety, Security of Corporate Assets, Protection of Persons, Equipment, Information and Goods, Emergency Situations, Practical Retail Security and Retail Law, Information Security, and Counter Terrorism. A red arrow points from the 'Counter Terrorism' link to a preview of the course material. The preview shows the cover of 'THE SECURITY INSTITUTE COUNTER TERRORISM' study guide, which is described as 'A study guide and source of reference for Security Managers on the Syl Certificate in Security Management'. The footer of the website includes the copyright notice: 'copyright © 2011 Perpetuity Training Ltd. All Rights Reserved.'

The popularity of the courses continues to grow, particularly the Diploma which had an average of over 30 learners joining each intake in the last 12 months (3 intakes per year). Since 2008, 66 students have successfully completed the Certificate with a

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further 27 working towards their qualification. 61 students have successfully completed the Diploma, with a further 103 currently studying.

Growing Recognition

The high standards of the courses are gaining widespread recognition. The distance learning programme won the 2010 Security Excellence Award for Security Training Initiative of the Year and has again been shortlisted in 2011.

The University of Portsmouth Institute of Criminal Justice Studies has formally accepted successful completion of the Diploma course as being worth a minimum of 80 credits towards their BSc (Hons) in Security and Risk Management. At least 3 successful Diploma students have already taken advantage of this exciting opportunity. And the good news does not stop there.

Blackburn College and the Institute have agreed a unique initiative to embed the Institute Diploma into Blackburn's new Security Management Foundation Degree (FdA) which launches this year. This is the first time an academic body and a professional body have worked together to offer a specialist security course which leads to an academic qualification and a professional body award at a single stroke. Students will be eligible for student membership whilst they study and when graduating from the foundation degree will gain both their degree and the Security Institute Diploma, as well as automatic eligibility to apply for full membership of the Syl. Roshani Swift, the Associate Dean of the University Centre at Blackburn College says:

"Over the last year University Centre at Blackburn College has been working closely with the Security Institute to develop a Level 5 Foundation Degree validated by Lancaster University. This initiative has been made possible by Perpetuity who have championed the requirement for an academic qualification that also embeds the professional qualification of the Security Institutes Diploma.

We share the view that embedding professional qualifications into academic programmes enhances employability. The course offers potential students working in the industry access to an academic qualification. The Foundation Degree will enable students to progress to a top up year BA (Hons) Degree. We are very excited about this new and innovative qualification which will see recruitment start later this year".

The next intake of the Institute's Certificate and Diploma courses is September 2011. The deadline for registration and payment is 16th September 2011. Submissions will also be accepted for places on the January 2012 intake of the courses. For more information about the courses and to download registration forms log onto: <http://www.perpetuitytraining.com/securityinstitutesyi.html> or <http://www.security-institute.org/96/Qualifications.html>

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Contact information

	<p>The Security Institute is the largest association for security professionals in the UK with over 1000 members. It is in the process of petitioning for a Royal Charter. One of its main aims is developing and promoting professionalism in the security sector, with personal professional development being a key element.</p> <p>☎ +44 (0) 8453 707 717 ✉ info@security-institute.org 🌐 www.security-institute.org</p>
	<p>Perpetuity Training specialise in the fields of security, crime, and risk management. The training courses have been designed for managers, supervisors, and practitioners in these fields and are suitable for both those based in the UK and overseas.</p> <p>☎ +44 (0) 116 222 5550 ✉ training@perpetuitygroup.com 🌐 www.perpetuitytraining.com</p>
	<p>A leading UK centre for research and learning in Criminology. The BSc (Hons) in Risk and Security Management is delivered via distance learning over 4-5 years providing an ideal opportunity to combine work and study.</p> <p>☎ +44 (0) 23 9284 3928 ✉ icjsapplications@port.ac.uk 🌐 www.port.ac.uk/departments/academic/icjs/</p>
	<p>Blackburn College is one of the largest Further Education Colleges in the North West. Established in 1888 it has a long history of providing education and training to the communities of Pennine Lancashire.</p> <p>The College offers a wide range of courses, from A Levels and vocational courses through to Foundation Degrees, HNCs/Ds, Honours Degrees and Professional qualifications. The College currently has over 14,000 students, of which 9,929 are adult learners (19+) and over 4,000 young people, aged 16-19 are studying Further Education courses. 69% of the College's students study part-time, and over 2,300 students.</p> <p>☎ +44 (0) 1254 292594 ✉ he-admissions@blackburn.ac.uk 🌐 http://www.blackburn.ac.uk/</p>