



Software Development Course

Information Pack





Contents

About Us

Our Course

The Professional Development Award

Careers

Partners

Student Wellbeing

Our Team

FAQs

CONTACT US:

www.codeclan.com

0131 229 2600

info@codeclan.com

About Us

CodeClan is a digital skills academy and was established in 2015 to help accelerate Scotland's progress in building a high-performing digital economy.

We've got the support of The Scottish Government, ScotlandIS, and Skills Development Scotland and are the first digital skills academy in the UK to become a Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA) approved centre. This means we are the only UK academy to offer a Professional Development Award in Software Development at SCQF Level 8 recognised and endorsed by employers across Scotland.

Why Study With Us?

Here at CodeClan we are passionate about sharing our love for well-crafted code. We've created an intensive, immersive course to help people access the knowledge and skills to become excellent coders themselves, delivering it in a friendly, easy to digest manner and making it accessible to people from all sorts of backgrounds.

Our team is dedicated to pushing the boundaries to make that happen. Our culture is friendly, informal but hard-working. So, if you want to learn from a great team of instructors in an environment where you will be challenged, where you will learn from your peers, and where you'll be pushed to go outside your comfort zone, then join us at CodeClan.



Small class sizes and high instructor to student ratio provides an exceptional learning experience



Support with finding a new career with our employer network



Fully supported by the SQA



Access to speaker events and tech meet-ups



Course taught by experienced developers with recognised teaching qualifications



Career support provided by our Student Wellbeing team

Our Software Development Course

Our full-time, project-based software development course is fast-paced and stimulating – just like your new career in the demanding tech industry will be.

Working on an high ratio of instructors to students, our teaching approach supplements and complements more traditional routes.

Our aim is to create employable, entry-level developers with a solid understanding of software development techniques including Object-oriented programming and Test Driven Development, delivered through best practice and cutting-edge technologies.

As a student, you'll be exposed to Agile methodologies and will take part in individual and collaborative group assignments. This approach will enable you to rapidly integrate into and be productive within a wide variety of business and technical environments.

COURSE OBJECTIVES:

During the intensive, immersive 16-week programme, you'll be exposed to a broad range of technologies, methods and tools in classes delivered by practicing software developers. Focus is on learning core concepts rather than the specifics of any one language, allowing you to easily adapt to new languages and environments.



Our Software Development Course

Course Delivery:

- High instructor to student ratio
- Daily stand-ups
- Code-along interactive teaching style encouraging questions
- Paired-programming labs and exercises
- Group assignments working to strict deadlines
- Attending industry talks and coding sessions
- Participation in internal and external hackathons and tech meet-ups
- Assignment presentations to practice communication skills
- Continual self-study to reinforce learning

COURSE TOPICS:

- UNIX and Git
- Object Orientated Programming (Ruby)
- Test Driven Development
- Database design, creation and querying using raw SQL (PostGres)
- HTTP and web programming (Sinatra)
- JavaScript (Node / Browser)
- JavaScript TDD (mocha, chai)
- Async programming
- Functional programming techniques
- Full-stack JavaScript apps (Express, Mongo)
- Front-end web framework (React)
- Back-end framework (Rails)
- Object Relational Mappers (ActiveRecord)
- Statically typed programming (Java)
- Mobile application development (Android)

** Course topics subject to change*

Learning is consolidated through application of:

- Embedding TDD throughout
- Best practice coding to design fairly complex, intricate and well-crafted programs using various design patterns
- Good communication skills in a collaborative environment

Assignments:

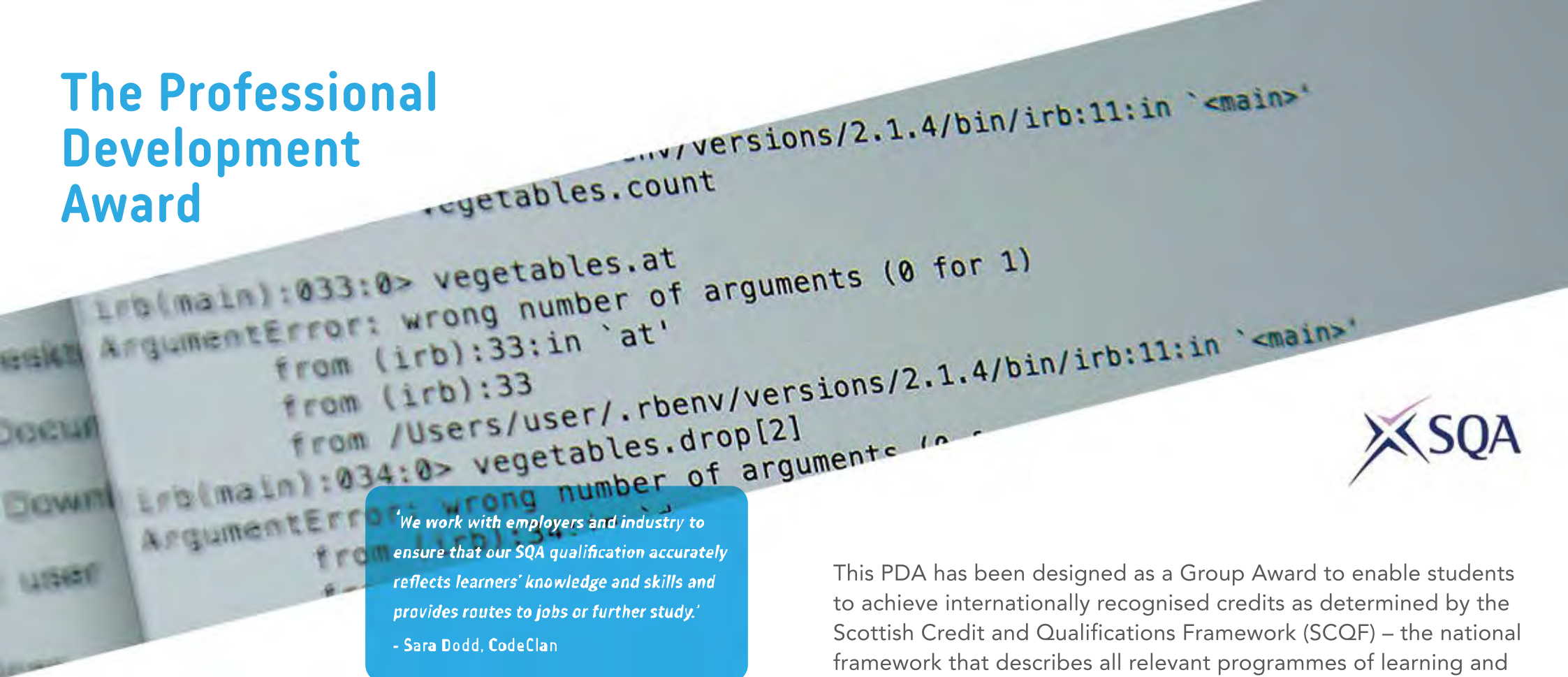
- You'll complete four different assignments to create dynamic, responsive applications based on a choice of briefs including:
- A CRUD web application using a lightweight web framework and no JavaScript (Sinatra, raw SQL)
- A full stack JavaScript web application (vanilla Javascript, Express and Mongo);
- A native application (Java / Android)

Not included in the course:

- Advanced database techniques (warehousing etc)
- Data science and statistical programming (R, SAAS)
- Advanced design patterns
- Embedded systems programming
- Theoretical computer science topics
- Mathematics topics



The Professional Development Award



'We work with employers and industry to ensure that our SQA qualification accurately reflects learners' knowledge and skills and provides routes to jobs or further study.'

- Sara Dodd, CodeClan

We are the first UK digital skills academy to become an SQA Approved Centre offering the Professional Development Award (PDA) in Software Development – a professional level qualification recognised and endorsed by employers across Scotland and accredited by the SQA – as part of our core course.

This PDA has been designed as a Group Award to enable students to achieve internationally recognised credits as determined by the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) – the national framework that describes all relevant programmes of learning and qualifications in Scotland.

We are currently offering the PDA at:

Level 8 = Equivalent level to HND/ Diploma of Higher Education

The PDA matches our course content in software development to national standards. We offer students on our 16-week immersive software development course the chance to gain this nationally recognised qualification at SCQF Level 8.

Careers

Career Support

At CodeClan we will support you in finding a job through our employer partners. Our employers are actively engaged with and support the learning of CodeClan students by providing guest speakers, attending employer-student events and offering site visits.

Our employers are committed to:

- Meeting with each cohort informally four weeks prior to course completion
- Taking part in a 'matching' service between employers and interested candidates
- Presenting their organisation and their job opportunities

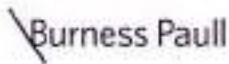
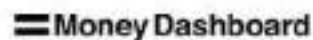


We're passionate about building a great tech community

We're based at the heart of Scotland's tech community, working with all sizes of companies to share the latest ideas and best practice. We are right next to Codebase, Europe's largest incubator of tech start-ups. You'll get the chance to interact and work with a wide variety of people, participate in internal events, tech meet-ups, conferences and hackathons.

Our Partners

Some of the employer partners we are working with:



Student Wellbeing



'If you're actively looking to join and contribute to the Scottish tech sector, CodeClan is a great stepping stone towards making that dream a reality. Networking is key in this industry, so speak to me about what tech meet-ups are happening, what events you should be going along to and the best ways to network if this is new to you. There's a lot going on so I'll help you make the best use of your time and hopefully engage you with potential employers.'

Leigh-Ann, Head of Student Wellbeing



Our dedicated student well-being team offers added value services to our students such as assistance with arranging accommodation in Edinburgh, advice on re-locating and preparing for the course.

The student wellbeing officer is also on site each day to offer emotional support on those days when you need a little encouragement or someone to talk to over a cuppa.

We also provide:

- **CV Support**
- **Mock Interviews**

Our Team

Instructors:

Our group of instructors have a wealth of knowledge and experience from years of working as developers. They are here to help guide you through the course.



Valerie Dryden



Jay Chetty



Sandy McMillan



Keith Douglas



Marc Dinardo



Rick Henry



Tony Goncalves

Assistant Instructors:

Our assistant instructors are here to provide extra support to the instructional team, they will also help out with teaching and can answer any questions you have as you progress through the course.



Kat Kiernan



Zsolt Podoba
Szalai



Beth Fraser

FAQs

Q: What funding is available?

The Transition Training Fund may be available to those who have come from the Oil & Gas sector.* From time to time we do offer externally funded scholarships and bursaries. Details of these can be found on our website.

Q: Who is the course for?

The course is for people who want to equip themselves with the digital skills for a career in Scotland's growing tech industry. That could be anyone from recent graduates, career changers looking to move into the digital sector, or coding hobbyists looking to turn their interest into a profession. All applicants must be 18 or over and successfully complete the application process.

Q: Can you learn to code in 16 weeks?

Yes. CodeClan produces high quality, job ready, entry level software developers to meet employer needs. The 16 week software development course makes graduates work ready. Graduates will be able to apply for fulltime or contract positions in software development teams for roles in programming, testing and technical support. Typical starting salaries are currently around £22K-£25K in Scotland.

Q: Do I need to be able to code before I start?

Although candidates do not need to be able to write code, we encourage them to get involved with coding before applying as this would be seen as highly beneficial to the success of the application process.

Q: How will you support participants to secure employment?

Although specific jobs with particular organisations are not guaranteed, we have developed partnerships with a wide range of employers from large to small and there is strong demand from industry. We have a dedicated student placement officer and opportunities to network with employers throughout the course.

Q: How does CodeClan differ from traditional University-based learning?

CodeClan is modeled on the proven coding academy learning model, based on an immersive tuition process using high instructor to student ratios, effectively condensing key elements of computing and software development.

The course work directly addresses the current needs of industry and is very much aimed at giving students experience in leading edge practices so they are work ready upon completing the course.

Q: What certification do graduates receive?/ What level of training do you offer?

CodeClan has been approved by the Scottish Qualifications Authority (SQA), to offer Professional Development Awards at Level 8 on the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF).

FAQs

Q: Who will be teaching the course?

CodeClan's instructional team are experienced software developers in their own right, with a passion for teaching. Students will also hear and participate in masterclasses delivered by guest speakers from the tech industry.

Q: Who is behind CodeClan?

CodeClan has been developed by the digital industry for the digital industry through its member body, ScotlandIS, in partnership with Skills Development Scotland and the Scottish Government.

Q: How Does it Work?

The course is made up of 3 weeks home-based pre-course work, which is designed to ensure candidates are ready to hit the ground running on day 1. Following this is the 16 week intensive, classroom-based training with a blend of project based learning and tutoring sessions.

A 16 week (plus 3 week precourse) intensive, fulltime training course; with a blend of project based learning and tutoring sessions. The course work will move at a rapid pace and will cover a great deal of material in a short period of time.

This immersive teaching approach is necessary to ensure that students rapidly acquire the high quality software development skills that are required in today's digital world. Students are expected to work a

minimum of 60 hours per week and work on a minimum of 3 projects over the core 16 week period.

The pre-course work (50+ hour week) will include an introduction to the software development environment, and the basics of Ruby to bring all students to an equal starting point before the classroom-based course begins.

Admissions

What should I do if I'm not ready to apply?

If you don't feel ready to sign up for the course yet, you can always arrange to come in and meet with us for a chat, or sit in on a class, or alternatively come along to one of our info sessions for the chance to hear more about the course and meet some of the staff and students.

Have a question about applications we haven't answered?

Speak to our Admissions Officer Susie. You can reach her at:

admissions@codeclan.com
0131 290 2630