



COURSE SPECIFICATION

MSc Information Systems

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COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	<i>MSc Information Systems</i>
Final Award	<i>MSc</i>
Exit Awards	<i>PG certificate, PG diploma</i>
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	P3442FTC
Mode of study	<i>Full Time</i>
Mode of delivery	<i>Block Teaching</i>
Normal length of course	<i>Full time: 12 months , 16 months (January entry).</i>
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	<i>from May 2024 intake onwards</i>
Awarding Body	<i>University of Portsmouth</i>
Teaching Institution	<i>University of Portsmouth London</i>
Faculty	<i>Faculty of Technology</i>
School/Department/Subject Group	<i>UoP London: School of Computing</i>
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	https://www.port.ac.uk/university-of-portsmouth-london
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate-taught/msc-information-systems-london
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	<i>Level 7</i>

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.

This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the [Course and Module Catalogue](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

The course aims to equip students to work professionally within an information systems environment. In particular, the Programme will aim to develop reflective academic skills and provide technical knowledge and skills associated with the development and management of Information Systems and related software and equipment. Students will develop intellectual, analytical and problem solving skills, in order to develop professional and interpersonal abilities. Students should be able to undertake the full range of technical tasks associated with information systems applications supported by the knowledge of the information requirements for these systems. In addition, and more generally, the course aims to:

- Provide a challenging, stimulating and self-rewarding study environment.
- Accommodate student needs in relation to maximising their career potential by enabling them to develop knowledge, understanding and skills in their chosen subject area

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The [Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education \(QAA\)](#) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) document.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
A1	<i>The applicability, implementation and management of information systems (IS).</i>	Practical workshops, directed reading and guided research.	<i>Reports, portfolios and supervised work sessions</i>
A2	<i>Technical aspects of IS – networks, web product development, user experience design, methodologies, databases</i>	Practical workshops, directed reading and guided research.	<i>(e.g. essays, dossiers, portfolios, presentations etc.)</i>
A3	<i>Development, planning and management of IS projects</i>	Practical workshops, directed reading and guided research.	<i>Project report, demonstration (if applicable) and presentation</i>
A4	<i>Ethical issues, codes of conduct and professional practice; intellectual property, copyright</i>	Practical workshops, directed reading and guided research.	<i>Reports, portfolios, presentations</i>

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
B1	<i>Develop general abilities of an intellectual, analytical problem-solving nature related to technology.</i>	Practical workshops, directed reading and guided research.	<i>Reports, portfolios, presentations</i>
B2	<i>Critically evaluate information needs against the available technology.</i>	Practical workshops, directed reading and guided research.	<i>Reports, portfolios, presentations</i>
B3	<i>Make appropriate decisions as to relevant IS technologies to use in given situations</i>	Practical workshops, directed reading and guided research.	<i>Reports, portfolios, presentations</i>
B4	<i>Plan, manage, undertake and report on a significant IS project.</i>	Practical workshops, directed reading and guided research.	<i>Project report and presentation</i>

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
C1	<i>Apply analysis and evaluation techniques appropriate to the appraisal and control of IT/IS.</i>	Practical workshops, directed reading and guided research.	<i>Reports, portfolios, presentations</i>
C2	<i>Critically analyse problems, design and implement IS solutions to satisfy a given brief</i>	Practical workshops, directed reading and guided research.	<i>Reports, portfolios, presentations</i>
C3	Manage time, scope and resources in complex developments.	Practical workshops, directed reading and guided research.	<i>Project report and presentation</i>

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:

LO number	Learning outcome	Learning and Teaching methods	Assessment methods
D1	<i>Communicate effectively in writing, speaking and in appropriate forms of presentation (Communication)</i>	<i>As for section A</i>	<i>Reports, portfolios, presentations</i>
D2	<i>Critically review the risks and benefits of information systems to business organisations (Problem Solving)</i>	<i>As for section A</i>	<i>Reports, portfolios, presentations</i>
D3	<i>Build on previous achievements and feedback in order to generalise solutions to other situations (Improving Own Learning)</i>	<i>As for section A</i>	<i>Reports, portfolios, presentations</i>
D4	<i>Work collaboratively, learn from peer discussion and feedback, but also develop distinctly individual solutions. (Working with Others)</i>	<i>As for section A</i>	<i>Reports, portfolios, presentations</i>

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations](#) will apply to this course.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the [MyPort](#) student portal. UoP London will have a MyPort 'wrapper' on the London website that specifies specific resources for London students and signposts them to the relevant ones on MyPort. Details of how student support will be provided are in the operational handbook.

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our [Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice](#) where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- [University of Portsmouth Vision 2030 and Strategy 2025](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement](#) for [Postgraduate Characteristics](#) and [Computing Benchmark](#)
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- [Office for Students Conditions of Registration](#)
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: British Computer Society
- National Occupational Standards

Disclaimer

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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