Programme Specification

1	Awarding body	Univers	ity of Loi	ndon			
2	Teaching Institution	Birkbeck College					
3	Programme Title(s)	MSc Inf	ormatio	n Techn	ology		
4	Programme Code(s)	TMSITE	TMSITECH_C				
5	UCAS code	N/A					
6	Home Department	Comput	er Scien	ce and I	nformat	ion Syste	ems
7	Exit Award(s)	PG Dip,	PG Cert				
8	Duration of Study (number of years)	1 year F	T or 2 ye	ears PT			
9	Mode of Study	FT	٧	PT	٧	DL	
10	Level of Award (FHEQ)	7					
11	Other teaching depts or institution	Manage Geogra	ement; ohy				
12	Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details	British (Compute	r Societ	y (http:/	/www.b	cs.org/)
13	QAA Benchmark Group	Comput	ing				

¹⁴ **Programme Rationale & Aims**

The programme provides students who already hold a first degree in a subject other than computing, with knowledge and understanding of information systems, computers and computing, the use of information systems in organisations, and the management of information technology (IT) and information systems (IS).

For students without previous experience in this area, it will provide a platform for an entry to informatics practice, including the ability to deliver operational information processing artefacts, and to appraise and manage the deployment of such. The programme will offer diverse opportunities to study the strategic, tactical and operational management of informatics planning, analysis, design, development, processes and assets from social, technical and socio-technical perspectives. For students already in informatics practice, it will provide opportunities to both broaden and deepen their skills.

15	Entry Criteria
	A 2nd class honours degree from a British university, or equivalent, in any subject other than Computer Science or Information Systems. Applicants with less than the required level of academic qualification may be considered if they have significant relevant experience in the IT industry.



16	Learning Outcomes
	On successful completion of this programme a student will be expected to be able to:
	Demonstrate an advanced level of understanding and ability to make decisions about a wide range of recently emerged information technologies.
	Demonstrate an advanced level of understanding of computers, computing, software development, and how to design and implement software systems.
	Demonstrate an advanced level of understanding of approaches to the integration of recently emerged information technologies with modern organisations or markets.
	Demonstrate an advanced level of understanding of the management of the innovation that deployment of recently emerged information technologies implies.
	Identify appropriate technical and socio-technical solutions.
	Evaluate technologies and their uses and effect in human activity systems.
	Select appropriate methods of investigation of problems of research or development in technical and socio-technical contexts.
	Work and learn independently.
	Work and learn collaboratively.
	Plan work and work to deadlines.
	Plan, implement and report on a software development project or a research dissertation.

¹⁷ Learning, teaching and assessment methods

Formal lectures are the principal teaching method, but in most subjects these are enhanced with practical activities which may be based on computer laboratory, group collaborations or presentations. There is a significant element of practical coursework which the students carry out sometimes in supported lab sessions and also in the student's own time. Each student also undertakes an individual project of their own devising and is supervised by a member of academic staff. The project provides an opportunity for students to investigate an aspect of the subject that particularly interests them and either to build a larger and more complex system than they encounter in the assignments or to perform an orderly piece of social science research into a currently emerging information-oriented phenomenon.

The programme is modular, and students will be assessed in each of their seven taught modules and in the project. To pass a module or the project, students must obtain a mark of at least 50%.

Awards of MSc degree (at Distinction, Merit or Pass) or Post Graduate Diploma/Certificate will be in accordance with the College's Common Scheme of Award.

The assessment methods used ensure that the learning outcomes of the programme are addressed, while taking into account the needs and background of the student body. There is an appropriate balance between coursework, written examinations and the project, allowing examiners to discriminate between different levels of achievement. On-going formative feedback is provided to students by means of a suitable range of coursework assignments.

Taught modules: there will be a 2-hour written exam in each of the modules. In addition, there will be a compulsory coursework component to some of the modules, which must be passed in order to pass the module.

Project: written project proposal (of about 2000-3000 words) and written project report (of about 8,000 to 12,000 words, weighting 20% and 80%, respectively.

The taught modules and the project will be double-marked.

Assessments will be considered by a joint Exam Board for MSc Computer Science (CS), MSc Information Technology (IT) and MSc Data Science (DS).

18	Programme Description
	There are three compulsory modules offered in the Department of Computer Science and
	Information Systems (DCSIS), which need to be taken by every student studying on the MSc
	in Information Technology: Introduction to Software Development, Information Systems,
	and Concepts of Computation.
	Students choose four additional modules from a range of available options. Some of these
	optional modules are offered by the Department of Computer Science and Information
	Systems (DCSIS), others by the Department of Management (DoM) or the Department of
	Geography. The optional modules below are indicative and may be substituted by similar
	modules consonant with the aims of the programme with the approval of the Programme
	Director. The list of optional modules available may vary from year to year, and that choices
	are subject to timetabling constraints and student demand.
	In addition to taught modules, students will also need to undertake a project focusing on
	development of an Information System. This project can be also specialised in learning
	technologies.

Each taught module is worth either 15 or 30 credits; the project is worth 60 credits.



¹⁹ **Programme Structure**

Full-Time programme – 1 year

Year 1				
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	BUCI021S7	Introduction to Software Development	30	Compulsory
7	COIY059H7	Information Systems	15	Compulsory
7	BUCI068H7	Concepts of Computation	15	Compulsory
7		Options (4 x 15 credit modules) (see indicative list below)	60	Optional
7	BUCI079D7 or BUCI002D7	MSc Information Technology Project or Project in Learning Technologies	60	Core for the MSc Award
Indicative	list of options			L
7	BUCI040H7	Information and Network Security	15	Optional
7	COIY063H7	Internet and Web Technologies	15	Optional
7	COIY023H7	Applied Machine Learning [unavailable in 1st year]	15	Optional
7	BUCI023H7	Strategic Information Systems Planning	15	Optional
6	COIY028H6	Database Management	15	Optional
7	MOMN011H7	Research Methods in Management (Postgraduate)	15	Optional
7	MOMN061H7	Digital Creativity and New Media Management	15	Optional
7	MOMN038H7	Intellectual Capital & Competitiveness	15	Optional
7	MOMN043H7	Innovation: Management and Policy	15	Optional
7	MOMN082H7	Strategic Management	15	Optional
7	GGPH035H7	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	15	Optional

Part-Time programme – 2 years

((Year 1 part-time students must take the compulsory modules ---Introduction to Software Development, Information Systems, and Concepts of Computation and may take up to one other module from the available options.)

Year 1					
Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*	
7	BUCI021S7	Introduction to Software Development	30	Compulsory	
7	COIY059H7	Information Systems	15	Compulsory	
7	BUCI068H7	Concepts of Computation	15	Compulsory	
7		Option (1 x 15 credits)	15	optional	

Year 2				
Level	el Module Code Module Title		Credits	Status*
7		Options (3 x 15 credit modules)	45	
7	BUCI079D7	MSc Information Technology Project	60	Core for the
	or	or		MSc Award
	BUCI002D7	Project in Learning Technologies		
Indicative	list of options			
7	BUCI040H7	Information and Network Security	15	Optional
7	BUCI059H7	Interactive Systems	15	Optional
7	COIY063H7	Internet and Web Technologies	15	Optional
7	BUCI041S7	Project Management for Informatics	15	Optional
7	COIY023H7	Applied Machine Learning	15	Optional
7	BUCI023H7	Strategic Information Systems Planning	15	Optional
6	COIY028H6	Database Management	15	Optional
7	MOMN011H7	Research Methods in Management 1	15	Optional
7	MOMN061H7	Digital Creativity and New Media Management	15	Optional
7	MOMN038H7	Intellectual Capital & Competitiveness	15	Optional
7	MOMN043H7	Innovation: Management and Policy	15	Optional
7	MOMN082H7	Strategic Management	15	Optional
7	GGPH035H7	Introduction to Geographic Information Systems	15	Optional

Status*

CORE – Module must be taken and passed by student; COMPULSORY – Module must be taken, mark can be reviewed at sub-exam board; OPTIONAL – Student can choose to take this module

20	Regulations
	Admissions
	This programme adheres to the College Admissions Policy:
	http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/admissions-policy.pdf
	• Credit Transfer
	Accredited Prior Learning will be considered in line with the College Policy on
	Accredited Prior Learning
	http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/documents/accreditation-prior-learning.pdf
	Programme Regulations
	This programme adheres to the College Common Awards Scheme
	http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/policies/regulations
	• Programme Specific Regulations (or not applicable) N/A

22	Student Support and Guidance		
	All Birkbeck students have access to a range of student support services, details can be		
	found on our website here: <u>http://www.bbk.ac.uk/mybirkbeck/services/facilities</u>		
23	Methods of Enhancing Quality and Standards		
	The College has rigorous procedures in place for the monitoring and enhancing its educational provision. This includes regular monitoring of programmes drawing on feedback from various sources including external examiner's reports, student feedback, student achievement and progression data. In addition, departments are reviewed every four to five years through the internal review process that includes external input.		
	For more information please see the Academic Standards and Quality website http://www.bbk.ac.uk/registry/about-us/operations-and-quality		

24	Programme Director	Dr Vladislav Ryzhikov
25	Start Date (term/year)	Autumn 2009
26	Date approved by TQEC	Spring 2009
27	Date approved by Academic Board	Summer 2009
28	Date(s) updated/amended	June 2019