Bournemouth University

Programme Specification – Section 1

KEY PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Originating institution(s) Bournemouth University	**Faculty responsible for the programme** Faculty of Science and Technology
Final award(s), title(s) and credit MSc Information Technology – 180 credits (90 ECTS)	
Intermediate award(s), title(s) and credits PGDip Information Technology - 120 Credits (60 ECTS) PGCert Information Technology - 60 Credits (30 ECTS)	
UCAS Programme Code(s) (where applicable and if known) N/A	**HECoS (Higher Education Classification of Subjects) Code and balanced or major/minor load.** 100372 Information Technology **CAH Code**: 11-01-02 Information Technology **Does this programme require ATAS:** NO
External reference points The UK Quality Code for Higher Education (https://www.qaa.ac.uk/the-quality-code/) Chapter A1: The National Level (incorporating the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) in England, Wales and Northern Ireland) Chapter A2: The Subject and Qualification Level (incorporating the Subject benchmark statements for Computing (2022)) QAA The Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-Awarding Bodies United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)	
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) links N/A	
Places of delivery Bournemouth University, Talbot Campus	
Mode(s) of delivery Full-time Part-time	**Language of delivery** English
Typical duration 12 months full-time, 24 months part-time - September intake 16 months full-time, 32 months part-time - January intake	
Date of first intake September 2025	**Expected start dates** September, January
Maximum student numbers N/A	**Placements** None
Partner(s) N/A	**Partnership model** N/A
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Author Professor Nan Jiang, Dr Philip Davies	

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Programme Award and Title: MSc Information Technology								
Stage 1/Level 7 Students are required to complete 6 core units								
Unit Name	**Core/ Option**	**No. of Credits**	**Assessment Element Weightings**			**Expected Contact hours per unit**	**Unit Version No.**	**HECoS Code** (plus balanced or major/ minor load)
			Exam 1	**Cwk 1**	**Cwk 2**			
Human Computer Interaction	Core	20		100%		30	2.0	100736
Cloud Computing, Edge Computing and IoT	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100373
Programming and Prototyping	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100956 100374 (balanced)
Data Processing and Analytics	Core	20		100%		30	2.0	100755, 100754 (balanced)
Industrial Skills and Professional Issues (IT)	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100962 (major), 101090 (minor)
IT Governance and Ethics	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100362, 100793 (balanced)
Individual Masters Project	Core	60		100%		10	2.0	100994 (major), 100962 (minor)
Progression requirements: No **Exit qualification:** PG Cert Information Technology requires 60 credits at Level 7 PG Dip Information Technology requires 120 credits at Level 7 (excluding 60 credit Individual Masters Project)MSc Information Technology 180 credits at Level 7								

AIMS OF THE DOCUMENT

The aims of this document are to:

- define the structure of the programme;
- specify the programme award titles;
- identify programme and level learning outcomes;
- articulate the regulations governing the awards defined within the document.

AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The MSc Information Technology (IT) programme prepare students from diverse backgrounds, including finance, economics, and business, to meet the growing market demand for professionals with expertise in utilising computing and information technology applications. The programme equips students with the skills needed to support day-to-day business and organisational activities and make critical decisions.

Technological advancements and innovations have immense potential for achieving economic and societal impact. Information Technology, in particular, is applied across a wide range of sectors. The programme focuses on providing students with a strong foundation in core knowledge and skills necessary to design and build IT solutions that drive innovation and efficiency on a global scale.

By completing this programme, graduates will be prepared to pursue research and employment opportunities in information technology related fields with advanced technical skills, scientific knowledge, and ethical responsibility.

The primary aim of this postgraduate programme is to develop Masters-level graduates who possess:

- A critical understanding of information technology concepts and principles, with the ability to utilise relevant tools and methods.
- A critical understanding of creating innovative information technology applications and the ability to apply knowledge and skills to develop solutions for real-world problems.
- Technical skills and competencies to work across data, operations, analytics, processes, technology & architecture of different industries and segments, such as retail, manufacturing, education, government, transportation and telecommunications.
- Research skills in areas such as literature reviews, critical analysis of research findings, project proposals, planning, experiment design and analysis, and dissemination, with a focus on the application of these skills to financial technology topics.

ALIGNMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN

The MSc Information Technology programme aligns with Bournemouth University's 2025 strategic plan, which emphasises the fusion of excellent teaching, world-class research, and professional practice. This alignment reflects the institution's core values of Excellence, Inclusivity, Creativity, and Responsibility.

Students in the programme benefit from the support of academics with extensive industry experience, many of whom are actively involved in various computer science related projects with external organisations. These academics are also engaged in cutting-edge research, and students are encouraged to participate in co-creation and co-publication projects.

The programme's pedagogical approach focuses on practical, industry-focused tasks, collaborative learning, and engagement with the industry through guest lectures, industrial events and projects. This approach aims to equip students with the full range of skills necessary to succeed in the contemporary ICT environment. The academic team's own industrial experience, as well as their network of industry contacts, informs the programme. These industry contacts may also contribute directly to the programme by delivering guest lectures.

LEARNING HOURS AND ASSESSMENT

Bournemouth University taught programmes are composed of units of study, which are assigned a credit value indicating the amount of learning undertaken. The minimum credit value of a unit is normally 20 credits, above which credit values normally increase at 20-point intervals. 20 credits is the equivalent of 200 study hours required of the student, including lectures, seminars, assessment and independent study. 20 University credits are equivalent to 10 European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) credits.

The assessment workload for a unit should consider the total time devoted to study, including the assessment workload (i.e. formative and summative assessment) and the taught elements and independent study workload (i.e. lectures, seminars, preparatory work, practical activities, reading, critical reflection, *practice (if relevant)*).

Assessment per 20 credit unit should normally consist of 3,000 words or equivalent. Dissertations and Level 6 and 7 Final Projects are distinct from other assessment types. This programme adheres to best practice in both academia and industry. MSc dissertation projects can range from constructing an artefact to professional standards to conducting empirical research. Students will also produce concise reports similar to scientific papers, demonstrating rigorous research, analysis and presentation of results.

STAFF DELIVERING THE PROGRAMME

Students will usually be taught by a combination of senior academic staff with others who have relevant expertise including – where appropriate according to the content of the unit – academic staff, qualified professional practitioners, demonstrators/technicians and research students.

INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES – AND HOW THE PROGRAMME ENABLES STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE AND DEMONSTRATE THE INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

PROGRAMME AND LEVEL 7 INTENDED PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

<table>
<tr><td>A: Subject knowledge and understanding

This programme/level provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:</td><td>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">A1 Principles, concepts and techniques of information technology and related research.

A2 Enabling technologies for IT technology applications.

A3 A rigorous scientific and engineering approach to investigating and solving IT problems such as those in business contexts.

A4 The management and development of IT solutions to address business and other problems.

A5 The professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities of IT personnel within the organisational, technical, and global contexts in which IT applications are developed and deployed.</td><td>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):

• lectures (A1 – A5);
• seminars (A1 – A5);
• directed reading (A1 – A5);
• use of the VLE (A1 - A5);
• independent research (for project) (A1 - A5).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Assessment strategies and methods:

• coursework (A1 – A5);
• project (A1 - A5).</td></tr>
<tr><td>B: Intellectual skills

This programme/level/ provides opportunities for students to:</td><td>The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to</td></tr>
</table>

	demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
B1 Critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making to solve complex IT problems. B2 Analyse, interpret, synthesis, and critically evaluate information from current research. B3 Critically evaluate and justify alternative approaches to solutions development. B4 Formulate, plan, execute, and report on a project involving original contributions. B5 Communicate findings to professional and academic standards.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (B1 – B3, B5); • labs/seminars (B1 – B5); • workshops (B1 – B5); • use of the VLE (B1 – B3); • independent research (for project) (B1 - B5). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (B1 - B5); • project (B1 - B5).
C: Practical skills This programme/level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
C1 Retrieve, select, and evaluate information from a variety of sources towards the IT needs and requirements, with analysis of existing best practices and management of risk. C2 Analyse, specify, design, and implement IT applications to meet business and other goals. C3 Select appropriate methods and tools for solving IT problems. C4 Plan, monitor and evaluate the progress of an IT solution.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (C1 – C3); • labs/seminars (C1 – C4); • workshops (C1 – C4); • use of the VLE (C1, C2); • coursework (C1 – C4); • independent research (for project) (C1 – C4); • group exercises (C1 – C4). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (C1 – C4); • project (C1 – C4).
D: Transferable skills This programme/level/ provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
D1 Demonstrate problem solving skills and the application of knowledge across the discipline areas. D2 Gather, select, and analyse a range of experimental and fieldwork data, and present professionally using appropriate media. D3 Structure and communicate ideas professionally and effectively to appropriate professional and academic standards. D4 Demonstrate initiative, self-direction, and exercise personal responsibility for management of own learning.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (D1 - D5); • labs/seminars (D1- D5); • workshops (D1 – D5); • use of the VLE (D3 - D5); • independent research (for project) (D1 – D5) • directed reading (D1, D2, D4,D5). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (D1 - D5); • project (D1- D5).

D5 Distil, synthesise, and critically analyse alternative approaches and methodologies to problems and research results reported in literature and elsewhere.	

PG Dip INTENDED LEVEL OUTCOMES

A: Knowledge and understanding This level provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of*:*	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
A1 Principles and techniques of information technology and related research. A2 Enabling technologies for IT applications. A4 The management and development of IT solutions to address business or other problems. A5 The professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities of IT personnel within the organisational, technical, and global contexts in which IT applications are developed and deployed.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (A1, A2, A4, A5); • seminars (A1, A2, A4, A5); • directed reading (A1, A2, A4, A5); • use of VLE (A1, A2, A4, A5). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (A1, A2, A4, A5).
B: Intellectual skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
B1 Critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making to solve complex IT problems. B2 Analyse, interpret, synthesis, and critically evaluate information from current research. B3 Critically evaluate and justify alternative approaches to solutions development. B5 Communicate findings to professional and academic standards.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (B1 – B3, B5); • seminars (B1 – B3, B5); • workshops (B1 – B3, B5); • use of the VLE (B1 – B3). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (B1 – B3, B5)
C: Practical skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
C1 Retrieve, select, and evaluate information from a variety of sources towards the IT needs and requirements, with analysis of existing best practices and management of risk. C3 Select appropriate methods and tools for solving IT problems.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (C1, C3); • labs/seminars (C1, C3, C4); • workshops (C1, C3, C4); • coursework (C1, C3, C4); • use of VLE (C1);

C4 Plan, monitor and evaluate the progress of an IT solution.	group exercises (C1, C3, C4). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (C1, C3, C4);
D: Transferable skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
D1 Demonstrate problem solving skills and the application of knowledge across the discipline areas. D2 Gather, select, and analyse a range of experimental and fieldwork data, and present professionally using appropriate media. D3 Structure and communicate ideas professionally and effectively to appropriate professional and academic standards. D4 Demonstrate initiative, self-direction, and exercise personal responsibility for management of own learning.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (D1 – D4); • labs/seminars (D1- D4); • workshops (D1 – D4); • use of the VLE (D3 – D4); • directed reading (D4). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (D1 – D4).

PG Cert INTENDED LEVEL OUTCOMES

A: Knowledge and understanding This level provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of*:*	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
A1 Principles and techniques of information technology and related research. A4 The management and development of IT solutions to address business or other problems. A5 The professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities of IT personnel within the organisational, technical, and global contexts in which IT applications are developed and deployed.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (A1, A4, A5); • labs/seminars (A1, A4, A5); • Workshops (A1, A4, A5); • directed reading (A1, A4, A5); • Independent research (for project) (A1, A4, A5). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (A1, A4, A5); • project (A1, A4, A5).
B: Intellectual skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:

B1 Critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making to solve complex IT problems. B2 Analyse, interpret, synthesis, and critically evaluate information from current research. B5 Communicate findings to professional and academic standards.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (B1, B2, B5); • labs/seminars (B1, B2, B5); • use of the VLE (B1, B2). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (B1, B2, B5)
C: Practical skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
C1 Retrieve, select, and evaluate information from a variety of sources towards the IT needs and requirements, with analysis of existing best practices and management of risk. C4 Plan, monitor and evaluate the progress of an IT solution.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (C1); • labs/seminars (C1, C4); • workshops (C1, C4); • use of VLE (C1); • coursework (C1, C4); • group exercises (C1, C4). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (C1, C4);
D: Transferable skills This level provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the level learning outcomes:
D2 Gather, select, and analyse a range of experimental and fieldwork data, and present professionally using appropriate media. D3 Structure and communicate ideas professionally and effectively to appropriate professional and academic standards. D4 Demonstrate initiative, self-direction, and exercise personal responsibility for management of own learning.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods: • lectures (D2 – D4); • labs/seminars (D2- D4); • workshops (D2 – D4);use of the VLE (D3 – D4); • directed reading (D2, D4). Assessment strategies and methods: • coursework (D2 – D4).

Programme Skills Matrix

Units	Programme Intended Learning Outcomes	A 1	A 2	A 3	A 4	A 5	B 1	B 2	B 3	B 4	B 5	C 1	C 2	C 3	C 4	D 1	D 2	D 3	D 4	D 5
L7	Human Computer Interaction	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
L7	Cloud Computing, Edge Computing and IoT	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
L7	Programming and Prototyping		X				X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
L7	Data Processing and Analytics	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
L7	Industrial Skills and Professional Issues (IT)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
L7	IT Governance and Ethics	X		X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
L7	Individual Masters Project	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

ADMISSION REGULATIONS

The regulations for this programme are the University's Standard Postgraduate Admission Regulations.

PROGRESSION ROUTES

Recognition arrangements provide formally approved entry or progression routes through which students are eligible to apply for a place on a programme leading to a BU award. Recognition does not guarantee entry onto the BU receiving programme only eligibility to apply. In some cases, additional entry criteria such as a Merit classification from the feeder programme may also apply. Please see the recognition register for a full list of approved Recognition arrangements and agreed entry criteria.

ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

6A – Standard Assessment Regulations: Postgraduate Taught Programmes.

WORK BASED LEARNING (WBL) AND PLACEMENT ELEMENTS

N/A