LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MSc Information & Technology

Course Code: MSCIT

2022/23

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

MSc Information & Technology (MSCIT)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2022/23 Postgraduate Entrants

Confirmed at 01/2022

General Information

Award	MSc Information & Technology (IPOS) *And the following pathways:* MSc Information & Technology: Software Engineering MSc Information & Technology: Network Systems MSc Information & Technology: Information Technology Management MSc Information & Technology: Smart Computing
Contained Awards	Postgraduate Diploma Information & Technology Postgraduate Certificate Information & Technology
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification and Credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
Course Lengths and Standard Timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below: • 12 months (full time, campus based) September starts • 15 months (full time, campus based) January starts • 24 months (full time, with optional 30 week work placement) for **IPOS** route only (not applicable for pathways) • 24 months (part time, campus based)
Part Time Study	PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence to that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are

	consistent. Please note that the work placement option is not generally available to PT students.
Location(s) of Delivery	Headingley Campus, Leeds
Entry Requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning/ Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.
Course Fees	Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Timetable Information

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Policies, Standards and Regulations (www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/academicregulations)

There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course.

Key Contacts

Your Course Director	Kiran Voderhobli
Your Academic Advisor	Each student will be allocated an Academic Advisor once they commence their studies at the University. The Academic Advisor will be a member of a the Computing Academic Staff.
Your Course Administrator	Helen Turpin - h.turpin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Sandwich or Other 'In Year' Work Placement Information

Summary

Leeds Beckett is dedicated to improving the employability of our students and one of the ways in which we do this is to support our students to gain valuable work experience through work based placements. Our placement teams have developed strong links with companies, many of whom repeatedly recruit our students into excellent placement roles. Our teams are dedicated to supporting students through every stage of the placement process. Details of how to contact our placement teams may be found here:

www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/placement-information/

Length

30 weeks, undertaken between taught curriculum and the Dissertation – For September starters only on MSCIT-IPOS (not pathways).

Location

Students are responsible for obtaining their own placement, with assistance from the University. The locations will vary, dependent on the opportunity.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional Body

British Computer Society (BCS)

Accreditation/ Recognition Summary

The BCS (The Chartered Institute for IT) accreditation is an indicator of quality of curriculum, teaching and resources. Accredited courses have been independently recognised as having met high standards. BCS accreditation means that the course offers thorough grounding in the subject area and with emphasis on professional aspects to work in the field.

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

1. To facilitate the provision of an individual learning experience within the themes of Information and Technology for each student that fosters engagement, promotes and enhances independent study and life-long learning.
2. To maintain a high quality, comprehensive and coherent IT curriculum informed by research and practice which enhances each participant's career prospects.
3. To develop professionals with a sound understanding of the field under study and a critical awareness of current issues, who are able to adopt appropriate research strategies, and are informed of the wider contextual issues.
4. To enable the widest variety of people to benefit from engagement with postgraduate education in IT.

5. To provide postgraduate learning opportunities which are relevant and accessible to people and organisations regionally, nationally and internationally.
6. To enable students (by option) to undertake one of the specialist routes identified within the area of Information and Technology curriculum to advance their knowledge in that area.

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	Demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge and a critical awareness of current problems in IT and/or new insights on technologies that are at the forefront of the discipline.
2	Deal with complex IT issues both systematically and creatively, make informed judgements in the absence of complete data, implement and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
3	Evaluate, synthesise and contextualise advanced and contemporary theories and techniques to a range of complex and open-ended issues, applications in IT, problems and situations.
4	Evaluate critically current research, advanced scholarship and relevant methodologies and apply and critique these.
5	Take responsibility for continuing to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level – both generally (as appropriate to the holder of a Masters level award) and specifically as related to the field of Information and Technology.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

Our teaching methods, curriculum and assessments impart students with sophistication in independent critical thinking, knowledge contextualisation and professionalism. Our assessments give students opportunities to engage in critical thinking and self-direction while addressing problems similar to the ones faced in industry. The 'hands-on' teaching approach in most modules allow students to select and apply specialist skills to various contexts. Students are supported within an inclusive learning environment, which recognise, accommodates and meets the learning needs of all our students.

For each module students will receive a tutorial or practical lab-based session(s). These are supplemented with a programme of guest speakers and industry led seminars. In addition, all staff provide weekly drop-in slots for students who need personalised learning support.

The module materials and support provided will encourage deep learning the focus of which should support educational gain, as well as educational performance. Deep learning on this level include reflecting upon, synthesising, applying, critically evaluating and analysing, all an integral part of the course and its assessments. There are also opportunities for considering research papers, articulating and critiquing different philosophies and research papers through– core and elective modules. Challenging and industry

related tasks will stretch students' 5 capabilities and actively engage them in applying skills and knowledge in their future employment.

Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Option modules listed are indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

MSc Information & Technology

Level 7			
Semester 1	**Core (Y/N)**	**Semester 2**	**Core (Y/N)**
Research Practice (20 credits)	Y	Project Management (20 credits)	Y
Dissertation (year-long – 60 credits total)	Y	Dissertation (year-long – 60 credits total) (continued from Semester 1)	Y

Elective Modules – Select two options:	**Elective Modules – Select two options:**
Advanced Software Engineering (20 credits)	Critical Perspectives on Information (20 credits)
Cloud Computing Development (L6 module – 20 credits)	Database Systems & Approaches (20 credits)
Data Analytics & Visualisation (20 credits)	Digital Security (L6 module – 20 credits)
Eco Engineering (20 credits)	Intelligent Systems and Machine Learning (20 credits)
Managing Info in the Digital & Global Environment (20 credits)	Intelligent Systems & Robotics (20 credits)
Simulation & Modelling (20 credits)	Lean & Agile Engineering (20 credits)
Network Management (20 credits)	Negotiated Skills Development (20 credits)
	Software & Systems (20 credits)
	Software Engineering for Service Computing (20 credits)

NB – All option modules are indicative

MSc Information & Technology: Software Engineering pathway

Level 7			
Semester 1	**Core (Y/N)**	**Semester 2**	**Core (Y/N)**
Advanced Software Engineering (20 credits)	Y	Software Engineering for Service Computing (20 credits)	Y
Option (20 credits)	N	Project Management (20 credits)	Y
		Option (20 credits)	N
Research Practice (20 credits)	Y	Dissertation (60 credits)	Y

NB – All option modules are indicative

MSc Information & Technology: Smart Computing pathway

Level 7			
Semester 1	**Core (Y/N)**	**Semester 2**	**Core (Y/N)**
Smart Systems (20 credits)	Y	Project Management (20 credits)	Y
Cloud Computing Development (20 credits)	Y	Intelligent Systems and Robotics (20 credits)	Y
Simulation and Modelling (20 credits)	Y	Dissertation (60 credits)	Y
Research Practice (20 credits)	Y		

NB – All option modules are indicative

MSc Information & Technology: Network Systems pathway

Level 7			
Semester 1	**Core (Y/N)**	**Semester 2**	**Core (Y/N)**
Network Management (20 credits)	Y	Advanced Network Systems (L6 module – 20 credits)	Y
Option (20 credits)	N	Option (20 credits)	N
		Project Management (20 credits)	Y
Research Practice (20 credits)	Y	Dissertation (60 credits)	Y

NB – All option modules are indicative

MSc Information & Technology: Information Technology Management pathway

Level 7			
Semester 1	**Core (Y/N)**	**Semester 2**	**Core (Y/N)**
Managing Information in the Digital and Global Environment (20 credits)	Y	Database Systems and Approaches (20 credits)	Y
Option (20 credits)	N	Option (20 credits)	N
		Project Management (20 credits)	Y
Research Practice (20 credits)	Y	Dissertation (60 credits)	Y

NB – All option modules are indicative

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

On this course students will be assessed through a broadly even mix of coursework and examinations. There is a major independent study module which will require the production of a dissertation of 10,000 – 15,000 words for product based dissertations (15,000 – 20,000 words for empirical based dissertations). There is a mix of examinations, demonstrations, portfolio, viva and team-based assessments based on the modules studied.

Workload

Overall Workload	
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	1100 hours
Independent Study	700 hours

Overall Workload	
Placement	30 hours

Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

Student Services

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk, telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

Support and opportunities

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.