Bournemouth University

KEY PROGRAMME INFORMATION

Originating institution(s) Bournemouth University	**Faculty responsible for the programme** Faculty of Science and Technology
Final award(s), title(s) and credits MSc Information Technology – 180 (90 ECTS) Level 7 credits	
Intermediate award(s), title(s) and credits PGDip Information Technology – 120 (60 ECTS) Level 7 credits PGCert Computing – 60 (30 ECTS) Level 7 credits	
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 (Major) 100362 (Minor)
External reference points - The UK Quality Code for Higher Education; - QAA Computing Benchmark; - BCS – The Chartered Institute for IT guidelines	
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) links N/A	
Places of delivery Bournemouth University Talbot Campus	
Mode(s) of delivery Full-time; Part-time; CPD	**Language of delivery** English
Typical duration Sept FT = 12 months Sept PT = 24 months Jan FT = 16 months Jan PT = 32 months	
Date of first intake September 2019	**Expected start dates** September and January
Maximum student numbers 30	**Placements** None
Partner(s) Not applicable	**Partnership model** Not applicable
Date of this Programme Specification January 2024	
Version number 1.4-0924	
Approval, review or modification reference numbers	

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Author Dr Nan Jiang

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Programme Award and Title:

Stage 1/Level 7
Students are required to complete 4 core units and choose 2 optional 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			
Data Management	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100754 100755, (Balanced)
IT Management	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100374 100812, (Balanced)
Human Centred Design	Core	20		100%		30	1.0	100736 (Major), 100753 (Minor)
Research Methods and Professional Issues	Core	20		100%		30	2.0	100962 (Major), 101090 (Minor)
Cloud Computing	Option	20		100%		30	1.0	100373
Blockchain and Digital Futures	Option	20		100%		30	1.0	100376 (Major), 100755 (Minor)
Cyberpsychology	Option	20		100%		30	2.0	100993 (Major), 100753 (Minor)
Persuasive Technology and Behaviour Change	Option	20		100%		30	1.0	100374 (Major) 100497 (Minor)
Accessibility and Assistive Technology	Option	20		100%		30	1.1	100736 (Major), 100958 (Minor), 100993 (Minor)

Progression requirements: There are no progression requirements.
Exit qualification:
PG Dip Information Technology requires 120 credits at Level 7 (excluding 60 credit Individual Masters Project).
PG Cert Computing requires 60 credits at Level 7.

Stage 2/Level 7
Students are required to complete the Masters Project.

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			
Individual Masters Project	Core	60		100%		10	1.0	100367 (Major), 100962 (Minor)

Exit qualification: MSc Information Technology requires 180 credits at Level 7.
PG Dip Information Technology requires 120 credits at Level 7 (excluding 60 credit Individual Masters Project).
PG Cert Computing requires 60 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

This programme aims to develop critically informed, agile and resourceful graduates, who:

- have a critical understanding of advanced theoretical knowledge, methods and concepts of relevant information technology required for supporting business activities, processes and operations;
- have specialised technical knowledge and practical skills to take a professional approach to the planning, design and management of complex IT systems to address real-world problems;
- have desired transferable and professional skills to widen their employment prospects through relevant IT practices;
- have advanced research skills to carry out research to develop new/improved IT solutions using a broad range of methods, tools and technologies as effective independent researchers and/or consultants in their chosen specialised areas;
- are prepared to adapt to future changes in information technology in the business context via a comprehensive understanding of fundamental theories and current practices.

This programme is distinctive in that it provides students whose first degree is not computing the required knowledge and skills to become visionary information technologists, providing a 'fast-track' into the business computing profession. It is also distinctive in producing graduates who are able to understand the business perspective and create a strategic view of business IT system development, and who can also manage and lead the development of such systems.

ALIGNMENT WITH THE UNIVERSITY'S STRATEGIC PLAN

MSc Information Technology is informed by and well-aligned with the BU 2025 strategic plan and the University's fusion agenda. BU identified four strategic investment areas as part of its 2025 strategic plan where information technology plays a vital role in supporting the growth of all these subject areas. This programme will complement the broad range of information technology related expertise already spread across the University and it forms an important component of the BU 2025 vision that indicates it can be used to support/inform/improve sustainable social, environmental and economic growth and development. The programme is designed and delivered by academics with a wealth of industrial experience and research excellence and supported by the industries presenting synergised insights into the relevant fields. Through its fusion approach, it also offers students the opportunity to learn by engaging in a series of practical, industry focused tasks as well as a range of co-creation and co-production projects with academics and industrial contacts to acquire hands-on experience and improve their employabilities.

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).

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. The word count for these assignments is 5,000 words per 20 credits, recognising that undertaking an in-depth piece of original research as the capstone to a degree is pedagogically sound.

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

Graduates from this programme will possess the technical skills and competencies to work as intermediaries between business decision makers and developers. The intellectual skills developed are those of business systems analysts, requirements engineers, systems analysts and project managers. They are expected to become lifelong learners, taking on the challenge of the rapid rate of change and emergence of new knowledge in both business and computing.

LEVEL 7 INTENDED PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

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

This programme 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 programme learning outcomes:</td></tr>
<tr><td rowspan="2">A1 Principles and techniques of Information Technology based research;
A2 Enabling technologies for IT applications;
A3 A rigorous 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 or other problems;
A5 The professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities of IT personnel within the organisational, technical and global contexts in which Information Technology is applied.</td><td>Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):

• lectures (A1 – A5);

• seminars (A1 – A5);

• directed reading (A1 - A5);

• independent research (for dissertation) (A1 - A5).</td></tr>
<tr><td>Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes):

• coursework essays (A1 – A5);</td></tr>
</table>

	• dissertation (A1 – A5).
B: Intellectual skills This programme provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme 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 IT project involving original contributions; **B5** Communicate findings to professional and academic standards.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (B1 – B5); • seminars (B1 – B5); • directed reading (B1 – B5); • use of the VLE (B1 – B5); • independent research (for dissertation) (B1 - B5).
	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • coursework essays (B1 - B5); • dissertation (B1 - B5).
C: Practical skills This programme provides opportunities for students to:	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme learning outcomes:
C1 Retrieve, select, and evaluate information from a variety of sources; **C2** Analyse, specify, design and implement IT applications to meet business 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 (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (C1 – C4); • coursework essays (C1 – C4); • independent research for empirical dissertation (C1 – C4); • group exercises (C1 – C4).
	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • coursework essays (C1 – C4); • dissertation (C1 – C4).
D: Transferable skills	The following learning and teaching and assessment strategies and methods

This programme provides opportunities for students to:	enable students to achieve and to demonstrate the programme 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; **D5** Distil, synthesise and critically analyse alternative approaches and methodologies to problems and research results reported in literature and elsewhere.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (D1 - D5); • seminars (D1- D5); • use of the VLE (D1 - D5); • directed reading (D1- D5).
	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • coursework essays (D1 - D5); • dissertation (D1- D5).

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 based 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 Information Technology is applied.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (A1, A2, A4, A5); • seminars (A1, A2, A4, A5); • directed reading (A1, A2, A4, A5).
	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • coursework essays (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 (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (B1 – B3, B5); • seminars (B1 – B3, B5); • directed reading (B1 – B3, B5); • use of the VLE (B1 – B3, B5).
	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • coursework essays (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; **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 (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (C1, C3, C4); • coursework essays (C1, C3, C4); • group exercises (C1, C3, C4).
	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • coursework essays (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 (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (D1 – D4); • seminars (D1- D4); • use of the VLE (D1 – D4); • directed reading (D1- D4).

	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • coursework essays (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 based 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 Information Technology is applied.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (A1, A4, A5); • seminars (A1, A4, A5); • directed reading (A1, A4, A5); • Independent research (for dissertation) (A1, A4, A5).
	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • coursework essays (A1, A4, A5); • dissertation (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 (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (B1, B2, B5); • seminars (B1, B2, B5); • directed reading (B1, B2, B5); • use of the VLE (B1, B2, B5).

	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • coursework essays (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; **C4** Plan, monitor and evaluate the progress of an IT solution.	Learning and teaching strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (C1, C4); • coursework essays (C1, C4); • group exercises (C1, C4).
	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • coursework essays (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 (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • lectures (D2 – D4); • seminars (D2- D4); • use of the VLE (D2 – D4); • directed reading (D2- D4).
	Assessment strategies and methods (referring to numbered Intended Learning Outcomes): • coursework essays (D2 – D4);

ADMISSION REGULATIONS

The regulations for this programme are the University's Standard Postgraduate Admission Regulations with the following exceptions: Applicants whose mother tongue is not English must offer evidence of qualifications in written and spoken English. Acceptable qualifications are:
IELTS (academic) 6.0 (with a minimum of 5.5 in each of four categories) or direct equivalent.

https://intranetsp.bournemouth.ac.uk/pandptest/3a-postgraduate-admissions-regulations.pdf

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 (https://intranetsp.bournemouth.ac.uk/pandptest/7J_Recognition_Register_Public.xlsx) for a full list of approved Recognition arrangements and agreed entry criteria.

In order to take advantage of exciting new approaches to learning and teaching, as well as developments in industry, the current, approved Articulation/Recognition/Progression route(s) for this programme may be subject to change. Where this happens students will be informed and supported by the Faculty as early as possible.

ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS

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

https://intranetsp.bournemouth.ac.uk/pandptest/6a-standard-assessment-regulations-postgraduate.pdf

WORK BASED LEARNING (WBL) AND PLACEMENT ELEMENTS

N/A

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**
LEVEL 7	Data Management		X			X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
	IT Management				X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Human Centred Design	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X
	Research Methods and Professional Issues	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Cloud Computing		X			X			X	X	X			X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Blockchain and Digital Futures	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X		X	X	X		X		X	X	X
	Cyberpsychology	X		X		X	X	X	X		X	X		X		X		X	X	X
	Persuasive Technology and Behaviour Change	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
	Accessibility and Assistive Technology	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X
	Individual Masters Project	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

Programme Specification - Section 2

A – Subject Knowledge and Understanding
This programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding of:

1. Principles and techniques of Information Technology based research;
2. Enabling technologies for IT applications;
3. A rigorous engineering approach to investigating and solving IT problems such as those in business contexts;
4. The management and development of IT solutions to address business or other problems;
5. The professional, legal, and ethical responsibilities of IT personnel within the organisational, technical and global contexts in which Information Technology is applied.

B – Intellectual Skills
This programme provides opportunities for students to:

1. Critical thinking, problem-solving and decision-making to solve complex IT problems;
2. Analyse, interpret, synthesis, and critically evaluate information from current research;
3. Critically evaluate and justify alternative approaches to solutions development;
4. Formulate, plan, execute, and report on a IT project involving original contributions;
5. Communicate findings to professional and academic standards.

C – Subject-specific/Practical Skills
This programme provides opportunities for students to:

1. Retrieve, select, and evaluate information from a variety of sources;
2. Analyse, specify, design and implement IT applications to meet business goals;
3. Select appropriate methods and tools for solving IT problems;
4. Plan, monitor and evaluate the progress of an IT solution.

D – Transferable Skills
This programme provides opportunities for students to:

1. Demonstrate problem solving skills and the application of knowledge across the discipline areas.
2. Gather, select, and analyse a range of experimental and fieldwork data and present professionally using appropriate media.
3. Structure and communicate ideas professionally and effectively to appropriate professional and academic standards.
4. Demonstrate initiative, self direction and exercise personal responsibility for management of own learning.
5. Distil, synthesise and critically analyse alternative approaches and methodologies to problems and research results reported in literature and elsewhere.