



Swansea University
Prifysgol Abertawe

FACULTY OF SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT HANDBOOK

YEAR 4 (FHEQ LEVEL 7)

COMPUTER SCIENCE

DEGREE PROGRAMMES

SUBJECT SPECIFIC
PART TWO OF TWO
MODULE AND COURSE STRUCTURE
2023-24

DISCLAIMER

The Faculty of Science and Engineering has made all reasonable efforts to ensure that the information contained within this publication is accurate and up-to-date when published but can accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions.

The Faculty of Science and Engineering reserves the right to revise, alter or discontinue degree programmes or modules and to amend regulations and procedures at any time, but every effort will be made to notify interested parties.

It should be noted that not every module listed in this handbook may be available every year, and changes may be made to the details of the modules. You are advised to contact the Faculty of Science and Engineering directly if you require further information.

The 23-24 academic year begins on 25 September 2023

Full term dates can be found [here](#)

DATES OF 23-24 TERMS

25 September 2023 – 15 December 2023

8 January 2024 – 22 March 2024

15 April 2024 – 07 June 2024

SEMESTER 1

25 September 2023 – 29 January 2024

SEMESTER 2

29 January 2024 – 07 June 2024

SUMMER

10 June 2024 – 20 September 2024

IMPORTANT

Swansea University and the Faculty of Science of Engineering takes any form of **academic misconduct** very seriously. In order to maintain academic integrity and ensure that the quality of an Award from Swansea University is not diminished, it is important to ensure that all students are judged on their ability. No student should have an unfair advantage over another as a result of academic misconduct - whether this is in the form of **Plagiarism, Collusion** or **Commissioning**.

It is important that you are aware of the **guidelines** governing Academic Misconduct within the University/Faculty of Science and Engineering and the possible implications. The Faculty of Science and Engineering will not take intent into consideration and in relation to an allegation of academic misconduct - there can be no defence that the offence was committed unintentionally or accidentally.

Please ensure that you read the University webpages covering the topic – procedural guidance [here](#) and further information [here](#). You should also read the Faculty Part One handbook fully, in particular the pages that concern Academic Misconduct/Academic Integrity.

Welcome to the Faculty of Science and Engineering!

Whether you are a new or a returning student, we could not be happier to be on this journey with you.

At Swansea University and in the Faculty of Science and Engineering, we believe in working in partnership with students. We work hard to break down barriers and value the contribution of everyone.

Our goal is an inclusive community where everyone is respected, and everyone's contributions are valued. Always feel free to talk to academic, technical and administrative staff, administrators - I'm sure you will find many friendly helping hands ready to assist you. And make the most of living and working alongside your fellow students.

During your time with us, please learn, create, collaborate, and most of all – enjoy yourself!

Professor David Smith
Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean
Faculty of Science and Engineering



| Faculty of Science and Engineering | |
|--|--|
| Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Executive Dean | Professor David Smith |
| Director of Faculty Operations | Mrs Ruth Bunting |
| Associate Dean – Student Learning and Experience (SLE) | Professor Laura Roberts |
| School of Mathematics and Computer Science | |
| Head of School | Professor Elaine Crooks |
| School Education Lead | Dr Neal Harman |
| Head of Computer Science | Professor Xianghua Xie |
| Computer Science Programme Director | Undergraduate – Dr Liam O’Reilly |
| Year Coordinators | Year 0 – Dr Deepak Sahoo Year 1 – Dr Trang Doan Year 2 – Dr Fabio Caraffini Year 3 – Dr Jens Blanck Year 4 – Dr Tom Owen |

STUDENT SUPPORT

The Faculty of Science and Engineering has two **Reception** areas - Engineering Central (Bay Campus) and Wallace 223c (Singleton Park Campus).

Standard Reception opening hours are Monday-Friday 8.30am-4pm.

The **Student Support Team** provides dedicated and professional support to all students in the Faculty of Science and Engineering. Should you require assistance, have any questions, be unsure what to do or are experiencing difficulties with your studies or in your personal life, our team can offer direct help and advice, plus signpost you to further sources of support within the University. There are lots of ways to get information and contact the team:

Email: studentsupport-scienceengineering@swansea.ac.uk (Monday–Friday, 9am–5pm)

Call: +44 (0) 1792 295514 (Monday-Friday, 10am–12pm, 2–4pm).

Zoom: By appointment. Students can email, and if appropriate we will share a link to our Zoom calendar for students to select a date/time to meet.

The current student **webpages** also contain useful information and links to other resources:

<https://myuni.swansea.ac.uk/fse/>

READING LISTS

Reading lists for each module are available on the course Canvas page and are also accessible via <http://ifindreading.swan.ac.uk/>. We've removed reading lists from the 23-24 handbooks to ensure that you have access to the most up-to-date versions.

We do not expect you to purchase textbooks, unless it is a specified key text for the course.

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN COMPULSORY AND CORE MODULES

Compulsory modules must be **pursued** by a student.

Core modules must not only be **pursued**, but also **passed** before a student can proceed to the next level of study or qualify for an award. Failures in core modules must be redeemed.

Further information can be found under “Modular Terminology” on the following link -

<https://myuni.swansea.ac.uk/academic-life/academic-regulations/taught-guidance/essential->

[info-taught-students/your-programme-explained/](#)

Year 4 (FHEQ Level 7) 2023/24

Computer Science (MSci)

MSci Computer Science[G4G4]

Coordinator: Dr T Owen

Compulsory Modules

| Semester 1 Modules | Semester 2 Modules |
|--|---|
| CSC410 MSci Computer Science Project Research Methods 15 Credits Dr T Owen | |
| | CSP420 MSci Computer Science Project 30 Credits Dr T Owen |
| Total 120 Credits | |

Optional Modules

Choose a maximum of 45 credits

Select three modules.

The maximum credit limit applies to the modules in this section and also the sub-sections.

You cannot take CSCM48 and CSCM48B in the same Academic Year. The same rule applies to CSCM18/CSCM18J and CSCM45/CSCM45J.

| | | | | |
|---------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|-----|----|
| CSCM08 | Information Security Management | Dr B Muller | TB1 | 15 |
| CSCM13 | Critical Systems | Dr AG Setzer | TB1 | 15 |
| CSCM68 | Embedded System Design | Dr H Nguyen/Prof SA Shaikh | TB1 | 15 |
| CSCM72 | Optimisation | Dr AAM Rahat | TB1 | 15 |
| CSCM85 | Modelling and Verification Techniques | Dr U Berger | TB1 | 15 |
| CSCM98 | Operating Systems and Architectures | Dr B Mora | TB1 | 15 |

And

Choose a maximum of 15 credits

You may choose to make no selection in this section.

| | | | | |
|---------------|--|-------------------------|-----|----|
| CSCM18 | IT-Security: Cryptography and Network Security | Dr P Kumar/Dr E Neumann | TB1 | 15 |
| CSCM45 | Big Data and Machine Learning | Dr Z Li | TB1 | 15 |
| CSCM48 | Web Application Development | Dr SP Walton | TB1 | 15 |

And

Choose a maximum of 30 credits

Select two modules. The maximum credit limit applies to the modules in this section and also the sub-sections. You cannot take CSCM48 and CSCM48B in the same Academic Year. The same rule applies to CSCM18/CSCM18J and CSCM45/CSCM45J..

| | | | | |
|----------------|---|-------------------------------|-------|----|
| CSC409 | Invention and Innovation in Computing | Prof JV Tucker | TB1+2 | 15 |
| CSCM28 | Security Vulnerabilities and Penetration Testing | Dr JE Blanck | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM29 | Blockchain, Cryptocurrencies and Smart Contracts | Dr AG Setzer | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM35 | Big Data and Data Mining | Dr S Yang | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM37 | Data Visualisation | Dr B Mora/Dr JF Maestre Avila | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM38 | Advanced Topics: Artificial Intelligence and Cyber Security | Prof SA Shaikh/Prof J Zhang | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM39 | Human Computer Interaction | Dr MI Ahmad | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM64 | Software Testing | Dr E Neumann | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM68B | Embedded System Design | Dr B Chaparro Rico | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM75 | Logic in Computer Science | Dr U Berger | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM77 | Computer Vision and Deep Learning | Dr LY Wu | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM79 | Hardware and Devices | Dr DR Sahoo | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM88 | Network and Wireless Security | Dr P Kumar | TB2 | 15 |

And

Choose a maximum of 15 credits

You may choose to make no selection in this section.

| | | | | |
|----------------|--|-------------------------|-----|----|
| CSCM18J | IT-Security: Cryptography and Network Security | Dr E Neumann/Dr P Kumar | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM45J | Big Data and Machine Learning | Dr S Sharifzadeh | TB2 | 15 |
| CSCM48B | Web Application Development | Dr J Hough | TB2 | 15 |

CSC409 Invention and Innovation in Computing

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 September-June

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Prof JV Tucker

Format: 30 lectures including presentations and consultation hours.

Delivery Method: Lectures, Presentations by students.

Module Aims: The course will introduce the student to the history of contemporary computing. Among themes to be explored are the role of invention and innovation, and their commercialisation; and the impact of computing developments on society. The course will offer the opportunity for the student to investigate computing innovations and their historical development, or to work practically on items in the University's History of Computing Collection.

Module Content: Advanced topics relating to the history of contemporary computing.

- History of computing.
- The role of invention and innovation and their commercialisation.
- Impact of computing developments on society.
- Materials from the University's History of Computing Collection.

Intended Learning Outcomes: The student will be able to investigate contemporary computing subjects and their historical development, and critically assess the literature on specific topics. He or she will also be able to evaluate the impact of computing developments to society.

The students will be able to critically assess the legal, societal, ethical and professional issues involved in the exploitation of computer technology.

The students will be able to give a substantial presentation on an in-depth researched topic.

The students will be able to write a short dissertation at Master level on a computing topic from a historical point of view, or work practically with legacy software and hardware or other material objects from the History of Computing Collection.

Assessment: Presentation (25%)
Report (75%)

Resit Assessment: Coursework reassessment instrument (100%)

Assessment Description: Students will write a dissertation on an appropriate and approved subject, which may record work on the History of Computing Collection. The dissertation must be submitted before the beginning of the examination period in Semester 2. The dissertation will account for 75% of the credit for the course.

Students must prepare a formal proposal for the subject of their dissertation that must be approved before the end of Semester 1. Typically, the sizes of proposals range between 3-5 pages. They must contain a provisional title;
a brief overview of the subject;
some objectives of the dissertation;
provisional chapter titles;
a good bibliography of the subject.

Students must give a seminar on their chosen subject in Semester 2. The seminar is given to the whole class and normally lasts for 40 minutes. The seminar presentation will account for 25% of the credit for the course.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Individual written feedback.

Failure Redemption: Resubmit coursework as appropriate.

Additional Notes: Available to visiting and exchange students

CSC410 MSci Computer Science Project Research Methods

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 September-January

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr T Owen

Format: Weekly meetings with project supervisor

Delivery Method: Supervisory meetings, Student presentations, Thesis Proposal

Module Aims: This module will introduce students to some fundamental research methodologies and good practice in research. They will undertake background research including a literature review and specify the aims of their MSci final year project, and produce a plan for their proposed research.

Module Content: Through supervision activities students will be exposed to the following material:

- fundamental research methodologies
- research process and good practice in research
- time and project management
- formulation of research questions and hypotheses
- logical reasoning
- literature research
- professional writing
- proper acknowledgement of sources
- principles of carrying out experimental research including ethical issues
- presentation of results

Individual guidance from project supervisors on

- identifying a research topic
- finding and reading related work
- using (digital) library services and search tools

Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will:-

have gained a thorough understanding of fundamental research methodologies and good practice in research including

- the process of research
- the formulation of research questions and hypotheses;
- techniques of valid and convincing argumentation;
- literature research methods;
- the proper acknowledgement of sources;
- the extraction of information from literature;
- project planning and management of a research project.

be conversant with the principles of carrying out experimental research.

have an understanding of how scientific research is conducted, reported, reasoned about and evaluated.

be able to show their understanding of the requirements of a masters level project by writing a formal project proposal and specification which contains an outline solution to the problem and which clearly defines the scope of the MSc project, its goals, the methodology to be undertaken and the criteria of its evaluation

have gained an in-depth knowledge in specific areas related to their project, and have critically assessed different methods to be used in their project and will have developed a detailed plan for carrying out their project.

have an understanding and appreciation of the importance of relevant legal, social, ethical and professional issues as they relate to their project.

be able to demonstrate detailed understanding of an topic of student's choice in computer science (e.g., Software Technology, Human-Computer Interaction, Visual Computing or Safe and Secure Systems) and their place in the world.

Assessment: Presentation (40%)

Report (60%)

Resit Assessment: Coursework reassessment instrument (100%)

| |
|---|
| Assessment Description: Research Proposal presentation Written Thesis Proposal |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation of the entire cohort as Check or Audit |
| Assessment Feedback: Individual feedback will be given by markers (supervisor and second marker) using marking pro-forma. The comments and marks will be discussed by the project supervisor at individual meetings. |
| Failure Redemption: Failure to be redeemed by submitting document addressing unsatisfactory aspects of initial submission(s). |
| Additional Notes: Only available to students on MSci Computer Science, Year 4. |

CSCM08 Information Security Management

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 September-January

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr B Muller

Format: 30 hours lectures and seminars

Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions.

Module Aims: This module will address the theory and practice of information security. In particular, it will consider where data comes from, who collects it and what they can do with it. It will further look into theories of monitoring and surveillance, digital identity, legal and regulatory frameworks, data protection, cybercrime, business resilience, disaster recovery, and security audits.

Module Content: The theory and practice of information security: where does data come from, who collects it and what can they do with it? Data as a management tool, commodity, private asset, public good and public service.

Theories of monitoring and surveillance.

Theories of digital identity with applications to trust, anonymization and privacy. Technologies: biometrics, authentication, access control.

Legal and regulatory frameworks. Information Commissioners Office. Development of data protection. General Data Protection Regulation 2018. Company security policies and practices on digital media: use of email, the web and databases whilst at work, travelling and at home. Failures of information security: internal versus external. Case studies of data breaches.

The global landscape of cybercrime. Classification of cybercrime. Hackers and mules -- social engineering, leakage, penetration, betrayal, etc. Case studies of cybercrime, especially fraud. Convergence of real and virtual crimes.

Business resilience, continuity and disaster recovery. Risk analysis. Security audits. Role of chief information security officers.

Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to

- critically evaluate the personal, organisational, and legal/regulatory context in which information systems could be used, the risks of such use and the constraints that may affect how cyber security is implemented and managed,
- explain security requirements, and specify appropriate security measures,
- critically analyse the nature, role and problems of data in all aspects of modern life as well as the scope and limits of technologies and human factors in security,
- carry out risk analysis and evaluate compliance issues for data in an organisation or company,
- undertake security audits of policies, practices and technologies.

Assessment: Assignment 1 (30%)

Examination (70%)

Resit Assessment: Examination (Resit instrument) (100%)

Assessment Description: Assignment 1: Short report and group presentation/video

The exam will be a regular closed-book 2h exam.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Formative feedback during term time. Written individual feedback on presentation and report outlining strengths and weaknesses.

Failure Redemption: Use of resit instrument as appropriate.

Additional Notes:

Available to visiting and exchange students.

| | |
|--|---|
| CSCM13 Critical Systems | |
| Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 September-January | |
| Pre-requisite Modules: | |
| Co-requisite Modules: | |
| Lecturer(s): Dr AG Setzer | |
| Format: 20 hours lectures, 10 hours lab. | |
| Delivery Method: On campus lectures. | |
| Module Aims: This module introduces techniques for developing critical systems, especially safety critical systems. Students will gain experience in applying modern tools in the development of critical software. | |
| Module Content: Introduction and Motivation: What are high integrity and critical systems? Legal and ethical issues. Examples of major failures of high integrity systems. Successes and how/why they worked. Standards for safety-critical software and their shortcomings. Analysis: The hazard analysis process. Safety analysis and the safety case. Safety issues related to, but outside software. Human factors - the role of poor interfaces in software failures. Specification and Verification: Languages and tools for formal specification and verification of software. Detailed demonstration of one tool and its underlying theory. Software Production: Issues in program language selection to minimise failure. The software engineering process in the production of high-integrity software; Correctness: Validation and verification - the advantages and disadvantages of testing and formal verification. | |
| Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will be thoroughly familiar with issues surrounding safety-critical systems, including legal and ethical issues and hazard analysis. They will understand techniques for specifying and verifying high-integrity software. They will have experience in applying formal specification techniques to critical systems. They will be familiar with and have had experience in applying programming languages suitable for developing high-integrity software for critical systems. | |
| Assessment: | Examination 1 (60%) Coursework 2 (20%) Coursework 1 (20%) |
| Resit Assessment: | Examination (Resit instrument) (100%) |
| Assessment Description: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination, duration 2hrs. The coursework consists of Assignment 1 - Programming tasks Assignment 2 - Case study | |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort | |
| Assessment Feedback: Coursework: small report on strength and weaknesses of each solution. Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class. | |
| Failure Redemption: Resit exam and/or resubmit assignments as appropriate. | |
| Additional Notes: Available to visiting and exchange students. | |

CSCM18 IT-Security: Cryptography and Network Security

Credits: 15 **Session:** 2023/24 September-January

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr P Kumar, Dr E Neumann

Format: 30 hours lectures and labs

Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions.

Module Aims: The aim of this course is to examine theoretical and practical aspects of computer and network security.

Module Content: Security threats and their causes.

Security criteria and models.

Cryptography: including basic encryption, DES, AES, hash functions.

Access Control.

Security tools and frameworks: including IPsec, TLS, SSL, SSH and related tools.

Vulnerabilities and attacks: including port scanning, packet sniffing, SQL injection.

Security issues in wireless networks.

Security on the cloud.

Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will have the ability to identify security threats and their causes in today's computing infrastructures.

Students will be able to explain in detail and apply techniques from Cryptography and Cryptanalysis.

Students will synthesize the concepts of design, defensive programming, as well as their application to build robust and resilient systems.

Students will be able to apply techniques to enhance the security of existing systems, and gain a critical awareness of the limits of these techniques.

Students will be able to reflect and critique on cryptographic techniques and secure systems design.

Assessment: Examination 1 (70%)
Coursework 1 (10%)
Coursework 2 (10%)
Laboratory work (10%)

Resit Assessment: Examination (Resit instrument) (100%)

Assessment Description: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination.
2 Courseworks and work done in a lab.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks.

Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class.

Failure Redemption: Resit exam.

Additional Notes:

Available to visiting and exchange students.

| CSCM18J IT-Security: Cryptography and Network Security | |
|---|--|
| Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June | |
| Pre-requisite Modules: | |
| Co-requisite Modules: | |
| Lecturer(s): Dr E Neumann, Dr P Kumar | |
| Format: 30 hours lectures and labs | |
| Delivery Method: On-campus/virtual lectures and lab sessions. | |
| Module Aims: The aim of this course is to examine theoretical and practical aspects of computer and network security. | |
| Module Content: Security threats and their causes. Security criteria and models. Cryptography: including basic encryption, DES, AES, hash functions. Access Control. Security tools and frameworks: including IPSec, TLS, SSL, SSH and related tools. Vulnerabilities and attacks: including port scanning, packet sniffing, SQL injection. Security issues in wireless networks. Security on the cloud. | |
| Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will have the ability to identify security threats and their causes in today's computing infrastructures. Students will be able to explain in detail and apply techniques from Cryptography and Cryptanalysis. Students will synthesize the concepts of design, defensive programming, as well as their application to build robust and resilient systems. Students will be able to apply techniques to enhance the security of existing systems, and gain a critical awareness of the limits of these techniques. Students will be able to reflect and critique on cryptographic techniques and secure systems design. | |
| Assessment: | Examination 1 (70%) Coursework 1 (10%) Coursework 2 (10%) Laboratory work (10%) |
| Resit Assessment: | Examination (Resit instrument) (100%) |
| Assessment Description: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination (70%). 2 Courseworks and work done in a lab. | |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort | |
| Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks. Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class. | |
| Failure Redemption: Resit exam. | |
| Additional Notes: Available to visiting and exchange students. | |

CSCM28 Security Vulnerabilities and Penetration Testing

Credits: 15 **Session:** 2023/24 January-June

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr JE Blanck

Format: 30 hours lectures and labs

Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions.

Module Aims: The aim of this course is to examine methodological and practical aspects of cyber security threats and analysis techniques.

Module Content: Security threats and their causes.

Vulnerabilities and attacks: including port scanning, packet sniffing, SQL injection.

Countermeasures for attacks.

Security analysis tools and frameworks: including Kali Linux and Metasploit.

Shell code.

Legal and ethical issues of ethical hacking.

Social Engineering.

Methodologies for penetration testing.

Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will have the ability to identify security threats and their causes in today's computing infrastructures.

Students will be able to explain in detail a number of methodologies for security analysis of a system.

Students will have practical experience in recognising vulnerabilities and will be able to defend against them.

Students will be able to apply techniques of penetration testing to existing systems, and gain a critical awareness of the limits of these techniques.

Assessment:

- Examination 1 (50%)
- Coursework 1 (10%)
- Coursework 2 (10%)
- Assignment 1 (4%)
- Assignment 2 (3%)
- Assignment 3 (3%)
- Assignment 4 (4%)
- Assignment 5 (3%)
- Assignment 6 (5%)
- Assignment 7 (4%)
- Assignment 8 (4%)

Resit Assessment: Examination (Resit instrument) (100%)

Assessment Description: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination.

2 Courseworks and work done in a lab.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for coursework. Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class.

Failure Redemption: Resit exam.

Additional Notes:

Available to visiting and exchange students.

| CSCM29 Blockchain, Cryptocurrencies and Smart Contracts | |
|--|--|
| Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June | |
| Pre-requisite Modules: | |
| Co-requisite Modules: | |
| Lecturer(s): Dr AG Setzer | |
| Format: 30 hours including presentation and consultation hours | |
| Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions. | |
| Module Aims: This is a module on modern blockchain technology and its major applications. It will give an overview on the technological setup of major cryptocurrencies, and introduce the blockchain as a concept for determining the order of events in a distributed database. In addition, it will discuss the implementation of smart contracts and summarise the current state of the art of security issues in cryptocurrencies, blockchain technology, and smart contracts. | |
| Module Content: Introduction to cryptocurrencies, blockchain technology and smart contracts History of cryptocurrencies. From the model of a bank to the Bitcoin model. The Bitcoin client. Transactions, keys, addresses, wallets. The Bitcoin network. Mining and consensus. An overview over other cryptocurrencies. History and Philosophy of Ethereum. Smart contracts. Smart contract development using Solidity. Security of Smart Contracts. | |
| Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to - explain blockchain technology and critically evaluate its current and future applicability, -- explain the theoretical concepts behind cryptocurrencies and blockchain technology, and be able to critically reflect on issues surrounding their application, - - explain the concepts behind smart contracts, be able to apply them in a lab environment, and critically evaluate their applicability as a technology, - develop and document software related to the areas of cryptocurrencies, blockchain technology, and smart contracts. -- apply blockchain technology to scenarios in a lab and critically evaluate its usability potential in the real world. | |
| Assessment: | Examination 1 (70%) Coursework 1 (10%) Coursework 2 (10%) Laboratory work (10%) |
| Resit Assessment: | Examination (Resit instrument) (100%) |
| Assessment Description: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination, duration 2hrs. Coursework 1: Java-based exercise (Java programming skills required) Coursework 2: Solidity coursework Laboratory Work: Practical Work | |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort | |
| Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks. Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class. | |
| Failure Redemption: Resit exam and/or resubmit assignments as appropriate. | |
| Additional Notes: Available to visiting and exchange students. | |

| | |
|--|--|
| CSCM35 Big Data and Data Mining | |
| Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June | |
| Pre-requisite Modules: | |
| Co-requisite Modules: | |
| Lecturer(s): Dr S Yang | |
| Format: 20 hours lectures, 10 hours lab | |
| Delivery Method: Primarily on campus | |
| Module Aims: This module introduces students to the fundamental topics of data mining, including data pre-processing techniques, applied probability and statistics, data mining algorithms (incl. associate rule, classification, clustering, outlier detection and probabilistic graphical model), and big data frameworks. | |
| Module Content: Basic knowledge in machine learning and mathematics are required, where we students are strongly encouraged to take CSCM45 and CSCM70 in the first semester. For those who have not taken those two modules, we will revisit some key concepts in the first three weeks, i.e. probability and statistics. Practical work will be done through the medium level of Python programming. You will also get to discover key scientific libraries of Python, i.e. NumPy, SciPy, Scikit-Learn, Matplotlib, Tensorflow, Hadoop, Spark. Classes in the first 3 weeks will include support time for Python programming and the use of these libraries. | |
| <p>Course Overview and Python Programming for Data Science</p> <p>Mathematics Background: Numerical Analysis, Applied Probability and Statistics</p> <p>Frequent Pattern, Association, Correlations</p> <p>Naïve Bayes Classifier, Quantitative Evaluation</p> <p>Decision Tree, Random Forest, AdaBoost</p> <p>Maximum Likelihood Estimation, Expectation Maximisation</p> <p>Clustering, DBSCAN, High Dimensional Data Analysis</p> <p>Text Data Analysis, Word2Vec, Skip-Through, CBOW</p> <p>Time-Series Data Analysis, Regression, Hidden Markov Model</p> <p>Scalability and Efficiency Big Data Analysis</p> | |
| Intended Learning Outcomes: After completing this module students will: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - be able to manipulate complex, large, heterogeneous datasets, from storage to processing - be able to extract information from complex, large, heterogeneous datasets - be able to critically evaluate and select data mining algorithms and techniques, and be able to apply them in real world applications. | |
| Assessment: | <p>Coursework 1 (15%)</p> <p>Coursework 2 (15%)</p> <p>Examination (70%)</p> |
| Resit Assessment: | Examination (Resit instrument) (100%) |
| Assessment Description: Coursework 1 (February): Examination of Python programming in Data Science | |
| Coursework 2 (March): Examination of Data Mining and Machine Learning algorithm | |
| Exam (May/June): Standard Format Computer Science Exam | |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort | |
| Assessment Feedback: Grades, individual and collective written feedback for coursework. | |
| Failure Redemption: Redemption of failure via resit instrument. | |
| Additional Notes: Available to visiting and exchange students. Basic knowledge in machine learning and mathematics are required and Computer Science students are strongly encouraged to take CSCM45 and CSCM70 in the first semester. For those who have not taken those two modules, some key concepts will be revisited in the first three weeks, i.e. probability and statistics. NOTE: students on the MSc Applied Data Science will have covered the relevant material in MA-M06 and MA-M16 | |

| | |
|---|---|
| CSCM37 Data Visualisation | |
| Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June | |
| Pre-requisite Modules: | |
| Co-requisite Modules: | |
| Lecturer(s): Dr B Mora, Dr JF Maestre Avila | |
| Format: | 20 hours lectures, 10 hours practicals |
| Delivery Method: On-campus and lab sessions. | |
| Module Aims: Data Visualisation is concerned with the automatic or semi-automatic generation of digital images that depict data in a meaningful way(s). It is a relatively new field of computer science that is rapidly evolving and expanding. It is also very application oriented, i.e., real tools are built in order to help scientists from other disciplines. | |
| Module Content: Introductory topics include: purposes and goals of visualisation, applications, challenges, the visualisation pipeline, sources of data: data dimensionality, data types, and grid types. | |
| Information visualisation topics include: abstract data, hierarchical data, tree maps, cone trees, focus and context techniques, hyperbolic trees graphs and graph layouts, multi-dimensional data, scatter plots, scatter plot matrices, icons, parallel coordinates, interaction techniques, linking and brushing. | |
| Volume visualisation topics include: slicing, surface vs. volume rendering, transfer functions, interpolation schemes, direct volume visualisation, ray casting, shear-warp factorisation, image order vs. object order algorithms, gradients, filtering, interpolation, and isosurfacing. | |
| Flow visualisation topics include: simulation, measured, and analytical data, steady and time-dependent (unsteady) flow, direct and indirect flow visualisation, applications, hedgehog plots, vector glyphs, numerical integration schemes, streamlines, streamline placement, geometric flow visualisation techniques, line integral convolution (LIC), texture-based techniques, feature-based flow visualisation. | |
| Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will be able to: | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identify problems that can be addressed with visualisation. - comprehensively explain data visualisation techniques and be able to critically appraise their suitability to particular situations. - choose, evaluate and apply visualisation techniques to effectively reveal insights into complex and potentially-incomplete data. | |
| Assessment: | Examination 1 (60%) Coursework 1 (20%) Coursework 2 (20%) |
| Resit Assessment: | Examination (Resit instrument) (100%) |
| Assessment Description: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination, duration 2hrs. Two practical courseworks. | |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort | |
| Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks. Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class. | |
| Failure Redemption: Resit examination and/or resubmit coursework(s) as appropriate. | |
| Additional Notes: Available to visiting and exchange students. | |

CSCM38 Advanced Topics: Artificial Intelligence and Cyber Security

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Prof SA Shaikh, Prof J Zhang

Format: 20 lectures, 5 x 1hr seminars, 3 x 2hr labs, 2 drop-in hours.

Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions.

Module Aims: This module introduces students to the state-of-the-art methods and research topics of artificial intelligence,

cyber security, including quantum computing, data science, deep learning and reinforcement learning. The

inspiration behind these approaches will be discussed, along with their relative merits for application in cyber

security.

Module Content: 1. Advanced AI Topics: Deep Supervised Learning: Advanced Topics on CNNs, RNNs and GNNs.

2. Advanced AI Topics: Deep Unsupervised Learning: Advanced Topics on AE, Autoregression Models, Flow, GANs.

3. Data Security: Federated Learning, Differential Privacy in Learning.

4. Model Security: Adversarial Attack and Defense, Robustness Testing.

5. AI for Cybersecurity: Malicious Intrusion Detection etc

Intended Learning Outcomes: Student will be able

- to demonstrate a broad knowledge of the state-of-the-art concepts and techniques of artificial intelligence (AI) for cyber security,
- to appraise vulnerabilities and risks introduced by AI,
- to compare and contrast different analysis methods for cyber security problems,
- to carry out independent research on AI and data science topics related to cyber security.

They should further be able

to transfer the knowledge to solve cyber security problems, from a computation, artificial intelligence and data science perspective.

Assessment: Coursework 1 (50%)

Coursework 2 (50%)

Resit Assessment: Coursework reassessment instrument (100%)

Assessment Description: Coursework 1: This is a written essay of 2,500 words to be completed on an individual basis. The essay is a structured mix of analytical discussion and technical working around a case study, which requires individuals perform some background research, engaged with the case study materials provided, and perform critique and synthesis over a range of technical configurations. This component also requires engagement with lecture and seminar materials, which are designed to guide individuals on the threat analysis and risk assessment needed for the component case study.

Coursework 2: This is a written essay of 2,500 words to be completed on an individual basis. The essay is an in-depth and guided research effort, demonstrating the use of an organised literature search and methodology to perform a critical review of some of the state-of-the-art in a selection of topics relevant to the module. This research-led component asks for the individuals to engage in the lecture and practical sessions so that appropriate scientific and technical insights are drawn on the concepts explored, and also provide for effective commentary on the use of such concepts to address the problems posed in the module content.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Individual written feedback and cohort feedback

Failure Redemption: Resubmit coursework as appropriate.

Additional Notes: Available to visiting and exchange students

| | |
|--|---|
| CSCM39 Human Computer Interaction | |
| Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June | |
| Pre-requisite Modules: | |
| Co-requisite Modules: | |
| Lecturer(s): Dr MI Ahmad | |
| Format: 30 Lectures including presentations and consultation hours. | |
| Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions. | |
| Module Aims: This module gives an overview on the main topics in Human Computer Interaction and helps students understand research and research processes in Human Computer Interaction. Students explore the advanced literature and research results underpinning the field of HCI. Classic papers and controversies are covered, as well as recent work from the leading figures. Students achieve a clear view of the 'cutting edge' and issues in the field and where things are happening. The module is very interactive, and students will be expected to give presentations. | |
| Module Content: Advanced topics in Human Computer Interaction including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Interface design. - Usability. - Evaluation. - Human factors. - Human error. - Cognitive science, and their role in the field. - User models. - User experience. - Larger systems, ethics, design principles. Research topics: Classic literature and personalities Research Methods in HCI. | |
| Intended Learning Outcomes: The ability to demonstrate detailed understanding of advanced topics in HCI including topics such as interface design, human factors, human error, cognitive science, etc, and their role in the field. <p>The ability to review and critically assess the literature on specific topics at the current limits of theoretical and research understanding.</p> <p>The ability to analyse and present the results of a literature review both as a scientific report (paper, poster, etc) and as an oral presentation.</p> | |
| Assessment: | Coursework 1 (30%) Coursework 2 (70%) |
| Resit Assessment: | Coursework reassessment instrument (100%) |
| Assessment Description: Coursework 1 – Paper Critique (Report) 30% Coursework 2 – Short Paper and Prototype (70%) | |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort | |
| Assessment Feedback: Individual written feedback. | |
| Failure Redemption: Resubmit coursework as appropriate. | |
| Additional Notes: Available to visiting and exchange students | |

CSCM45 Big Data and Machine Learning

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 September-January

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr Z Li

Format: 20 hours lectures, 10 hours lab.

Delivery Method: On campus lectures.

Module Aims: This module will discuss in-depth some of the most widely used and state-of-the-art artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques and their applications to big data problems. The students will gain both theoretical understanding of learning and practical know-how in applying those theories to real world problems. Topics include big data concept, data mining, learning theories, supervised and unsupervised learning, and reinforcement learning.

Module Content: This module covers three parts: introduction to big data and learning, data analysis techniques, and learning concepts and methods.

Introduction to big data and data mining;

Data clustering;

Dimensionality reduction: linear techniques;

Dimensionality reduction: nonlinear techniques;

Discriminative analysis;

Learning theory, including bias and variance theory, innovation process in machine learning;

Expert systems;

Unsupervised learning;

Supervised learning, including parametric and nonparametric methods, neural network, kernels, support vector machine, randomised decision trees;

Reinforcement and adaptive control;

Example applications to bioinformatics, health informatics, and web data processing.

Intended Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this module students will be able to:

- Describe, explain, and critique the fundamental techniques of analysing complex and heterogeneous data.
- Describe and explain machine learning techniques and their applications to big data problems.
- Discuss and contrast both conventional and state-of-the-art machine learning techniques.
- Implement and apply machine learning techniques to synthesise solutions.
- Analyse big data problems and evaluate and devise potential solutions.

Assessment: Examination 1 (60%)
Coursework 1 (20%)
Laboratory work (20%)

Resit Assessment: Examination (Resit instrument) (100%)

Assessment Description: Standard format Computer Science exam.

Essay-based practical programming assignment.

Laboratory work with quizzes.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with analytical individual feedback for assignment. Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class.

Failure Redemption: Redemption of failure via resit instrument.

Additional Notes: Available to visiting and exchange students.

CSCM45J Big Data and Machine Learning

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr S Sharifzadeh

Format: 20 hours lectures, 10 hours lab.

Delivery Method: On campus lectures.

Module Aims: This module will discuss in-depth some of the most widely used and state-of-the-art artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques and their applications to big data problems. The students will gain both theoretical understanding of learning and practical know-how in applying those theories to real world problems. Topics include big data concept, data mining, learning theories, supervised and unsupervised learning, and reinforcement learning.

Module Content: This module covers three parts: introduction to big data and learning, data analysis techniques, and learning concepts and methods.

Introduction to big data and data mining;

Data clustering;

Dimensionality reduction: linear techniques;

Dimensionality reduction: nonlinear techniques;

Discriminative analysis;

Learning theory, including bias and variance theory, innovation process in machine learning;

Expert systems;

Unsupervised learning;

Supervised learning, including parametric and nonparametric methods, neural network, kernels, support vector machine, randomised decision trees;

Reinforcement and adaptive control;

Example applications to bioinformatics, health informatics, and web data processing.

Intended Learning Outcomes: Upon completion of this module students will be able to:

- Describe, explain, and critique the fundamental techniques of analysing complex and heterogeneous data.
- Describe and explain machine learning techniques and their applications to big data problems.
- Discuss and contrast both conventional and state-of-the-art machine learning techniques.
- Implement and apply machine learning techniques to synthesise solutions.
- Analyse big data problems and evaluate and devise potential solutions.

Assessment: Examination 1 (60%)

Coursework 1 (20%)

Laboratory 1 (5%)

Laboratory 2 (5%)

Laboratory 3 (5%)

Laboratory 4 (5%)

Resit Assessment: Examination (Resit instrument) (100%)

Assessment Description: Standard format Computer Science exam.

Essay-based practical programming assignment.

Lab 1 to Lab 4 are a series of practical lab tasks.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with analytical individual feedback for assignment. Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class.

Failure Redemption: Redemption of failure via resit instrument.

Additional Notes: Available to visiting and exchange students.

| | |
|--|--|
| CSCM48 Web Application Development | |
| Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 September-January | |
| Pre-requisite Modules: | |
| Co-requisite Modules: | |
| Lecturer(s): Dr SP Walton | |
| Format: 18 hours lectures, 12 hours labs | |
| Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions. | |
| Module Aims: The module will develop the principles and technologies used for building web-based systems. Practical experience of building web systems will be gained via laboratories and coursework. Existing high programming skill and experience is essential for this module. | |
| Module Content: The history of web application development. HTML and CSS: Introduction and Good Practices. Web Application Design. MVC driven web applications Security and identity in web applications Web development using Javascript and AJAX | |
| Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will have a systematic understanding of the key aspects of current web programming principles and technologies. Students will be able to plan and deliver a web application to a deadline. Students will be able to create web applications following methodological good practice. Students will be able to design secure web applications and evaluate their effectiveness. Students will be able to design web applications which provide basic analytics for system administrators. | |
| Assessment: | Coursework 1 (20%) Coursework 2 (10%) Coursework 3 (70%) |
| Resit Assessment: | Coursework reassessment instrument (100%) |
| Assessment Description: Coursework 1 and 2 - Code Review and code submission. An important part of working in a software engineering organisation is code reviews. In this process engineers look at each other's code to spot bugs and ensure standards are being adhered to. You will submit a source file from your project to be reviews by another student and review another student's source file. You will be assessed both on your adherence to standards with your source code and the quality of your code review. Coursework 3 - Implementation. You will submit the implementation of a small web application. You will be asked to evaluate this by answering a series of questions referencing your implementation. This will assess both your knowledge of the theory and ability to apply that in practice. | |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort | |
| Assessment Feedback: Feedback during Presentation of work. Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks. Individual feedback on submissions from lecturer and/or demonstrators in laboratory sessions. | |
| Failure Redemption: Resit examination and/or resubmit coursework(s) as appropriate | |
| Additional Notes: Students taking this module must have good programming skills (i.e., be a competent programmer in any standard programming language) as this module requires significant programming ability. | |
| Available to visiting and exchange students. | |

CSCM48B Web Application Development

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr J Hough

Format: 18 hours lectures, 12 hours labs

Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions.

Module Aims: The module will develop the principles and technologies used for building web-based systems. Practical experience of building web systems will be gained via laboratories and coursework. Existing high programming skill and experience is essential for this module.

Existing programming experience is essential for this module.

Module Content: The history of web application development.

HTML and CSS: Introduction and Good Practices.

Web Application Design.

MVC driven web applications

Security and identity in web applications

Web development using Javascript and AJAX

Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will have a systematic understanding of the key aspects of current web programming principles and technologies.

Students will be able to plan and deliver a web application to a deadline.

Students will be able to create web applications following methodological good practice.

Students will be able to design secure web applications and evaluate their effectiveness.

Assessment: Coursework 1 (20%)

Coursework 2 (10%)

Coursework 3 (70%)

Resit Assessment: Coursework reassessment instrument (100%)

Assessment Description: Coursework 1 and 2 - Code Review and code submission.

An important part of working in a software engineering organisation is code reviews. In this process engineers look at each other's code to spot bugs and ensure standards are being adhered to. You will submit a source file from your project to be reviews by another student and review another student's source file. You will be assessed both on your adherence to standards with your source code and the quality of your code review.

Coursework 3 - Implementation.

You will submit the implementation of a small web application. You will be asked to evaluate this by answering a series of questions referencing your implementation. This will assess both your knowledge of the theory and ability to apply that in practice.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Feedback during presentation of implementation. Individual analytical feedback for courseworks.

Failure Redemption: Resit exam and/or resubmit assignments as appropriate.

Additional Notes: Students taking this module must have good programming skills (i.e., be a competent programmer in any standard programming language) as this module requires significant programming ability.

| | |
|---|--|
| CSCM64 Software Testing | |
| Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June | |
| Pre-requisite Modules: | |
| Co-requisite Modules: | |
| Lecturer(s): Dr E Neumann | |
| Format: 20 hours lectures; 10 hours practicals. | |
| Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions. | |
| Module Aims: Testing is the process of systematically experimenting with an object (the SUT = System Under Test) in order to establish its quality, where quality means the degree of accordance to the intention or specification. This module will provide an in-depth introduction to various test scenarios and enable students to gain hands-on experience by means of a number of practical exercises. | |
| Module Content: The module provides a profound overview on industrially relevant methods in software testing and points out current research directions. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functional Testing: Boundary Value Testing, Equivalence Class Testing, Decision Table- Based Testing. • Structural Testing: Path Testing, Data Flow Testing. • Integration and System Testing: Levels of Testing, Approaches to Integration Testing. • Object-Oriented Testing: Issues, Class Testing, Object-Oriented Integration Testing. • Possibly selected Research Topics: e.g. Testing Hybrid Systems. | |
| Intended Learning Outcomes: - Critical understanding of testing as a method to validate software systems; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The ability to test systems; - Thorough understanding the levels of testing; - Ability to critically evaluate and select software test scenarios; - Ability to perform problem analysis. | |
| Assessment: | Examination (70%) Coursework 1 (10%) Coursework 2 (10%) Laboratory work (10%) |
| Resit Assessment: | Examination (Resit instrument) (100%) |
| Assessment Description: Standard format Computer Science exam, 2hrs. Two practical programming/testing exercises. Reflective report. Weekly small in-class tests. | |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort | |
| Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks. Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class. Individual feedback on submissions from lecturer and/or demonstrators in laboratory sessions. | |
| Failure Redemption: Resit exam and/or resubmit coursework as appropriate | |
| Additional Notes: Awareness of propositional and predicate logic will be helpful for this module. Students should have a good understanding of programming and software architecture. | |

CSCM68 Embedded System Design

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 September-January

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr H Nguyen, Prof SA Shaikh

Format: 12 lectures + 18 lab sessions

Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions.

Module Aims: Embedded systems are information processing systems embedded into enclosing products such as cars, telecommunication or fabrication equipment. They are essential for providing ubiquitous information, one of the key goals of modern information technology.

The aim of this module is to provide an overview of embedded system design, to relate the most important topics in embedded system design to each other, and to obtain an appreciation of the model based approach to embedded systems design.

The lab provides hands-on experience in the design of embedded systems.

Due to the labs' hardware requirements, the number of places available for this module is limited. Places will be allocated during the first week of teaching; the allocation criteria will be announced in the first lecture.

Module Content: The lectures discuss selected techniques in their specialisation to the design of embedded systems such as:

- Common characteristics, Requirements, Specification and Modeling
- Programming-language-level description techniques
- Hardware (Sensors, actuators, processors)
- Operating systems, middleware, scheduling
- Model driven design process
- Hardware/software partitioning and codesign
- Simulation, testing and verification techniques

The labs consist of a series of experiments that give the students hands-on experience in developing real embedded systems where they have to pay attention to constraints such as power and latency. Possible topics include examples from

- control theory
- real time systems
- discrete control
- fault tolerance
- distributed algorithms.

Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will

- fully understand system design engineering principles;
- be able to apply engineering principles for system design;
- understand the differences that embedded system development makes to the application of system design engineering principles;
- be competent in using various methods for specification/modelling, analysis, design, implementation and verification.

Assessment: Laboratory work (20%)
Examination 1 (50%)
Coursework 1 (30%)

Resit Assessment: Examination (Resit instrument) (100%)

Assessment Description: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination, duration 2hrs. Lab exercises plus one coursework.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks.

Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class.

Individual feedback on submissions from lecturer and/or demonstrators in laboratory sessions.

Failure Redemption: Resit examination and/or resubmit coursework(s) as appropriate

Additional Notes: The module has a limited capacity.

Preference is given to students who have chosen modules reflecting the safe and secure systems profile (for details contact the module coordinator.)

Because there is often a waiting list for this module, in order to ensure access is as fair as possible, students will not be permitted to transfer OUT of this module after the first two weeks of teaching in TB2 (because it would be too late for someone else to transfer in to take their place.)

CSCM68B Embedded System Design

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr B Chaparro Rico

Format: 12 lectures + 18 lab sessions

Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions.

Module Aims: Embedded systems are information processing systems embedded into enclosing products such as cars, telecommunication or fabrication equipment. They are essential for providing ubiquitous information, one of the key goals of modern information technology.

The aim of this module is to provide an overview of embedded system design, to relate the most important topics in embedded system design to each other, and to obtain an appreciation of the model based approach to embedded systems design.

The lab provides hands-on experience in the design of embedded systems.

Due to the labs' hardware requirements, the number of places available for this module is limited. Places will be allocated during the first week of teaching; the allocation criteria will be announced in the first lecture.

Module Content: The lectures discuss selected techniques in their specialisation to the design of embedded systems such as:

- Common characteristics, Requirements, Specification and Modeling
- Programming-language-level description techniques
- Hardware (Sensors, actuators, processors)
- Operating systems, middleware, scheduling
- Model driven design process
- Hardware/software partitioning and codesign
- Simulation, testing and verification techniques

The labs consist of a series of experiments that give the students hands-on experience in developing real embedded systems where they have to pay attention to constraints such as power and latency. Possible topics include examples from

- control theory
- real time systems
- discrete control
- fault tolerance
- distributed algorithms.

Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will

- fully understand system design engineering principles;
- be able to apply engineering principles for system design;
- understand the differences that embedded system development makes to the application of system design engineering principles;
- be competent in using various methods for specification/modelling, analysis, design, implementation and verification.

Assessment: Examination 1 (50%)
Coursework 1 (10%)
Coursework 2 (10%)
Coursework 3 (30%)

Resit Assessment: Examination (Resit instrument) (100%)

Assessment Description: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination, duration 2hrs.

Coursework 1: Online Canvas Assignment

Coursework 2: Online Canvas Assignment

Coursework 3: Online Canvas Quiz

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks.

Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class.

Individual feedback on submissions from lecturer and/or demonstrators in laboratory sessions.

Failure Redemption: Resit examination and/or resubmit coursework(s) as appropriate

Additional Notes: The module has a limited capacity.

Preference is given to students who have chosen modules reflecting the safe and secure systems profile (for details contact the module coordinator.)

Because there is often a waiting list for this module, in order to ensure access is as fair as possible, students will not be permitted to transfer OUT of this module after the first two weeks of teaching in TB2 (because it would be too late for someone else to transfer in to take their place.)

| | |
|---|---|
| CSCM72 Optimisation | |
| Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 September-January | |
| Pre-requisite Modules: | |
| Co-requisite Modules: | |
| Lecturer(s): Dr AAM Rahat | |
| Format: 30 hours (20 lectures, 10 laboratory hours) | |
| Delivery Method: On Campus Lectures and Labs. | |
| <p>Module Aims: Optimisation is at the core of many disciplines. Whether we want to improve the performance of a machine learning model, increase the efficiency of an aircraft design, or simply reduce the costs of productions in a business operation, we must deploy computational optimisation methods for achieving the best results. In this module, we will cover mathematical and algorithmic fundamentals of optimisation, including derivative and derivative-free approaches for both linear and non-linear problems. We will also discuss advanced topics, such as multi-objective optimisation, handling uncertainty, principled methods when problem evaluations are computationally expensive, and performance comparison between stochastic optimisers, in the context of real-world problems.</p> | |
| <p>Module Content: * Introduction to optimisation. * Derivatives and related gradient descent methods. * Stochastic and evolutionary methods. * Constrained optimisation problems. * Multi-objective optimisation and decision-making. * Model-based methods. * Performance comparison for stochastic optimisers. The labs will programmatically explore optimisation problems and algorithms.</p> | |
| <p>Intended Learning Outcomes: On completion of this module, students will be able to: * Demonstrate systematic understanding of fundamental concepts of optimisation problems and algorithms. * Analyse an unseen optimisation problem, and formulate a mathematical description. * Propose an appropriate method to solve an optimisation problem, and justify their selection. * Develop appropriate software for solving optimisation problems. * Critically evaluate performance of multiple competing optimisers, and communicate analysis to specialist and nonspecialist audiences * Critically review a relevant topic from the literature.</p> | |
| Assessment: | Examination (60%) Coursework 1 (20%) Report (20%) |
| Resit Assessment: | Examination (Resit instrument) (100%) |
| <p>Assessment Description: Examination. Standard unseen 2 hour Computer Science examination. Coursework. A practical programming assignment on solving an optimisation problem. Report. A short critical review on a relevant topic from the literature. [1000-1200 words] Quiz. A range of multiple choice questions. [Non assessed]</p> | |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort | |
| Assessment Feedback: Individual feedback on coursework and report.. | |
| Failure Redemption: 100% Examination Resit Instrument. | |
| Additional Notes: | |
| Available for visiting and exchange students. | |

CSCM75 Logic in Computer Science

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr U Berger

Format: 20 lectures,
2 x 3 hours practicals,
4 problem consultation hours

Delivery Method: On campus.

Module Aims: This module provides an in-depth introduction to logic and its applications to computer science, as a sound basis for the formal specification and verification of computer programs. Student will also learn how to use an interactive proof tool and carry out interactive proofs themselves.

Module Content: - Propositional logic (syntax, semantics, proof systems of natural deduction and resolution)

- Predicate logic (syntax, semantics, proof system)
- Applications of logic to program specification and verification
- Specialised logics e.g. for security protocols, reactive systems and credit card systems

Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will have a critical understanding of the syntax, semantics and proof rules of first-order predicate logic, be deeply familiar with other, specialised, logics in computer science (e.g. modal logic, process logic), critically understand the importance of logic for computer science, be able to express informal statements as formulas in predicate logic and carry out simple formal proofs. Students will have used an interactive logic tool to carry out formal proofs of varying difficulty.

Assessment: Examination (70%)
Coursework 1 (10%)
Coursework 2 (10%)
Laboratory work (10%)

Resit Assessment: Examination (Resit instrument) (100%)

Assessment Description: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination, duration 2hrs
Coursework consists of two assignments and lab work:
Coursework 1: Syntax and semantics of propositional logic.
Coursework 2: Predicate logic and automated proof search (Resolution).
Lab: Formal proofs in natural deduction using an interactive proof tool.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks.

Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class.

Individual feedback on submissions from lecturer and/or demonstrators in laboratory sessions.

Failure Redemption: Resit examination and/or resubmit coursework(s) as appropriate

Additional Notes:

Available to visiting students

CSCM77 Computer Vision and Deep Learning

Credits: 15 **Session:** 2023/24 January-June

Pre-requisite Modules: CSC345; CSCM45

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr LY Wu

Format: 20 hours lectures, 10 hours practicals.

Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and practicals.

Module Aims: This module introduces students to the important and modern topics and concepts of computer vision and deep learning, including image processing, feature extraction, camera calibration, stereo vision, motion and tracking, recognition, deep neural network and their application to vision problems. It teaches techniques that are used to understand and interpret the contents of images and videos and dissects state-of-the-art vision systems, such as Microsoft Kinect. Practical examples in Python are provided throughout the lectures.

Module Content: This course is composed of the following parts: Introduction, Image Processing and Video Analysis, Neural Networks and Deep Learning.

Introduction: The first part of the lectures gives an overview of Computer Vision and Deep Learning (CVDL) and a roadshow of this course. It also provides a brief revision of basic and important mathematical techniques frequently used in CVDL.

Image processing: filtering, object extraction.

Video analysis: camera models and calibration, stereo vision, depth estimation, motion estimation and tracking, and local features for tracking.

Neural networks and Deep Learning: convolutional neural network, recurrent neural networks, and applications.

The module is also accompanied by practical examples in Python.

Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will gain an in-depth understanding of the important concepts of computer vision and deep learning, acquire a detailed knowledge of how the analysis of digital images and videos may be performed, and develop the skills necessary to program a basic computer vision system using both conventional and deep learning approaches.

Assessment:

- Examination 1 (60%)
- Coursework 1 (20%)
- Assignment 1 (4%)
- Assignment 2 (4%)
- Assignment 3 (4%)
- Assignment 4 (4%)
- Assignment 5 (4%)

Resit Assessment: Examination (Resit instrument) (100%)

Assessment Description: The coursework is designed to test the students ability to synthesise a computer vision system to solve a practical real work problem using all the techniques and methods discussed and provided in the module.

The exam is a comprehensive assessment of bookwork, understanding of the computer vision and pattern recognition methods, and the ability to propose solutions to vision problems.

Assessment 1 - 5: practical computer vision based tasks

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks.

Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class.

Individual feedback on submissions from lecturer and/or demonstrators in laboratory sessions.

Failure Redemption: Resit exam or resubmit coursework as appropriate.

Additional Notes: This module is available to students studying MSc Data Science, MSc Advanced Computer Science, MSc Computer Science, and MEng Computing/MSci Computer Science.

Prerequisite: CSCM45/345 Big Data and Machine Learning

CSCM79 Hardware and Devices

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr DR Sahoo

Format: 10-12 hours lectures, 24 hours lab; 4-6 hours lab assessment.

Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions.

Module Aims: This module encourages students to explore the advanced literature and research results underpinning the field of interaction technologies and ubiquitous user-interface development. Students are expected to achieve a clear view of the 'cutting edge' and issues in the field.

Module Content: - Ubiquitous Computing and Tangible User Interfaces

- Internet of Things and Edge Computing

- Interfacing with the real-world using sensors and actuators with Phidgets/Raspberry-Pi/Arduino/ESP32 etc.

- Mobile phone sensing, e.g. orientation/location/camera/vibration

- Processing sensor data

Intended Learning Outcomes: Thorough knowledge of variety of hardware and I/O devices.

Ability to build interactive hardware interfaces and programming them.

In-depth knowledge of non-standard devices in various hardware platforms.

Assessment:

- Examination 1 (50%)
- Assignment 1 (10%)
- Assignment 2 (25%)
- Report (10%)
- Laboratory work (5%)

Resit Assessment: Examination (Resit instrument) (100%)

Assessment Description: Examination 1: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination, duration 2hrs.

Assignment 1: Mid-term demonstration of group project - during 6th week.

Assignment 2: End-term demonstration of group project - during 11th week.

Report: Report of group project - during 12th week.

Laboratory work: Five practical programming assignments - 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 7th and 8th weeks.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort

Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks.

Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class.

Individual feedback on submissions from lecturer and/or demonstrators in laboratory sessions.

Failure Redemption: Resit examination and/or resubmit coursework(s) as appropriate

Additional Notes: Students enrolled in this module must be able to program using object-oriented, event-driven programming to accommodate the areas of embedded systems, mobile, or web (e.g., Python, Java, JavaScript, Android, etc).

This module can only accommodate a limited number of students in the lab and the enrollment is on a first-come-first-enrolled basis. Therefore, this module is only available on selected pathways and is not available for visiting/exchange students.

| CSCM85 Modelling and Verification Techniques | |
|--|--|
| Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 September-January | |
| Pre-requisite Modules: | |
| Co-requisite Modules: | |
| Lecturer(s): Dr U Berger | |
| Format: | 20 hours lectures; 2 x 3 practicals; 4 problem consultation hours. |
| Delivery Method: primarily on campus | |
| Module Aims: This module will give an overview of the landscape and the state of the art of current modelling and verification techniques. One particular tool for software verification will be studied in depth. Students will gain hands-on experience in using that tool. | |
| Module Content: Overview of techniques for formal verification. Interactive theorem proving, automated theorem proving and model checking. Introduction to one specific logic for modelling and verification. Techniques for modelling of software using verification tools. Practical verification of software examples. | |
| Intended Learning Outcomes: The students will have <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - gained an thorough overview of the landscape and the state of the art of current modelling and verification techniques - acquired a deep understanding of one particular verification tool and know how to translate practical and mathematical problems into its notation - obtained hands-on experience in practical verification. | |
| Assessment: | Examination 1 (70%) Coursework 1 (15%) Laboratory work (15%) |
| Resit Assessment: | Examination (Resit instrument) (100%) |
| Assessment Description: Standard format Computer Science exam (2 hours), and coursework: Assignment 1: Mathematical and logical foundations of concurrent processes. Assignment 2: Advanced modelling and verification in the process language CSP. Lab: Modelling and verification in CSP using the process tools ProBE and FDR. | |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort | |
| Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks. Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class. Individual feedback on submissions from lecturer and/or demonstrators in laboratory sessions. | |
| Failure Redemption: Resit examination and/or resubmit coursework(s) as appropriate | |
| Additional Notes: Available to visiting students | |

| CSCM88 Network and Wireless Security | |
|---|--|
| Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 January-June | |
| Pre-requisite Modules: | |
| Co-requisite Modules: | |
| Lecturer(s): Dr P Kumar | |
| Format: 30 hours lectures and labs | |
| Delivery Method: On campus lectures and labs. | |
| Module Aims: Low cost networked computers add eyes and ears (or sensors) and arms, legs and voices (or actuators) to the Internet – called the Internet of Things (IoT) connected smart objects. Networking technologies play a critical role in almost all modern software-based systems, whether the fixed networks of computers, or the growing pervasive devices which have increasingly diverse profiles of network connectivity. As a result, they provide a potential vector for many forms of attack and are an ideal location for many threat mitigations and isolation technologies. | |
| Module Content: Overview of Cryptography -- Basic encryption and decryption: terminology, substitution, stream, and block ciphers; characteristics of good ciphers. Symmetric and asymmetric encryption. Encryption algorithms: DES, RSA, AES, etc. Hashing. | |
| Network fundamentals -- TCP/IP, SSL/TLS review, tools for network analysis, routing algorithms, threat modelling, network attachment protections: RADIUS, EAP, 802.1x, etc. | |
| Network defense -- Form of firewalls, behaviours and design, and layered protections | |
| Intrusion detection -- Techniques for detecting abnormal patterns of behaviours. | |
| Mobile Network systems -- Security complexities introduced by mobility, security architecture and protocols. | |
| Security in wireless sensor networks (WSN) -- WSN architectures and protocols, security threats, cryptographic primitives, key establishment and distribution, security of ZigBee WSNs, security of Industrial-IoT devices (as a case study), formal verification, and future trends. | |
| Case Studies -- AKA (Authentication and Key Agreement): 4/5G security; IoT security – 6LowPAN and CoAP IETF standards. | |
| Intended Learning Outcomes: 1) Students will have the ability to identify security vulnerabilities and their causes in modern networking infrastructures. 2) Students will be able to explain and apply techniques from networking protocols. 3) Students will be able to apply skills learned to designing and developing secure emerging wireless networks. 4) Students will be able to apply techniques to enhance the security of existing networks and gain a critical awareness of the limits of these techniques. | |
| Assessment: | Examination 1 (70%) Coursework 1 (15%) Laboratory work (15%) |
| Resit Assessment: | Examination (Resit instrument) (100%) |
| Assessment Description: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination. Laboratory Work: Project-based lab work. Coursework 1: Practical network-based assignment | |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort | |
| Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks. Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class. | |
| Failure Redemption: Resit exam. | |

Additional Notes:

Available to students on Specialist Master programmes.

CSCM98 Operating Systems and Architectures

Credits: 15 Session: 2023/24 September-January

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr B Mora

Format: 20 hours lectures, 10 hours lab.

Delivery Method: On-campus lectures and lab sessions.

Module Aims: This module gives an overview of current and future processor architectures, operating systems and basic concurrency problems. It intends to teach most details of the developing environment that must be taken into consideration when developing efficient software

Module Content: * Operating Systems in general (Scheduler, Virtual Memory, Multi-tasking).

- Kernel calls.
- Resource management.
- Memory management.
- Paging and virtual memory.
- File Systems
- Processes and threads management

* Architectures

- Registers+ALU
- Caches, cache lines and cache levels.
- Cache trashing.
- MMU
- TLB
- RAM Latency and throughput
- SIMD units
- SIMD Programming SSE,AVX, AVX-512
- Dedicated processor instructions.

* Concurrency and issues

- Definition of core concepts including race conditions, deadlocks, starvation, critical sections.
- Standard concurrency problems and solutions
- Some standard techniques including software based locks, mutexes and semaphores, atomic instructions, barriers.

* Distributed systems

- Distributed locks.
- Distributed file systems.
- Distributed clocks and time stamping.
- Cloud computing.
- Map/reduce algorithm.

* Security aspects of OS, including:

- Principles of memory protection (virtual memory, randomised stack address, non-executable bit, hypervisor rings).
- Spectre and Meltdown attacks

Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will have a thorough understanding of:

- Current and future processor architectures.
- The role of an Operating System, especially on the multithreading and memory management aspects.
- The issues associated with parallel programming and know some standard solutions.
- How to produce better code when programming parallel architectures.
- Cloud and distributed systems.

Assessment: Examination 1 (70%)
Assignment 1 (30%)

Resit Assessment: Examination (Resit instrument) (100%)

| |
|---|
| Assessment Description: Standard Computer Science format unseen examination, duration 2hrs. Practical assignment. |
| Moderation approach to main assessment: Moderation by sampling of the cohort |
| Assessment Feedback: Outline solutions provided along with group and individual analytical feedback for courseworks. Examination feedback summarising strengths and weaknesses of the class. Individual feedback on submissions from lecturer and/or demonstrators in laboratory sessions. |
| Failure Redemption: Resit exam and/or resubmit assignment as appropriate. |
| Additional Notes: Available to visiting and exchange students. |

CSP420 MSci Computer Science Project

Credits: 30 **Session:** 2023/24 September-June

Pre-requisite Modules:

Co-requisite Modules:

Lecturer(s): Dr T Owen

Format: Regular supervision amounting to 3 hours per term (i.e., 6 hours per year), plus block sessions for presentations, etc.

Delivery Method: Project module final assessment via dissertation and regular supervisory meetings.

Module Aims: This module is the research based Level 7 project for MSci Computer Science students. It consists of a substantial written dissertation which usually involves both a research component and the implementation of a tool/software system.

Module Content: This module will give students experience of working in depth on a research related project under the guidance of their supervisor. Following approval of a project plan, the student will work on their project and write a dissertation that explains the research background, describes the application/work to be completed, and also thoroughly evaluates the work conducted in the project. A chapter of the dissertation should be a research article that could be sent to a conference.

Intended Learning Outcomes: Students will:

- Have a great depth of knowledge in one specialised area in Computer Science.
- Be able to summarize the results, techniques to be used in the project.
- Have learnt how to plan and independently undertake a research based project.
- Be able to synthesis ideas and create responses to problems that expand existing knowledge.
- Have critically reflected on the methods used and evaluated their project in the context of current work in related areas.
- Be able to plan and write a research article.

Assessment: Project (60%)
Presentation (20%)
Coursework 1 (20%)

Resit Assessment: Coursework reassessment instrument (100%)

Assessment Description:

Project dissertation document, including developed tools and software.

The dissertation is a comprehensive and self-contained report on the work done on the project. For internal students, the module CSC410 must have been completed before a dissertation will be accepted. External students must viva / demonstrate their project before it will be considered by the Department.

The dissertation should be a description of the development of the project, along with an introduction to the research area, and the used research methods, evaluation and reflection on the work and progress.

The progress report should demonstrate progress made against the proposed research questions and methodologies from CSC410.

The presentation simulates an academic conference talk on the research performed.

Moderation approach to main assessment: Universal Non-Blind Double Marking of the whole cohort

Assessment Feedback: Individual written feedback and grades.

Failure Redemption: Resubmission of dissertation and/or software system.

Additional Notes: Available only to Computer Science majors.