Year of entry: 2022/23

Programme Specification

1	**Awarding body**	University of London						
2	**Teaching Institution**	**Birkbeck College**						
3	**Programme Title(s)**	**MSc Information Technology**						
4	**Programme Code(s)**	TMSITECH_C						
5	**UCAS code (if applicable)**	N/A						
6	**Home Department**	Computer Science and Information Systems						
7	**Exit Award(s)**	PG Dip/PG Cert Information Technology						
8	**Duration of Study** (number of years)	1 year FT or 2 years PT						
9	**Mode of Study**	FT	x	PT	x	DL		
10	**Level of Award (FHEQ)**	7						
11	**Other teaching depts or institution**	N/A						
12	**Professional, Statutory Regulatory Body(PSRB) details**	British Computer Society (http://www.bcs.org/)						
13	**QAA Benchmark Group**	Computing						

14	**Programme Rationale & Aims**
	This programme is designed for those who wish to equip themselves for a career in computing and IT. It is aimed at those with no computing background, but who hold a first degree in another subject. Studying this programme will put the student in a position to take on the modern technology-driven world, where IT professionals are in high demand across the UK and worldwide. For students without previous experience in this area, it will provide a platform for entry into informatics practice, including the ability to deliver operational information processing artefacts and to appraise and manage the deployment of such. The programme will offer opportunities to study the strategic, tactical, and operational aspects of informatics planning, analysis, design, development, testing, and deployment.

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

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

17	**Learning, teaching and assessment methods**
	Formal lectures are the principal teaching method, but in most subjects, these are enhanced with practical activities which may be based on computer laboratory, group collaborations or presentations. There is a significant element of practical coursework which the students carry out sometimes in supported lab sessions and in the student's own time. Each student also undertakes an individual project of their own devising and is supervised by a member of academic staff. The project provides an opportunity for students to investigate an aspect of the subject that particularly interests them and either to build a larger and more complex system than they encounter in the assignments or to perform an orderly piece of social science research into a currently emerging information-oriented phenomenon. The programme is modular, and students will be assessed in each of their taught modules and in the project. To pass a module or the project, students must obtain a mark of at least 50%. Taught modules are typically assessed by means of a 2 or 3-hour written exam. In addition, there is a compulsory coursework component in many of the modules. The project is assessed by means of a written project proposal (of about 2000-3000 words) and a written project report (of about 8,000 to 12,000 words), weighted 20% and 80%, respectively.

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18	**Programme Description**
	The programme consists of compulsory modules offered in the Department of Computer Science and Information Systems (DCSIS), which need to be taken by every student studying for the MSc in Information Technology. In addition to taught modules, students will also need to undertake a project focusing on development of an Information System. The project requires implementation of a piece of software essential for an information system. In addition, the project must include extensive work on one of three aspects of the information system: a) organisation and requirements, b) development of a system with multiple modules using state-of art software methodologies, and c) evaluation and analysis. If students do not complete the required number of modules to obtain an MSc award, they can obtain the following awards, if they meet the corresponding requirements: • Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip): must have passed modules to the value of 120 credits at level 7 or level 6 (no more than 30 at level 6). Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert): must have passed modules to the value of 60 credits at level 7. Each taught module is worth either 15 or 30 credits; the project is worth 60 credits.

19	**Programme Structure**

Full-Time programme – 1 year

Year 1

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	BUCI063H7	Principles of Programming I	15	Compulsory
7	COIY059H7	Information Systems	15	Compulsory
7	BUCI068H7	Concepts of Computation	15	Compulsory
7	BUCI090S7	Applied Software Engineering	30	Compulsory
7	COIY063H7	Internet and Web Technologies	15	Compulsory
6	COIY028H6	Database Management	15	Compulsory
6	COIY045H6	Information Security	15	Compulsory
7	BUCI079D7	Project - MSc Information Technology	60	Core for the MSc Award

Part-Time programme – 2 years

Year 1

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Credits	Status*
7	BUCI063H7	Principles of Programming I	15	Compulsory
7	COIY059H7	Information Systems	15	Compulsory
7	BUCI068H7	Concepts of Computation	15	Compulsory
7	BUCI090S7	Applied Software Engineering	30	Compulsory

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Year 2				
Level	**Module Code**	**Module Title**	**Credits**	**Status***
7	COIY063H7	Internet and Web Technologies	15	Compulsory
6	COIY028H6	Database Management	15	Compulsory
6	COIY045H6	Information Security	15	Compulsory
7	BUCI079D7	Project - MSc Information Technology	60	Core for the MSc Award

Status*

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

20	**Programme Director**	Keith Mannock
21	**Start Date** ***(term/year)***	Autumn 2009
22	**Date approved by TQEC**	Spring 2009
23	**Date approved by Academic Board**	Summer 2009
24	**Date(s) updated/amended**	April 2022 (for 2022/23)