

Course Specification

Course Summary Information			
1	Course Title		BSc (Hons) Computing and Information Technology with Foundation Year
2	BCU Course Code	UCAS Code	US0821F I10A
3	Awarding Institution		Birmingham City University
4	Teaching Institution(s) (if different from point 3)		
5	Professional Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) accreditation (if applicable)		

6	Course Description
	<p>Looking for a versatile IT course in the UK? Study with us in the exciting city of Birmingham. BSc Computing and Information Technology with a Foundation Year will equip you with the technical and managerial skills you'll need to embark on a successful IT career.</p> <p>You'll use first-class, industry-standard equipment and labs, and have the chance to put your academic learning into practice on a placement year – all of which will prepare you for an information technology career with a range of companies. We're also an academy for Microsoft and Cisco systems with strong industry links.</p> <p>The Foundation Year course option enables you to study for our BSc (Hons) degree over an extended full-time duration of four years by including a Foundation Certificate (year one of four). The Foundation Certificate provides a broad study course that underpins the follow-on degree. In order to progress to the next year of your degree, it is necessary to achieve a pass in all of the modules of the Foundation Certificate.</p> <p>What's covered in the course?</p> <p>This course is for you if you want to combine a highly rigorous academic qualification with real-life practical work experiences, enabling you to put your learning into innovative practice.</p> <p>You'll be based at our flagship City Centre Campus, where you'll use dedicated, industry-standard facilities to research and work on enterprise software and virtual environments to develop business solutions and real-time systems.</p> <p>You will develop the strategic mind-set to address global challenges; the kind that that businesses and communities face on a day-to-day basis to maintain their digital infrastructure. You'll have access to virtual learning environments, as well as networking, electronic, enterprise systems and business intelligence laboratories.</p> <p>We are preparing you for the workplace. You'll learn computing and information technology skills that are needed to design, develop, operate and maintain effective systems. You'll use your computing knowledge to provide and apply IT solutions that will continually evolve. We ensure you are able to innovate in order to deliver business value and sustainable solutions.</p>

It's not just about academic and technical knowledge – we'll also help to develop your personal skills so that you can work effectively as a team member and problem solve at the highest level. This will not only enhance your employability levels, it will make you stand out from the crowd. Throughout your course you'll be supported by expert teaching staff, many of whom have worked in the field, are active in research and are continually innovating with industry.

7 Course Awards			
7a	Name of Final Award	Level	Credits Awarded
	Bachelor of Science with Honours Computing and Information Technology	6	480
	Bachelor of Science with Honours Computing and Information Technology with Professional Placement Year	6	600
7b Exit Awards and Credits Awarded			
	Foundation Certificate Computing	3	120
	Certificate of Higher Education Computing and Information Technology	4	240
	Diploma of Higher Education Computing and Information Technology	5	360
	Bachelor of Science Computing and Information Technology	6	420

8 Derogation from the University Regulations	
	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For modules with more than one item of assessment, students must achieve a minimum of 30% (undergraduate) or 40% (postgraduate) in each item of assessment in order to pass the module. 2. Compensation of marginal failure in up to 20 credits is permitted at each level. 3. Condonement of failed modules is not permitted.

9 Delivery Patterns			
Mode(s) of Study	Location	Duration of Study	Code
Full Time	City Centre	4 years	US0821F
With Professional Placement Year	City Centre	5 years	US0821FS

10	Entry Requirements
<p>The admission requirements for this course are stated on the course page of the BCU website at https://www.bcu.ac.uk/ or may be found by searching for the course entry profile located on the UCAS website.</p>	

11	Course Learning Outcomes
Knowledge & Understanding	
1	Develop an awareness of key concepts, techniques and applications in a computing environment.
2	Recognize the computing concerns and requirements of business.
3	Draw on a range of existing and emergent technologies and approaches in the development and justification of innovative computing and information technology solutions.
4	Explore theory and practice of communication networks, infrastructure services and information systems and their applications in business.
5	Relate the management, organisational, planning and business theories and techniques and their application in the Computing industry.
6	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of relevant international regulatory and standards bodies and legislation relevant to computing.
Cognitive & Intellectual Skills	
7	Demonstrate problem solving techniques through the application of theory and technical skills.
8	Locate and analyse information to support a coherent discussion.
9	Assimilate, interpret and analyse information to construct effective arguments and express valid conclusions.
10	Create solutions that integrate technical knowledge and design principles for software and hardware applications
11	Apply appropriate management and organisational techniques to planning and implementing information technology solutions.
12	Make judgments about the merits of different viewpoints and perspectives on commercial, economic, legal, ethical and social issues relevant to the computing industry.
Practical & Professional Skills	
	Apply mathematics to the effective solution of practical problems.
13	Apply tools and techniques for the design, implementation, testing, trouble shooting and maintenance of computer software and hardware solutions.
14	Design or adapt a system, component or process to meet desired needs.
15	Demonstrate competence in management of research and innovation projects and the application of mathematical and engineering techniques, taking account of industrial and commercial constraints.
16	Select relevant test and diagnostic techniques to analyse performance and ensure fitness for purpose.
17	Collect relevant information, assimilate knowledge, marshal a coherent and rational argument, and relate theory and practice.
18	Draw independent conclusions based on a rigorous, analytical and critical assessment of

argument, opinion and data.

Key Transferable Skills	
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19	Manage time, prioritise activities and work effectively as an individual and as part of a group.
20	Demonstrate reflective practice both of their own work and that of their colleagues.
21	Manage learning and self-development with enquiry and reflection, including time management, prioritising workload and meeting deadlines.
22	Make effective use of information and communications technologies, including word, image and data processing packages, the internet, email and electronic information retrieval systems.
23	Communicate effectively in writing and presentations to specialist and non-specialist audiences.
24	Handle and use numerical data, applying appropriate techniques.

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Professional Placement Year (optional)

In order to qualify for the award of Bachelor of Science with Honours Computing and Information Technology with Foundation Year and Professional Placement Year, a student must successfully complete all of the modules listed as well as the following Level 5 module:

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
PPY5004	Professional Placement	120

Level 6:

In order to complete this course a student must successfully complete all the following CORE modules (totalling 120 credits):

Module Code	Module Name	Credit Value
CMP6200	Individual Honours Project	40
CMP6174	Datacentre Systems Management	20
CMP6173	Business Systems Solutions	20
CMP6172	Consultancy and IT Management	20
CMP6175	IT Infrastructure	20

12b Structure Diagram

Year 1 - Level 3				
Semester 1	Fundamental Mathematics [20 Credits]	Academic and Personal Study Skills [20 Credits]	Web Application Design [20 Credits]	
Semester 2	Audio / Video Fundamentals [20 Credits]	Independent Practice [20 Credits]	Foundations of Programming [20 Credits]	
Semester	Theme			
	Information Systems	Infrastructure Architecture	Communication Networks	Innovation and Research
Year 2 - Level 4				
A	Mathematics for Computing 20 Credits	Computer Programming 20 Credits	Computer Systems 20 Credits	
B		Applied Operating Systems 20 Credits	Network Fundamentals 20 Credits	Innovation Project 20 Credits
Year 3 - Level 5				
A	Foundations of Database Systems 20 Credits	Server Systems 20 Credits	Network Technologies 20 Credits	
B	Human Computer Interaction 20 Credits	Smart Systems 20 Credits		Enterprise Practice Project 20 Credits
Professional Placement Year 4 (Optional, 120 credits)				

Year 5 - Level 6			
A	Business Systems Solutions 20 Credits	IT Infrastructure 20 Credits	Individual Honours Project 40 Credits
B	Consultancy and IT Management 20 Credits	Datacentre Systems Management 20 Credits	

* *Negotiated Learning at level 5 (see notes below Negotiated Learning option).*

Professional Placement Year

A Professional Placement Year option is available and encouraged for all students. This will be available following year 2 of the course. You will be given support by the faculty placements team to locate a suitable and relevant position in the computing or allied industries.

The University has experience across our courses that those students who take the Professional Placement Year option usually perform better in the final year, and achieve better employability options, consequently you are actively encouraged to take the sandwich option.

13 Overall Student Workload and Balance of Assessment

Overall student *workload* consists of class contact hours, independent learning and assessment activity, with each credit taken equating to a total study time of around 10 hours. While actual contact hours may depend on the optional modules selected, the following information gives an indication of how much time students will need to allocate to different activities at each level of the course.

- *Scheduled Learning* includes lectures, practical classes and workshops, contact time specified in timetable
- *Directed Learning* includes placements, work-based learning, external visits, on-line activity, Graduate+, peer learning
- *Private Study* includes preparation for exams

The *balance of assessment* by mode of assessment (e.g. coursework, exam and in-person) depends to some extent on the optional modules chosen by students. The approximate percentage of the course assessed by coursework, exam and in-person is shown below.

Level 3

Workload

32% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	384
Directed Learning	416
Private Study	400
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	78%
Exam	0
In-Person	22%

Level 4

Workload

25% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	304
Directed Learning	443
Private Study	453
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	83%
Exam	17%
In-Person	0

Level 5

Workload

24% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	288
Directed Learning	454
Private Study	458
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	58%
Exam	22%
In-Person	20%

Level 6

Workload

17% time spent in timetabled teaching and learning activity

Activity	Number of Hours
Scheduled Learning	202
Directed Learning	266
Private Study	732
Total Hours	1200

Balance of Assessment

Assessment Mode	Percentage
Coursework	100%
Exam	0
In-Person	0%