

Computing – Business and Information Systems

- Business Computing BSc Honours
- E-Business BSc Honours
- Information Systems BSc Honours
- Information Systems with Business Management BSc Honours

see also:

Business and Management (p91)

Computer Science MSci (p118)

Computer Science Foundation (p119)

Computing Foundation (p119)



Georgios Mavridis
BSc Honours Business Computing

My course is well structured and challenging, covering business and computing in equal measure. I am glad that I chose this course at Westminster as it will offer me a variety of great opportunities in the future.

Business Computing BSc Honours	
Length of course	3 year full-time
UCAS code	G511
Location	Harrow
School	Harrow Business School and Harrow School of Computer Science

Business decision-making and its environment are more complex than ever before, and this complexity is constantly increasing. In the face of growing uncertainties and the current explosion in the availability of information, managers are becoming more reliant on computerised systems to aid them in the decision-making process. These trends have motivated us to design a course bringing together business and computing in a unique and unified framework.

Course content Emphasis is placed on self-learning and personal choice in subjects concentrating on either business or computing aspects. However, to ensure progressive advancement, module choice is limited in the early stages, increasing throughout the course.

Credit Level 4 modules provide underpinning in the main technological and business areas, and your choice of pathway is not made until the start of Credit Level 5. You choose four option modules at Credit Levels 5 and 6 together with a double project module at Credit Level 6 involving an individual investigation into an aspect of either business or computing. At each level there is one free choice module that can be chosen from the whole University portfolio, allowing either a broadening of the education or further investigation directly in an area of business computing.

Credit Level 4

Subjects of study include: Business Communications • Business Data Analysis • ICT Tools and Systems • Introduction to Accounting and Finance • Introduction to Databases • Introduction to Marketing • Rapid Applications Development 1 • **plus one free choice module**

Credit Level 5

Subjects of study include: Database Theory and Practice • E-Commerce and Intranet Systems • Strategic Financial Management • Systems Analysis 1 • **plus one business module** • **plus one computing module** • **plus one business or computing module** • **plus one free choice module**

Credit Level 6

Subjects of study include: Business Computing Project (double module) • Business Enabling Systems • Global Business Computing Management • **plus three business and computing modules** • **plus one free choice module**

Direct entry Direct entry to Credit Levels 5 and 6 may be possible for suitably qualified applicants.

Teaching and assessment We employ various teaching and learning methods, with an emphasis on active student involvement. Modules usually incorporate some elements of group work and problem solving. Many also require research to be undertaken for the assessment, which is based on a combination of coursework and an end-of-module assessment that usually takes the form of an exam.

Associated careers The course produces computer skilled graduates who possess organisational skills and are aware of modern management techniques. After completing the course, you will be able to use system analysis and design methodologies to model business processes; design, build and evaluate decision support computer-based application systems; evaluate and produce financial data; and understand modern management practices.

Entry requirements Standard (see p66); minimum of 12 units passed at average grade C; at least six units must be in relevant subjects, eg business, chemistry, computing, maths and physics; four three-unit qualifications will not be accepted; key skills not included in offer. Equivalent qualifications will also be considered.

E-Business BSc Honours	
Length of course	3 year full-time
UCAS code	G512
Location	Harrow
School	Harrow Business School and Harrow School of Computer Science

This exciting course is designed for the business person of the future, who will understand how a business is organised and who will be able to harness the Internet technology needed to gain competitive advantage in a globalised environment.

Course content Credit Level 4 modules are principally business oriented with some IT in preparation for Credit Level 5. At Credit Level 5 the focus switches from business computing to learning about designing and developing web enabled information systems. At Credit Level 6 you focus on either business or computing, depending on your preference and inclination. At every level a dedicated e-business module introduces the main concepts of business-to-business (B2B), business-to-customer (B2C), e-marketing, and value chains among other e-business models and applications.

Credit Level 4

Subjects of study include: Accounting and Finance Fundamentals • Business Communications • Business Data Analysis • ICT Tools and Systems • Introduction to Databases • IT/IS Support for Business Functions • Rapid Applications Development 1 • **plus one free choice module**

Credit Level 5

Subjects of study include: Database Theory and Practice • E-Business Fundamentals • E-Commerce and Intranet Systems • Marketing Principles • System Analysis 1 • **plus two business and computing modules** • **plus one free choice module**

Credit Level 6

Subjects of study include: Business Enabling Systems • E-Business Project (double module) • E-Business Strategy • **plus three option modules** • **plus one free choice module**

Direct entry Direct entry to Credit Levels 5 and 6 may be possible for suitably qualified applicants.

Teaching and assessment We employ a variety of teaching and learning methods supported by technology with an emphasis on active student involvement. Modules usually incorporate elements of group work and problem solving and research is required to be undertaken for the assessment elements. Assessment is based on a combination of coursework and end-of-module exams.

Entry requirements Minimum of 12 units passed at average grade C at GCE Advanced; at least six units must be in relevant subjects, eg business, chemistry, computing, maths and physics. Equivalent qualifications will also be considered.

Information Systems BSc Honours	
Length of course	3 year full-time; 4 year full-time sandwich; 4 year full-time with Foundation
UCAS codes	G500; with sandwich G503; with Foundation G504
Location	Cavendish (central London)
School	School of Informatics
Professional recognition	This course offers full exemption from British Computer Society qualifications and partial Chartered Engineer/Chartered Scientist (CEng/CSci) accreditation

Information systems collect, process and store data and distribute information for a defined purpose or application using computing technology.

Over a period of 40 years, the field of information systems has been continuously changing, with its main concerns now focused on globally-distributed systems that generate multimedia information. Such systems are integrated with key business functions.

After graduation you will be able to place a real-world information problem in the context of both business imperatives and current information systems practice, then make an evaluation subject to business and organisational requirements. You will be able to develop a model and use appropriate tools to implement a software artefact that satisfies specified requirements, and then test its use in the target domain. You will recognise the professional, moral and ethical issues relevant to the production and management of information systems.

Course content This course will give you a clear perspective of the current nature and practice of information systems and prepare you for work in an increasingly challenging and rewarding field.

Credit Level 4

Subjects of study include: Business Information Systems • Computer Organisation • Database Systems • Introduction to Information Modelling • Introductory Mathematics • Modelling in Information Systems • The ICT Practitioner • **plus one free choice module**

Credit Level 5

Subjects of study include: Database Management Systems • Distributed Information Systems • Interactive Marketing • Introduction to Programming • Project Management • Rapid Application Development • Requirements Analysis
Options, choose one from: Business Organisation and Communication • Management Accounting and Financial Modelling • **free choice module**

Sandwich year The course offers the opportunity to undertake a 12 month placement between Credit Levels 5 and 6. This experience will give you the practical skills to accompany the theoretical knowledge, and bring you a competitive edge in the job market. Our students have been placed working on live projects in city banks and insurance companies, software consultancies, healthcare providers and retail companies.

Credit Level 6

Subjects of study include: Designing Information Systems • Project (double module) • Research in Information Systems • Software Quality Management
Options, choose three from: Business Systems Management and Evaluation • Distributed Business Applications • Information Systems Development Methods • Knowledge Management • Online Analytical Processing • **free choice module**

Teaching and assessment All lecture, tutorial and computer workshops are supported by appropriate teaching and industry standard applications software. Assessment may be through formal exam or entirely through coursework, ranging from a presentation to the production of a web database. You will undertake a major Credit Level 6 project which is individually supervised and brings all aspects of the course together.

Associated careers Our graduates often continue their study on one of our comprehensive range of MSc courses or MPhil/PhD research programmes. Others move directly into employment. You may be employed in customer relationship management, strategic consultancy, systems development: from design to implementation, training and support, or applications management. Job titles are many and varied, including systems architect, systems engineer, project manager, consultant, business analyst, sales executive, end-user support analyst, web designer, programmer, data modeller and analyst.

Entry requirements Minimum two A2 Levels at grade B; minimum grades BB in AVCE. Equivalent qualifications will also be considered.

Information Systems with Business Management BSc Honours

Length of course	3 year full-time; 4 year full-time sandwich; 4 year full-time with Foundation
UCAS codes	GNM2; with sandwich GN52; with Foundation G5N2
Location	Cavendish (central London)
School	School of Informatics

Companies know that in order to be successful they will need bright people with a combination of skills; people with business awareness allied to computing knowledge who can turn good ideas into successful projects; people who can take responsibility and meet a challenge with creativity.

This cross-disciplinary course utilises our expertise in the areas of information systems, business, and management. It is broad based and practical, and will offer you a wide range of career opportunities. It provides an education for people who aspire to become managers in organisations, or who will run their own business related to the knowledge economy. You will study alongside other students on business and computing courses.

Course content

Credit Level 4

Subjects of study include: Business Information Systems
• Database Systems • Interpersonal Skills for Business
• Introduction to Information Modelling • Introductory Mathematics • Modelling in Information Systems • The ICT Practitioner • Theory and Practice of Business

Credit Level 5

Subjects of study include: Database Management Systems
• Management Accounting and Financial Modelling
• Operations Management • Organisational Behaviour
• Project Management • Requirements Analysis
Options, choose two from: Business Organisation and Communication • Interactive Marketing • Introduction to Programming • Rapid Application Development • **free choice module**

Sandwich year The course offers the opportunity to undertake a 12 month placement between Credit Levels 5 and 6. This experience will give you the practical skills to accompany the theoretical knowledge, and bring you a competitive edge in the job market.

Credit Level 6

Subjects of study include: Business Strategy • Business Systems Management and Evaluation • Knowledge Management
• Managing Business Organisations • Project (double module)
• Research in Information Systems
Options choose one from: Designing Information Systems
• Information Systems Development Methods • Online Analytical Processing • Software Quality Management
• **free choice module**

Teaching and assessment All lecture, tutorial and computer workshops are supported by appropriate teaching and industry standard applications software. Assessment may be through formal exam or entirely through coursework, ranging from role plays to the production of an ICT business plan. You will undertake a major Credit Level 6 project which is individually supervised and brings all aspects of the course together.

Associated careers Graduates of this course typically go on to careers in the business and/or IT sectors, opening up a wide range of career options.

Entry requirements Minimum two A2 Levels at grade B; minimum grades BB in AVCE. Equivalent qualifications will also be considered.