

## Programme Specification

### MSc Computer Science

### MSc Computer Science (Year in Industry)

<i>School:</i>	London	
<i>Subject area:</i>	Computer Science	
<i>Entry from academic year:</i>	2024-25	
<i>in the month(s) of</i>	September, February, June <sup>1</sup>	
<i>Awarding institution:</i>	York St John University	
<i>Teaching institution:</i>	York St John University	
<i>Delivery location:</i>	London Campus	
<i>Programme/s accredited by:</i>		
<i>Exit awards:</i>	Postgraduate Certificate Computer Science Postgraduate Diploma Computer Science	
<i>UCAS code / GTTR / other:</i>		
<i>Joint Honours combinations:</i>		
<i>QAA subject benchmark statement(s):</i>	Computing (October 2019)	
<i>Mode/s of study:</i>	<u>MSc Comp Sci</u> full time for 1 year part time for 2 years <sup>2</sup>	<u>MSc Comp Sci (Year in industry)</u> full time for 2 years part time for 3 years
<i>Language of study:</i>	English	
<i>Paired with Foundation Year</i>	No	
<i>Study abroad opportunities:</i>	No	
<i>Opt-in YSJU Placement Year opportunity:</i>	Yes	

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## Introduction and special features

The MSc Computer Science at York St John University has been developed to provide you with the advanced knowledge and skills essential for a career in the fast paced and growing Information Technology and Computer Science sector. The programme emphasises both contemporary theory and skills practice with the option of applying for a two-year programme including a year devoted to industrial placements to provide you with an opportunity to gain real-world experience and develop professional networks. The placement year has been carefully located to allow you to utilise the time and experience to inform your dissertation.

## A Coursework and Skills Focus

The programme utilises a variety of course work projects and assessments which are supported by weekly lectures, seminars and workshops. Our innovative and supportive staff will quickly guide you through the fundamentals of computer science to develop your own practical skills and help you to focus on your professional development in response to the employment needs of the industry.

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<sup>1</sup> June intake suspended in 2024-25

<sup>2</sup> All part time routes suspended in 2024-25

Under the supervision of an academic member of staff, you will be supported to undertake an individual research project designed to enable you to show you can synthesise the skills you have learned in order to resolve a theoretical or applied problem.

## **Industry Facing to Provide Employable Graduates**

In addition to specific knowledge and skills, you will be supported to develop key professional attributes through a number of activities including reflection on work-based practice to re-enforce your critical skills, addressing complex real-world situations through problem-based learning and having an opportunity to work with industry professionals during the placement year. Our London campus, where the programme is delivered, is located close to the East London Tech City (or Silicon Roundabout) which is home to a cluster of over 35 tech businesses with a wealth of industry expertise and placement opportunities.

## **A Supportive Learning Environment**

Throughout the duration of the programme you will be well supported to grow and develop your skills, knowledge and interests. You will be allocated an academic tutor in your first week of study and be able to develop that supportive relationship throughout the duration of your studies whilst also working on developing your employability and professional development.

Throughout the programme we will provide regular opportunities for you to receive formative feedback on your progress, with guidance tailored to your needs in a supportive and constructive way.

With options to study full or part-time; to select a programme with or without a year in industry; and with 3 starting points of the programme in the year (February, June and September), there are a lot of options to choose the study mode which suits you.

## **Admissions criteria**

You must meet the University's general entry criteria for [postgraduate](#) study. In addition, you must normally have:

- An existing 2:1 undergraduate degree in a relevant subject or equivalent or;
- Professional experience that demonstrates a propensity for the study of computer science. (For example, you may work in a system administrator's role and have several professional but not academic qualifications), or;
- Clear and demonstrable technical abilities in a related field of computing that would have equivalency to that of an individual who has completed a degree in a related field.

If your first language is not English, you need to take an IELTS test or an equivalent qualification accepted by the University (see <https://www.yorks.ac.uk/international/how-to-apply/english-language-requirements/>).

If you do not have traditional qualifications, you may be eligible for entry on the basis of [Recognition of prior learning \(RPL\)](#). We also consider applications for entry with advanced standing.

## **Programme aim(s)**

This programme aims to provide you with the necessary technical and higher-level reasoning skills required to become a computer scientist or IT professional; with multiple opportunities for you to learn practical skills and conceptual techniques from cloud computing to artificial intelligence and machine learning. This equips you with the technical knowledge, analytical abilities and organisational methods to propose, research, develop and complete your own self-directed research project.

## Programme learning outcomes

Upon successful completion of the programme students will be able to demonstrate:

### Level 7

- 7.1 Evaluate computer science concepts and principles and their application to the effective design, implementation, and usability of computer-based systems.
- 7.2 Apply the findings of advanced scholarship and/or contemporary research and practice to the solution of computer science problems
- 7.3 Critically evaluate computer science problems, including those at the forefront of field.
- 7.4 Demonstrate operation within applicable professional, legal, social and ethical frameworks.
- 7.5 Demonstrate originality and creativity in the solution of computer science problems.
- 7.6 Recommend, with detailed justification, the appropriate computer science principles and practices to apply to a significant domain-specific activity.
- 7.7 Apply standards, quality processes and engineering principles to the solution of computer science problems.

## Programme structure

### Full time (1 year)

Code	Level	Year	Term	Title	Credits	Module status	
						Compulsory (C) or optional (O)	non-compensatable (NC) or compensatable (X)
COM7032M	7	1	1	Artificial Intelligence Concepts	15	C	X
COM7033M	7	1	1	Cloud Computing	15	C	X
COM7034M	7	1	1	User Centred Design	15	C	X
COM7039M	7	1	1	Machine Learning	15	C	X
COM7036M	7	1	2	Big Data	15	C	X
COM7037M	7	1	2	Internet of Things	15	C	X
COM7038M	7	1	2	Cyber Security	15	C	X
COM7035M	7	1	2	Agile Software Development	15	C	X
COM7040M	7	1	1 - 3	Dissertation	60	C	NC

### Full time with year in industry (2 years)

Code	Level	Year	Term	Title	Credits	Module status	
						Compulsory (C) or optional (O)	non-compensatable (NC) or compensatable (X)
COM7032M	7	1	1	Artificial Intelligence Concepts	15	C	X
COM7033M	7	1	1	Cloud Computing	15	C	X
COM7034M	7	1	1	User Centred Design	15	C	X
COM7039M	7	1	1	Machine Learning	15	C	X
COM7036M	7	1	2	Big Data	15	C	X
COM7037M	7	1	2	Internet of Things	15	C	X
COM7038M	7	1	2	Cyber Security	15	C	X
COM7035M	7	1	2	Agile Software Development	15	C	X
COM7042M	7	1 - 2	1 – 3	Dissertation [Year in Industry]	60	C	NC

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the table above as non-compensatable. A non-compensatable module is one that must be passed at the relevant level (with a mark of 50) in order to progress.

September students commence with COM7032M. February students commence with COM7035M. Professional experience will take place during the latter half of the programme, with the option of a professional placement, or YSJU London's Enterprise Academy. Skills acquired will be assessed via the Dissertation [Year in Industry]. Please see the 'Professional Experience (Option)' section below.

## **Professional Experience (Option)**

Professional experience is the perfect opportunity to enhance your career prospects and deepen your understanding of your chosen area of expertise. The MSc Computer Science programme is available with a 12-month/24-month option for professional experience (depending on mode of study selected – full or part time), allowing you to gain knowledge and skills in the UK to evidence your capabilities (minimum of 9 months professional experience activity required).

YSJU London offers support to those seeking professional experience, through tailored services provided by our London Placement Team, such as career appointments, employer visits, career fairs in London and York and access to exclusive jobsites. While there is no guarantee you will secure a placement, as this decision sits entirely with employers, we can guarantee you will have access to professional experience through our Enterprise Academy (EA).

EA is our flagship entrepreneurship and leadership development programme, giving you the chance to design and develop your business as well as yourself. The experience takes place over semester one and two, with optional student consultancy projects designed to enhance employability occurring during the summer months.

## **Learning, teaching and assessment**

Teaching and Learning strategies ensure that knowledge, understanding, and skills in foundational issues, major technologies and subdisciplines are achieved through a range of appropriate, constructively aligned, learning and teaching styles.

The programme delivery utilises a range of approaches including:

- A series of face-to-face lectures, workshops and practical sessions;
- Independent, self-directed research and study;
- Reflection of work-based practice to re-enforce critical thinking and professional skills;
- Problem-based learning approach as a way of addressing the complexity of situations in the real world;
- Individual supervision to develop reflexive and reflective computer science experts in professional settings.

Assessment within the programme is 100% course work and utilises a variety of portfolio assessments, research reports, articles, and software programmes with a real-world emphasis.

## **Progression and graduation requirements**

The University's [general regulations for](#) postgraduate awards apply to this programme.

Any modules that must be passed for progression or award are indicated in the Programme Structure section as non-compensatable.

## **Internal and external reference points**

This programme specification was formulated with reference to:

- [University mission and values](#)
- [University 2026 Strategy](#)
- [QAA subject benchmark statements](#)
- [Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications](#)

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*Date written / revised: March 2021*

*Programme originally approved: January 2020.*