### Programme Specification – 2016/17

1. **Awarding body** | University of Surrey
2. **Teaching institution (if different)** | N/A
3. **Final award and programme/pathway title** | MSc Information Systems
4. **Subsidiary award(s) and title(s)** | Award | Title  
| | PGDip | Information Systems  
| | PGCert |
5. **FHEQ Level** | 7
6. **Credits and ECTS credits** | 180 UK credits, 90 ECTS credits
7. **Name of Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB)** | N/A
8. **Mode of study and route code** | Mode of study | Route code  
| | Full-time | Y  
| | Full-time with PTY | N  
| | Part-time | Y  
| | Distance learning | N  
| | Short course | N
9. **JACs code** |  
10. **QAA Subject benchmark statement (if applicable)** | Computing Statement
11. **Other internal and / or external reference points** | N/A
12. **Faculty and Department/School** | Faculty of Engineering and Physical Sciences  
| | Department of Computing
13. **Programme Leader** | Dr Mark Manulis
14. **Date of production/revision of the specification** | July 2016
15. **Educational aims of the programme**
   - To prepare students for a range of computing related careers
   - To enable students to understand, design and apply information systems and software development technologies
   - To enable students to develop interest and basic skills for doing research in computer science
   - To enable students to realise their full potential for learning and communication
   - To enable students to appreciate rapid innovation and creativity in computer science
16. **Programme learning outcomes**
    - the programme provides opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate knowledge and understanding, skills, qualities and other attributes in the following areas:

#### Knowledge and understanding

1. The principles of information systems and software development (A, B, C)
2. The principles and applications of contents technologies (A, B, C)
3. The practice of information systems and software development (A, B, C)
4. The professional issues involved in the exploitation of computing (A, B, C)
5. The areas of emergent and innovative computing technologies (A, B, C)
6. The key research issues in information and software systems (B, C)
### Intellectual / cognitive skills

1. Understand and articulate the requirements of the users of software systems / applications (A, B, C)
2. Succinctly present, to a range of audience, knowledge relevant to the building, testing and deployment of a system (A, B, C)
3. Research and develop solutions through the application of systems analysis / software engineering methods (B, C)

### Professional practical skills

1. To specify, design and develop software systems and applications (A, B, C)
2. The ability to critically evaluate software systems and tools (A, B, C)
3. To work as a member of a development team (A, B, C)
4. To communicate with potential and actual users and to understand their needs (A, B, C)
5. Information retrieval skills (A, B, C)
6. Analyse data and present information in appropriate ways (B, C)
7. Plan, research, manage and implement a major project (C)

### Key / transferable skills

1. Research and information retrieval skills (A, B, C)
2. Numeracy in both understanding and presenting cases involving a quantitative dimension (A, B, C)
3. Time management and organisational skills (A, B, C)
4. Self-learning skills (A, B, C)
5. Effective use of specialist IT facilities (A, B, C)
6. Continuing professional development (A, B, C)

### Programme structure

All programmes operate on a 15 credit modular structure over two semesters. All taught modules are semester based and are worth 15 credits, which is indicative of 150 hours of learning, comprised of student contact, private study and assessment. Project and dissertation modules can be either 15, 30, 45 or 60 credits and, additionally Master’s dissertations 90 credits. Credits achieved from completing the dissertation / final project module cannot be attributed to a subsidiary award. Students are unable to submit their dissertation until they have successfully completed their taught modules.

This programme is studied full-time over one academic year and part-time over three academic years. In order to achieve the principal award of an MSc a student must complete 180 credits, with a minimum of 150 credits at FHEQ level 7 and the remainder at FHEQ level 6. Students are also eligible to exit the programme with the following subsidiary awards:
- PG Dip – 120 credits with a minimum of 90 credits at FHEQ level 7 and the remainder at FHEQ level 6
- PG Cert – 60 credits with a minimum of 45 credits at FHEQ level 7 and the remainder at FHEQ level 6

In order for students to progress they must achieve a minimum average of 50%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module code</th>
<th>Module title</th>
<th>Core /compulsory /optional</th>
<th>Credit volume</th>
<th>Semester (1 / 2)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COMM002</td>
<td>Dissertation</td>
<td>Core</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM005</td>
<td>Information Systems Development</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM049</td>
<td>HTML5 and CSS3 for Mobile Applications</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM037</td>
<td>Information Security Management</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM048</td>
<td>Information and Network Security</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM053</td>
<td>Practical Business Analytics</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM051</td>
<td>Database Systems</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM032</td>
<td>Project Management and Business Strategy</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM034</td>
<td>Cloud Computing</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMM050</td>
<td>Information Security for Business and Government</td>
<td>Compulsory</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How many optional modules must a student choose in order to achieve the necessary amount of credits to achieve this level? Students will need to choose 2 from 3 optional modules in semester 1.

18. Opportunities for placements / work-related learning / collaborative activity – please indicate if any of the following apply to your programme

- Associate Tutor(s) / Guest Speakers / Visiting Academics: Yes
- Professional Training Year (PTY): N/A
- Placement(s) (study or work that are not part of the PTY or Erasmus Scheme): N/A
- Clinical Placement(s) (that are not part of the PTY Scheme): N/A
- ERASMUS Study (that is not taken during Level P): N/A
- Study exchange(s) (that are not part of the ERASMUS Scheme): N/A
- Dual degree: N/A

19. Quality assurance

The Regulations and Codes of Practice for taught programmes can be found at: http://www.surrey.ac.uk/quality_enhancement/index.htm