



UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

Programme Title: BSc (Hons) Business Information Technology

Awarding Body: Staffordshire University

Teaching Institution: Asia Pacific Institute of Information Technology

Final Awards: BSc (Hons) Business Information Technology

Intermediate Awards: None

QAA Subject Benchmarks: Computing (2016)

Professional/Statutory Body: This franchised degree is accredited by the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA)

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EDUCATIONAL AIMS OF THE PROGRAMME

The aims of the programme are to enable students to:

- Manage their progression, both academic and vocational, by developing knowledge, specialised and transferable skills, and a capacity for independent and lifelong learning;
- Demonstrate intelligence, ingenuity, and inventiveness moderated by real world perspectives and social and ethical considerations in all areas of endeavour;
- Develop skills in imaginative problem solving, decision making, and the critical evaluation and review of both their own work and the work of others;
- Work confidently both independently and as part of a team of people with different abilities and different educational experiences;
- Assemble a Personal Achievement Portfolio that shows their initiative and creativity, as well as effective judgement in the selection and use of tools and techniques;
- Demonstrate a sound understanding of the essential facts, concepts, principles, and theories that comprise the body of knowledge within their specific programme of study;
- Graduate with strong computing skills and experience with up-to-date programming and technical software packages used by professionals;
- Develop the ability to analyse, design and implement interactive systems for entertainment and social applications, with a deep understanding of the ethical, social and legal implications of such systems;
- Create examples of innovative and imaginative business IT solutions, and produce to a high standard of a technically demanding nature.

What is distinctive about this programme?

The Business Information Technology award is based on the role of the information technologist in bridging the gap between the business end-user and the IT specialist in business functional areas to design and develop IT systems in a typical business. Graduates would be able to use the most common business IT packages such as spreadsheets, databases and project management packages to solve business problems. They will be able to develop business applications using fourth generation languages and graphical programming techniques. They will also be able to design and develop IT infrastructures using the latest communications technologies. They would probably be based in the IT department of a business, working closely with 'end-users' in the business functional areas. Graduates will have more of an interest in the technology than a Business Data Analysis graduate.

The Staffordshire Graduate

The Staffordshire Graduate represents a set of qualities that the University passionately believes is necessary for success in the 21st century. The Staffordshire Graduate is a reflective and critical learner with a global perspective, prepared to contribute in the world of work.

Development of the characteristics of the Staffordshire Graduate informs the statements of aims and outcomes for the both the programme and its constituent modules, and is continuously monitored through formative and summative assessment, as shown in the table at the end of this document.

PROGRAMME OUTCOMES

What will this programme teach me to do? At the end of your studies you should be able to:

Knowledge & Understanding

Demonstrate a systematic understanding of computing concepts and principles showing the acquisition of coherent and detailed knowledge, at least some of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of computing research and development.

Demonstrate a critical understanding of the process of evidence gathering, preparation and delivery of testimony as an expert witness concerning computer based crimes.

Demonstrate a critical understanding of, and ability to apply, the concepts, principles, theories and techniques used in business IT solutions for the development and maintaining of the applications.

Learning

Develop lines of argument and evaluate possible approaches, tools, techniques and solutions based on knowledge of underlying business IT concepts and principles, while understanding the uncertainty, ambiguity and limitations of this knowledge.

Enquiry

Initiate and carry out projects within Business IT solutions.

Ethically gather information pertaining to computing problems, possible solutions, and the success of these solutions, from existing or potential users and/or organisations using recognised techniques.

Find, critically evaluate, manage, apply, and understand information from a range of sources, acknowledging the cultural, ethical, economic, legal, and social issues surrounding the use of information.

Analysis

Critique current research in business IT solutions and critically evaluate arguments, assumptions, abstract concepts and data (that may be incomplete) to draw conclusions

Problem Solving

Develop appropriate questions and strategies to achieve a solution (or identify a range of solutions) to a business IT problem.

Plan and carry out a large and complex Business Information Technology project

Communication

Communicate ideas, problems and solutions to both specialist and non-specialist audiences in a

variety of forms

Write a structured formal report using appropriate referencing, and techniques for documentation.

Application

Apply the concepts, principles, theories and techniques, including those at the forefront of computing knowledge, of business IT solutions.

Reflection

Work in a professional manner, recognising the legal, social, ethical and professional issues involved in the exploitation of computer technology, and being guided by the adoption of appropriate professional, ethical and legal practices.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE, MODULES AND CREDITS

BSc (Hons) Business Information Technology

Year 1 (UK Level 4) MPU 4 Co Curricular module begins in Semester 1 and runs through Semester 3

<p><i>MPU 1A</i> <i>Ethnic Relations / Malaysian Studies</i></p>	<p>Business Systems Analysis Design & Construction I CE51500-4a 4 Credits</p>	<p>Learning For Success CE51402-4 4 Credits</p>	<p>Software Development CE51600-4 4 Credits</p>	<p>Publishing for the WWW CE51200-4 4 Credits</p>
<p><i>MPU 1B</i> <i>Islamic & Asian Civilisation / Bahasa Kebangsaan</i></p>	<p>Business Systems Analysis Design & Construction II CE51500-4b 4 Credits</p>	<p>Fundamentals of Computer Hardware & Software CE51102-4 4 Credits</p>	<p>Quantitative Tools for Computing CE61007-4 4 Credits</p>	<p>Business Information Systems & Organisations CE51800-4 4 Credits</p>

Year 2 (UK Level 5) Industrial Experience Portfolio module begins in Semester 3 and runs through Semester 6

<p>Relational Database Systems Development CE52700-5 4 Credits</p>	<p>Networked Computer Systems CE52104-5 4 Credits</p>	<p>Object Oriented Methods CE52604-5 4 Credits</p>	<p>Electronic Commerce CE52302-5 4 Credits</p>	<p>Malaysian Development 4 Credits</p>
<p>Applied Research Methods & Professional Development CE52501-5 4 Credits</p>	<p>Information Systems Organisations & Management CE52801-5 4 Credits</p>	<p>Developing Server Applications CE52103-5 4 Credits</p>	<p>Marketing Principles BLB10153-4 4 Credits</p>	<p>Employability Skills 4 Credits</p>

Year 3 (UK Level 6)

<p>Applied IT Project (Project Management & Communication) CE53021-6 4 Credits</p>	<p>Group/ Residential Case Study CE53004-6/ CE53005-6 4 Credits</p>	<p>Developing E-Commerce Applications with XML CE53305-6 4 Credits</p>	<p>Interactive and E Marketing BLB10069-5 4 Credits</p>	
<p>Applied IT Project (Research, Development & Artefact) I CE53022-6a 4 Credits</p>	<p>Applied IT Project (Research, Development & Artefact) II CE53022-6b 4 Credits</p>	<p>Information System Strategy CE53802-6 4 Credits</p>	<p>Applied Communications Technology CE53105-6 4 Credits</p>	

Rationale for modules offered

Year 1 (UK Level 4)

Year 1 is the preparatory year where students will be introduced to basic concept of business information technology. They are introduced to Business Systems Analysis Design & Construction focusing on system analysis and design for business context. Students start to learn programme concept via module Software Development and other more computing centric module like Fundamentals of Computer Hardware and software. Besides that, they learn about various types of business solutions tools and application from the module Business Information Systems & Organisation. They will also learn module that is outside computing like Learning for Success; which is important in building part of the characters of a graduate.

Year 2 (UK Level 5)

In year 2, students continue to expose to different areas like internet, information system, development tools and general modules. They will learn to develop server applications and understand the electronic commerce concepts. Object Oriented Methods will further furnish students with programming concepts and able to develop reasonably well applications or solutions for business needs. The core of Business Information Technology will continue in module Information System Organisations and Management. In addition, they also introduced to networking and database concepts. In preparation to their final year project, students are introduced to applied research methods where they can start to learn to conduct research and starting thinking of a project title for final year. General modules are Malaysian Development and Employability Skills. In Employability Skills, students learn to write resume, tips for interview and other essential skills in preparation for internship as well as when they graduate.

Year 3 (UK Level 6)

In final year, the major focus is on the final year project where students are expected to suggest a title of their choice and work with a supervisor in producing and completing the project. For the final year project, students are expected to design, develop and implement an IT solution for a business of their choice. The IT solution can be a prototype and must be justified how it can help solve business issues. Three modules are dedicated for final year project. On top of that, they continue to learn about developing E-commerce using XML and Interactive and E-Marketing. In this final year, students are more mature and expected to look at information system strategy as well as case studies.

Mapping of skills by module by Programme

			Com muni catio n	Creat ivity & Innov ation	Critic al Think ing & Analy sis	Effect ive Probl em Solvi ng	ICT skills	Indep enden t Learni ng	Quan titativ e skills	Self & Cultu ral Awar enes s	Self Man age men t	Team Work ing	Client Focu s
L4	Business Systems Analysis Design & Construction 1	CE51500-4a				I,D,A	I,D,A					I,D,A	I,D,A
L4	Learning for Success	CE51402-4	I,D,A	I,D		I,D,A		I,D,A			I,D	I,D,A	
L4	Software Development	CE51600-4	I,D		I,D		I,D,A	I				I,D	
L4	Publishing for the WWW	CE51200-4		I,D	I,D	I,D	I,D,A	I		I,D			
L4	Business Systems Analysis Design & Construction 1	CE51500-4b		I,D	I,D							I,D	
L4	Fundamentals of Computer Hardware & Software	CE51102-4	I	I,D			I,D,A						
L4	Quantitative Tools for Computing	CE61007-4						I,D	I,D,A			I,D	
L4	Business Information Systems & Organisations	CE51800-4	D,A		D,A	D,A		I,D				I,D	
L5	Developing Server Applications	CE52103-5		I	I,D,A	I,D,A	I,D,A	I,D,A	I,D,A				
L5	Networked Computer Systems	CE52104-5		I,D	I,D			I,D			I,D		I,D
L5	E-Commerce	CE52302-5		I,D	I,D							I,D	
L5	Applied Research Method & Professional Development	CE52501-5	I,D,A	I,D	I,D	I,D		I	I				
L5	Object Oriented Methods	CE52604-5		I		D						D,A	
L5	Information Systems Organisation & Management	CE52801-5			I,D	I,D		I	I			I,D	
L5	Marketing Principles	BLB10153-4	I,D	I,D,A				I,D	I,D			I,D,A	
L5	Relational Database Systems Development	CT029-3-2			I,D	I,D			I,D		I		
L6	Group Case Study	CE53004-6						I,D			I,D	I,D	I,D
L6	Applied Communications Technology	CE53105-6			D	D,A	D,A	D,A	D			D	
L6	Developing E-Commerce Applications with XML	CE53305-6	I	I,D			I		I,D	I,D		I,D	
L6	Information Systems Strategy	CE53802-6		I,D,A	I,D,A							I,D	
L6	Interactive and E-Marketing	BLB10069-5		D,A	D	D,A		D				D,A	
L6	Applied IT Project Project Management & Communication	CE53021-6			I,D,A	I,D,A		I	I,D			D,A	
L6	Applied IT Project Research, Development & Artefact I	CE53022-6a	D,A		D,A	D,A	D	D			D	I,D,A	
L6	Applied IT Project Research, Development & Artefact II	CE53022-6b	D,A							D,A	D,A		D,A

BSc (Hons) Business Information Technology

Employability Skills (I)ntroduced, (D)eveloped, (A)ssessed

HOW WILL I BE TAUGHT AND ASSESSED?

Teaching and Learning

Different people learn in different ways and therefore the programme utilises a range of different teaching methods and situations – lectures, problem-based tutorials, practical laboratory sessions, group-based activities, project work, virtual learning environments, seminars, workshops (skills-based) etc. – that best deliver the specific learning outcomes of the modules. In all classes emphasis is placed on active, experiential learning usually based around a case study, or specific crime/event based scenarios. Students will be actively challenged during tutorials to explain or defend a particular viewpoint/finding/analysis, as the students may in the future be expected to defend their expert witness testimony within a legal environment.

Learning approaches are chosen to be compatible to the method of delivery and can include: case studies, investigations, seminars, resource based learning and independent reading. A wide range of teaching, learning and assessment approaches are used and are seen as beneficial in exposing the student to diverse approaches.

The emphasis is on developing students as confident, independent learners. Students are encouraged to access a variety of materials, journals, text books, e-journals etc., as part of their independent learning. This independent learning is directed, with lecturers providing general reading lists to prepare for or follow-up classes, specific assignment reading as well as a range of formative tasks and activities. All this directed study supports and builds upon the knowledge and skills learnt in class to provide a fuller understanding of the subject.

Assessment

The Business IT award employs an innovative range of formative and summative assessments. Typically formative assessment is used as an aide to check students' understanding of a specific subject or topic. The method of assessment is chosen to meet the academic content and outcomes the module is to assess. These will include individual coursework assignments, group-work assignments, presentations, demonstrations, written reports, end-of-module examinations, and oral viva.

This is to: ensure that learning outcomes are tested in the most appropriate way; reflect the sorts of materials graduates will be asked to prepare in future careers; and recognise that students have different abilities. Although the practical and skills based are the nature of the Business IT award, coursework, formal examinations and class-tests are also used to assess knowledge-based modules across all three levels.

A wide variety of assessment methods are employed, which may include:

- Assignments (essay and numerical based)
- Time constrained examinations
- Business plans
- Case based assignments
- Case based examinations
- Peer assessment
- Presentations

- Projects
- Work based assignments
- Group activity Investigations
- Multiple choice tests
- Open book examinations

The four main categories are individual assessment, group assessment, exam and tests. Exams and tests are defined here as a time controlled, scheduled and supervised summative evaluation which can take a number of forms. This includes MCQ, open case book exams, case study exams with prior provision of materials, and the use of a wide range of essay, project, and tasks (such as CV and letter preparation, code writing, development of a wide range of tools and documents) within the examination paper.

For most modules, the assessment strategy is to provide more than one form of assessment. This is to ensure that the students are subject to varied assessment methods to suit both the relevant Learning Outcomes but also to reflect the different capabilities students have where some may be better at some methods than others. By having different types for each module there is an opportunity for all students to demonstrate their strengths.

A table showing how the assessment strategy reflects the Staffordshire Graduate characteristics can be found below.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Entry Requirements:

What qualifications would I need to join this programme?

The entry requirements for the award are normally:

- Successful completion of Sijil Tinggi Pelajaran Malaysia (STPM) with 2 full passes or equivalent with minimum CGPA of 2.0, in addition to completion of Sijil Pelajaran Malaysia (SPM) or equivalent with credit in Mathematics; or
- Successful completion of A-Level with at least a pass in 2 subjects in addition to successful completion of O-Level or equivalent with credit in Mathematics; or
- Successful completion of Unified Examination Certificate (UEC)/Senior Middle 3 (SM3) with at least a grade 'B' in five subjects, including Mathematics; or
- Successful completion of South Australian Matriculation (SAM) with Tertiary Entrance Rank (TER) minimum aggregate of 65 in 5 subjects including Mathematics, and no subjects less than 10/20; or
- Successful completion of Canadian Pre-University (CPU) with minimum average of 55% in 6 subjects including Mathematics; or
- Successful completion of International Baccalaureate with minimum score of of 24/45 from 6 subjects including Mathematics related; or
- Successful completion of Victorian Certificate of Education with minimum average of 55% in 6 subjects including Mathematics subjects; or
- Successful completion of Ontario Secondary School Diploma with minimum average of 55% in 6 subjects including Mathematics subjects; or
- Successful completion of APU Foundation Programme or Foundation/Matriculation by an IPTA/IPTL approved by the Government of Malaysia or Foundation/Matriculation by an accredited IPTS in addition to a credit in Mathematics at SPM level; or

- A Diploma in Computer Science, Information Systems, Information Technology, Software Engineering or equivalent with a minimum CGPA of 2.5 (candidates with CGPA below 2.5 but above 2.0 may be admitted subject to a rigorous internal assessment process); or
- Any other Diploma with a minimum CGPA of 2.5, in addition to credit in Mathematics at SPM level; or
- Another qualification recognized as equivalent

In addition, international students are required to have

- IELTS 6.0 with no individual element below 5.5 or
- TOEFL 79-80 (Internet based test), 550 (paper based test), 213 (Computer based test) or
- Another qualification recognized as equivalent

Disability Statement

Staffordshire University operates a policy of inclusive teaching and learning to ensure that all students have an equal opportunity to fulfil their educational potential. Details about how to apply to have your needs assessed can be found at:

http://www.staffs.ac.uk/courses_and_study/disabled_students/index.jsp

AWARD SPECIFIC INFORMATION

None

Further information about the award can be found in the relevant Student Handbook and on the University Website. This includes information about optional modules, learning outcomes at levels below honours, student support, and academic regulations.

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THE STAFFORDSHIRE GRADUATE

The Staffordshire Graduate represents a set of qualities that the University passionately believes is necessary for success in the 21st century.

The Staffordshire Graduate is a reflective and critical learner with a global perspective, prepared to contribute in the world of work.

The table below indicates where, within your award, these characteristics are addressed:

	Staffordshire Graduate Characteristics	MQF Domains of Learning Outcomes
1	Work-ready and employable	MQF1, MQF2
2	Understanding of enterprise and entrepreneurship	MQF8
3	Understanding of global issues and their place in the global economy	MQF3, MQF4
4	Communication skills	MQF4, MQF5
5	Presentation skills	MQF4, MQF5
6	The ability to interact confidently with colleagues	MQF4, MQF5
7	Independence of thought	MQF5, MQF6
8	Skills of teamworking	MQF5, MQF6
9	Ability to carry out inquiry-based learning and critical analysis	MQF6, MQF7
10	Skills of problem solving and creation of opportunities	MQF6, MQF8
11	Technologically, digitally and information literate	MQF1, MQF2, MQF7
12	Able to apply Staffordshire Graduate attributes to a range of life experiences to facilitate life-long learning	MQF4, MQF5, MQF7

Assessment Method	
E	Exam
CT	Class Test
Q	Quizzes
GA	Group Assignment
A	Individual Assignment
GP	Group Presentation
P	Individual Presentation
C	Creative portfolio
L	Lab exercises
T	Tutorial exercises
D	Class discussion
B	Brainstorming sessions

		1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
L4	Business Systems Analysis Design & Construction 1				D				E,CT	CT,T		
L4	Learning for Success	E, GA				GA		GA, GP				T
L4	Software Development	E,GA			B,D	D,GA		D,GA			GA,C	L
L4	Publishing for the WWW	E,A				D	A	D			A	L
L4	Business Systems Analysis Design & Construction 1	E,A					A	D	T	A,T	A	T
L4	Fundamentals of Computer Hardware & Software	E,A	A,L			L	P	P,A				
L4	Quantitative Tools for Computing	GA,L,E			GP,D	GA,D	L,E	GA,GP,D	E,L	E,L	B,D,L	GA,GP,D,L
L4	Business Information Systems & Organisations	T, D				GA	GA	GA, GP	GA, E	GA		GA, E
L5	Developing Server Applications				D				E,A,CT,T	E,A,CT,T		
L5	Networked Computer Systems	A					A		T	A, C		A
L5	E-Commerce	E,GA					D	D,GA	L	GA,L	GA,C	L
L5	Applied Research Method & Professional Development	E,GA					D	D,GA	L	GA,L		L
L5	Object Oriented Methods	E,GA						D,GA	L		GA,C	L
L5	Information Systems Organisation & Management	E,GA					D	D,GA	L	GA,L	GA,C	L
L5	Marketing Principles	E,GA					D	D,GA	L	GA,L	GA,C	L
L5	Relational Database Systems Development	E,A					A	D	L	A,L	A	L
L6	Group Case Study	A		T			A		E	A, C		A
L6	Applied Communications Technology	E,GA					D	D,GA	L	GA,L	GA,C	L
L6	Developing E-Commerce Applications with XML	E,GA					D	D,GA	L	GA,L	GA,C	L
L6	Information Systems Strategy	E,GA		D	GP	GA				L	L	GA,L
L6	Interactive and E-Marketing	E,GA				D,GA	D	D,GA	L	GA,L	GA,C	L
L6	Applied IT Project Project Management & Communication	A,P,B	A,P,B	A,P ,B	A,P,B	A,P,B	A,P,B		A,P,B	A,P,B	A,P,B	A,P,B
L6	Applied IT Project Research, Development & Artefact I	A,P,B	A,P,B	A,P ,B	A,P,B	A,P,B	A,P,B		A,P,B	A,P,B	A,P,B	A,P,B
L6	Applied IT Project Research, Development & Artefact II	A,P,B	A,P,B	A, P,B	A,P,B	A,P,B	A,P,B		A,P,B	A,P,B	A,P,B	A,P,B

BSc (Hons) Business Information Technology

MAPPING THE MQF DOMAINS OF LEARNING OUTCOMES AGAINST THE STAFFORDSHIRE GRADUATE CHARACTERISTICS

Malaysian Qualifications Framework (MQF)		
Domains of Learning Outcomes		
MQF1	Knowledge	SG1, SG8
MQF2	Practical skills	SG1, SG11
MQF3	Social skills and responsibilities	SG3
MQF4	Values, attitudes and professionalism	SG3, SG4, SG5, SG6, SG12
MQF5	Communication, leadership and team skills	SG4, SG5, SG6, SG8, SG12
MQF6	Problem solving and scientific skills	SG7, SG8, SG9, SG10
MQF7	Information management and lifelong learning skills	SG9, SG11, SG12
MQF8	Managerial and entrepreneurial skills	SG2, SG10