The Information Security MSc offers a specialist programme designed to provide a fundamental understanding of information security and to convey practical engineering skills. There are good prospects for highly trained information security professionals and there is a shortage of trained personnel in this area.

**Degree summary**

Students develop an advanced knowledge of information security and an awareness of the context in which information security operates in terms of safety, environmental, social and economic aspects. They gain a wide range of intellectual, practical and transferable skills, enabling them to develop a flexible professional career in IT.

- UCL Computer Science is recognised as a world leader in teaching and research. UCL received the highest percentage (96%) for quality of research in Computer Science and Informatics in the UK’s most recent Research Excellence Framework (REF2014).
- This MSc is taught by academics who conduct world-leading research, most notably in cryptography and human-centred approaches to security, privacy and trust. Access to industry-led projects and guest lecturers from academia and industry will enhance post-graduation opportunities for careers in security-related research, or employment in cyber security roles.
- UCL’s central London location enables students to enjoy the full benefits of life in a vibrant world city with easy access to excellent scientific and cultural centres.

The programme is delivered through a combination of lectures, seminars, problem classes, tutorials, laboratory classes and projects. Assessment is through written examinations, presentations, vivas, tests, coursework, written reports, formal presentations and the research project.

**Accreditation**

Information Security has been successfully awarded full certification from the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC). Students who wish to gain the certification with their degree need to choose COMPGA14 Information Security Management as one of their optional modules.

**Degree structure**

Mode: Full-time: 1 year; Part-time: 2 years
Location: London, Bloomsbury
Students undertake modules to the value of 180 credits. The programme consists of four core modules (60 credits), four optional modules (60 credits) and a research project (60 credits).

<table>
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<tr>
<th>CORE MODULES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Computer Security I (15 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Computer Security II (15 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to Cryptography (15 credits)</td>
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<td>Research in Information Security (15 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<th>OPTIONAL MODULES</th>
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<td>Students choose 60 credits from the following:</td>
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<tr>
<td>Applied Cryptography (15 credits)</td>
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<td>Cryptanalysis (15 credits)</td>
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<td>Cybercrime (15 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distributed Systems and Security (15 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Information Security Management (15 credits)</td>
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<td>Language Based Security (15 credits)</td>
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<td>Malware (15 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>People and Security (15 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Philosophy, Politics and Economics of Security and Privacy (15 credits)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Privacy Enhancing Technologies (15 credits)</td>
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Please note: the availability and delivery of optional modules may vary, depending on your selection.

**DISSERTATION/REPORT**

- All MSc students undertake an independent research project which culminates in a dissertation (maximum length of 120 pages) and an oral presentation.
Your career

UCL graduates are keenly sought after by the world’s leading organisations. UCL Computer Science graduates are particularly valued as a result of the department’s strong international reputation, strong links with industry, and ideal location close to the City of London. Our graduates secure careers in a wide variety of organisations, e.g. with global IT consultancies, as IT analysts with City banks, or as IT specialists within manufacturing industries.

Recent career destinations* include:

- Information Security Expert, State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic
- IT Risk and Cyber Security Associate, PwC
- PhD Research Student in Computer Science, UCL
- Security Engineer, Morgan Stanley
- Technical Analyst, The Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS)

Employability

Some of the brightest alumni of the degree go on to careers in academia. The majority of our students take jobs in the software and consultancy industries, usually in a security-related role such as security standards compliance, secure software design or security consultancy. Students have the opportunity to do industrially based projects with companies such as BT and McAfee. The department is recognised as an academic centre of excellence on cyber security and further opportunities to expand both academic and industrial contacts arise through the ACE-CS guest lecture series integrated into the degree.

* Careers data is taken from the ‘Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education’ survey undertaken by HESA looking at the destinations of UK and EU students in the 2013-2015 graduating cohorts six months after graduation.
Entry requirements

A minimum of an upper second-class UK Bachelor’s degree in computer science, electrical engineering or mathematics, or an overseas qualification of an equivalent standard. Relevant work experience may also be taken into account.

English language proficiency level

If your education has not been conducted in the English language, you will be expected to demonstrate evidence of an adequate level of English proficiency.

The level of English language proficiency for this programme is: Good.

Information about the evidence required, acceptable qualifications and test providers is provided at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/english-requirements

Your application

Students are advised to apply as early as possible due to competition for places. Those applying for scholarship funding (particularly overseas applicants) should take note of application deadlines.

When we assess your application we would like to learn:

// why you want to study Information Security at graduate level
// why you want to study Information Security at UCL
// what particularly attracts you to this programme
// how your academic and professional background meets the demands of this programme
// what programming experience you have
// where you would like to go professionally with your degree

Together with essential academic requirements, the personal statement is your opportunity to illustrate whether your reasons for applying to this programme match what the programme will deliver.

Application fee: There is an application processing fee for this programme of £75 for online applications and £100 for paper applications. More details about the application fee can be found at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/prospective-students/graduate/taught/application.

FEES AND FUNDING 2018/19 ENTRY

// UK: £12,380 (FT), £6,190 (PT)
// EU: £12,380 (FT), £6,190 (PT)
// Overseas: £26,670 (FT), £13,350 (PT)

The tuition fees shown are for the year indicated above. Fees for subsequent years may increase or otherwise vary. Further information on fee status, fee increases and the fee schedule can be viewed on the UCL Current Students website.

All full time students are required to pay a fee deposit of £2,000 for this programme. All part-time students are required to pay a fee deposit of £1,000.

Four MSc Scholarships, worth £4000 each, are made available by the Department of Computer Science to UK/EU offer holders with a record of excellent academic achievement. The closing date is 30 June 2018. For more information, please see the department pages.

Full details of funding opportunities can be found on the UCL Scholarships website: www.ucl.ac.uk/scholarships

APPLICATION DEADLINE

All applicants: 15 June 2018

Details on how to apply are available on the website at:
www.ucl.ac.uk/graduate/apply

CONTACT

Mr Charlie Tickle, Programme Administrator

Email: advancedmsc-admissions@cs.ucl.ac.uk

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7679 0481

EU referendum

For up-to-date information relating to specific key questions following the UK’s decision to leave the EU, please refer to
www.ucl.ac.uk/eu-referendum