COLLABORATIVE COURSE SPECIFICATION

FdSc Computing

COURSE SPECIFICATION

Course Title	FdSc Computing
Final Award	FdSc Computing
Exit Awards	Certificate in Higher Education
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	C3420FTC
Mode of study	Full time
Mode of delivery	Partner campus
Normal length of course	2 years
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	September 2023 intake onwards
Entry requirements	UCAS points – 96 points, including an A Level in a relevant subject, or equivalent
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	City of Portsmouth College
Faculty	Technology
School/Department/Subject Group	School of Computing
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	https://www.port.ac.uk/about-us/structure-and-governance/organisational-structure/our-academic-structure/faculty-of-technology/school-of-computing
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/fdsc-computing
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	N/A
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	Level 5

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.
This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the Course and Module Catalogue for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

- to equip students with computing skills, knowledge and understanding in order to achieve high performance in the global computing environment
- to provide education and training for a range of careers in computing, including network engineering, software engineering, data analytics, security, intelligent systems, and applications development and testing
- to provide insight and understanding of international computing operations and the opportunities and challenges presented by a globalised market place
- to give students knowledge and understanding of culturally diverse organisations, cross-cultural issues, diversity and values
- to give students opportunities students to enter or progress in employment in computing, or to progress to higher education qualifications such as an honours degree in computing or a related area
- to provide opportunities for those students with a global outlook to aspire to international career pathways by achieving an internationally recognised professional qualification
- to provide opportunities for students to achieve vendor accredited certifications
- to allow flexibility of study and to meet local or specialist needs
- to offer a balance of employability skills and the knowledge that is essential for students with entrepreneurial, employment or academic aspirations

Taken from the Pearson BTEC Levels 4 and 5 Higher Nationals in Computing Specification – Issue 2 – March 2022 © Pearson Education Limited 2022 (page 6)

https://qualifications.pearson.com/content/dam/pdf/BTEC-Higher-Nationals/computing/2022/btec-hn-computing-2022-rqf-spec.pdf

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their Framework for Higher Education Qualifications document.

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
A1	The fundamental principles and practices of the contemporary global computing environment and fundamental concepts, principles and theories relating to computing and computer applications, software development, networking and media systems.	Lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, practical classes, workshops, individual reflection	Essays, portfolios, oral presentations, practical assessments, reports (courseworks), exams
A2	The evolving concepts, theories and models within the study of computing across a range of practical and hypothetical scenarios and how to evaluate and analyse a range of concepts, theories and models to make appropriate decisions.	Lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, practical classes, workshops, individual reflection	Essays, portfolios, oral presentations, practical assessments, reports (courseworks), exams
A3	How computer-based technologies interrelate and communicate with one another, support processes and lead to a computerised solution to a problem.	Lectures, seminars, practical classes, workshops, tutorials, individual reflection	Set exercise (coursework), oral presentations, exams
A4	The application of appropriate mathematical techniques in the design and development of software and computer systems together with an understanding of the use of industry standard technical documentation and practices.	Lectures, seminars, practical classes, workshops, tutorials, individual reflection	Set exercise (coursework), oral presentation, exam

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
B1	Deploy appropriate theory, practices, techniques and methodologies and tools in order to analyse, specify, design and implement computing systems and software applications to resolve real-life problems in the workplace.	Lectures, practical work, tutorials, individual reflection	Exam, report, practical skills assessment, oral presentation
B2	Recognise and critically evaluate the professional, economic, social, environmental, moral and ethical issues that influence the sustainable exploitation of computer-based technologies.	Lectures, practical work, tutorials, individual reflection, fieldwork	Exam, report, practical skills assessment, oral presentation, portfolio
B3	Critique a range of systems and operations and their application to maximise and successfully meet strategic objectives.	Lectures, practical classes, workshops, tutorials, project supervision, individual reflection	Report, oral presentation, portfolio,
B4	Interpret, analyse and evaluate a range of data, sources and information to inform evidence-based decision making.	Lectures, seminars, group work, further reading, case studies, tutorials, practical classes, workshops	Set exercise (coursework), oral presentation, portfolio, exam, practical skills assessments, portfolio
B5	Synthesise knowledge and critically evaluate strategies and plans to understand the relationship between theory and real-world scenarios. Develop a range of multi-disciplined programming and coding skills.	Lectures, seminars, group work, further reading, case studies, tutorials, practical classes, workshops	Report, oral presentation, portfolio, exam, practical skills assessments

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
C1	Evidence of the ability to show client relationship management and develop appropriate policies and strategies to meet stakeholder expectations and integrate theory and practise through the investigation and examination of practices in the workplace.	Lectures, seminars, group work, further reading, case studies, tutorials, practical classes, workshops	Report, oral presentation, portfolio, exam
C2	Apply innovative ideas to develop and create new systems or services that respond to the changing nature of organisations.	Lectures, seminars, laboratory work, group work, independent study	Report, oral presentation
C3	Apply IT concepts and principles to critically evaluate and analyse complex practical problems and provide IT based solutions and competently use digital literacy to access a broad range of research sources, data and information.	Lectures, seminars, group work, further reading, case studies, tutorials, practical classes, workshops	Report, exam, practical skills assessment, oral presentation
C4	Effectively apply appropriate computer-based technologies to analyse, develop and maintain reliable software and employ a range of analytical techniques and design tools in the development of secure software.	Lectures, seminars, group work, case studies, tutorials, practical classes, workshops	Report, exam, practical skills assessment, oral presentation
C5	Locate, receive and respond to a variety of information sources (e.g. textual, numerical, graphical and computer-based) in defined contexts.	Lectures, seminars, group work, case studies, tutorials, practical classes, workshops, project supervision	Exam, practical skills assessments, report, portfolio

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
D1	Develop a skill set to enable the evaluation of appropriate actions taken for solving problems in a specific organisational context.	Lectures, seminars, group work, case studies, tutorials, practical classes, workshops, fieldwork, placement	Exam, practical skills assessment, report, portfolio, oral presentation
D2	Demonstrate strong interpersonal skills, including effective listening and oral communication skills, as well as the associated ability to persuade, present, pitch and negotiate.	Lectures, fieldwork, placement, project supervision, further reading, practical workshop	Portfolio, oral presentation, report, set exercise (practical)
D3	Identify personal and professional goals for continuing professional development in order to enhance competence to practise within a chosen computing field and take advantage of available pathways for continuing professional development through higher education, Professional Body Qualifications and Vendor Accredited Certifications.	Lectures, fieldwork, placement, project supervision, further reading	Portfolio, oral presentation
D4	Reflect adaptability and flexibility in approach to work; showing resilience under pressure and meeting challenging targets within given deadlines.	Lectures, fieldwork, placement, project supervision, further reading	Portfolio, oral presentation
D5	Display emotional intelligence and sensitivity to diversity in relation to people and cultures.	Lectures, fieldwork, placement, project supervision, group work, further reading	Portfolio, oral presentation, report

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth Academic Regulations: Examination & Assessment Regulations (Collaborative Courses) will apply to this course. Approved course exemptions can be found here.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the MyPort student portal.

In addition to these University support services the college students have access to many and varied forms of support as Personal Tutor, Programme Leader, Chaplaincy Staff. The personal tutor is always a good first point of contact. The student can be referred via their tutor or can make an appointment directly to the Programme Leader or chaplaincy staff, both of whom are available to handle any concerns in complete confidence. All lecturing staff are able to direct the student to someone at the college who should be able to help with any personal or academic issues. This is documented within the Collaborative Partner Operational Handbook.

The college careers services are also available to students, who can make appointments when required.

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification
- University of Portsmouth Vision
- Office for Students Conditions of Registration
- University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning
- Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements
- Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement for ***Computing***
- Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

Changes to your course/modules

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform

applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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