UNIVERSITY OF PORTSMOUTH

COURSE SPECIFICATION

BSc (Hons) Software Engineering

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Course Title	BSc (Hons) Software Engineering
Final Award	BSc (Hons)
Exit Awards	CertHE, DipHE, BSc
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	U0968PYC
Mode of study	Full-time
Mode of delivery	Campus
Normal length of course	3 years, 4 years with placement
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	September 2023 onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
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/bsc-hons-software-engineering
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	level 6

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

The programme aims to equip students to work as professional software engineers in the field of software development, particularly in environments where competence in computer hardware, software and information systems is required. In addition, and more generally:

- Provide a challenging, stimulating and self-rewarding study environment.
- Provide a framework whereby individual study paths may be forged based on choice from a range of options.
- Enable students to broaden their studies, at level 5, by including a language unit as a substitute for degree option choices.
- Develop a range of graduate and employability skills by means of opportunities provided in the course units.
- Accommodate student needs in relation to maximising their career potential by enabling them to develop knowledge, understanding and skills in their chosen subject area.
- Promote career aspirations by including study topics on general professional practice and study skills.

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 fundamentals and underlying theory of software engineering, computer science, mathematics, computer architectures, programming, operating systems, networks, software systems, database systems, web authoring, infrastructures*	*lectures, seminars, computer laboratory work, group work, peer learning and peer review*	*coursework, portfolios, examination, supervised work sessions, presentations, case studies*
A2	*The theory and practice of requirements analysis, formal specification and prototyping, implementation, testing, integration, metrics, quality control and assurance, documentation, delivery and maintenance and their roles in software development in a global context*		
A3	*The need for creativity in producing novel and robust software products*		
A4	*The global industrial and commercial context of software engineering*		
A5	*The need for the efficient as well as effective management of the process of software construction within an ethical framework and in a global context*		

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
B1	*Apply high-level skills of an intellectual, analytical, creative and problem solving nature.*	*lectures, seminars, computer laboratory work, group work, peer learning and peer review*	*coursework, portfolios, examination, supervised work sessions, presentations, case studies*
B2	*Make use of common skills with an ethical and critical awareness, which are necessary and appropriate for a reflective practitioner in a global context.*		
B3	*Demonstrate a critical awareness of the effects upon society of technical and technological development, and a proper sense of professional conduct in relation to society's increased dependence on technology, from an international point of view.*		
B4	*Plan, execute and professionally report on a major final year engineering project.*		

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
C1	*Select, critically evaluate and create appropriate, effective, robust and productive methods and tools for the successful construction, and timely delivery of valid computer-based systems in a global context*	*lectures, seminars, computer laboratory work, group work, peer learning and peer review*	*coursework, portfolios, examination, supervised work sessions, presentations, case studies*
C2	*Use industry standard software and hardware proficiently for specific purposes with an international point of view*		
C3	*Competently and critically assess, analyse and use current and future technologies in the computing and software engineering fields in a global context*		
C4	*Apply professional codes of conduct and appreciate the ethical considerations that underpin them in a global context*		
C5	*Demonstrate experience and productive capability in the placement setting (sandwich degree only)*		

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
D1	*Communicate effectively in writing, speaking and in appropriate forms of presentation. Read, understand and analyse complex documents related to software products and system requirements.*	*lectures, seminars, computer laboratory work, group work, peer learning and peer review*	*coursework, portfolios, examination, supervised work sessions, presentations, case studies*
D2	*Use information technology to efficiently handle data, numerical simulation, and to assist with design and testing.*		
D3	*Assess problem domains and formulate appropriate problem solving strategies from an international point of view.*		
D4	*Build on previous experience in order to enhance personal development.*		
D5	*Work in teams to achieve goals efficiently and effectively but nevertheless be distinctively individual.*		

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth Academic Regulations: Examination & Assessment Regulations 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.

Software Engineering is led by a team of three passionate and experienced course directors. This provides a strong community identity to the course, and affords students more opportunity to engage with staff, so they can more easily see themselves as part of a vibrant academic community.

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
- Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: **The British Computer Society, The National Cyber Security Centre**
- 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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