Computer Science MSc and Data Analytics MSc

Prof Victor Sanchez

Director of Postgraduate Teaching

Department of Computer Science

University of Warwick

2023-2024 academic year

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Purpose of this session

Brief introduction to:

1. The Department
2. Course structure & Modules
3. Department Access and Systems

Additional relevant material is on the induction website:

https://warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/dcs/admissions/newstudents/msc_studies/

The Department of Computer Science

- The Department of Computer Science is now in its 5th decade.
- There is a wide range of research interests in the department:
  - Algorithm Design and Analysis
  - Distributed Computing
  - Multimedia Processing and Computer Vision
  - Computational Neuroscience
  - Health Informatics
- Two programmes:
  - MSc Computer Science
  - MSc Data Analytics

The Department of Computer Science

- 55 Academics

- 22 Technical and Admin Staff

- >170 Research associates and PhD students

- >810 undergraduates

- >80 MSc students in each academic year

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Head of Department

Prof Yulia Timofeeva

Prof Victor Sanchez

Responsible for the MSc programmes

Deputy Director of PGT

Dr Charis Efthymiou

Academic Convenor for the Student-Staff Liaison Committee (SSLC)

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MSc Administrator and Student Engagement and Experience Co-ordinator

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Emma Woollacott

Administration of academic matters and queries on university processes

DCS.PGT.Support@warwick.ac.uk

Lea Barton

Organization of several events to complement your academic experience

Senior Tutors

Prof Mike Joy and Dr Rossella Suma:

- oversee the personal tutor system.

- deal with issues escalated from your personal tutor.

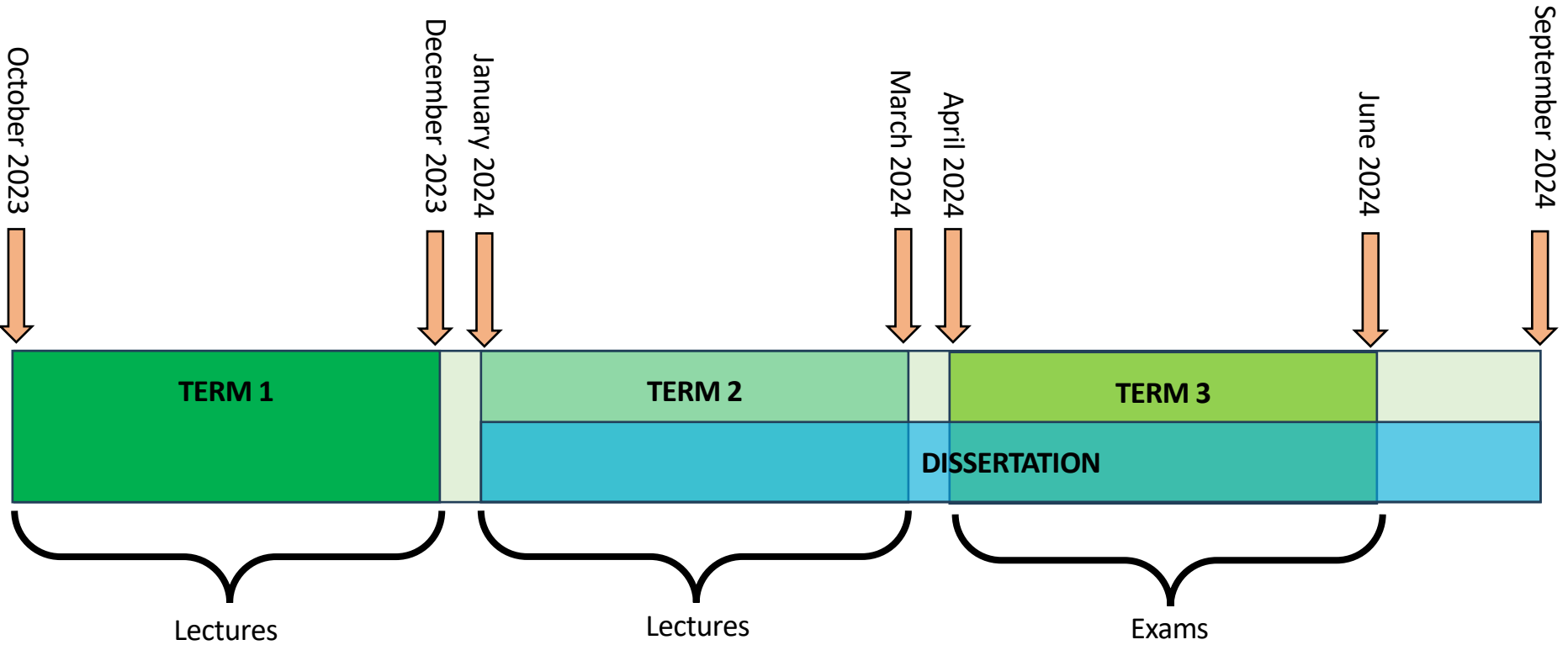- can provide additional support if your personal tutor is unavailable.

Course structure

Course Structure

Course Structure

The period of study is 12 months (October to September):

- Term 1: October – December
- Term 2: January – March
- Term 3: April – June

- Taught component: Terms 1 & 2, with exams in Term 3
- Dissertation Project: January – September
  - non-term based → runs from January throughout September

When do I start?

- The academic year (Term1) starts on Monday, October 2nd, 2023

- Induction activities on campus scheduled for *Welcome Week*

    - ✓ Q&A sessions
    - ✓ Linux tutorial
    - ✓ Careers
    - ✓ Social events

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Departmental Activity	Date	Time	Place
Welcome Talk	Tuesday, September 26th, 2023	10:00 am- 11:00 am	Room CS1.04
DCS Social/Computer Society Social	Tuesday, September 26th, 2023	11:00 am - 1:00 pm	DCS ground floor
Coffee & Cake	Wednesday, September 27th, 2023	9:30 am- 10:30 am	Room MS3.18
PGT Careers, Academic Skills, Library Introduction	Wednesday, September 27th, 2023	10:30 am- 11:30 am	Room CS1.04
Active Bystander	Wednesday, September 27th, 2023	12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	ONLINE
Q&A Brunch	Thursday, September 28th, 2023	11:00 am- 12:00 pm	Room CS1.04
SSLC	Thursday, September 28th, 2023	12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	Room CS1.04
Linux Lab	Thursday, September 28th, 2023	1:30 pm - 3:00 pm	CS0.06
Quiz	Thursday, September 28th, 2023	3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	CS1.04

CS: Modules

Core Modules
- CS908 Research Methods
- CS917 Foundations of Computing
- CS907 Dissertation Project

Optional Modules (some examples)
- CS922 High Performance Computing
- CS904 Computational Biology
- CS924 Agent Based Systems
- CS932 Formal Systems Development
- …

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DA: Modules

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Core Modules
- CS908 Research Methods
- CS917 Foundations of Computing
- CS910 Foundations of Data Analytics
- CS909 Data Mining
- CS913 Dissertation Project

Optional Modules (some examples)
- CS922 High Performance Computing
- IM921 Visualisation
- CS918 Natural Language Processing
- CS912 Sensor Networks & Mobile Data Communications
- …

Optional Modules

- You must take **180 CATS** (credits) in total:
  - no overloading, no underloading, auditing modules possible.

- Look at the module details and select according to your previous experience, current interests, and future plans.

- Consult with your personal tutor, if needed.

- Some modules have pre-requisites:
  - **do not apply to MSc students** → use them as a guide.
  - you may have to do additional reading or self-studying.

CS907/913 – Dissertation Project (core)

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A dissertation project of **60 CATS** is undertaken individually on a relevant topic:

- flexibility in choosing a topic.
- plan ahead → think about potential topics early and discuss them with potential supervisors.
- work on this is from January to September.
- you will give a presentation, deliver an interim report, and write your dissertation

Leader: Prof Christian Ikenmeyer

Non-CS Optional Modules

For **Data Analytics** students:
- modules offered by the School of Engineering (ESxxx)
- modules offered by the Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies (IMxxx)

The Centre for Interdisciplinary Methodologies (CIM) has different rules and regulations regarding module registration – **limited spaces**

1.	IM942	Visualisation Foundations	Term 1	15 CATS
2.	IM919	Urban Data - Theory and Methodology	Term 2	15 CATS

Registration to IMxxx Optional Modules offered by CIM

There will be a sign-up form from Wednesday, September 27th at 9am on the induction website

Deadline: Friday, September 29th at 12noon

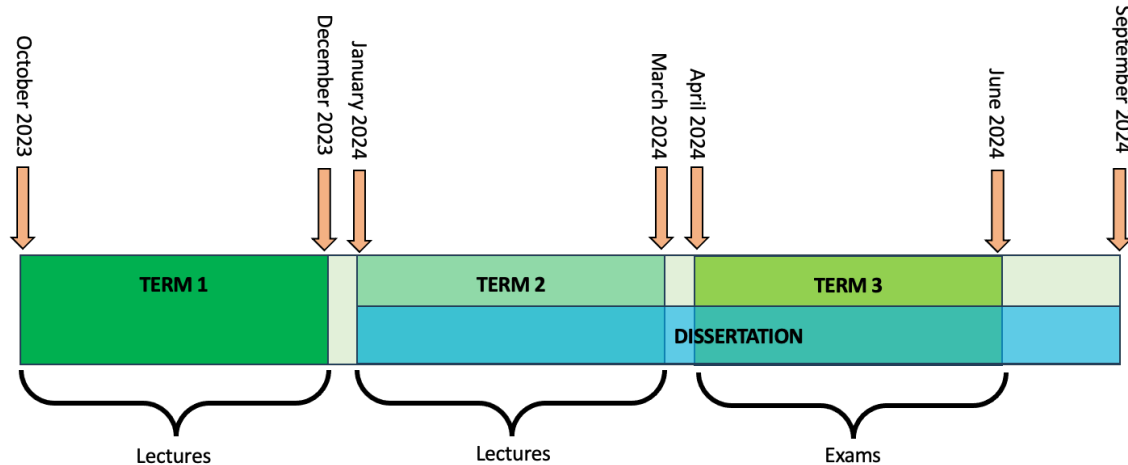**Do not register** for IMxxx modules via eMR until your place is confirmed by us

Module Registration

- Module registration via eVision Module Registration (eMR):
  - opens on September 27th, 2023 at 09:00.
  - closes for students on October 16th, 2023 at 17:00.

- eMR accessible for the few first weeks of Term 2 to finalise module choices.

- You may register for more modules than you need and then revise your registrations in Term 2.

- Students **may not de-register from any module** after **10% or more** of the assessment for that module has been submitted or undertaken.

Module Registration Advice

- Think carefully about how to balance your time between the two terms.

- The dissertation usually takes up most of the time starting Term 2.

- **4 modules per term** → this will help you to manage your workload.

Department Access and Systems

DCS and Mathematical Sciences Building

Warwick Mathematics Institute

https://warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/virtualtour/

DCS and Mathematical Sciences Building

https://warwick.ac.uk/study/undergraduate/virtualtour/

Department Access and Systems

- Your university card gives access to these buildings.

- It commonly provides 24-hour access to the buildings.

- The Department and the University IT Services have separate systems: You will have the same user code and email address, but they are separate file-systems.

MSc space

- We have MSc spaces in the Mathematical Sciences building (MSB).

- This is on the 3rd floor – MS3.18.

- Please follow any guidelines posted in these area related to opening times.

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MSc space

- We also have a large MSc lab in MS3.17.

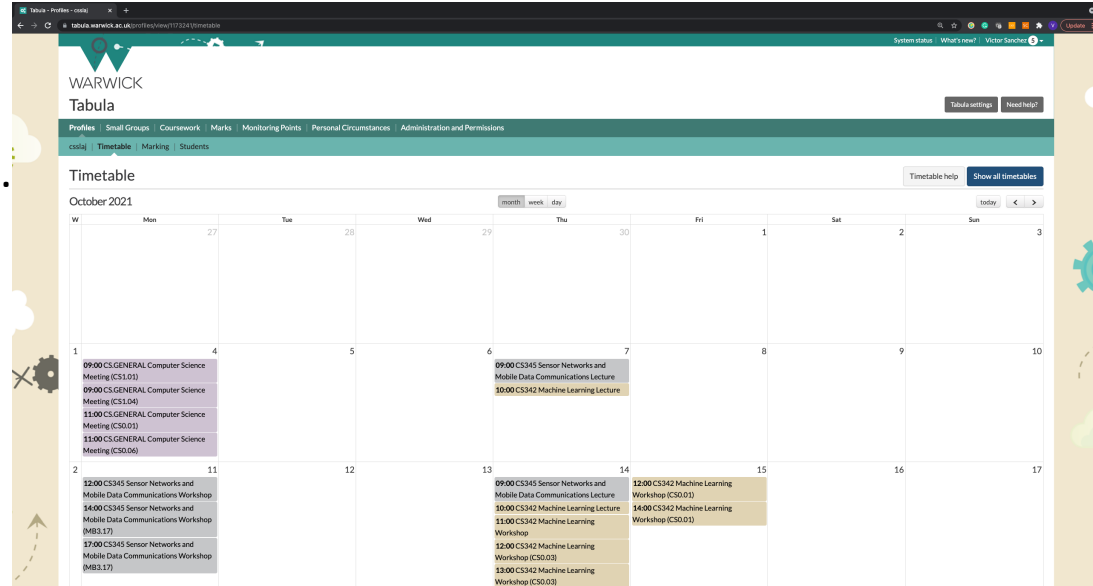- Please follow any guidelines posted in these area related to opening times.

University Systems: Tabula

Tabula (tabula.warwick.ac.uk) is the main student system.

You will be using it for:

- recording personal tutor meetings.
- submitting assignments.
- recording meetings with your dissertation supervisor.
- your timetable.

University Systems: Tabula

- The timetable on Tabula only contains your core modules right now!

- When you have registered for your optional modules they will appear in your timetable.

University Systems: Handbook

The policies and procedures that apply to you while studying can be found in the *Student Handbook.*

The *Student Handbook* covers:
- ✓ Course regulations
- ✓ Requirements to get the MSc degree
- ✓ Guidance on Academic Support
- ✓ Mitigating circumstances
- ✓ Health and safety

University Systems: Handbook

Student Handbook 2023 / 2024 - Under Construction

All students in the Department are required to have read and understood the Student Handbook each year.

The Department of Computer Science is committed to being as accessible as possible to all people, regardless of individual needs or technology considerations. If you would like a copy of this document in an alternative format, for example in hard copy, large print or a different font, or on a coloured background, please email dcs.ug.support@warwick.ac.uk (UG students) or dcs.pgt.support@warwick.ac.uk (PGT students), or speak to the Student Support Office on the ground floor of the Computer Science building.

Action Required

Complete and submit through Tabula:

- Student Handbook Declaration Form to confirm that you have read and understood the contents.

- Health and Safety in the Lab Form to confirm that you have read and understood the requirements.

This is the handbook for the coming academic year - if you require last year's handbook, an archived copy of the Student Handbook 22-23 is available.

Handbooks for recent years: 2021-22, 2020-21, 2019-20, 2018-19, 2017-18, 2016-17, 2015-16.

Handbook Index

Please sign the declaration to confirm that you have read the handbook

Handbook – MSc degrees

Details about degree classifications: Exam Boards → MSc Exam Board Guidelines and MSc Degree Classification:

- ✓ Pass mark for MSc students is 50%.
- ✓ MSc with Distinction → exceptional performance in both the taught and dissertation components, year mark of at least 70%.
- ✓ MSc with Merit → exceptional performance in both the taught and dissertation components, year mark of 60-69%.
- ✓ MSc → 150 credits, all core modules passed, at least 40% in any failed module.

University Systems: Email

- All correspondence will be sent to your Warwick email address.

- Please ensure that you check it at least once a day.

Online interaction: Microsoft Teams

Although all activities are face-to-face, MS Teams allows to collaborate remotely.

Use your Warwick account to log-in: username@live.warwick.ac.uk
(e.g., u1234567@live.warwick.ac.uk)

Academic Support - Senior Tutors and SSLC

- The Senior Tutors (Mike Joy and Rossella Suma) can provide extra support, e.g., by acting as a back-up tutor.

- The Senior Tutors can also liaise with the University Senior Tutor's office if necessary.

- The Student-Staff Liaison Committee (SSLC) is the official forum for discussion between students and staff in the Department:
  - consists of student representatives and staff representatives.
  - meets at least once a term → suggestions for improvement and discussion of any issues.
  - we **need 3 volunteers from each course to act as SSLC representatives** → gain leadership and management experience and help us shape the MSc programme!

Life is not all work!

There is a wide range of sport clubs and societies that you may choose to get involved with!

See ***warwicksu.com*** for more details.

and finally...

We hope that you have a successful and enjoyable year!

If you have any questions over the coming weeks then please do not hesitate to contact me, your personal tutor or Emma Woollacott at:

DCS.PGT.Support@warwick.ac.uk

We know it can be hard to settle in somewhere new, so please don't be shy about asking for help.