



Welcome Back to the Spring Term

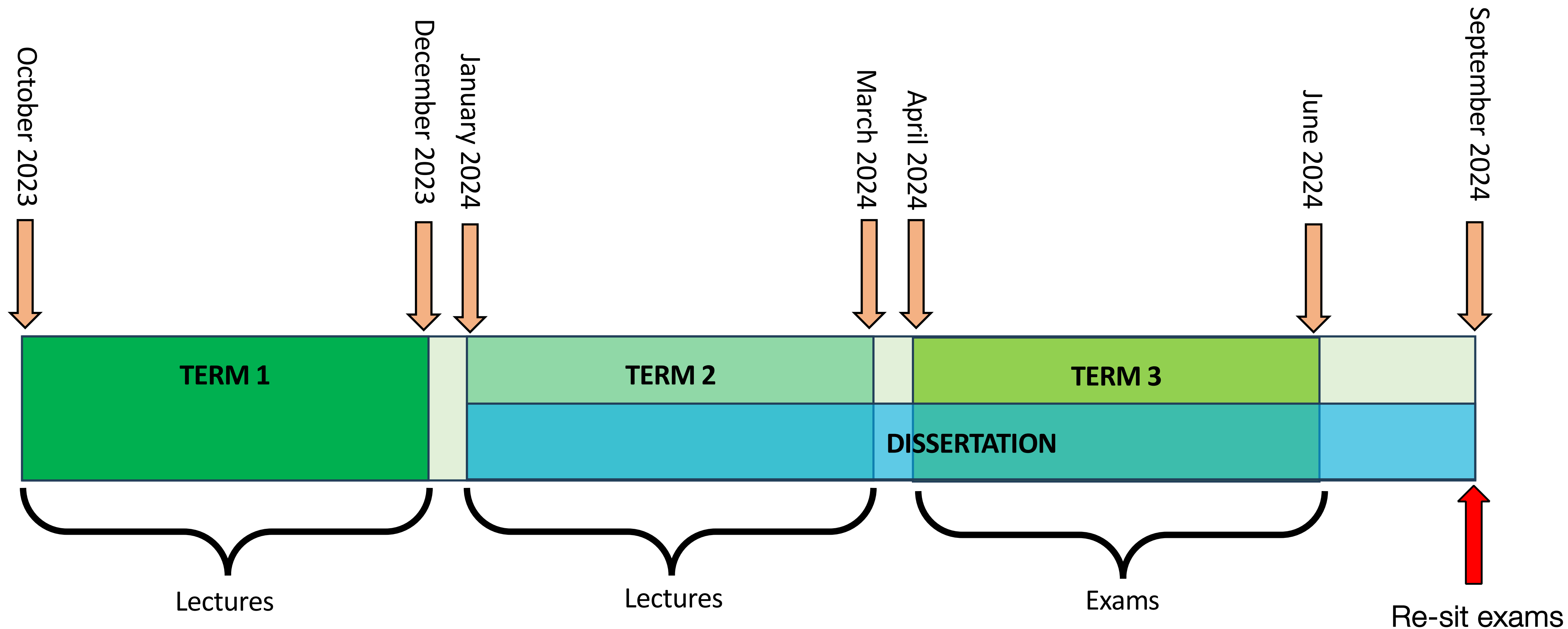
Department of Computer Science
University of Warwick



What to expect today?

- Timeline of the course
- Learning materials for modules
- Exams and assessment
- Resources
- Building a strong PGT community
- Have your say on the course - SSLC representatives
- Support for health and well-being - mitigating circumstances claims

Timeline of course



Module registration

You must take 180 CATS

8th January 2024 - 09:00 GMT	Module registration re-opens to make any module changes
26th January 2024 - 17:00 GMT	Module registration closes

Dissertation Project

- CS907 (CS) & CS913 (DA): 60 CATS
- Registration: a form to confirm your subject area and supervisor. Deadline: **January 18th, @noon**
 - Work on a topic you feel passionate about!
 - Ideas may involve purely research or an application-oriented project
 - The final topic can be refined in conjunction with your supervisor
- You need to pass your dissertation project to be awarded an MSc degree

Dissertation Project

- Define the scope of your dissertation
- Account for the time you have (and exams) → plan activities accordingly, i.e., a Gantt Chart
- Stay in touch with your supervisor: schedule regular meetings, keep track of progress and any deliverables
- Other important deadlines:
 - Presentation (5%): week of April 29th, 2024
 - Interim Report (15%): July 11th, 2024
 - Dissertation Report (80%): September 3rd, 2024



Learning materials

- Each module has a dedicated webpage
- Materials are posted on the webpage or on Moodle
 - If unsure, please ask the module organizer
- Learning materials may be:
 - Slides used during the lecture
 - Notes
 - Suggested books/papers
 - Recording of the lectures
- Materials are important to complement lectures



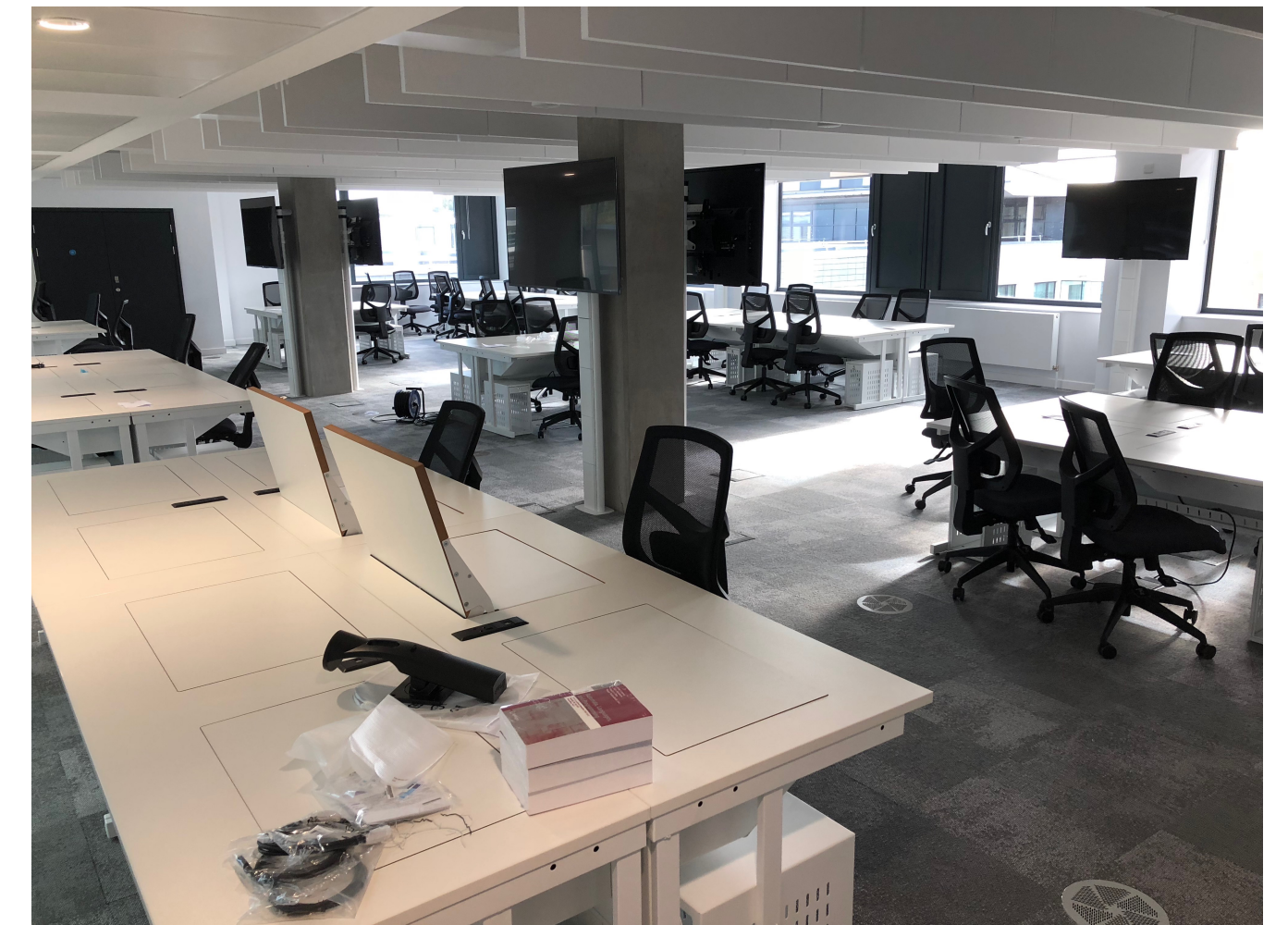
Exams and Assessment

- Typically, exams start in Week 4 of Term 3
- Module pass mark is **50%**
 - Merit → 60-69%, Distinction → 70% and above
 - See student handbook for other cases
- Provisional exam results will be available on Tabula in early July – after an Exam Board scheduled for late June
- Re-sits take place in September
- Final Exam Board takes place in mid-November

Resources - IT

- MSc spaces in the Mathematical Sciences building (MSB) - 3rd floor - MS3.18
- Large MSc lab in MS3.17
- Remote access to DCS systems
- More info at:

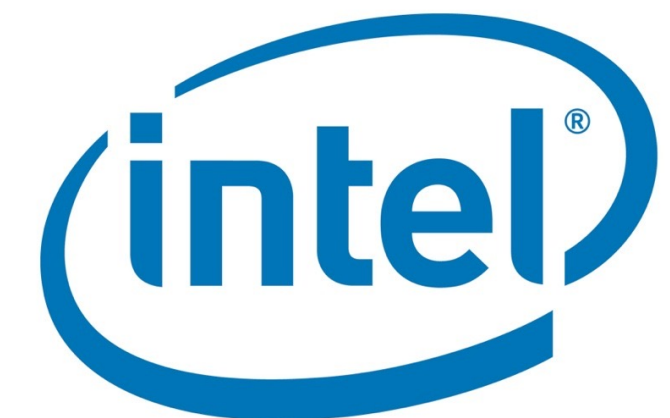
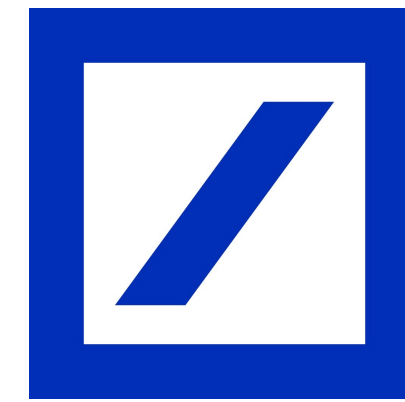
warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/dcs/admissions/newstudents/msc_studies/



Resources - Careers

- Samantha Merrix → Careers Advisor for Computer Science
- Slides from previous presentations are available on the MSc website:

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



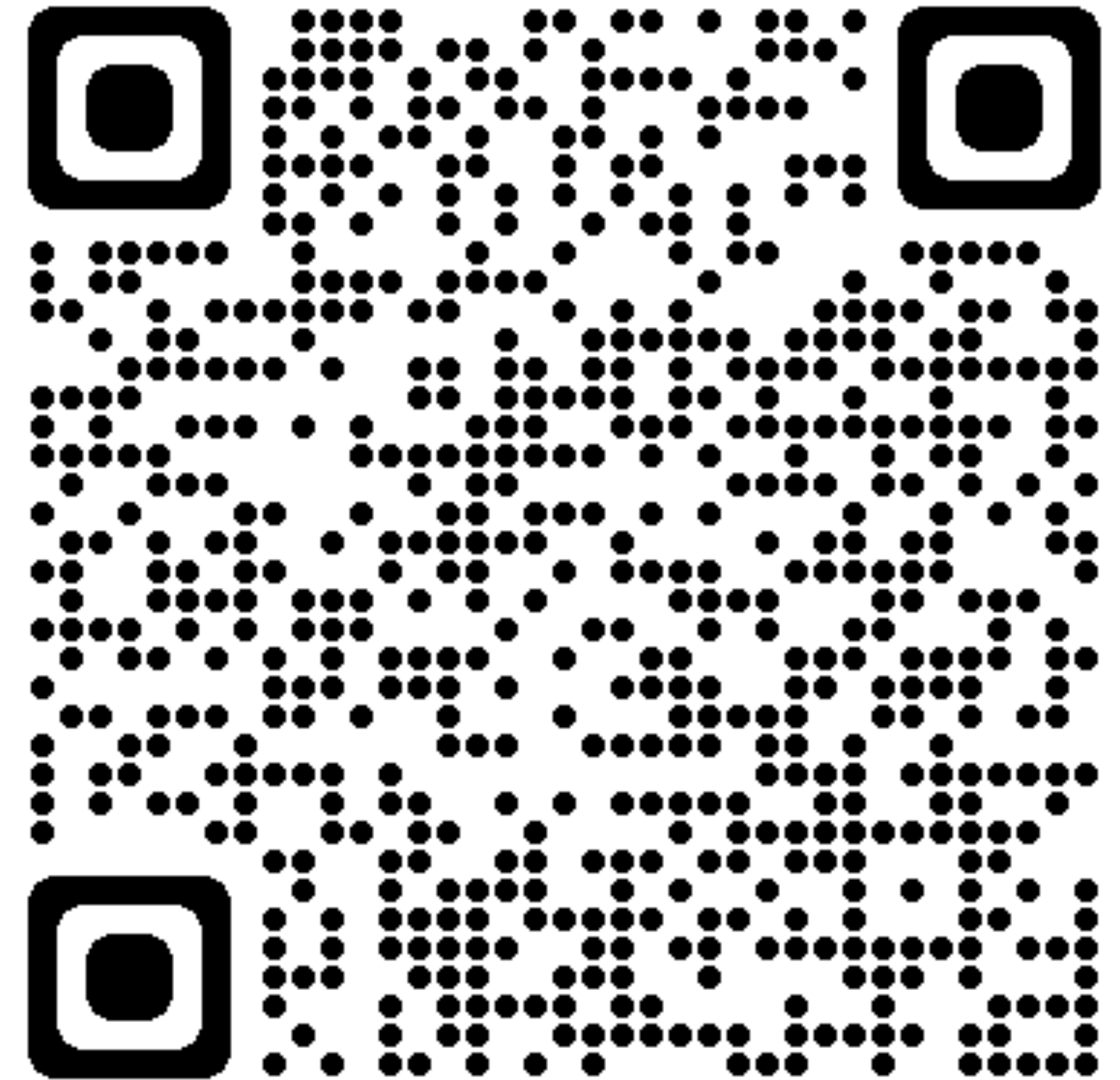
Building a strong PGT community



- Weekly coffee catch-up:
 - ✓ When: Wednesdays, 10 am – 11am Weeks 2, 4, 6, 8 and 10
 - ✓ Where: Room MS3.18
- Other social events:
 - In previous years, we have organized badminton sessions or board games
 - Towards the end of T3, we host a pub quiz for Masters-level students (MSc and Meng).
 - Any social events you would like to have? – have your say!

Building a strong PGT community

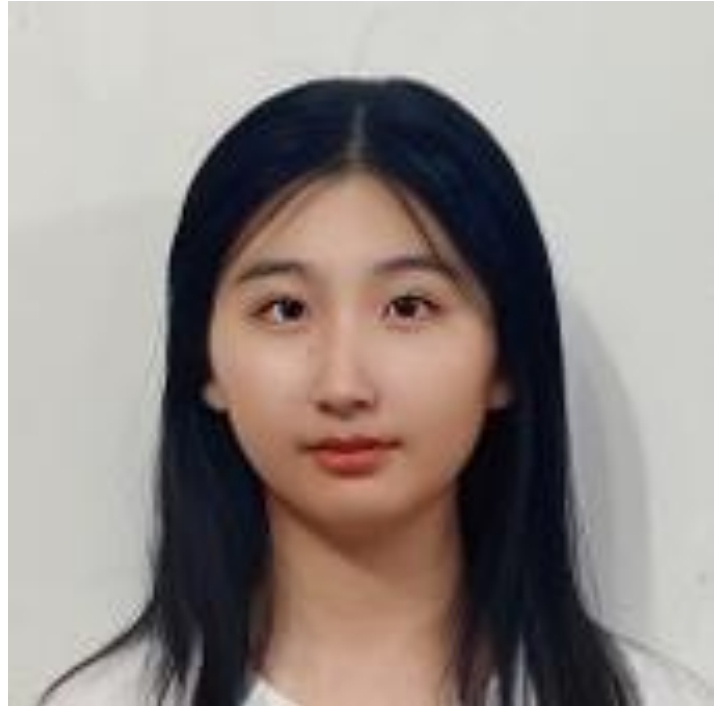
Scan this QR code to let us know if you are interested in attending any of these type of events (or not), make suggestions or provide feedback to us.



Have your say on the course



Reslan Altinawi (DA)



Yiming Kao (CS)



Zhaojing Yuan (DA)

SSLC Representatives

Mitigating Circumstances

- If you feel your progress is affected by any major issue, including health problems, submit a mit. circumstances claim
 - specific piece(s) of assessed work
 - performance on final exams or dissertation
 - performance throughout the whole year
- Mitigating Circumstances forms affecting performance on the final exams must be submitted **before** the June Exam Board
- Mitigating Circumstances forms affecting overall performance and performance on the dissertation must be submitted **before** the Final Exam Board
- Please familiarize yourself with procedures in the student handbook



Senior Tutor team



**Professor Mike
Joy – Senior
Tutor**

Room: CS3.28



**Dr. Rossella
Suma – Senior
Tutor**

Room: MB3.19



**Becky MacDonald –
Student Support
Officer**

Room: CS1.17

WARWICK
THE UNIVERSITY OF WARWICK

seniortutordcs@warwick.ac.uk

What do Senior Tutors do?

- Support you with personal or medical circumstances affecting your ability to study
- Approve extensions for coursework
- Make the department and relevant examination boards aware of mitigation which may have affected your study

Mitigation routes

- Reasonable adjustments
 - Self-certifications
 - Extension requests
- Mitigating Circumstances



Reasonable adjustments

Modifications or accommodations (to support ongoing mental health problems, or specific learning differences, or chronic illnesses for example).

Ensures all students have equal access to education.

Flexible deadlines, use of PC's, additional time for exams...

Requested and assessed through Disability Services

[Reasonable Adjustments | University of Warwick](#)

NOTE: The declaration of a disability does not automatically grant a student RA's.



Self Certification

- Can self-certify if:
 - absent for 7 days or less;
 - any assessment missed is $\leq 20\%$ of a module;
 - no more than twice per year;
 - submit within 3 days of return.
- Eligible pieces of assessed work are listed on the Mitigating Circumstances page in the Handbook.



Extension requests

- Submissions should be made via Tabula.
 - The supporting evidence should be scanned and submitted to Tabula.
 - Do not email module organisers
 - Do not use the Mitigating circumstances tabula route to request an extension. It will be rejected and you will be redirected to the correct route.
- [Student Handbook: Mitigating Circumstances \(warwick.ac.uk\)](http://warwick.ac.uk)

Mitigating circumstances

- Significant personal difficulties that have a negative impact on your ability to study for or complete academic assessments including examinations.
- Acute, severe, exceptional, and are outside your control.

Outcomes

Mitigating circumstances outcomes cannot:

Waive large amounts of coursework – limited to 3 CATS per module and a total of 6 CATS per academic year

Offer resits in coursework components

Change marks in any way

Award resits when modules have been passed

Retaking the year is RARELY an option

Possible mitigation:

Recommend a period of temporary withdrawal.

Defer Exams.

Resit exams without penalty.

Waive late penalties.

Waive coursework.

Promotion if close to the border

Timeliness

- It is your sole responsibility to disclose mitigating circumstances to us and submit the necessary information and evidence in a timely manner
- **Mitigating circumstances not submitted by the deadline for consideration by examination boards will NOT be considered**
- **Deadlines for Mitigating circumstances:**
- **last day of your exam window**

Finally...

- This is all in the Student Handbook
- Your Personal Tutor is there to help
- If in doubt, get in touch sooner rather than later
- Senior Tutors: Professor Mike Joy (CS3.28), Dr Rossella Suma (MB3.19),
Student Support Officer – Becky MacDonald (CS1.17)
- Email: seniortutordcs@warwick.ac.uk

Q&A

