



UNIVERSITY OF  
PORTSMOUTH

## COURSE SPECIFICATION

### *BSc (Hons) Business Information Systems*

**Academic Standards, Quality and Partnerships  
Department of Student and Academic Administration**

**June 2020**

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# COURSE SPECIFICATION

Please refer to the [Course Specification Guidance Notes](#) for guidance on completing this document.

<b>Course Title</b>	<b><i>BSc (Hons) Business Information Systems</i></b>
Final Award	BSc
Exit Awards	CertHE, DipHE
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	C0058S
Mode of study	Full time
Mode of delivery	On Campus
Normal length of course	3 years, 4 years with placement
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	from September 2019 intake 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	<a href="http://www.port.ac.uk/school-of-computing/">http://www.port.ac.uk/school-of-computing/</a>
Course webpage including entry criteria	<a href="https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/bsc-hons-business-information-systems">https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/bsc-hons-business-information-systems</a>
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	British Computer Society
<a href="#">Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level</a>	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 [Module Web Search](#) for further information on the course structure and modules.

## Educational aims of the course

The programme aims to equip students to work as professional information systems analysts, business analysts and designers, particularly in environments where competence in systems analysis and design, and project management are required. In addition, the course aims to:

- Provide a challenging, stimulating and self-rewarding study environment.
- Provide a framework whereby individual study paths may be forged based on choice of a range of options.
- Enable students to broaden their studies by including study units from outside their discipline as substitutes for degree option choices.
- Develop a range of transferable skills by means of opportunities provided in the core 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 professional practice and skills, which is further extended by the practical work experience gained from the placement year.
- Maintain a course that has equality of opportunity, enabling access for people with differing individual requirements as well as eliminating arbitrary and unnecessary barriers to learning. In addition, disabled and non-disabled students are offered learning opportunities that are equally accessible to them, by means of inclusive design wherever possible and by means of reasonable individual adjustments wherever necessary.

## 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	Systems analysis and design as applied to real world complex problems and the theoretical and practical issues in various software development lifecycles as applied to a range of IS projects.	<i>lectures, discussion and reflection using real world examples, seminars, group work, real world case studies, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>essays, portfolios, exam</i>
A2	Efficient as well as effective project management as applied to information systems development for organisations of all sizes and options for systems development and change management within organisations.	<i>lectures, discussion and reflection using real world examples seminars, group work, interactive</i>	<i>essays, presentations, examinations</i>

		<i>and student-led learning groups presentations</i>	
A3	Factors affecting the security of Information Systems and techniques for security solutions.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	essays, examinations
A4	The management of large and complex Information Systems for business and enterprise use and the principles for the management of data and its strategic business use.	<i>lectures, seminars, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	essays, presentations, examinations
A5	The business environment, including aspects of the Information Technology that underpin and support business processes and the technical and sociotechnical solutions for IS development and the social, ethical and legal constraints within which organisations have to work.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>Demonstrations, essays, presentations, portfolios</i>

Add additional rows as required.

**B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:**

<b>LO number</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Learning and Teaching methods</b>	<b>Assessment methods</b>
B1	Apply general abilities of an intellectual, analytical creative and problem-solving nature to the field of information systems.	lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies,	<i>Demonstrations, essays, presentations, portfolios</i>

		<i>discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	
B2	Apply and integrate methods and techniques from both the Business and Computing disciplines to the solution of information systems problems.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>Demonstrations, essays, presentations, portfolios</i>
B3	Develop critical skills with regard to research methods, literature searching, appraising and evaluating information from a variety of sources and viewpoints, and synthesising the results.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>Demonstrations, essays, presentations, portfolios</i>
B4	Plan, manage, undertake and report on a significant final year project related to the field of business information systems.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>Demonstrations, essays, presentations,</i>
B5	Develop an awareness of the effects upon society of technical and technological development and develop a proper self-updating sense of professional conduct in relation to society's increased dependence on information systems guided by recognition of the professional, economic, social, environmental, moral and ethical issues involved in the sustainable	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and</i>	<i>essays, presentations, portfolios</i>

	exploitation of computer technology and be guided by the adoption of appropriate professional, ethical and legal practices..	<i>reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	
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**C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:**

<b>LO number</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Learning and Teaching methods</b>	<b>Assessment methods</b>
C1	Show competency in evaluating data needs for organisations and appropriate tools to create and manage data management systems and select or create appropriate, effective and productive methods and tools for the successful construction and timely delivery of reliable, secure and usable work and computer-based business information systems.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>Demonstrations, essays, portfolios, examinations</i>
C2	Understand and manage appropriate software and hardware to produce designed outcomes for IS projects and have an awareness of ongoing and future IS trends and innovations and an appreciation of their implications.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>Demonstrations, portfolios essays, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>
C3	Show competency in using and critically evaluating and assessing business information systems and critically evaluate and analyse complex problems, including those with incomplete information, and devise appropriate solutions, within the constraints of a budget.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>Demonstrations, essays, presentations, portfolios examinations</i>
C4	Demonstrate experience and productive capability in the placement setting (sandwich degree only)	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group</i>	<i>Demonstrations, presentations, portfolios</i>

		<i>work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	
C5	Be aware of security threats relating to information systems and tools and techniques to mitigate these threats.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>essays, presentations, examinations</i>

**D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:**

<b>LO number</b>	<b>Learning outcome</b>	<b>Learning and Teaching methods</b>	<b>Assessment methods</b>
D1	Communicate effectively in writing, speaking and in appropriate forms of presentation, use information systems to handle complex data, produce simulations to assist with design thinking and business analytics and competently deal with numerical data as might be found in typical business orientated applications.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>Demonstrations, essays, presentations, portfolios</i>
D2	Comprehend a range of complex business documentation related to business information systems, software products and system requirements; assess problem domains and formulate appropriate problem-solving strategies; develop viable solutions, whilst understanding the role of sustainability and recognising factors in environmental and societal contexts, relating to opportunities and challenges created by information systems, across a range of human activities.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>Essays, presentations, portfolios</i>

D3	Develop the ability to self-manage by demonstrating self-awareness, reflection, goal setting and action planning; demonstrate independence and adaptability through innovation and creativity and develop skills for ongoing learning.	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>Demonstrations, essays, presentations, portfolios</i>
D4	Professionally network in a team environment to achieve goals, but nevertheless retain distinct individuality; develop and demonstrate employability and entrepreneurship skills within the IS domain	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>presentations, portfolios</i>
D5	Deliver appropriate outcomes in a timely fashion to the standard required by the placement client (sandwich degree only).	<i>lectures, seminars, tutorials, group work, presentations, case studies, discussion and reflection using real world examples, interactive and student-led learning groups</i>	<i>Demonstrations, presentations, portfolios</i>

## Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth [Academic Regulations](#) will apply to this course.

## 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.

## 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:

*Insert additional reference points or delete as required*

- [University of Portsmouth Curriculum Framework Specification](#)
- [University of Portsmouth Education Strategy 2016 - 2020](#)
- [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 **Business and Management and Computing**
- [Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#)
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: **British Computer Society**
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

## Disclaimer

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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## Document details

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