Distinctly Ambitious
www.hw.ac.uk

We are part of world class ICs.

We score well for student satisfaction.

We are in top 10% of UK universities for employment.

British Computer Society accredits our specialist MSc degrees.

We have a green campus on the edge of the historic city of Edinburgh.

FEES, FUNDING AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Latest tuition fees are published on our fees web pages: www.hw.ac.uk/fees

We offer scholarships to well qualified applicants. Instructions on applying can be accessed from our scholarship web pages: www.scholarships.hw.ac.uk

ASSESSMENT METHODS

Students are assessed on component courses by a mixture of exams and coursework. The MSc project is assessed by a MSc dissertation.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Applicants require for admission a first or second class honours degree or its equivalent with a substantial academic component of computing or IT. Candidates holding a little less than this may be admitted to the Postgraduate Diploma programme. If their performance is satisfactory at MSc level, they may then be recommended for transfer to the MSc.

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS

If your first language is not English, or your first degree was not taught in English, we’ll need to see evidence of your English language ability. The minimum requirement for English language is IELTS 6.0, TOEFL B0 (IBT) or equivalent. We offer a range of English language courses to help you meet the English language requirement prior to starting your Masters programme:

• 2 semesters English (for IELTS 4.5-5.0)
• 12 weeks English (for IELTS 5.5)

Further details can be found at www.english.hw.ac.uk

GOOD REASONS

1. Research Quality
   We are part of world class SICSA research cluster

2. Teaching Quality
   We score well for student satisfaction

3. Employability
   We are in top 10% of UK universities for employment

4. Professionalism
   British Computer Society accredits our specialist MSc degrees

5. Prime Location
   We have a green campus on the edge of the historic city of Edinburgh

HOW TO APPLY

You can apply by using our online application form available at: www.postgraduate.hw.ac.uk/apply

You must also provide a copy of your degree certificate and relevant academic transcripts, references from two academic sources and evidence of your English language ability. You can attach documents to the online application using the document upload facility.

There is no official deadline for applying to the programme. However it is always better to submit your completed application as early as possible to have a good chance of securing a place.

CONTACT

POSTGRADUATE ADMISSIONS
ROOM 1.24
EARL MOUNTBATTEN BUILDING
SCHOOL OF MATHEMATICAL & COMPUTER SCIENCES
HERIOT-WATT UNIVERSITY, RICCARON, EDINBURGH EH14 4AS, SCOTLAND

+44 (0) 131 451 4152
+44 (0) 131 451 3327
msc.request@macs.hw.ac.uk

www.macs.hw.ac.uk

FLEXIBLE OR DISTANCE LEARNING

COMPUTING
MSc / PG DIPLOMA

www.macs.hw.ac.uk
**Your University**

an overview

Heriot-Watt University offers a superb environment for postgraduate study. We are one of the UK’s leading universities, recognised internationally for excellent teaching and research in our specialist areas of science, engineering, business management, languages and textile design.

Our community of postgraduate students is made up of bright, highly imaginative and self-motivated individuals, who work closely with our forward-looking and energetic research-active academic staff. This collaborative atmosphere is fundamental to Heriot-Watt’s enviable academic and research reputation.

Those of you who choose to study with us will discover high quality taught and research programmes, flexible student-centred delivery, unrivalled facilities and pioneering research.

---

**PROGRAMME BACKGROUND**

The full-time MSc programme starts in mid September and lasts 1 year. Taken part-time the MSc programme lasts from 2 to 5 years and can be started at any time. The full-time Postgraduate Diploma starts at the same time and lasts until May. Taken part-time the Postgraduate Diploma lasts from 2 to 5 years.

In the UK students are supported in their study by the Edinburgh campus. Overseas they are supported by an approved learning centre in their local area. After completing 8 courses students may leave with a Postgraduate Diploma or continue on with a MSc project.

The MSc project is carried out under the supervision of an individual academic who is an expert in the field. It is written up as a 15000 word dissertation. This project applies skills acquired in the programme to a challenging practical problem in computing.

**PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES**

The aim of this flexible learning programme is to equip students with advanced skills to pursue professional careers in software development and the management of IT systems. The programme has no lectures and is studied using online and printed materials with the support of a local learning centre. Delivery of online materials is predominantly done through our university’s Virtual Learning Environment http://vision.hw.ac.uk.

**PROGRAMME STRUCTURE**

| Semester 1 | F21DF Databases & Information Systems 15 types, DB & DB management systems, data modelling, DB design, relational DBs, SQL, SQL programming, XML, other DB types |
| Semester 2 | F21AS Advanced Software Engineering advanced OOP design in Java, data structures, threads, patterns, software engineering methodologies and project planning |
| Semester 2 | F21NA Network Applications Internet organisation & transports, client and server web technologies, web protocols, email standards and protocols, security technologies |

Taken part-time over 2 to 5 years, students can take these 8 courses in any combination except that F21RP must be done last and F21MC, F21AS and F21NA all presuppose that F21SF has been successfully completed. Where courses are assessed partly by exams, there will be 2 examination opportunities a year in May or December and in August. Students who successfully complete their 8 courses at the required MSc level can then do the F21MP Masters project.

Courses may be started at any time that is agreed with the programme’s director. However, each course’s learning materials will be subject to updates once a year. Assessments after that time will only relate to the course’s latest syllabus.

**WORK PLACEMENT / INDUSTRY LINKS**

Part-time MSc students may opt to do an MSc project in conjunction with the company where they work.

**GRADUATE OPPORTUNITIES**

Graduates from the programme would be suitable for employment with IT companies, company R+D divisions, financial services organisations, defence contractors or government IT agencies or could register for a PhD.

---

www.macs.hw.ac.uk

---

www.postgraduate.hw.ac.uk/apply/
GOOD REASONS

1. Research Quality
   We are part of world class SICSA research cluster

2. Teaching Quality
   We score well for student satisfaction

3. Employability
   We are in top 10% of UK universities for employment

4. Professionalism
   British Computer Society accredits our specialist MSc degrees

5. Prime Location
   We have a green campus on the edge of the historic city of Edinburgh

LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS
If your first language is not English, or your first degree was not taught in English, we’ll need to see evidence of your English language ability. The minimum requirement for English language is IELTS 6.0, TOEFL 80 (IBT) or equivalent. We offer a range of English language courses to help you meet the English language requirement prior to starting your Masters programme:
- 2 semesters English (for IELTS 4.5-5.0)
- 12 weeks English (for IELTS 5.5)

Further details can be found at www.english.hw.ac.uk

HOW TO APPLY
You can apply by using our online application form available at: www.postgraduate.hw.ac.uk/apply
You must also provide a copy of your degree certificate and relevant academic transcripts, references from two academic sources and evidence of your English language ability. You can attach documents to the online application using the document upload facility.

There is no official deadline for applying to the programme. However it is always better to submit your completed application as early as possible to have a good chance of securing a place.