

Variation to the Programme Specification

For Academic Year 2020/21

Name of programme(s) and award type(s): <i>(such as Single Honours History with International Year)</i>	MSc Advanced Computer Science MSc Smart Energy Management MSc Artificial Intelligence and Data Science
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Dear students,

As part of our commitment to continually work to improve our programmes, and in light of our plans to start next academic year with a hybrid delivery model due to the impact of Covid-19, we are confirming in this document the changes to your programme in the Academic Year 2020/21. More general information about what studying at the University will be like in 2020/21 can be found here:

<https://www.keele.ac.uk/coronavirus/operations/>

Specific planned changes

How the programme will be taught <i>(include any significant changes to the balance between on campus and digital delivery and what students can expect)</i>	You will be taught using a hybrid approach, with the majority of educational delivery taking place online with some on campus small group teaching, seminars and computer-based practicals, whilst adhering to Covid-secure guidelines. This will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All lectures will be recorded and delivered asynchronously (broken down into smaller "chunks"). • Each module will have a timetabled synchronous, online Q and A session where students can drop-in and ask questions about that week's materials. • We will run in-situ lab based practical classes where possible/appropriate and give students who are required to self-isolate or quarantine remote access. • Reading lists will make maximum use of online resources wherever possible.
Changes to placements, field courses or other practical activities <i>(where applicable)</i>	The feasibility of work placements will depend on the availability of employers given the pandemic situation. We aim however to facilitate work placements where possible with adherence to current Government guidance at the time. If physical placements are not possible, we can provide virtual placement opportunities which connect you with external partners
Learning resources and any potential additional costs <i>(such as equipment requirements)</i>	The KLE will be used to deliver recorded materials and all reading lists will be updated to contain digital alternatives to physical books where possible. Video conferencing software such as Microsoft Teams will be used to deliver online synchronous sessions. Given an increasing level of online teaching and assessments for this programme, it would be preferable if students had access to

	computer equipment with a webcam and microphone. It may also be preferable for students to have adequate Wi-Fi connectivity and associated internet speeds. Students who need support in accessing appropriate IT equipment may be eligible to apply for support from the University's hardship fund .
How the programme will be assessed <i>(a general summary of changes to assessment methods)</i>	We will aim to move to one piece/type of assessment per module where appropriate, with coursework being preferable. Where exams are still more appropriate, open booked time limited alternatives will be used. Some assessment components or their nature may change in order to make them more accessible to students considering any lockdown or distancing measures that may be in place or in order to minimise face-to-face interaction between people. However, in all cases the integrity of assessments will be maintained, and all learning outcomes of each module will be met.
How students are supported <i>(any alternative arrangements such as communication methods, support networks etc.)</i>	Students will be supported as usual through learning materials on the KLE, electronic reading lists and in practical lab classes. In addition, regular Q&A online sessions for each module are planned, an online help desk, and opportunities for students to access personal tutor support via online platforms.

Updated module lists for 2020/21

MSc Advanced Computer Science and MSc Smart Energy Management

Compulsory modules	Module Code	Credits	Semester	Added/removed/unchanged?
Data Analytics & Databases	CSC-40054	15	1	Replaces CSC-40042 Statistical Techniques for Data Analytics