

**REGULATIONS FOR THE DEGREES OF
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER SCIENCE (MSc[CompSc]), AND
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ELECTRONIC COMMERCE AND INTERNET COMPUTING
(MSc[ECom&IComp])** *(Pending for University approval)*

(Applicable to students admitted in the academic year 2025-26 and thereafter)

(See also General Regulations and Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula)

The degrees of MSc(CompSc) and MSc(ECom&IComp) are each a postgraduate degree awarded for the satisfactory completion of a prescribed curriculum in the School of Computing and Data Science.

The MSc(CompSc) and MSc(ECom&IComp) curricula are offered in part-time and full-time modes.

MSc 1 Admission Requirements

To be eligible for admission to the curriculum leading to the degree of MSc(CompSc) / MSc(ECom&IComp), a candidate shall:

- (a) comply with the General Regulations;
- (b) comply with the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
- (c) hold
 - (i) a Bachelor's degree of this University in a relevant field; or
 - (ii) a relevant qualification of equivalent standard from this University or from another university or comparable institution accepted for this purpose; and
- ~~(iv)~~
- (d) satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination if required.

MSc 2 Qualifying Examination

- (a) A qualifying examination may be set to test the candidate's academic ability or his/her ability to follow the curriculum prescribed. It shall consist of one or more written papers or their equivalent and may include a dissertation.
- (b) A candidate who is required to satisfy the examiners in a qualifying examination shall not be permitted to register until he/she has satisfied the examiners in the examination.

MSc 3 Period of Study

The curriculum of the degree of MSc(CompSc) / MSc(ECom&IComp) shall normally extend over one academic year of full-time study or two academic years of part-time study. Candidates shall not be permitted to extend their studies beyond the maximum period of registration of two academic years of full-time study or three academic years of part-time study, unless otherwise permitted or required by the Board of Studies. For both full-time and part-time modes, the period of study shall include any assessment to be held during and/or at the end of each semester.

MSc 4 Curriculum Requirements

To complete the curriculum, a candidate shall, within the prescribed maximum period of study stipulated in Regulation MSc3 above:

- (a) satisfy the requirements prescribed in TPG6 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;

- (b) take not fewer than 72 credits of courses, in the manner specified in these regulations and syllabuses and pass all courses as specified in the syllabuses;
 - (c) follow courses of instruction and complete satisfactorily all prescribed practical / laboratory work; and
 - (d) satisfy the examiners in all forms of assessment as may be required in either
 - (i) 72 credits of courses which must include a project of 12 credits or a practicum of 12 credits as capstone experience; or
 - (ii) at least 60 credits of courses successfully completed at this University (which must include a project of 12 credits or a practicum of 12 credits) and not more than 12 credits of courses successfully completed at this or another university before admission to the MSc(CompSc) / MSc(ES&IComp) and approved by the Board of Studies.
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MSc 5 Project or Practicum Report

- (a) A candidate who is permitted to select a project or a practicum is required to submit the project report or the practicum report by a date specified by the Board of Examiners.
 - (b) All candidates shall submit a statement that the project report or the practicum report represents his/her own work undertaken after the registration as a candidate for the degree.
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MSc 6 Selection of Courses

- (a) A candidate shall select courses according to the guidelines stipulated in the syllabuses for the degree of MSc(CompSc) / MSc(ES&IComp).
 - (b) Selection of study patterns, as stipulated in the respective syllabus, shall be subject to the approval of the Master Programme Director concerned.
 - (c) Candidates shall select their courses in accordance with these regulations and the guidelines specified in the syllabuses before the beginning of each academic year.
 - (d) Changes to the selection of courses may be made only during the add/drop period of the semester in which the course begins, and such changes shall not be reflected in the transcript of the candidate.
 - (e) Subject to the approval of the Master Programme Director concerned, a candidate may in exceptional circumstances be permitted to select additional course(s).
 - (f) Requests for changes after the designated add/drop period of the semester shall be subject to the approval of the Master Programme Director. Withdrawal from courses beyond the designated add/drop period will be subject to the approval of the Master Programme Director.
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MSc 7 Assessment

- (a) The written examination for each course shall be held after the completion of the prescribed course of study for that course, and not later than January, May or August immediately following the completion of the course of study for that course unless otherwise specified in the syllabuses.
- (b) A candidate, who is unable to complete the requirements within the prescribed maximum period of study specified in Regulation MSc3 because of illness or circumstances beyond his/her control, may apply for permission to extend his/her period of studies.
- (c) A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in any course(s) is required to make up for failed course(s) in the following manners:
 - (i) undergoing re-assessment/re-examination in the failed course(s); or

- (ii) repeating the failed course(s) by undergoing instruction and satisfying the assessment; or
- (iii) taking another course in lieu and satisfying the assessment requirements.
- (d) A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in his/her project or practicum report may be required to submit or resubmit a report on the same subject within a period specified by the Board of Examiners.
- (e) In accordance with G9(h) of the General Regulation and TPG8(d) of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula, there shall be no appeal against the results of examinations and all other forms of assessment.

MSc 8 Grading System

Individual courses shall be graded according to the following grading system as determined by the Board of Examiners:

- (a) Letter grades, their standards and the grade points for assessment are as follows:

Standard	Grade	Grade Point
Excellent	A+	4.3
	A	4.0
	A-	3.7
Good	B+	3.3
	B	3.0
	B-	2.7
Satisfactory	C+	2.3
	C	2.0
	C-	1.7
Pass	D+	1.3
	D	1.0
Fail	F	0

or

- (b) 'Distinction', 'Pass' or 'Fail'.

Courses which are graded according to (b) above will not be included in the calculation of the GPA.

MSc 9 Discontinuation of Studies

Unless otherwise permitted by the Board of Studies, a candidate will be recommended for discontinuation of their studies in accordance with General Regulations G12 if he/she has:

- (a) failed to pass 12 credits in an academic year; or
- (b) failed to satisfy the examiners at a second attempt in his/her project or practicum report within the specified period; or
- (c) failed to achieve a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 1.0 or higher for two consecutive semesters with course enrolment; or
- (d) exceeded the maximum period of registration specified in Regulation MSc3.

MSc 10 Advanced Standing

Advanced standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully before admission to the curriculum in accordance with TPG3 of the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula. Candidates who are awarded Advanced Standing will not be granted any further credit transfer for those studies for which Advanced Standing has been granted. The amount of credits to be granted for Advanced Standing shall be determined by the Board of Studies, in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) a candidate may be granted a total of not more than 20% of the total credits normally required under a curriculum for Advanced Standing unless otherwise approved by the Senate; and
 - (b) credits granted for advanced standing shall not be included in the calculation of the GPA but will be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.
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MSc 11 Award of Degree

To be eligible for the award of the degree of MSc(CompSc) / MSc(ES&IComp), a candidate shall:

- (a) comply with the General Regulations and the Regulations for Taught Postgraduate Curricula;
 - (b) complete the curriculum and satisfy the examiners in accordance with the regulations set out; and
 - (c) achieve a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 1.0 or higher.
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MSc 12 Assessment Results

On successful completion of the curriculum, candidates who have shown exceptional merit of achieving a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.6 or higher may be awarded a mark of distinction, and this mark shall be recorded on the candidates' degree diploma.
