Programme Specification

1. Programme title	BSc (Hons) Information Technology & Business Information Systems
2. Awarding institution	Middlesex University
3. Teaching institution	Middlesex University (HEN / MRU) Hong Kong Management Association (HKMA) Australian College of Business and Technology (ACBT)
4. Details of accreditation by professional/statutory/regulatory body	N/A
5. Final qualification	BSc (Honours) Information Technology & Business Information Systems (top-up)
6. Year of validation **Year of amendment**	2018/19
7. Language of study	English
8. Mode of study	Full Time / Part Time

9. Criteria for admission to the programme

For entry on to Level 6 of this top-up programme you should have one of the following qualifications:

- 240 credits from a relevant undergraduate degree (including 100 credits at Level 4 and a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5)
- 120 ECTS credits
- FdA and FdSc
- HND
- DipHE

Middlesex University has a flexible and personalised approach to admissions and we accept applications from students with a wide range of qualifications and a combination of qualifications. Please check our general entry requirements page (available at https://www.mdx.ac.uk/study-with-us/undergraduate/entry-requirements-for-undergraduates) to see how these points can be achieved from our acceptable level 3 qualifications and the combinations, which are welcomed by Middlesex University, including GCSE requirements.

Applications from mature candidates without formal qualifications are welcomed, provided they can demonstrate appropriate levels of relevant ability and experience. Mature applicants with relevant work experience are welcome to apply for direct entry to the programme. These applicants are required to submit a portfolio of work experience

to show evidence of achieving relevant learning outcomes, and these will vary depending on both the programme and level the student is applying for. Evidence should comprise the applicant's own work and may include documents they have written, procedures they have designed, proposals they have drafted, electronic resources, photographs, video etc. or information gathered from others about you such as statements from employers, certificates of in-house courses completed.

Individual applicants may wish to claim certain number of credits against their learning that may have taken place outside education or through training that is not assessed as part of an education system. Typically these applicants would possess knowledge and skills that may have been acquired at the workplace through practice but may not be supported by formal qualifications. Applicants may also hold academic, vocational or professional qualifications that may be aligned to certain modules of the programme at an appropriate level. Typically such qualifications are supported by evidence in the form of certification. Each of these cases is considered individually with the scope to assess whether applicants should be allowed in the programme with specific credit that would count towards the end qualification, to an appropriate point of the programme. As each case is treated individually, applicants should seek support from the programme team towards their application with Accreditation of Prior Experiential Learning (APEL) or Accreditation of Prior Certificated Learning (APCL).

International students who have not been taught in the English medium must show evidence of proven ability in English such as IELTS grade 6.0. The University provides pre-sessional English language courses throughout the year for candidates who do not meet the English requirements. University policies supporting students with disabilities apply, as described in the University Regulations. For further information, visit the learning resources web site at: http://unihub.mdx.ac.uk/support/index.aspx.

University policies supporting students with disabilities apply, as described in the University Regulations, 'Information for students with disabilities'.

For students studying the programme at Hong Kong Management Association, the entry requirements are as follows:

- Successful completion of an Associate Degree or Higher Diploma or Advanced Diploma or equivalent in Computer Studies or relevant subjects; or

- Holders of the NCC-endorsed HKMA Advanced Diploma in Business Information Technology*

  And

- HKCEE English Language (Syllabus B) Grade C or above, HKAL English Language Grade D or above, IELTS 6.0 or equivalent or prior relevant course conducted in English

*In order to be admitted to the Advanced Diploma, students should complete the NCC-endorsed HKMA Diploma in Business Information Technology or other equivalent qualifications, such as IT related programmes at HKQF Level 3 (QCF Level 4).

Further guidance may be obtained from the Programme Leader or Director of Programmes.

10. Aims of the programme

The programme is aimed at students whose are interested in studying information technology but who also wish to acquire knowledge in the application of IT in business. The programme's aims are underpinned by the following principles; the importance of

information in all modern organisations and the strategic value of information systems within a global business context; the pivotal role of information and communication technologies in information systems, and the key role of people in designing, managing and using these systems.

The programme aims to provide students with an understanding of the advantages of aligning information systems with different organisational and business goals, and with various strategic and operational activities. Graduates of the programme will be equipped with the professional and employability skills that will enable them to pursue a successful future career in this field.

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11. Programme outcomes*

A. Knowledge and understanding

On completion of this programme the successful student will have knowledge and understanding of:

1. How businesses work in a global environment; how business processes and functions are supported by information systems, and the roles and responsibilities of people within organisations.
2. The impact of current and emerging information and communication technologies on the development and management of information systems.
3. The alignment of business strategies and information systems strategies; how information systems support decision-making, and their strategic importance for business intelligence.
4. The respective capabilities and uses of different information systems across a wide range of organisational and business contexts, and the criteria for evaluating the success of such systems.
5. The social, environmental, professional, legal and ethical issues related to the design, management and use of information systems.
6. The effects and advantages of strategically aligning business needs and information systems.
7. Demonstrating analytical and critical thinking skills in solving business problems and approaching research problems
8. Using research skills and appropriate research methodologies successfully, and be able to synthesise and evaluate information from a variety of sources.
9. Planning, manage and report on, complex projects related to the

Teaching/learning methods
Students gain knowledge and understanding through
- Lectures
- Supervised practical, laboratory work (all sessions for Hendon students will be online during the 2020/21 academic year due to Covid-19)
- Supervised seminars and tutorials
- Guided individual and group research
- Coursework assignments
- Open-ended practical assignments
- Project work
- Formative and summative assessment and feedback on assignments
- Directed reading

Due to COVID-19 face to face sessions for Hendon students are going to be conducted online during the 2020/21 academic year. The shift to online delivery will be seamless as the programme team has extensive experience in conducting such sessions, and the programme is often supported through blended learning in the Hendon campus

Assessment methods
Students' knowledge and understanding is assessed by

- Individual and group work during supervised seminars, tutorials and labs
- Essays
- Reports
- Presentations
- Documentation
- Individual and group coursework assignments
- Lab exercises (all sessions for Hendon students will be online during the

development of business information systems. 10. Applying theoretical concepts and principles to specific problems in a range of business contexts.	2020/21 academic year due to Covid-19) • Case studies • Peer assessment and review
B. Skills On completion of this programme the successful student will be able to: 1. Apply a range of technical skills in information management and systems development in various business environments. 2. Use appropriate methods, techniques and tools for generating information systems in response to specific business problems, and according to specific needs and requirements. 3. Select, use and critically evaluate appropriate methods and techniques at each stage of the system development lifecycle. 4. Critically assess the feasibility and risks of business information systems development in relation to different domains, organisational needs and project management practices. 5. Demonstrate professional development and employability skills necessary for the development and deployment of information systems in a business context. 6. Communicate effectively in a range of settings, and to different stakeholders, through writing and oral presentations 7. Apply mathematical and numeracy skills appropriate to the development and deployment of business information systems. 8. Demonstrate appropriate management and team-working skills, including decision-making, participating in projects, working in multi-disciplinary teams and responding to diverse stakeholder requirements. 9. Adopt an ethos of independent learning and continuous professional development.	**Teaching/learning methods** Students learn cognitive skills through • Supervised practical work • Critical thinking and problem-solving activities • Practical application of concepts, principles and models to specific case studies and scenarios • Directed reading and seminar discussions • Individual and group coursework assignments • Student presentations • Essays • Supervised Tutorials • Supervised Seminars • Directed and independent research • Lectures • Individual and Group Project work Due to COVID-19 face to face sessions for Hendon students are going to be conducted online during the 2020/21 academic year. The shift to online delivery will be seamless as the programme team has extensive experience in conducting such sessions, and the programme is often supported through blended learning in the Hendon campus **Assessment methods** Students' cognitive skills are assessed by • Coursework • Practical laboratory tests (all sessions for Hendon students will be online during the 2020/21 academic year due to Covid-19) • Online quizzes • Modelling of systems • Assessing case studies • Group assignments • Documentation • Essays • Peer assessment and review • Guided research • Individual and group presentations • Lab and seminar activities (all sessions for Hendon students will be online during the 2020/21 academic year due to Covid-19)

	• Reports • Project milestones

12. Programme structure (levels, modules, credits and progression requirements)

12. 1 Overall structure of the programme

During the curriculum design of the programme, the aim was to identify certain modules where specific programme learning outcomes are assessed. In addition, a number of programme pillars have been identified offering horizontal frameworks of standard practice, where students' learning becomes the result of synthesis from a range of activities taking place in different modules. The following areas are covered in most, if not all modules of the programme:

1. Ethical framework (covering ethical issues)
2. Professional good practice framework (covering professional issues)
3. Individual/Corporate Social Responsibility framework (covering social issues)
4. Employability initiatives (focusing on student prospects)
5. Entrepreneurship/Innovation initiatives (focusing on start-up/venture ideas)
6. Personal Development Plan (focusing on personal/professional development)
7. Business awareness (assessing impact of IS on organisations)
8. People awareness (assessing impact of IS on humans)
9. Technology awareness (assessing impact of IS on new technologies)
10. Learning Experience Reflection Exercise (offering continuous feed-forward for key areas including (i) teaching delivery, (ii) learning opportunities, (iii) assessment and feedback, (iv) academic support, (v) organisation and management, (vi) learning resources, (vii) learning community and (viii) student voice.

BSc (Hons) Information Technology & Business Information Systems				
Level 6 3rd Year	CST3390 UG Individual Project	CST3310 Strategic Information Systems (Enterprise Project) Management	CST3340 Business Intelligence	CST3180 User Experience (UX) Design

12.2 Levels and modules
Starting in academic year 2010/11 the University is changing the way it references modules to state the level of study in which these are delivered. This is to comply with the national Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. This implementation will be a gradual process whilst records are updated. Therefore the old coding is bracketed below.

Level 6 (3)		
COMPULSORY	OPTIONAL	PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS
Students must take all of the following: • CST3390 – UG Individual Project • CST3310 – Strategic Information Systems (Enterprise Project) Management • CST3340 – Business Intelligence • CST3180 – User Experience (UX) Design	N/A	Students are expected to achieve 120 credit points at level 6 to complete their programme. This will qualify students for the degree award of BSc (Hons) in Information Technology & Business Information Systems. Students who achieve 90 credit points at Level 6 will qualify for an ordinary degree.

12.3 Non-compensatable modules (note statement in 12.2 regarding FHEQ levels)	
Module level	Module code
6	CST3390

13. Curriculum map
See attached.

14. Information about assessment regulations
Information on the University's formal assessment regulations, including details of how award classifications are determined, can be found in the University Regulations available online at http://www.mdx.ac.uk/regulations/. Grades are awarded on the standard University scale of 1–20, with Grade 1 being the highest. For additional information on assessment and how learning outcomes are assessed please refer to the individual module narratives for this programme.

15. Placement opportunities, requirements and support
Placement options are not available to direct-entry students in their final year. The programme team will make every effort for the students on the programme to attend employability events and gain from the department's employability strategy.

16. Future careers (if applicable)
All programmes in the Faculty of Science and Technology – their curricula and learning outcomes – have been designed with an emphasis on currency and relevance to future employment. Professional development and employability skills are embedded into teaching, learning and assessment at all levels of the programme. The majority of graduates are employed in IT posts relevant to the subject area.

Over 20% of students pursue further postgraduate study or research.

Employer links with the Faculty are encouraged in the following ways:

- By inviting practitioners from industry as guest speakers in lectures.
- Through links with companies where students are employed as part of their Industrial placement.
- Through links with alumni, both in the UK and overseas.

Graduates are likely to follow career paths in roles such as business intelligence expert, data and information analyst, ICT project manager, business consultant and ICT consultant.

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17. Particular support for learning (if applicable)

The Faculty's Teaching and Learning Strategy is aligned with that of the University as a whole in seeking to develop learner autonomy and resource-based learning. In particular support of the students' learning experience, the following is provided:

- All new students go through an induction programme, and some have early diagnostic numeric and literacy testing before starting their programme.
- Learning Resources provide workshops and one to one support for those students needing additional support in academic writing, presentation skills and numeracy. Such seminars, workshops and lectures are embedded into specific modules across all levels of the programme.
- Students are allocated a personal email account, and secure networked computer storage for student's University-related files and documents.
- Soft copies of all module handbooks are provided on MyUniHub. Extensive web-based learning materials are provided to support learning in all modules.
- Extensive library facilities are available on and off campus, with e-resources accessible through the MyLibrary page on MyUniHub. Virtual learning is provided via the My Learning pages through MyUniHub. Seminars and workshops by Library and Learning Support staff are embedded into specific modules across all levels of the programme, particularly in support of programmes outcomes A9 and B8.
- Students can access advice and support on a wide range of issues from the UniHelp Desk, and specific one-to-one advice and support from the School's Achievement Officers.
- High quality specialist laboratories, equipped with industry standard software and hardware, are provided for formal teaching as well as student self-study.
- Past exam papers with solutions and marking schemes for all modules are available for students in module handbooks and at http://unihub.mdx.ac.uk
- Research activities of academic staff feed into the teaching programme, which can provide individual students with ad-hoc opportunities to work with academics on some aspects of their research.

(access to some of the above may be restricted during the 2020/21 academic year due to Covid-19)

Middlesex University encourages and supports students with disabilities. Some practical aspects of Faculty of Science and Technology programmes may present challenges to students with particular disabilities. You are encouraged to visit our campuses at any

time to evaluate facilities and talk in confidence about your needs. If we know your individual needs we'll be able to provide for them more easily. For further information contact the Disability Support Service (email: disability@mdx.ac.uk)

18. JACS code (or other relevant coding system)	I200 (I100)
19. Relevant QAA subject benchmark group(s)	Computing

20. Reference points

The following reference points were used in designing this programme:
- QAA Computing subject benchmark statements, Computing (February, 2016) (https://www.qaa.ac.uk/docs/qaa/subject-benchmark-statements/sbs-computing-16.pdf?sfvrsn=26e1f781_12)
- QAA Quality Code for Higher Education (February, 2015) (https://www.qaa.ac.uk/quality-code/the-existing-uk-quality-code)
- British Computer Society (BCS) guidelines on course accreditation (May, 2018) (https://www.bcs.org/category/7066)
- Standard for Chartered IT Professional (https://www.bcs.org/upload/pdf/chartered-it-professional-standard.pdf)
- Skills Framework for the Information Age (SFIA) (https://www.sfia-online.org/en)
- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and Association for Information Systems (AIS) Curriculum Guidelines for Undergraduate Degree Programs in Information Systems (2010) (https://www.acm.org/binaries/content/assets/education/curricula-recommendations/is-2010-acm-final.pdf)
- Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) and Association for Information Systems (AIS) Global Competency Model for Graduate Degree Programs in Information Systems (May, 2017) (https://www.acm.org/binaries/content/assets/education/msis2016.pdf)
- Descriptors defining levels in the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) (https://ec.europa.eu/ploteus/en/content/descriptors-page)
- European e-Competence Framework (http://www.ecompetences.eu)
- Middlesex University Regulations (2018/19) (https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/university-regulations)
- Middlesex University Learning and Quality Enhancement Handbook (section 3) (https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/academic-quality/handbook/lqe-handbook-section-3)
- Middlesex University Policies (https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies)
- Middlesex University Public Policy Statements (https://www.mdx.ac.uk/about-us/policies/public-policy-statements)

21. Other information

N/A

Please note programme specifications provide a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information about the programme can be found in the rest of your programme handbook and the university regulations.

APPENDIX 2

Curriculum map

BSc (Hons) Information Technology and Business Information Systems (top up)

This section shows the highest level at which programme outcomes are to be achieved by all graduates, and maps programme learning outcomes against the modules in which they are assessed.

Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding	
A1	How businesses work in a global environment; how business processes and functions are supported by information systems, and the roles and responsibilities of people within organisations.
A2	The impact of current and emerging information and communication technologies on the development and management of information systems.
A3	The alignment of business strategies and information systems strategies; how information systems support decision-making, and their strategic importance for business intelligence.
A4	The respective capabilities and uses of different information systems across a wide range of organisational and business contexts, and the criteria for evaluating the success of such systems.
A5	The social, environmental, professional, legal and ethical issues related to the design, management and use of information systems.
A6	The effects and advantages of strategically aligning business needs and information systems.
A7	Demonstrating analytical and critical thinking skills in solving business problems and approaching research problems.

A8	Using research skills and appropriate research methodologies successfully, and be able to synthesise and evaluate information from a variety of sources.
A9	Planning, manage and report on, complex projects related to the development of business information systems.
A10	Applying theoretical concepts and principles to specific problems in a range of business contexts.
Skills	
B1	Apply a range of technical skills in information management and systems development in various business environments.
B2	Use appropriate methods, techniques and tools for generating information systems in response to specific business problems, and according to specific needs and requirements.
B3	Select, use and critically evaluate appropriate methods and techniques at each stage of the system development lifecycle.
B4	Critically assess the feasibility and risks of business information systems development in relation to different domains, organisational needs and project management practices.
B5	Demonstrate professional development and employability skills necessary for the development and deployment of information systems in a business context.
B6	Communicate effectively in a range of settings, and to different stakeholders, through writing and oral presentations.
B7	Apply mathematical and numeracy skills appropriate to the development and deployment of business information systems.
B8	Demonstrate appropriate management and team-working skills, including decision-making, participating in projects, working in multi-disciplinary teams and responding to diverse stakeholder requirements.
B9	Adopt an ethos of independent learning and continuous professional development.

Programme outcomes																		
A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B9
Highest level achieved by all graduates																		
6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6

Module Title	Module Code by Level	A1	A2	A3	A4	A5	A6	A7	A8	A9	A10	B1	B2	B3	B4	B5	B6	B7	B8	B9
UG Individual Project	CST3390	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
Strategic Information Systems (Enterprise Project) Management	CST3310	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
Business Intelligence	CST3340	✓		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓		✓		✓	✓	✓			✓
User Experience (UX) Design	CST3180		✓		✓			✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓		✓