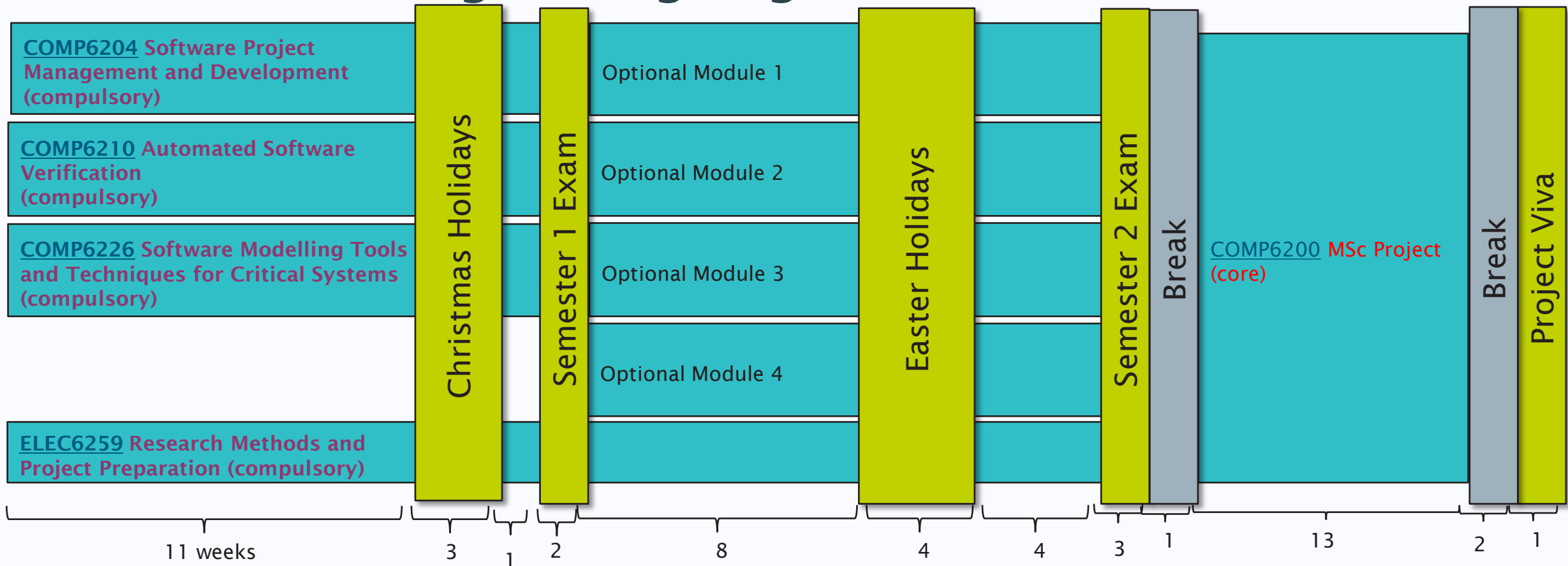University of Southampton

About Me

- At Southampton since 2015.
  - Previously at: ETH Zurich (Switzerland, CS).
- Programme Leader for MSc Software Engineering since 2023
  - Programme Leader for BEng/MEng Aerospace Electronics Engineering from 2017 to 2023
- Associate Professor in Cyber-Physical Systems
- Teach in the Computer Science/Computer Engineering part of the ECS
- Supervise M.Sc. Theses, 3rd yr. and GDP projects (in CS)

Who's Who in ECS

- your **module leaders**: information about specific modules, learning material, coursework, exams (see web page!)

- your **programme leader**: (i.e., me) choice of optional modules, project choice

- your **mentor**: help with day-to-day practical issues

- your **personal tutor**: (it is also me)

  – general study advice, rules & regulations,

  – help with (small) problems

- your **senior tutors**: help with (big) problems

- your **Director of Programmes** (Prof Mohammed El-Hajjad):

  – signature on some forms

- **Student Hub**: for help with all administration

MSc Software Engineering Degree Structure

COMP6204 Software Project Management and Development (compulsory)		Christmas Holidays	Semester 1 Exam	Optional Module 1	Easter Holidays	Semester 2 Exam	Break		Break	Project Viva
COMP6210 Automated Software Verification (compulsory)				Optional Module 2				COMP6200 MSc Project (core)		
COMP6226 Software Modelling Tools and Techniques for Critical Systems (compulsory)				Optional Module 3						
				Optional Module 4						
ELEC6259 Research Methods and Project Preparation (compulsory)										

| 11 weeks | 3 | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 1 | 13 | 2 | 1 |

- 3.5 modules x 15 Credits (Semester 1) + 4.5 x 15 Credits (Semester 2) + 60 Credits (Summer)
- 180 Total Credits = 90 ETCS
- "Core"/"compulsory"/"optional" modules: refers to required pass mark (later)
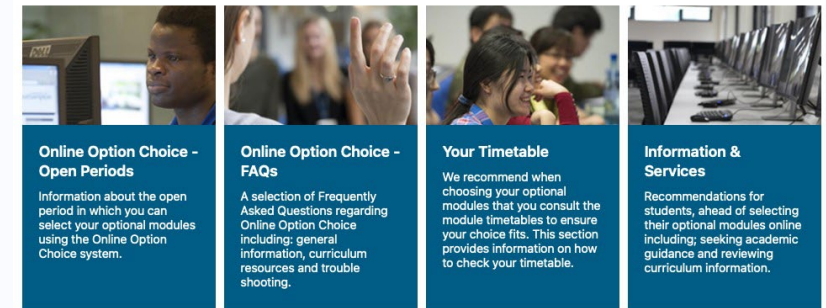
5

Modules Information

- Each programme has its own information page.

- Public http://www.ecs.soton.ac.uk/programmes/msc-software-engineering

- ECS (log-in) https://secure.ecs.soton.ac.uk/cohort/2425/4469/1/

  - includes links to all modules, including Semester 2 options

- ECS Intranet Notes page: https://secure.ecs.soton.ac.uk/notes/

- ECS Handin Service: https://handin.ecs.soton.ac.uk

- SUSSED: https://sussed.soton.ac.uk

- Student self-service https://student-selfservice.soton.ac.uk/

  - (e.g., Choosing Optional modules)

Optional Modules for Semester 2

- Select **4** choices from the following
    - **COMP3211** Advanced Databases
    - **COMP6207** Algorithmic Game Theory
    - **COMP6236** Software Security
    - **COMP6239** Mobile Applications Development
    - **COMP6251** Web and Cloud Applications Development
    - **COMP6255** Advanced Programming Language Concepts
    - **COMP6256** Knowledge Graphs for AI Systems
    - **ELEC6242** Cryptography

Choosing Your Semester 2 Optional Modules

- These must be made **Friday 27/09, 5pm**
  - You will be able to change these later in the year
- Look at module syllabi and previous module reports
  - Go to the Intranet of the module
  - use top menu to navigate to Syllabus / Evaluation
  - last year's notes may be available
- Look at assessment for each module
  - coursework (continuous assessment) versus exam (final assessment)
- 2nd session this week (on Friday) will be for questions regarding module choices
- **Think carefully** about when choosing your options
- https://www.southampton.ac.uk/studentadmin/curriculum/index.page

COMP6200 MSc Project

- one of the most exciting and challenging parts of the programme

- very likely to be the decisive point in a job interview / PhD application

- Early June 2025 to early September 2025

- the project requires you to work **full-time every working day**

  - and you really will need to!

- you will be allocated a supervisor early in Semester 2,

    (as part of the ELEEC6259 Research Methods and Project Preparation)

**Do not plan to leave Southampton
or get a job over the Summer!**

Lots of Work – Do Plan Your Time!

- Semester 1 lectures: 30 September 2024 – 13 December 2024
- Christmas break: 14 December 2024 – 5 January 2025
- Last Semester 1 lectures: 6 – 10 January 2025
- Semester 1 Exams: 13 – 25 January 2025
- Semester 2 lectures: 27 January – 20 March 2025
- Easter break: 21 March – 19 April 2025
- more Semester 2 lectures: 20 April – 16 May 2025
- Semester 2 Exams: 19 May – 7 June 2025
- Summer research project: June until early September 2025
- (supplementary exams: mid August – mid September) (project extension)
- Dissertation mark release: mid-November 2025

Semester 1 Timetable

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
	9AM - 10AM COMP6210 L1 - Auto Software Verificati 54 / 8031 (8C) 1-11, 15	**9AM - 10AM** ELEC6259 T/(4442) - Research Method 02 / 1083 (L/T B) 3, 7, 15	**12PM - 1PM** COMP6204 C - Software Prjct Man & Se 59 / 3229 ECS Computing Lab 1-11, 15	**9AM - 10AM** COMP6210 L2 - Auto Software Verificati 54 / 8031 (8C) 1-11, 15	**11AM - 12PM** COMP6226 L2 - Soft Model Tool & Tech 59P / 1005 1-11, 15
	9AM - 10AM ELEC6259 S/ELEC1 - Research Methods 100 / 4013 (S/R) 1-11, 15	**10AM - 11AM** ELEC6259 T/(7936, 8108) - Research M 02 / 1083 (L/T B) 3, 7, 15	**2PM - 3PM** ELEC6259 T/(6074, 8289) - Research M 44 / 1057 (L/T B) 3, 7, 15	**10AM - 11AM** ELEC6259 S/CS2 - Research Methods & 100 / 3023 (S/R) 1-11, 15	**12PM - 1PM** COMP6210 L3 - Auto Software Verificati 54 / 8033 (8B) 1-11, 15
	9AM - 10AM ELEC6259 T/(4475) - Research Method 100 / 4011 (Harvard L/TB) 3, 7, 15	**11AM - 12PM** COMP6204 L2 - Software Prjct Man & S 35 / 1005 1-11, 15		**10AM - 11AM** ELEC6259 T/(4466) - Research Method 46 / 2003 (L/T B) 3, 7, 15	**5PM - 6PM** COMP6210 T - Auto Software Verificatio 27 / 2003 (L/R 2) 1-11, 15
	10AM - 11AM COMP6204 L3 - Software Prjct Man & S 02 / 1039 (L/T K) 1-11, 15	**11AM - 12PM** ELEC6259 T/(6150) - Research Method 02 / 1083 (L/T B) 3, 7, 15		**11AM - 12PM** COMP6204 L1 - Software Prjct Man & S 44 / 1041 (L/T A) 1-11, 15	
	11AM - 12PM COMP6226 L1 - Soft Model Tool & Tech 59P / 1007 1-11, 15	**2PM - 3PM** ELEC6259 S/ELEC2 - Research Methods 100 / 4013 (S/R) 1-11, 15		**2PM - 3PM** ELEC6259 T/(9101) - Research Method 59 / 1257 3, 7, 15	
	12PM - 1PM ELEC6259 T/(4469) - Research Method 46 / 2005 (L/T C) 3, 7, 15	**5PM - 6PM** COMP6226 T - Soft Model Tool & Tech C 59P / 1007 1-11, 15		**3PM - 4PM** ELEC6259 S/CS1 - Research Methods & 100 / 3023 (S/R) 1-11, 15	
	1PM - 2PM ELEC6259 T/(5471) - Research Method 100 / 4011 (Harvard L/TB) 3, 7, 15			**5PM - 6PM** ELEC6259 T/(7972.8310) - Research M 05 / 2015 (L/T H) 3, 7, 15	
	2PM - 3PM COMP6226 L3 - Soft Model Tool & Tech 05 / 2011 (L/T G) 1-11, 15				

Check your individual timetable at https://timetable.soton.ac.uk

Examinations

- See modules' webpages
- Pass papers: same

Examinations – Some Useful Information

- Engage in studying from the start of the courses;

- Leave sufficient time for revision;

- Use teaching notes and reference books to revise;

- Use past exam papers as examples, but do not depend on them for your exams;

- Exam papers may be very different from the past ones.

Progression Criteria

- Achieve **≥50%** in **all** 9 modules (**50%** is the **pass mark**)

- **40%-49%** in **1** module (but **not COMP6200**) and the overall mark are **≥50%**

  ➔ Pass by compensation

- Refer up to 2 modules that cannot be compensated

  – Supplementary Exams in August 2024

- Failed more than the permitted for compensation

  – Repeat

- http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/progression-regs-standalonemasters.html

Degree Classifications

- Distinction – at least 70% overall weighted average

- Merit – at least 60% overall weighted average

- Pass – at least 50% overall weighted average

Problems – Where to Go?

- Your **personal academic tutor**
- Ask questions (using the means provided by the module lecturers).
- Special circumstances: fill in an online form to request an extension if ill, bereaved, and so forth. See **Student Hub**
  - **Register with a GP now**
- Suggestions and complaints: please let the **PL** know so that we can improve
- Other people to speak to:
  - Relevant lecturers or module leaders
  - Your assigned mentor
  - Senior tutor (stutor@ecs.soton.ac.uk)
  - Programme leaders (t.s.hoang@soton.ac.uk)
  - Enabling Service (https://www.southampton.ac.uk/edusupport/index.page)
    - wellbeing, disability, dyslexia, mental health support, etc.
  - Student Life Team (studentlife@soton.ac.uk) - if you are in Southampton accommodation

Contacting Staff

- All teaching staff <u>use email to arrange appointments</u>!
- Expectations:
  - Staff are usually very busy
  - Do not expect replies out of office hours/during weekends/during holidays
  - You should receive an answer to your enquiries *usually* within 2 working days, but it might sometimes take longer depending on workload
  - Use ONLY your University email
  - Please follow good practice when writing emails
    (for examples, see
    http://edshare.soton.ac.uk/14805/1/story_html5.html?lms=1)

Blackboard Faculty Hub

- Available here:

https://blackboard.soton.ac.uk/webapps/blackboard/content/listContent.jsp?course_id=_189681_1&content_id=_4228193_1

- wealth of information, including:

  o University life (safety and wellbeing, term dates, timetable)

  o Academic support (academic skills, academic integrity)

  o Programme information (module reports, University calendar)

  o Forms (e.g., Extension Requests, Special Consideration)

  (more on these in a future meeting)

English Language

- Good English is **essential**

- Always speak English with your classmates when on campus

- Always speak English with your mentor and tutor

- **Attend additional classes if your IELTS is lower than 7.0**

- Modern Languages offer language classes that are voluntary; students enrol themselves

English Language Support

- Range of options for English language support during your degree:
www.southampton.ac.uk/uni-life/international/english-language-support.page

- "English for Academic Purposes" support:
https://www.southampton.ac.uk/ml/international/language_support/eap.page

  - sign up now if interested

- English for Engineers:
https://www.southampton.ac.uk/englishforengineers

  - Information and advice about skills, writing essays, giving presentations, etc.

Computing Resources

- You will get accounts on university/school computers
- USE email! – check regularly
- Do not abuse internet/web access – very serious penalties
- Use school web
  - Regulations
  - Notes
  - Assignments
  - Past exam papers

Library

- All course text books should be in the library

- Popular books are in the "reserved collection"

- Let me or course lecturer know if you can't find a particular book

- Library has many Journals and Conference proceedings
  - (Many journals available on the web)

- For your programmes, some of the main reference resources are IEEEXplore (ieeexplore.ieee.org/Xplore), Google Scholar.

Plagiarism (Cheating)

- If you hand in work that is not your own, you are cheating

- All suspected cases are investigated

- Copied work will receive zero marks

- Student whose work was copied will also be penalised!

- Very strict rules for plagiarism and check the regulations carefully.

DO
- Talk to your fellow students, show others how you solved problems, work in groups when asked.
- Protect your computer files
- Use references in submitted work

DO'NT
- Copy files or text (this is very easy to trace), cut and paste from anyone or anywhere (if you do you have to acknowledge)
- Copied work will receive zero marks
- Student whose work was copied will also be penalised

Some Tips

- 40 hours of study per week – if you work 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday, you can enjoy your evenings and weekend

- Write-up your notes while they are still fresh in your memory

- Do not leave things to the last minute

- Find a good work-play balance

- Be excellent to each other

Surviving the First Weeks

- Choose your optional modules - by 5pm this Friday

- *CHECK YOUR TIMETABLE*, up to 10 minutes before lectures start

- **Interact** during the lectures, problem classes, tutorials, and labs

- Check your **mental state**, and develop "alternative family"

YOUR QUESTIONS

… then let's go for a tour of the labs