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| **Total number of study hours for the module:** | 600 |
| which will include the following: | number of hours: |
| **timetabled contact** | 15 |
| **placement** | 0 |
| **field trips** | 0 |
| **other** - please give further detail below: |  |
| Independent Research & Study |  |

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| **Rationale**  *Please provide a concise rationale (not content) for the module, including where it sits within the programme in terms of feeding from, into and across other modules* |
| This is the programme’s dissertation module. It is absolutely vital that on graduating from the programme you are able to synthesise the skills you have learned in various modules and apply them to solving a non-trivial research or engineering problem. The purpose of this module is to introduce you to fundamental research techniques and to allow you apply these, along with your learning so far on other modules, so as to demonstrate your skills at a level appropriate to the award title. |

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| **Title** | Dissertation | | | | |
| **Code** | COM7040M [[1]](#footnote-1)  COM7042M[[2]](#footnote-2) | **School** | Science Technology & Health | **Cost centre** | 2511 |
| **Level** | 7 | **Credits** | 60 | **Available for incoming study abroad** | No |
| **Pre-requisites1** | | None | | **Barred combinations** | None |

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| **Title(s) of awards to which the module contributes** | **Award Programme Learning Outcome(s) to which the module is mapped (PLO4.1, PLO5.3 etc.)** |
| MSc Computer Science | 7.1 – 7.7 |
| MSc Computer Science (Year in Industry) | 7.1 – 7.7 |

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| **Assessment** | | | |
| *#* | *type* | *description* | *weighting* |
| 1 | Lab report | A research project | 100% |

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| **Indicative content** |
| In this module you will learn the fundamental principles of research and will apply them through the development of a non-trivial project that provides a solution to a real-world problem. This project must be agreed with your supervisor before being confirmed as the focus of your work on this module.    As a very individualised module, the precise content will vary from student to student but will include the following:     * Independent research * Literature searching * Research design * Ethical issues (including an application for ethical approval) * Data collection & Analysis * Presentation skills * Project management * Critical and creative thinking |

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| **Reading list** |
| * Atkinson, A.C. (2007), *Optimum Experimental Designs, with SAS*, Oxford University Press      * Cargil, M. O’Connor, P. (2013) *Writing Scientific Research Articles: Strategy and Steps*, Wiley-Blackwell; 2nd edition      * Creswell, J.W. (2018) *Research Design: Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches* SAGE Publications, Inc; Fifth Edition      * Field, A. Hole, G. (2007) *How to Design and report* experiments. Sage Publications Ltd. |

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| ***Version*** | 1 | ***In use from*** | 2020/21 | ***to*** |  |

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| Date approved: | 10/1/20 |

**Notes**

1. Computer Science [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Computer Science (Year in Industry) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)