

FAQs: Introduction and enrolment advice for incoming MSc students in the School of Computing Science

This document provides academic advice to School of Computing Science MSc students registering on the following programmes in September 2025:

MSc CS+ programmes:

- MSc Computing Science
- MSc Data Science
- MSc Cybersecurity

MSc IT+ programmes:

- MSc Information Technology
- MSc Software Development

This document does not cover non-academic matters like finance, accommodation, visas etc. Advice should be sought from the relevant university administrative units for these matters.

Q1 - I am seeing new terms and abbreviations related to my programme – what do they mean?

Like all large organisations, the University of Glasgow and the School of Computing Science commonly use a number of terms which are unfamiliar to newcomers. You may find the following explanations useful:

- **UofG** – University of Glasgow
- **SoCS** – School of Computing Science
- **MyCampus** – sometimes referred to in short as ‘MyC’, this is the University’s central records system, where you will complete most administrative processes including registration and enrolment.
- **Registration** – the process of officially registering and becoming a student of the University on a year-by-year basis
- **Enrolment** – the process of selecting your courses
- **Moodle** – the University’s virtual learning environment, where students can find all published learning materials, coursework assignments and submissions, exams etc – all courses will have their own page, referred to as the ‘course Moodle’ – this is one of the most important resources to become familiar with
- **PGT** – Postgraduate Taught – this refers to the type of programme you are studying
- **CS+** -this is a collective term for our specialist MSc programmes – MSc Computing Science, MSc Data Science, and MSc Cybersecurity
- **IT+** -this is a collective term for both of our conversion MSc programmes – MSc Information Technology and MSc Software Development

Q2 - How can I make sure that I am up to date with all of the information I need?

It is very important not only to check your student email daily, but to carefully read any communications you receive from SoCS or the University. You should also regularly check your course Moodles for updates and announcements on your courses, and the 25/26 MSc Handbook

Moodle (opening in late August – students will be notified) for information relating to your degree programme.

You should also refer to the MSc Handbook document which has been provided to all students (this will also be embedded in the MSc Handbook Moodle from late August), and please note that the SoCS Admin Team will provide FAQ and information documents periodically throughout the year. The MSc Handbook, FAQs, and information documents are all required reading for SoCS MSc students.

Q3 - When does teaching begin?

Teaching will commence on 22 September 2025.

Q4 - What is the latest date on which I can arrive in Glasgow to begin studying?

You are strongly advised to be on campus for the start of teaching on 22 September. Arriving any later than this means that you will miss teaching and will have a detrimental effect on your learning. This is particularly true of the IT+ programmes, which begin with an intensive period of technical instruction that is vital for your learning throughout the degree programme.

For those students who are unable to arrive in Glasgow for the start of teaching, the latest date of arrival is 6 October 2024. Please note that you will be responsible for any consequences of late arrival, and late arrival cannot be cited as the basis of an Extenuating Circumstances claim (the process by which the University considers adverse circumstances which may affect your assessments) following any assessment.

Please be advised that in almost all cases, all teaching is in person and there is no online alternative. Students who arrive in Glasgow after the beginning of teaching will be able to access learning materials on their course Moodles during their absence from campus, but will not be able to take part in teaching remotely.

Q5 - What is involved in Registration?

Registration for SoCS MSc students opened on 11 August 2025. Before you can enrol, you must register via MyCampus. You can find information on Registration from the Registry's webpages here - <https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/registry/registration/>

Registration is in two parts, Academic and Financial. Academic registration involves confirming the details of your degree programme and personal information. Financial registration is the process by which you will pay, or arrange to pay, your fees. Only when at least one element of registration is complete can students begin to enrol in their courses.

Q6 - How many credits should I enrol for?

You are required to enrol for 120 Taught credits and the 60-credit MSc Project.

Q7 - How do I know which courses to enrol in?

Please see the list of courses available to your programme below. Your compulsory courses including the MSc Project will be enrolled for you by the SoCS Admin team. MSc Cybersecurity students have an entirely compulsory curriculum, all of which will be enrolled by the SoCS Admin team. Students will enrol electives themselves via MyCampus.

When enrolling on MyCampus, you should select the option 'Enrol by My Requirements'. Your course options will then be clearly shown to you. When enrolling, please ensure that you only add courses which are available to your programme, and use only the correct course codes (some courses have versions available to other levels which have similar names but different codes). Please note that enrolling in error for one course cannot provide the basis for a student to receive priority over other students in any other course.

Q8 - Should I enrol for all of my Semester 1 and Semester 2 credits at the beginning of the Academic Year?

Yes. Although there will be a limited opportunity to update your enrolments following the end of Semester 1 (please see below), it is important for students to enrol to the total number of required Taught credits (120) by 6 October 2025.

Q9 - What courses do I need to enrol in for Semester 1?

For most students, there is no choice of courses for the first semester. The only choice that needs to be made for Semester 1 is for MSc Computing Science students, who will choose one of two courses as noted below.

Please see the table overleaf for information on your Semester 1 enrolments, organised by programme.

Semester 1 Enrolments

All Sem 1 courses are compulsory unless stated

MSc Computing Science	COMPSCI4084 Programming and Systems Development COMPSCI5089 Introduction to Data Science COMPSCI5092 Research & Professional Skills *** COMPSCI5077 Enterprise Cybersecurity* or COMPSCI5100 Machine Learning/AI for DS* <i>*the SoCS Admin team will be in contact separately in relation to this choice</i>
MSc Data Science	COMPSCI4084 Programming and Systems Development COMPSCI5089 Introduction to Data Science COMPSCI5092 Research & Professional Skills COMPSCI5100 Machine Learning & AI for DS
MSc Cybersecurity	COMPSCI4084 Programming and Systems Development COMPSCI5092 Research & Professional Skills COMPSCI5077 Enterprise Cybersecurity COMPSCI5120 Principles of Cybersecurity
MSc Information Technology <i>and</i> MSc Software Development	COMPSCI4039 Programming COMPSCI5076 Database and Data Analytics COMPSCI4043 Systems and Networks COMPSCI5059 Software Engineering (Sem 1&2) COMPSCI5077 Enterprise Cybersecurity

Q10 - What courses do I need to enrol in for Semester 2?

For the second semester you will have a choice of courses (electives) and possibly some compulsory courses depending on your degree programme. All compulsory courses will be enrolled by the SoCS Admin team.

Note that the timetable of some elective courses may not be finalised yet. Once we have timetabled them, it may be the case that some elective combinations will not be possible because of timetable clashes. Unfortunately a small number of clashes are inevitable each year. Those courses which cannot be taken in conjunction with one another due to timetabling issues are noted below.

Please take careful note of the course codes listed for your degree programme; there may be other courses in the system with similar names, but with different course codes. You must make sure your enrolment uses the correct course codes. Students who are enrolled to an incorrect version of a course will be unenrolled by the SoCS Admin team, and will not have priority for a place on the correct version if this is full.

Please enrol for a full 120 credits of Taught courses prior to beginning your programme. Please note that although students will have a limited opportunity to update their Semester 2 enrolments at the conclusion of Semester 1 (the second Add/Drop period), the ability to make these changes will be dependent on the availability of places, and changes cannot be guaranteed. Students are advised, as far as possible, to enrol to a full 120 credits of courses which you are satisfied with at the outset of enrolment, prior to the commencement of teaching.

Please see the tables in the following pages for your Semester 2 enrolments by programme. Clashes are identified under each programme.

Semester 2 Enrolments

MSc Computing Science	<p><i>Choose six of the following courses:</i></p> <p>COMPSCI5107 Web Science for MSc COMPSCI5011 Information Retrieval COMPSCI5103 Deep Learning for MSc* COMPSCI5088 Big Data COMPSCI 5106 Text as Data for MSc *** <i>(Security Courses)**</i> COMPSCI5063 Cybersecurity Fundamentals for MSc COMPSCI5060 Human Centred Security COMPSCI5079 Cryptography and Secure Development COMPSCI5080 Cyber System Forensics COMPSCI5119 Secure Programming in Rust</p> <p>***</p> <p>COMPSCI5104 Secured Software Engineering for MSc COMPSCI5012 Internet Technology COMPSCI5057 HCI Design and Evaluation COMPSCI5099 Information Visualisation COMPSCI5112 Mobile HCI for MSc</p> <p><i>*COMPSCI5103 Deep Learning can only be taken if COMPSCI5100 Machine Learning and AI is taken in S1</i></p> <p><i>**If COMPSCI5077 Enterprise Cybersecurity is not taken in S1, at least one Security course must be taken</i></p>
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MSc CS Clashes:

COMPSCI5011 Information Retrieval cannot be taken with **COMPSCI5057 HCI Design and Evaluation**

COMPSCI5012 Internet Technology cannot be taken with **COMPSCI5080 Cyber System Forensics**

COMPSCI5099 Information Visualisation cannot be taken with **COMPSCI5119 Secure Programming in RUST**

COMPSCI5107 Web Science for MSc cannot be taken with **COMPSCI5119 Secure Programming in RUST**

Students cannot select all three of **COMPSCI5060 Human Centred Security**, **COMPSCI5088 Big Data**, and **COMPSCI5106 Text as Data** (any two can be selected together)

MSc Data Science	<p><i>Choose at least four of the following courses:</i></p> <p>COMPSCI5107 Web Science for MSc COMPSCI5011 Information Retrieval COMPSCI5103 Deep Learning for MSc COMPSCI5088 Big Data COMPSCI5106 Text as Data for MSc</p>
	<p><i>Choose at least one of the following courses:</i></p> <p>COMPSCI5063 Cybersecurity Fundamentals for MSc COMPSCI5060 Human Centred Security COMPSCI5079 Cryptography and Secure Development COMPSCI5080 Cyber System Forensics COMPSCI5119 Secure Programming in Rust</p>
	<p><i>Choose at most one of the following courses:</i></p> <p>COMPSCI5104 Secured Software Engineering for MSc COMPSCI5012 Internet Technology COMPSCI5057 HCI Design and Evaluation COMPSCI5099 Information Visualisation COMPSCI5112 Mobile HCI for MSc</p>

MSc DS Clashes:

COMPSCI5011 Information Retrieval cannot be taken with **COMPSCI5057 HCI Design and Evaluation**

COMPSCI5012 Internet Technology cannot be taken with **COMPSCI5080 Cyber System Forensics**

COMPSCI5099 Information Visualisation cannot be taken with **COMPSCI5119 Secure Programming in RUST**

COMPSCI5107 Web Science for MSc cannot be taken with **COMPSCI5119 Secure Programming in RUST**

Students cannot select all three of **COMPSCI5060 Human Centred Security**, **COMPSCI5088 Big Data**, and **COMPSCI5106 Text as Data** (any two can be selected together)

MSc Cybersecurity	<p><i>All courses are compulsory:</i></p> <p>COMPSCI5060 Human Centred Security COMPSCI5079 Cryptography and Secure Development COMPSCI5080 Cyber System Forensics COMPSCI5110 Emerging Topics in Cybersecurity COMPSCI4091 Advanced Networked Systems (H) COMPSCI5119 Secure Programming in Rust</p>
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MSc Csec Clashes: n/a

MSc Information Technology	<p><i>Compulsory Courses:</i></p> <p>COMPSCI5074 IT+ Team Project COMPSCI5059 Software Engineering (Sem 1&2)</p>
	<p><i>Choose four of the following courses:</i></p> <p>COMPSCI5002 Programming for AI COMPSCI 5004 Algorithms & Data Structures COMPSCI5012 Internet Technology COMPSCI5057 HCI Design and Evaluation COMPSCI5099 Information Visualisation COMPSCI5063 Cybersecurity Fundamentals for MSc COMPSCI5080 Cyber System Forensics</p>

MSc IT Clash:

COMPSCI5012 Internet Technology cannot be taken with **COMPSCI5080 Cyber System Forensics**

MSc Software Development	<p><i>Compulsory Courses:</i></p> <p>COMPSCI5074 IT+ Team Project COMPSCI5059 Software Engineering (Sem 1&2) COMPSCI5002 Programming for AI COMPSCI 5004 Algorithms & Data Structures</p>
	<p><i>Choose two of the following courses:</i></p> <p>COMPSCI5012 Internet Technology COMPSCI5057 HCI Design and Evaluation COMPSCI5099 Information Visualisation COMPSCI5063 Cybersecurity Fundamentals for MSc COMPSCI5080 Cyber System Forensics</p>

MSc SD Clash:

COMPSCI5012 Internet Technology cannot be taken with **COMPSCI5080 Cyber System Forensics**

Q11 - What courses do I need to enrol in for Semester 3?

This is the Project semester, and only the appropriate MSc Project course is required. The SoCS Admin team will enrol you to your Project course.

Q12 - Are there any other courses I will enrol in?

Yes, there is a zero-credit course that we use for administrative purposes only. The SoCS Admin team will enrol you to the appropriate version of this course:

IT+ - COMPSCI9008

CS+ - COMPSCI9009

All UofG students are required to complete the Academic Writing Skills Programme (AWSP), which is administered by our colleagues in the Student Learning Development team (SLD) -

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/sld/awsp/forstudents/>

You will be automatically enrolled to the course. You can expect SLD to contact you in week 2 of teaching to arrange your AWSP assessment.

Q13 - Where can I get help with enrolment?

For guidance on the enrolment process within MyCampus, please contact the Registration and Enrolment Support team (<https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/students/sset/rest/>).

The SoCS Admin Team can also provide assistance with enrolment via the [SoCS Helpdesk](#), and will also operate enrolment drop-in sessions 10am – 12pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays from w/b 18 August until the start of teaching in Boyd Orr Lab 1028 (BO1028).

Enquiries received by the SoCS Admin Team will be responded to within 5 working days during the enrolment period. If one or more of your preferred courses fill up during this response period, or while you await a drop-in session in BO1028, you will not have priority for a place on the course(s) over those students who have successfully enrolled themselves. For this reason, students are advised to complete as much of their enrolment as possible themselves, and to complete enrolment including the submission of necessary lab change requests (see below) as soon as possible.

Q14 - Are SoCS elective courses open to other degree programmes?

Yes, certain SoCS elective courses are available to degree programmes in other Schools, and SoCS students will not receive priority in enrolment over eligible students on other programmes. For this reason, you are encouraged to complete your enrolment as soon as possible.

Q15 - How are places on popular courses distributed to students?

It is expected that several of our elective courses will reach capacity, so it is necessary to take a strict approach to the distribution of places on elective courses. All elective course places will be distributed on a first-come-first-served basis via MyCampus. No student will be added to a course which is elective for their programme when the course is full.

SoCS will not operate waiting lists for closed SoCS PGT electives. Where additional places become free in closed courses (by e.g. expansion of capacity or enrolled students dropping the course), they will be generally available on a first-come-first-served basis to all eligible students via MyCampus.

The SoCS Admin team will not facilitate swaps between students, or the transfer of a place to another specified student.

Students are advised to **exercise great care when selecting electives**, particularly when dropping courses. When a student drops a course, they will not have priority over any other student for a place on that or another course. This will be the case even where students have dropped courses in error.

Q16 - What about labs and tutorials? Some of the courses have lab and tutorial sessions associated with them? What classes should I enrol in?

In most cases when manually enrolling elective courses you will have a choice of lab sections, and should select them based on what most suits your timetable. You may find that some course combinations do not work with a given lab section, but may work with an alternative.

Please attempt to make your choices fit before contacting the School for assistance. However, do not drop your compulsory courses or full electives in order to adjust labs. Contact the SoCS admin team via the [SoCS Helpdesk](#) or at the enrolment drop-in (and not via any other channel) to request this change. If this change is possible, it will be actioned by the SoCS Admin team. If you manually drop an elective course in order to change the lab time, and find that your place has been taken by another student before you can re-enrol, you will be obliged to select another available course – you will not be added back to the course when it is full.

The SoCS Admin team will fulfil requests to change labs (or confirm that this is not possible) within five working days. Where these requests are completed within the timescale, a lab change request will not result in a student having priority for a place on a course over any other student. For example, if a student requests a lab change on Course A to allow enrolment on Course B, and Course B becomes full while awaiting completion of the lab change, the student will not have priority for a place on Course B. The lab change procedure and timescale are essential and unavoidable – in order to avoid disappointment students are advised to act quickly to fulfil their enrolments and submit any necessary lab change requests without delay.

Please note that the SoCS Admin team may in certain circumstances be obliged to change your lab time(s) on a given SoCS course which you are enrolled to. This will only be done in order to increase the availability of courses, and the provision of places to the maximum number of students will take precedence over other scheduling considerations and preferences. Students should expect to attend scheduled classes at any time Mon-Fri, 9am – 6pm, and necessary lab changes will be made regardless of your existing timetable. Where it is necessary to select one or more students from a

larger number for this process, this selection will be made randomly. It is likely that most students will experience this at least once, so please be prepared.

Where courses include tutorials, it is more common for only one tutorial option to be provided, in which case you should select the only tutorial available. Should there be a choice of tutorials, please treat them as you would the labs above.

Q17 - Is there a deadline for enrolment in the courses?

It is important to enrol in your courses as soon as possible, and ideally before the beginning of teaching on 22 September. Note that there will be a limited opportunity to change your enrolment after this date if your plans change, but please make an initial selection by 22 September. By this date, you should be enrolled in exactly 180 credits: 120 credits of taught courses and the 60 credit MSc Project. It is your responsibility to ensure that you are correctly enrolled.

Your enrolment must be complete and finalised by 6 October – although there will be a limited opportunity to update your Semester 2 enrolments at the end of Semester 1.

Q18 - Why does MyC say things like ‘requirements not satisfied’?

In the case of that message, because you have not started studying yet, so you have not satisfied any degree requirements! MyCampus can provide messages which are confusing to those unfamiliar with the system. Provided you follow the enrolment instructions that we give you, and you enrol in a full 180 credits, your enrolment will be correct.

Q19 - Where can I find out more information?

Don't forget to attend the Enrolment/Induction meetings, which are being held in-person. The details of the meetings will be published on the MSc Handbook Moodle in early September.

You can also find lots of useful information for new students via the University's webpages:

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/students/new/>

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/students/sset/>

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/international/support/>

Q20 - What should I do if I want to change to another programme?

The guidance for changing programme is:

- Changes of programme will be made at the discretion of the relevant Programme Director(s), and are not guaranteed. If you change your programme once, we will not change it again.
- Changes which are permitted are normally between programmes in the same cohort group, ie those in CS+ or in IT+ - typically, students cannot move from CS+ to IT+ or vice versa
- Please remember that the degree that you have been given an offer for is the one you have applied for, and for which we have determined you are suitable for. Please do not change degree programme simply because you can – think carefully about what it means. Please also think about what it means with respect to any visa, scholarship or employment documentation or constraints you might have that are specifically associated with the name of your original degree programme.
- Please note that programme changes will not be permitted where there is insufficient teaching capacity – for example, switching your programme to the MSc Data Science when there are insufficient places on the School's Data Science courses

- Please do not make a request for change of programme before you have completed your University of Glasgow MyCampus registration. Your email request must come from your university student email address (@student.gla.ac.uk).

Q21 - After I have enrolled, where can I get information about my classes?

Once your GUID is active, you will have access to the University Moodle site (<https://moodle.gla.ac.uk/>). Each of your courses will operate a Moodle page specific to that course, where course materials, schedules, and announcements will be published. SoCS PGT Moodles will open in early September. Once the Moodles are open, you will be automatically added to the corresponding Moodle page for each course you are enrolled to on MyCampus.

Q22 - Is attendance at my classes compulsory?

Yes. Once you arrive on campus, you are expected to attend all of your scheduled classes. Attendance is vital for your learning and engagement, and experience shows that those students who attend as expected perform better in their assessments than those who don't.

Also, many of our PGT students are studying in Glasgow on a Student Visa, and the University has the responsibility of monitoring your attendance for this purpose. During Semesters 1 and 2, visa monitoring is done via the SafeZone app. Students are required to check in at all scheduled classes, and this information is used to monitor engagement for visa purposes. Check in can only be done at the physical location of the scheduled class. Should you miss check ins, you will be expected to provide an explanation, and all of this information is held for reporting to UKVI.