MSc IT+ Welcome Meeting 2025-2026

Euan Freeman

euan.freeman@glasgow.ac.uk

University of Glasgow

Meeting Outline

Quick talks from...

- Stephane Charrier (Student Support Officer)
- Graeme Shedden (PGT L&T Administrator)
- Glasgow Uni Tech Society

Then lots of information from me about...

- Degree structure and logistics
- Assessment, exams, progression, dissertation
- Support and services available to you

University of Glasgow

Welcome to the School of Computing Science

- A world-leading research-active school
- 90+ academics with expertise in:
  - Education and Practice
  - Formal Analysis, Theory, and Algorithms
  - Human-Computer Interaction
  - Information, Data, and Analysis
  - Parallel, Distributed and Sustainable Systems
- Hundreds of excellent students – like you!

Who am I?

MSc IT+ Programme Director

- Responsible for MSc IT & MSc SD

HCI Researcher & Lecturer

- In the Interactive Systems section
- I was once a student here too...

Contact

- Email: euan.freeman@glasgow.ac.uk
- Office: 220A Sir Alwyn Williams Building

University of Glasgow

Who are you?

Students enrolled on:

- MSc Information Technology
- MSc Software Development

These are **conversion** degrees

- Preparing people with non-computing backgrounds for a career in computing
- Your peers have a diverse variety of backgrounds and areas of expertise

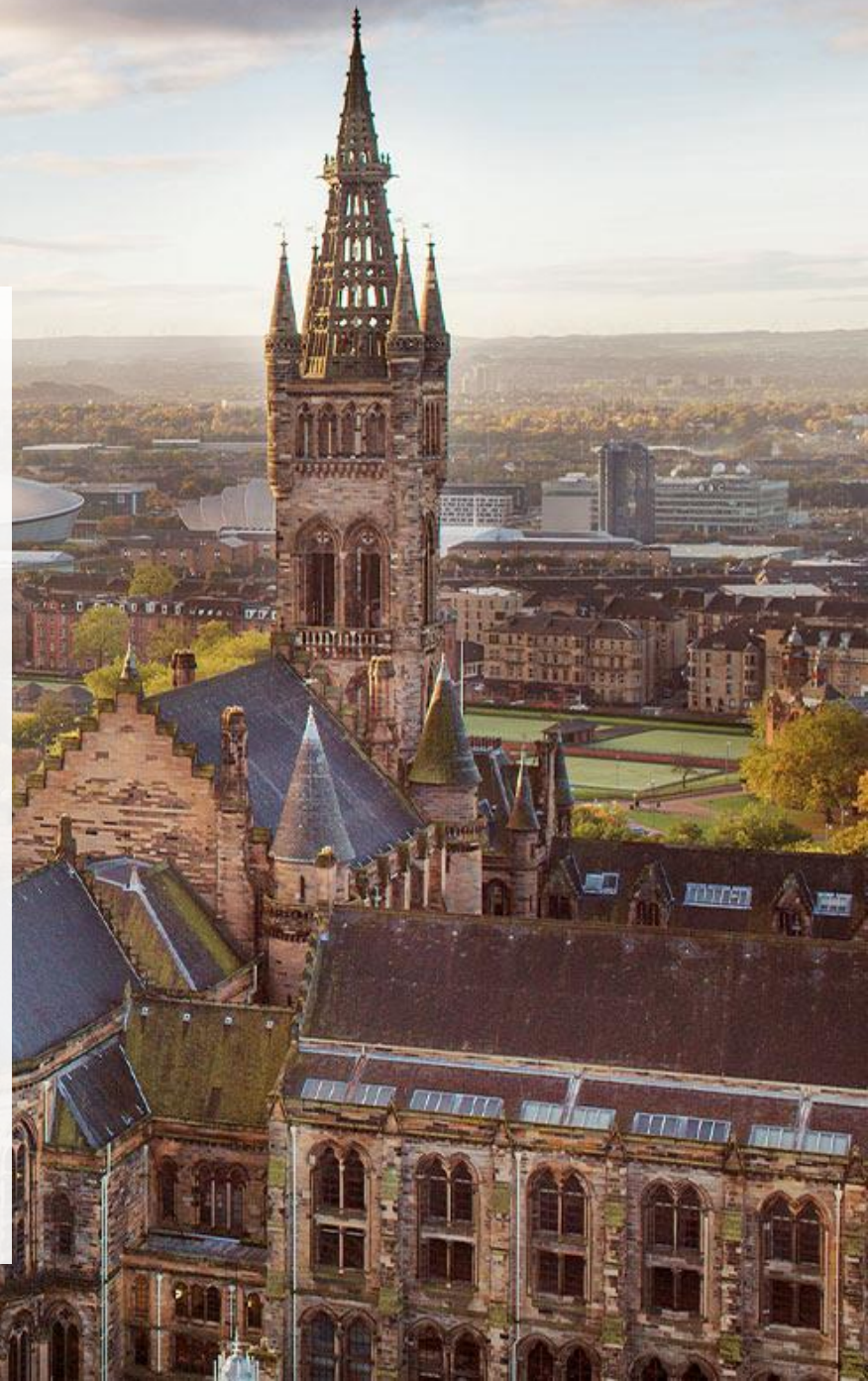
MSc IT+ Handbook

Access this through Moodle

- Log in using your GUID + password
- Every course has its own Moodle page
    - Providing resources, information, communication

MSc CS+ & IT+ Handbook Moodle page

- Provides important information about your degree
- We'll use this for general announcements and information
- Provides answers to frequently asked questions



University of Glasgow

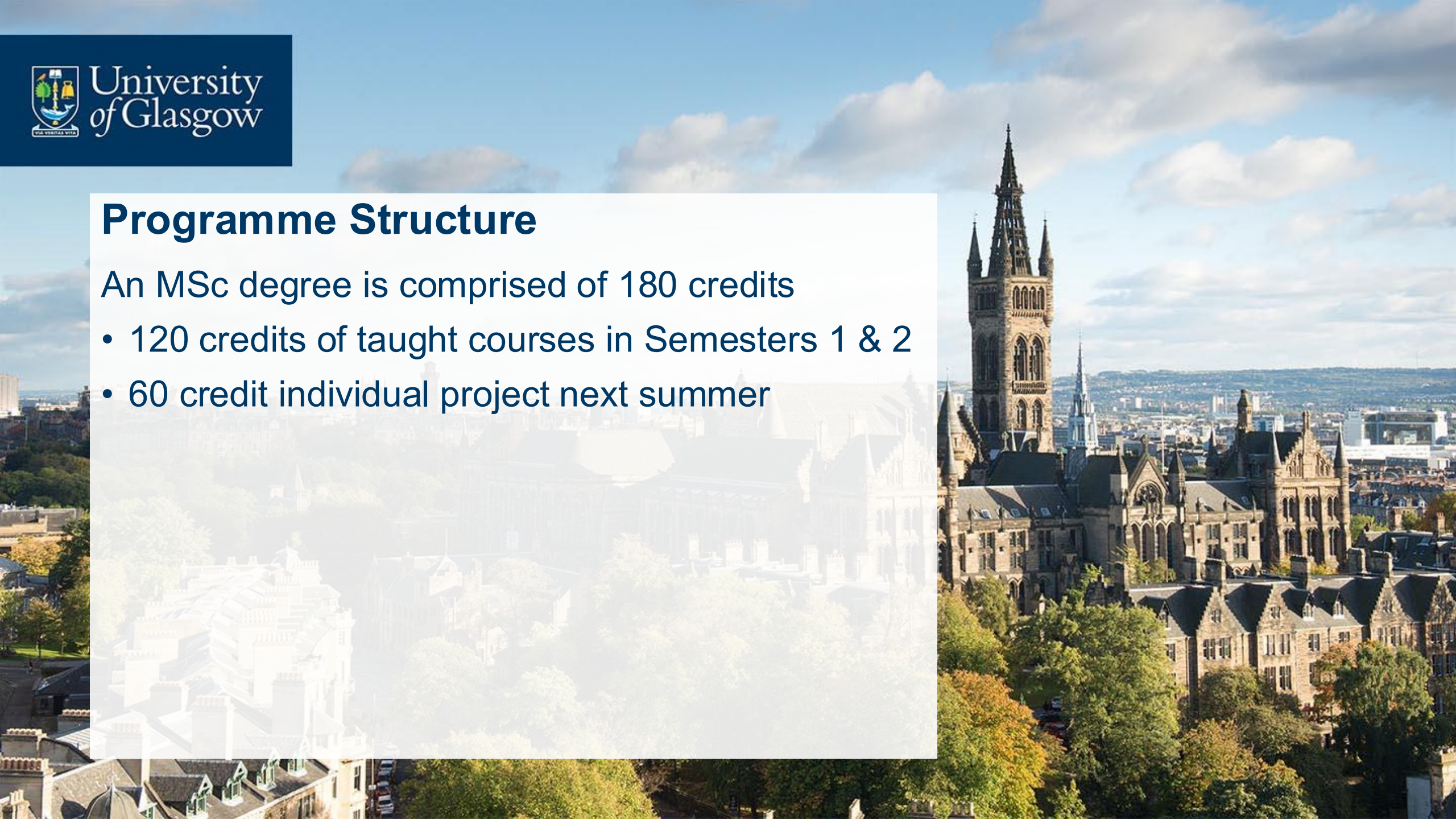
Course Enrolment via MyCampus

Make sure you enroll correctly!

- Use ‘enroll by my requirements’ to make sure you are enrolled in the correct courses
- If unsure, get in touch via the HelpDesk

You need to fully enroll for all credits now

- Semester 1 courses are all compulsory
- You may change Semester 2 electives later
  - But need to enroll in *something* just now

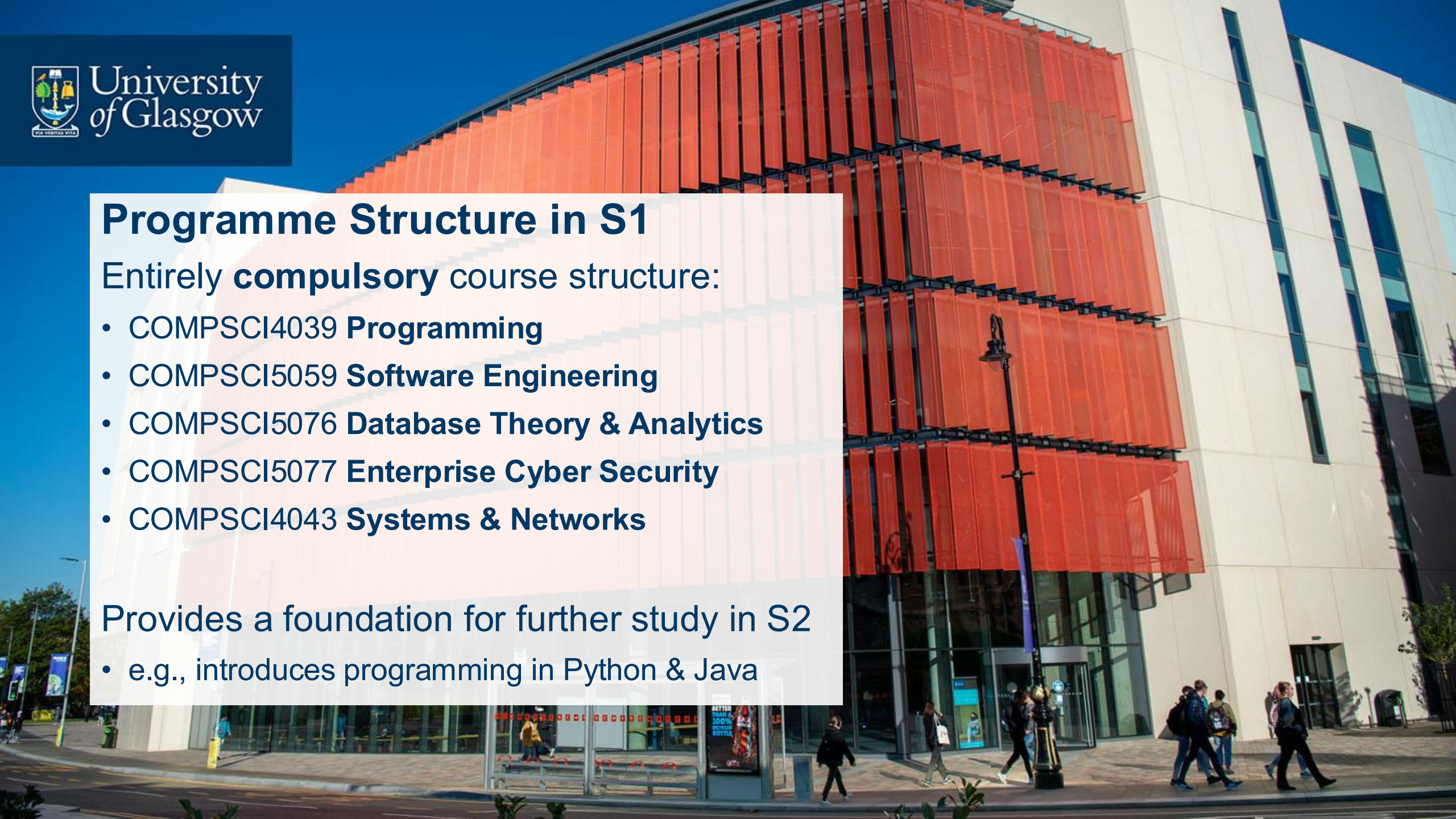


University of Glasgow

Programme Structure

An MSc degree is comprised of 180 credits

- 120 credits of taught courses in Semesters 1 & 2
- 60 credit individual project next summer



University of Glasgow

Programme Structure in S1

Entirely **compulsory** course structure:

- COMPSCI4039 **Programming**
- COMPSCI5059 **Software Engineering**
- COMPSCI5076 **Database Theory & Analytics**
- COMPSCI5077 **Enterprise Cyber Security**
- COMPSCI4043 **Systems & Networks**

Provides a foundation for further study in S2

- e.g., introduces programming in Python & Java

University of Glasgow

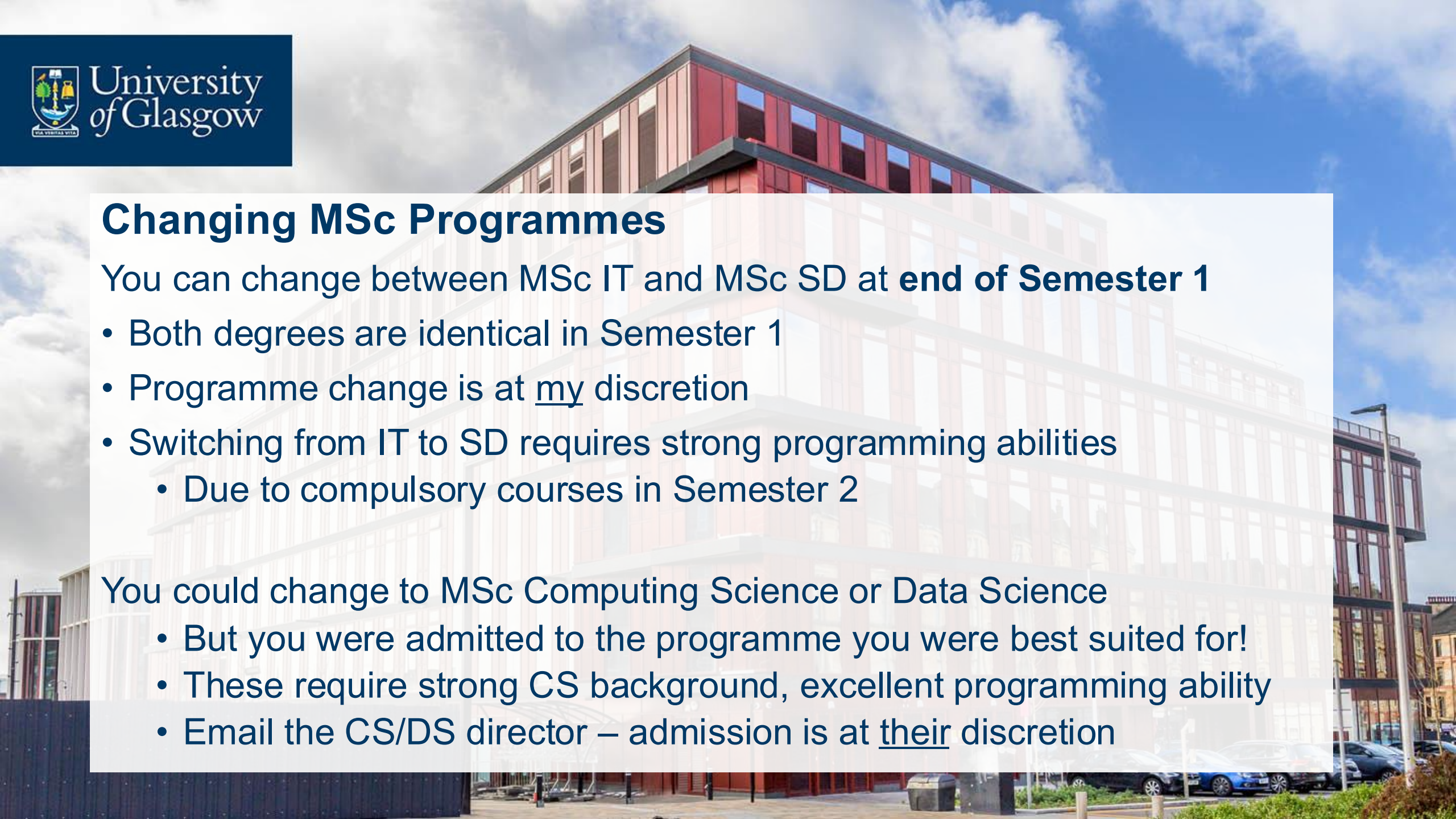
Programme Structure in S2

Some **compulsory** courses:

- All:
  - COMPSCI5059 **Software Engineering** (cont.)
  - COMPSCI5074 **IT+ Team Project**
- SD specifically:
  - COMPSCI5002 **Programming for AI**
  - COMPSCI5004 **Algorithms & Data Structures**

Some **elective** courses:

- A lot to choose from – refer to the Handbook!
- Remember – **enrol now** but can change before S2



University of Glasgow

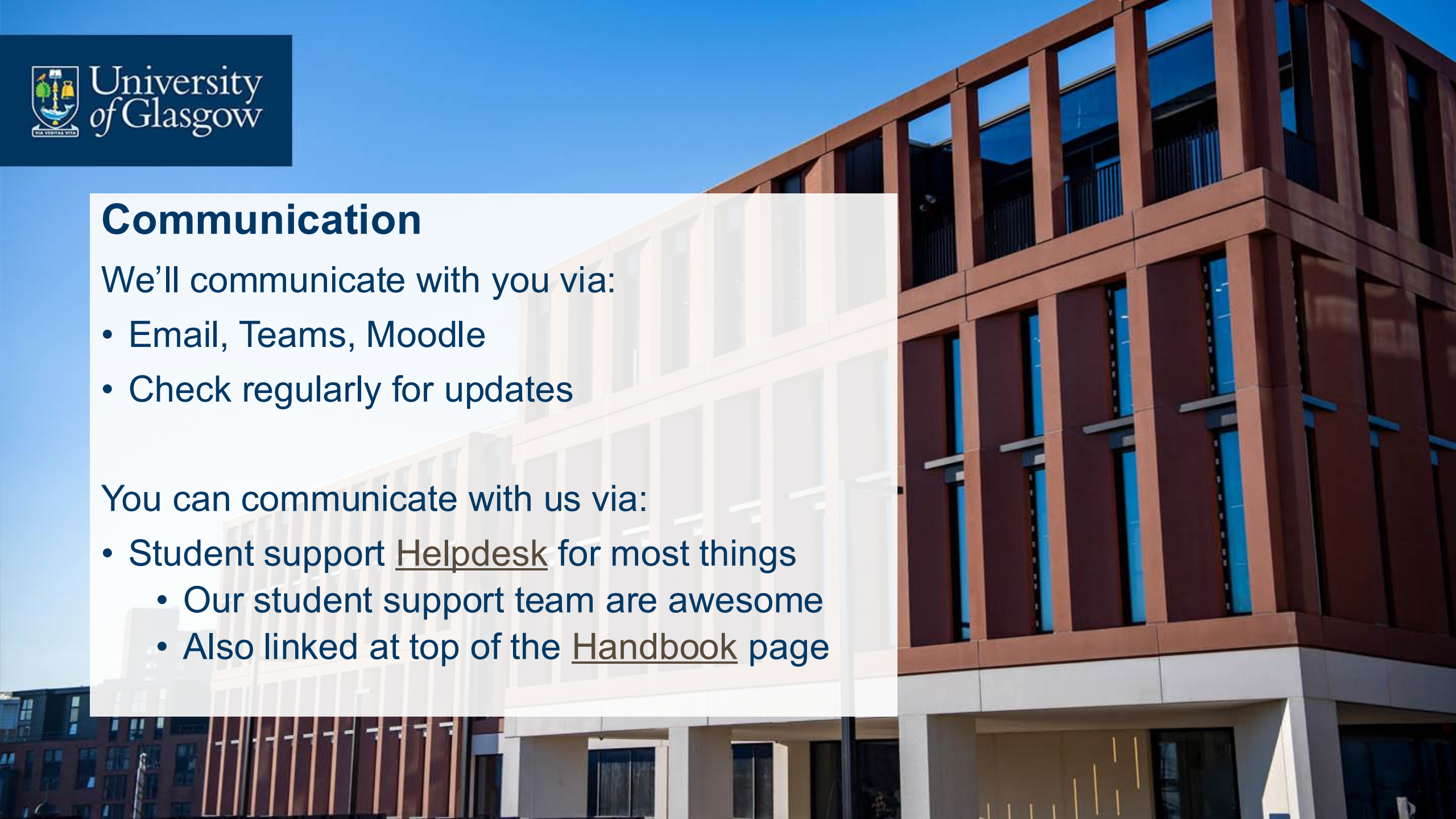
Changing MSc Programmes

You can change between MSc IT and MSc SD at **end of Semester 1**

- Both degrees are identical in Semester 1
- Programme change is at my discretion
- Switching from IT to SD requires strong programming abilities
  - Due to compulsory courses in Semester 2

You could change to MSc Computing Science or Data Science

- But you were admitted to the programme you were best suited for!
- These require strong CS background, excellent programming ability
- Email the CS/DS director – admission is at their discretion



Communication

We'll communicate with you via:

- Email, Teams, Moodle
- Check regularly for updates

You can communicate with us via:

- Student support Helpdesk for most things
  - Our student support team are awesome
  - Also linked at top of the Handbook page

Expected Engagement

You are studying **full time** – we expect an appropriate time commitment from you

- Make sure you attend all lectures and labs
- All courses are compulsory – you need all 120 taught credits to progress to the project
- Most importantly – you'll learn from each other

Read more about attendance monitoring

- University will monitor engagement because this has implications for student visa compliance

University of Glasgow

Course Grades

Every course is worth a certain number of **credits**

- One credit is approx. 10 hours of study...

Each course is assessed **individually**

- Through coursework, quizzes, exams, etc.
- Each assessment has a % credit weight
  - e.g., 60% exam & 40% coursework
  - Final grade is determined via weighted average
- You must complete at least 75% of the credit weight to receive credit – otherwise credit will be refused

Course Grades – Assessment Scale

Schedule A	Grade points	Schedule B	Grade points
A1	22	A0	22
A2	21		
A3	20		
A4	19		
A5	18		
B1	17	B0	17
B2	16		
B3	15		
C1	14	C0	14
C2	13		
C3	12		

Schedule A	Grade points	Schedule B	Grade points
D1	11	D0	11
D2	10		
D3	9		
E1	8	E0	8
E2	7		
E3	6		
F1	5	F0	5
F2	4		
F3	3		
G1	2	G0	2
G2	1		
H	0	H	0

Exams

You will take **digital exams** under **invigilated conditions** on campus and in-person

Exams use a "**curated open-book**" approach

- You are not allowed to bring material with you
- You will be provided with staff-curated notes
  - *If appropriate* for the course

Exams – Schedule

You will have exams at the **end of each semester**

- These will be timetabled by the **Registry** (not us)
- Exam timetable published well in advance

Resit exams will take place in August

- If needed to improve GPA to meet progression criteria, or due to extenuating circumstances

University of Glasgow

Progression

Your academic performance across 120 taught credits determines if you progress

- You must complete all 120 credits
- You need a GPA of 12.0+ (C3 avg)
- You need 90+ credits at 9.0+ (D3 avg)
- You must have 0 credits with G/H grade

If you meet the criteria at first attempt, you will start your individual project in Summer 2026

- Otherwise attempt resit exams (capped at C3)

Individual Project

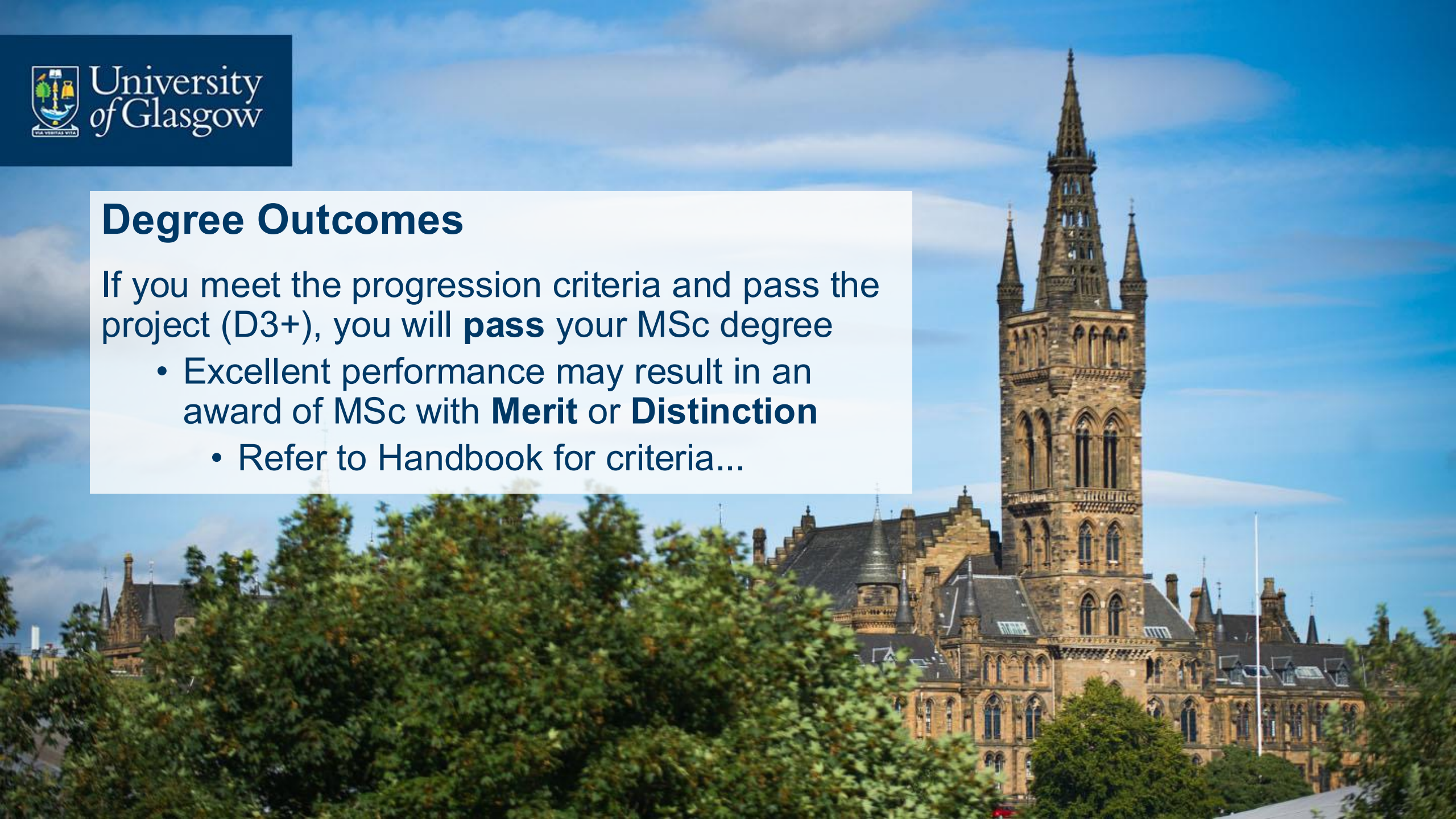
If you progress, you will begin a 12-week long individual project

A substantial piece of **independent** software development

- Under the guidance of a supervisor whom you'll meet regularly
- Working on a topic agreed with your supervisor

Continued and **evidenced engagement** is important

- Both for academic reasons and for visa monitoring



Degree Outcomes

If you meet the progression criteria and pass the project (D3+), you will **pass** your MSc degree

- Excellent performance may result in an award of MSc with **Merit** or **Distinction**
  - Refer to Handbook for criteria...

Early Exit Awards

Postgraduate Certificate

- Requires 60 credits with GPA of 9.0, with at least 40 at D3 or above

Postgraduate Diploma

- Requires 120 credits with GPA of 9.0, with at least 80 at D3 or above

Early exit awards may be given when students have not met the progression criteria

- You may also choose to leave early – e.g., to start a new job

University of Glasgow

Student Representatives

Looking for volunteers to become student reps

- One from MSc IT and one from MSc SD
- At least one who entered via Glasgow International College
- Interested? Email me this week and we'll have a vote soon

Responsibilities

- Attend short training course
- Attend Staff-Student Liaison Committee (SSLC) meetings
  - One per semester for you to give feedback on courses

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is taken very seriously at the University

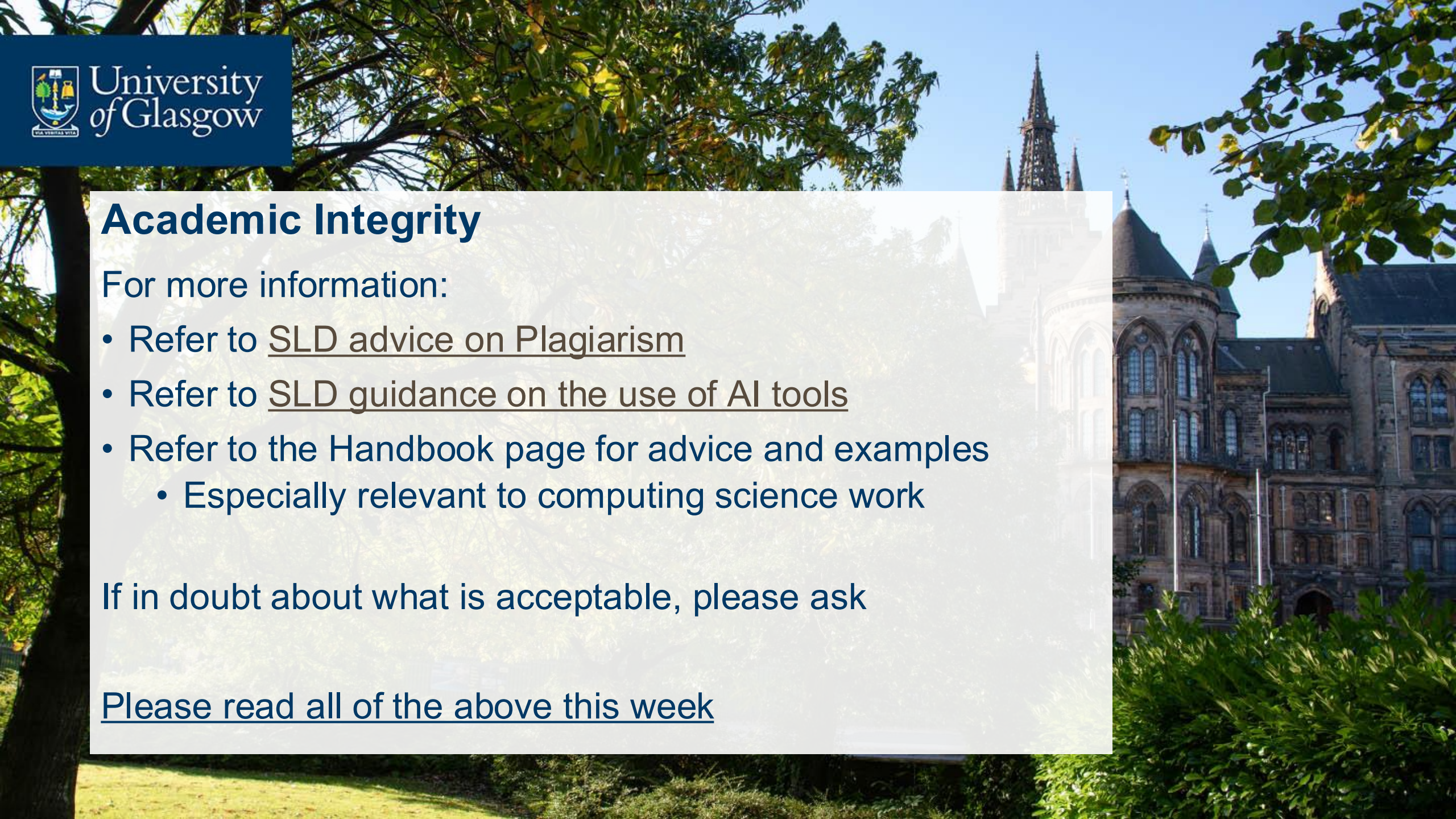
- You chose to study here because our degrees are valued

We expect to assess your own original work

- Presenting someone else's work as your own is **plagiarism**

We are good at detecting this and the penalties for engaging in academic misconduct can be severe

- Including being expelled from the University



Academic Integrity

For more information:

- Refer to SLD advice on Plagiarism
- Refer to SLD guidance on the use of AI tools
- Refer to the Handbook page for advice and examples
    - Especially relevant to computing science work

If in doubt about what is acceptable, please ask

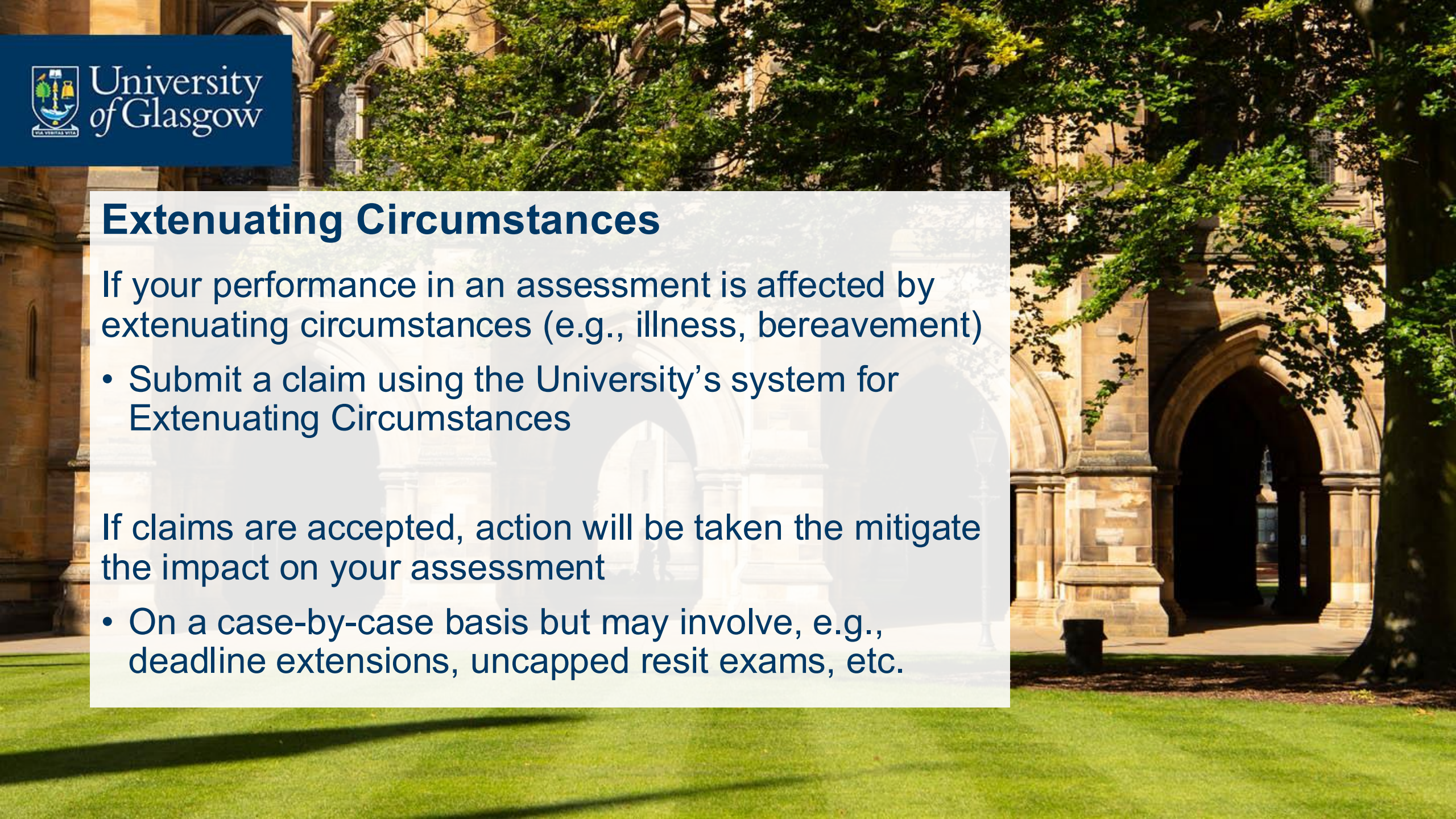
Please read all of the above this week

Code of Expected Behaviour

You are expected to engage with staff and students in a positive, respectful, and constructive manner

Please read the Code of Expected Behaviour

- Information on expected student conduct
- Advice about how to seek assistance



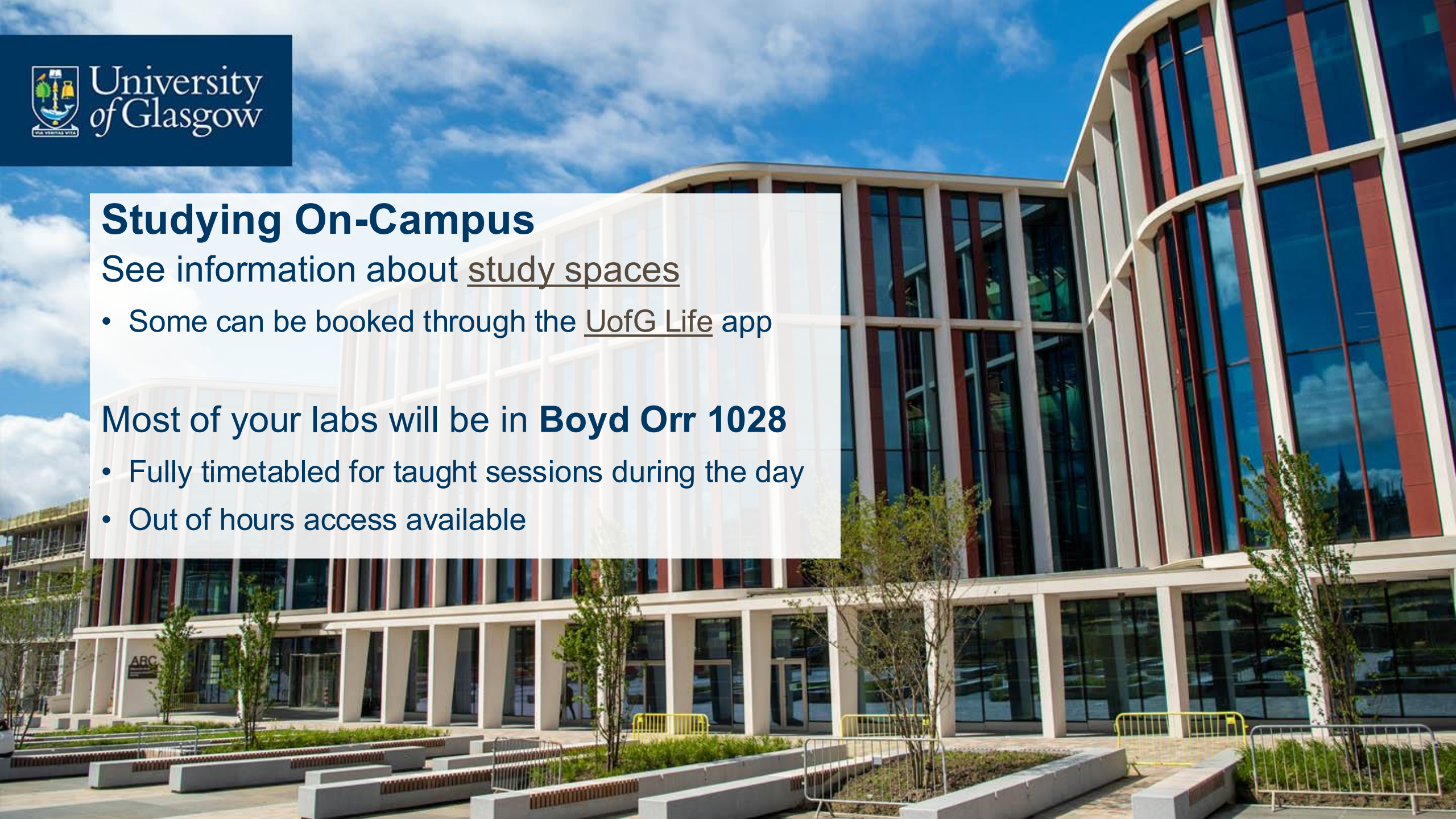
Extenuating Circumstances

If your performance in an assessment is affected by extenuating circumstances (e.g., illness, bereavement)

- Submit a claim using the University's system for Extenuating Circumstances

If claims are accepted, action will be taken the mitigate the impact on your assessment

- On a case-by-case basis but may involve, e.g., deadline extensions, uncapped resit exams, etc.



University of Glasgow

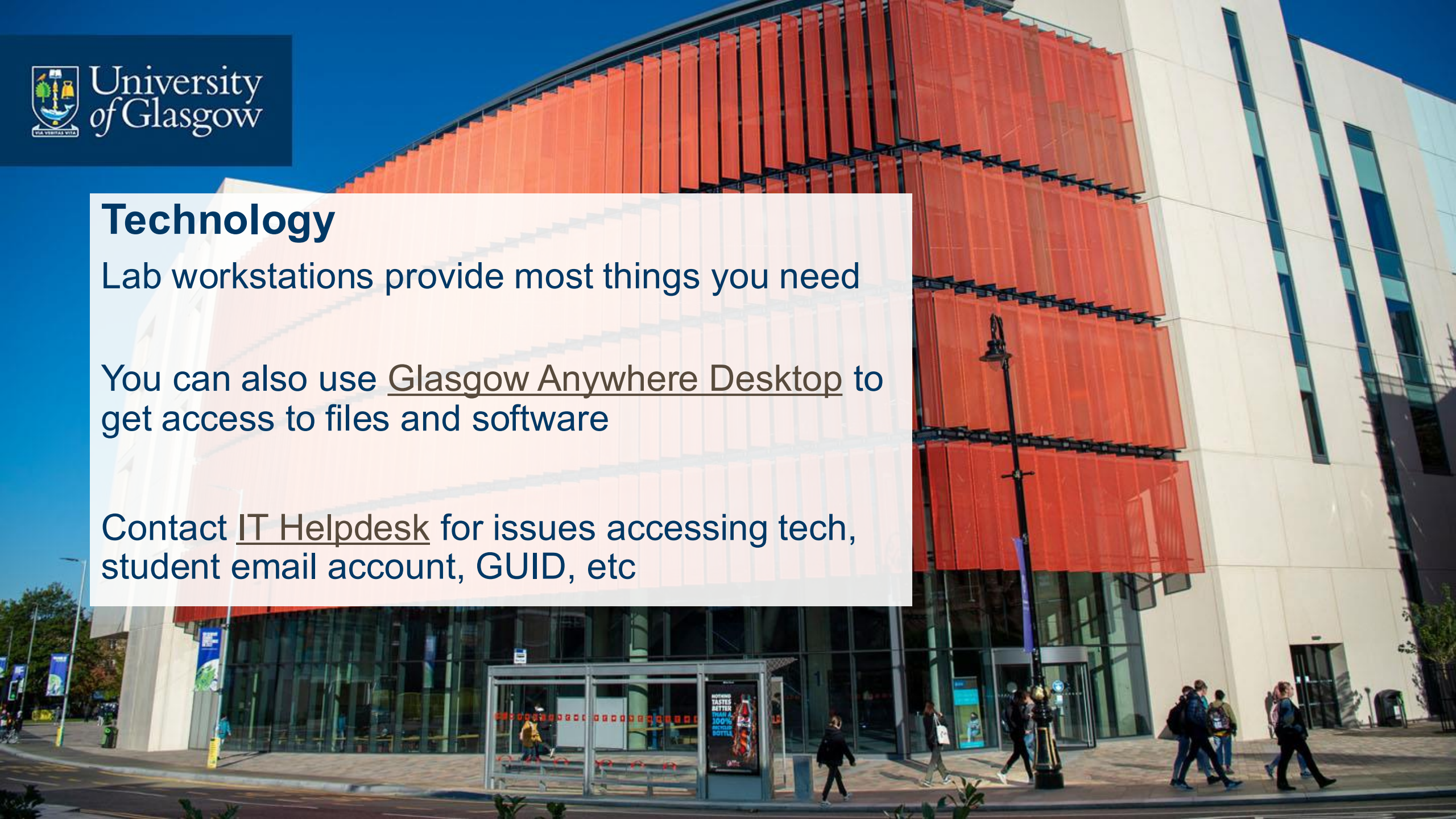
Studying On-Campus

See information about study spaces

- Some can be booked through the UofG Life app

Most of your labs will be in **Boyd Orr 1028**

- Fully timetabled for taught sessions during the day
- Out of hours access available



Technology

Lab workstations provide most things you need

You can also use Glasgow Anywhere Desktop to get access to files and software

Contact IT Helpdesk for issues accessing tech, student email account, GUID, etc

University of Glasgow

Careers & Employability Support

Read more about Careers & Employability support (College of Science & Engineering)

Read more about Careers support (University)

Careers events, CV writing advice, job seeking advice, mentoring programmes, online courses, etc.

Careers & Employability Support

Upcoming events

- Future Fest (24 September)
- Engineering & Tech Fair (28-29 October)

See also:

- Future Skills Award (next slide)
- Amplify mentoring
- Your Future: Careers & Employability course

Are you final year undergraduate or a taught postgraduate student in the College of Science and Engineering?

Do you want to build your skills and shape your future?

Do you want to stand out to employers?

If the answer is yes, then the My Future Skills Award is for you!

MY FUTURE SKILLS AWARD

The Award is an optional opportunity to develop and recognise the skills and experience you gain through extra-curricular activities.

The Award is now OPEN. Find out more and start your journey through the Award at

glasgow.ac.uk/colleges/scienceengineering/students/employability/futureskillsaward/

MY FUTURE SKILLS AWARD

University of Glasgow

Work with us!

Create social content, share your experience, help future students, **get paid** and enhance your CV

SCAN TO COMPLETE THE FORM

UofG Unibuddy Digital Ambassadors

- Chat to future students online
- **Voluntary work, HEAR transcript entry – training provided**
- Share your experience, answer questions
- Publish student life blogs

Is this you?

- ✓ Enjoy helping people
- ✓ Enthusiastic
- ✓ Community-focused

gla.ac/3YFCbRE

STEM Student Content Contributors (paid)

- STEM student digital content creators
- **Paid work, flexible hours**
- Create student life content
- Experience working with College Marketing Team

Is this you?

- ✓ Creative
- ✓ Comfortable on camera
- ✓ Active on social media
- ✓ Video/graphic editing skills

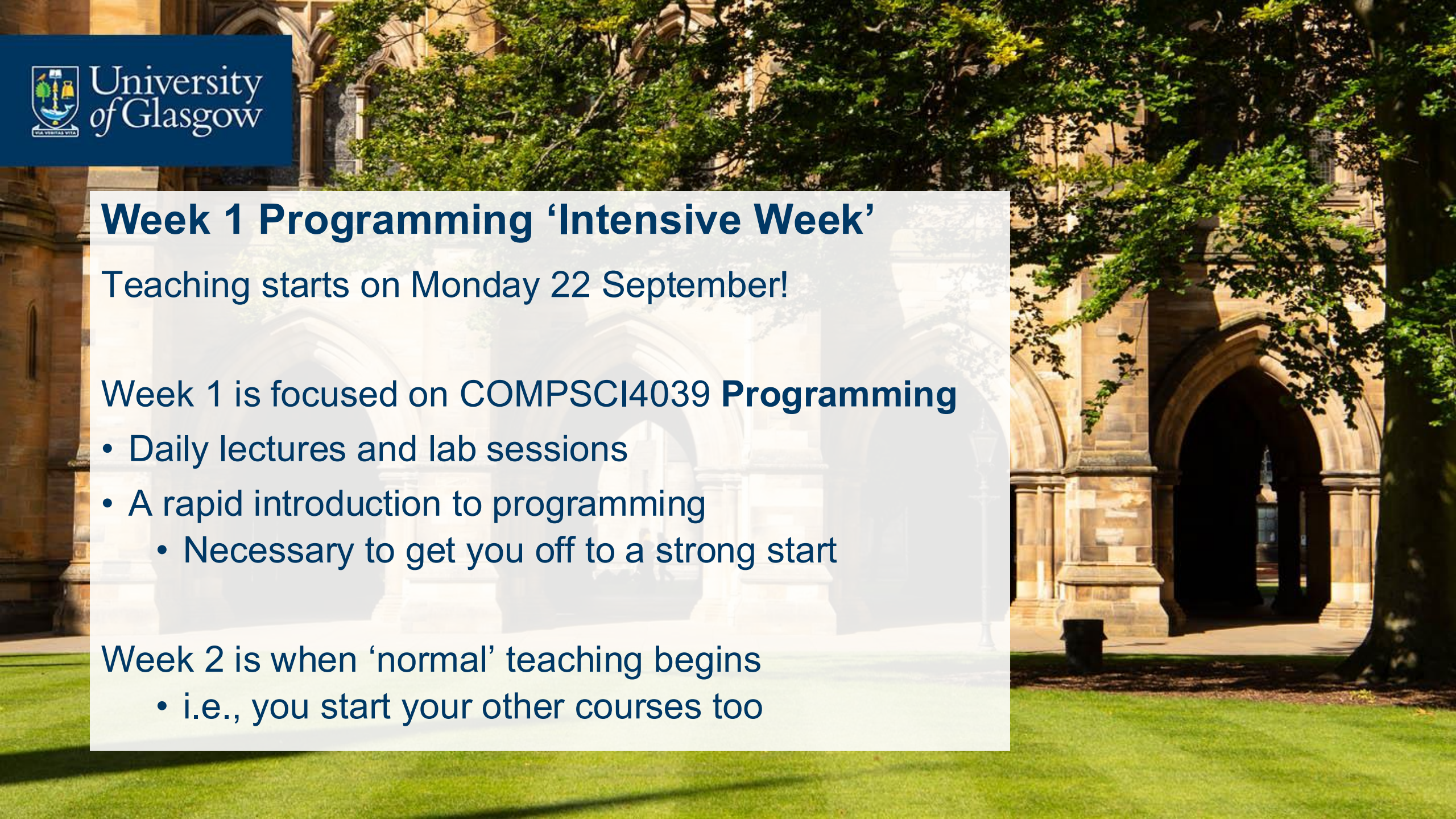
STEM Student Event Ambassadors (paid)

- Represent your subject at Future Student Events
- **Paid work, occasional hours**
- In-person and online open days
- Outreach activities/campus tours

Is this you?

- ✓ Enjoy speaking to people
- ✓ Confident presenter
- ✓ Enthusiastic

@UofGSTEM @UofGEngineering (IG TT) **@UofGGES @UofGCompSci** (IG)



University of Glasgow

Week 1 Programming ‘Intensive Week’

Teaching starts on Monday 22 September!

Week 1 is focused on COMPSCI4039 **Programming**

- Daily lectures and lab sessions
- A rapid introduction to programming
  - Necessary to get you off to a strong start

Week 2 is when ‘normal’ teaching begins

  - i.e., you start your other courses too

University of Glasgow

Welcome Reception

Monday 22 September

- Wolfson Medical School Building
- 5-7pm
- Come say hi!

University of Glasgow

Thanks for listening and welcome to Glasgow!

If you have questions...

- Read the slides in your own time
- Read through the Handbook and linked information
- Contact the SoCS student support office via the Helpdesk or myself

#UofGWorldChangers

@UofGlasgow