

2024 / 25

School of Science and Computing

☎ +353 (0)51 302037

✉ [Eleanor.Reade@setu.ie](mailto:Eleanor.Reade@setu.ie)

🌐 [www.wit.ie/schools/science\\_computing](http://www.wit.ie/schools/science_computing)



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## Module Descriptor

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# The Computer Industry (Computing and Mathematics)

# The Computer Industry (A04921)

**Short Title:** The Computer Industry  
**Department:** Computing and Mathematics  
**Credits:** 5

**Level:** Introductory

## Description of Module / Aims

The aim of this module is to introduce the student to the nature, structure, operating environment and markets of the major branches of the computer industry.

## Programmes

| stage/semester/status |  |           |
|-----------------------|--|-----------|
| COMP-0375             | BSc (Hons) in Applied Computing (International) (WD_KACCM_BI)      | 1 / 1 / M |
| COMP-0375             | BSc (Hons) in Applied Computing (WD_KACCM_B)                       | 1 / 1 / M |
| COMP-0375             | BSc (Hons) in Applied Computing (WD_KCOMP_B)                       | 1 / 1 / M |
| COMP-0375             | BSc (Hons) in Computer Forensics and Security (WD_KCOFO_B)         | 1 / 1 / M |
| COMP-0375             | BSc (Hons) in Computer Science (WD_KCMSC_B)                        | 1 / 1 / M |
| COMP-0375             | BSc (Hons) in the Internet of Things (International) (WD_KINTT_BI) | 1 / 1 / M |

## Indicative Content

- Introduction and Overview
- Structure and organisation of the computing industry
- Marketing of high-technology products
- Market dynamics of the Computer Industry
- Intellectual Property Rights

## Learning Outcomes

*On successful completion of this module, a student will be able to:*

1. Describe the organisational structure of key computer industry sectors.
2. Examine the macro and micro-environmental factors that impact the computer industry.
3. Examine the marketing strategies adopted by a company in the computer industry.
4. Distinguish between the various forms of intellectual property rights.
5. Express ideas and information clearly in visual, oral and written forms through in-class activities.

## Learning and Teaching Methods

- Interactive and open-forum lectures will be used to introduce new concepts and to consider the concepts' implications for module deliverables.
- Self-directed learning activities will require students to will reflect upon the module materials, diagnose their learning needs and conduct research to satisfy these needs.

## Learning Modes

| Learning Type        | F/T Hours | P/T Hours |
|----------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Lecture              | 36        |           |
| Independent Learning | 99        |           |

## Assessment Methods

|                       | Weighting | Outcomes Assessed |
|-----------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| Continuous Assessment | 100%      |                   |
| Group Project         | 40%       | 1,2,5             |
| Group Project         | 60%       | 3,4,5             |

## Assessment Criteria

<40%: Unable to interpret and describe key concepts of the computing industry.

40%–49%: Be able to interpret and describe key concepts of the specific knowledge domain(s).

50%–59%: All the above and in addition demonstrate the ability to discuss key concepts of the computing industry and ability to discover and integrate related knowledge in other knowledge domains.

60%–69%: In addition, be able to solve problems within the computing industry by experimenting with the appropriate skills and tools.

70%–100%: 1: All the above to an excellent level. Be able to analyse and design solutions to a high standard for a range of both complex and unforeseen problems through the use and modification of appropriate skills and tools.

## Supplementary Material(s)

- "The Guardian Technology." <http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology>
- Arthur, C. *Digital Wars: Apple, Google, Microsoft and the Battle for the Internet*. London: Kogan Page, 2012.
- Brynjolfsson, E. and A. McAfee. *The Second Machine Age - Work, Progress, and Prosperity in a Time of Brilliant Technologies*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 2016.
- Yoffie, D. and M. Cusumano. *Strategy Rules: Five Timeless Lessons from Bill Gates, Andy Grove, and Steve Jobs*. New York: HarperBusiness, 2015.