

Programme change proposals

At York each degree programme has its own, tailored set of distinctive learning outcomes. These won't change, no matter what your location or mode of delivery, and our academics are working hard to ensure your programmes and modules next year continue to inspire and motivate you.

Your health and safety is our number one priority and in light of the Covid-19 pandemic we have needed to make changes to some of your programmes of study for the coming academic year. This document summarises the changes that are proposed.

Programme(s)	<p>MSc Advanced Computer Science</p> <p>MSc Cyber Security</p>
--------------	--

Summary of Overall Plans

Students on our Postgraduate Taught (PGT) programmes will be invited to engage in learning in a variety of ways, with flexibility built in to allow us to maximise face-to-face teaching in line with any shifts in the Government guidance on physical distancing.

We are working with timetabling to find the best solutions, giving all students some physical face-to-face opportunities. For those students who are not able to attend campus, as well as those who might be self-isolating, we will be providing alternative learning provision online which will usually be a timetabled online version of the classroom based activity.

Lectures will be pre-recorded and put on the Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) which will give you the opportunity to watch and digest them at your own pace, and in a way that best suits your working patterns. In addition, other activities for the week, and face-to-face teaching will be provided both in classrooms and online. We will continue to offer weekly office hours for our taught modules.

Programme Structures

Due to staffing constraints we have already discussed the need to withdraw Adaptive & Learning Agents (ALAS) from the MSc Advanced Computer Science (ACS) programme. Note there is a Cyber Security stream also within the ACS programme, so please read the below module changes which impact modules within this stream.

For the MSc Cyber Security programme, the following changes have been made:

- (a) Cryptography Theory & Applications (CTAP) has moved from weeks 7-10 to weeks 2-5 in the Autumn term.
- (b) Cyber Security Research Skills (CRES) has moved from weeks 7-10 in Spring term to weeks 2-5 and 7-10 in the Autumn term.
- (c) Wider Aspects of Cyber Security (WASP) has increased to 20 credits from 10 credits, and has moved from weeks 7-10 to weeks 2-5 & 7-10 in the Spring term.
- (d) Rigour in Secure System Development and Assessment (RISS) has moved from weeks 2-5 to weeks 7-10 in the Spring term.
- (e) Networks & Communication Security: Threats, Attacks & Countermeasures (NTAC) has moved from weeks 2-5 in the Autumn term to weeks 2-5 and 7-10 in the Spring term.
- (f) The Cyber Security Individual Project (PCYB) has reduced to 90 credits from 100 credits.

Note the changes were mostly made in order to maintain certification by the National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) and our MSc Cyber Security Programme Leader (Dr Radu Calinescu) has previously relayed most of the changes above (without the detail of term week deliveries).

Below is a summary of the changes to modules in Computer Science programmes:

[Computer Science Schedule 2020/21](#)

Further changes or information of note

For each of the modules in the Autumn term we have developed new content and activities to improve your learning experience in an exciting and rewarding way. We are also planning various engagement activities to welcome you in your first term with us. You will be supported in your studies by an academic supervisor.