



UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
External System

ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SINCE 1858

2009–2010

MSc and Postgraduate Diploma in

Information Security

by distance learning

www.londonexternal.ac.uk/infosec

Academic direction by:



The University of London and the External System

Welcome from Sir Graeme Davies, Vice-Chancellor, University of London and Professor Jonathan Kydd, Dean, University of London External System



For more than 150 years, the University through its External System has been offering degree programmes to students all over the world. It has always prided itself on being an international institution and its External System demonstrates this inclusive outlook. Today, it has more than 43,000 students studying in over 180 countries, bringing the University to you through flexible and distance learning.

As a family of world-class institutions, the University has a reputation for academic distinction in teaching and research, both in the UK and internationally. All programmes offered through the External System are developed by academics within the Colleges of the University. This ensures that our awards are recognised worldwide for their quality and value, and that students benefit from the academic

From left to right, HRH The Princess Royal, Chancellor of the University of London, pictured with Professor Jonathan Kydd, Dean of the External System and Sir Graeme Davies, Vice-Chancellor of the University of London.

rigour and cutting-edge research undertaken within the Colleges.

Studying with the University of London is one of the greatest investments you can make in yourself. We look forward to welcoming you into our global community of students and wish you every success.

The University of London is one of the leading universities in Europe. Its world-class federation of 19 Colleges and a number of smaller specialist Institutes provides an unrivalled range of education opportunities of outstanding breadth and quality. Unique in its size, the federation includes specialised Colleges such as LSE, while others such as UCL are multi-faculty.

In 1858, with the establishment of its External System, the University

broke new ground by opening up its awards to those who either could not or did not wish to come to London to study. Academics who teach and assess campus-based students develop and write the study materials for all our programmes. They also set the exam papers and are responsible for marking the scripts.

Robust quality assurance mechanisms have been endorsed by the Quality Assurance Agency – the UK's independent body

for safeguarding the quality and standards of Higher Education. External students are examined to exactly the same standard as that required of students enrolled at the University's constituent Colleges. This principle of equivalency is enshrined in our Regulations: 'Candidates granted degrees and other awards shall have attained the same academic standard irrespective of mode or place of study or examination'.

Welcome to a world-renowned programme



An introduction from Professor Fred Piper

Director of External Relations, Information Security Group



Launched in 1992, Royal Holloway's MSc in Information Security was the first of its kind in the world. Since then, the number of degree programmes has grown rapidly, concentrating either on academic research or specific topics such as forensics. From the start, the Royal Holloway programme has covered the entire breadth of the subject: from the management of security, to computer crime, to cryptographic mechanisms and how they are used in the protection of computers and their networks.

Given our strength in depth across the programme and the active contribution of security professionals to its continuing review and development, we are uniquely well placed to maintain the programme's relevance within a fast-moving industry.

The content of the distance learning MSc, launched in 2003, is identical to that for campus-based students at Royal Holloway. Delivered online, you are fully supported by a Virtual Learning Environment through

which you can interact with tutors and fellow students worldwide. We look forward to welcoming you to our online security community.

In acknowledgement of his major contributions to Information Security, Professor Fred Piper was elected to the InfoSecurity Europe 'Hall of Fame' in 2008. He has also been recognised as a Fellow of (ISC)², the elite network of certified information security professionals.

Royal Holloway Information Security Group (ISG)

Royal Holloway, University of London, is home to the ISG, one of the largest academic security groups in the world. It brings together in a single institution expertise in

education, research and practice in the field of Information Security.

The ISG offers an active research environment. It has a thriving PhD community and offers world-leading Masters and Postgraduate Diploma programmes (campus-based and

online). The ISG also includes the Smart Card Centre of Excellence which it founded with Vodafone and Giesecke & Devrient. In recognition of its work, the ISG received a prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education.

'The online programme provided a means by which I could achieve my desire to study a subject of interest without having to give up my job. Not only have I been able to obtain an academic award of reputable standing, I've also been able to broaden my career prospects.'
Edem Okon, MSc Information Security graduate, Nigeria

Why study with us?

Is the programme for you?

Our students come from a variety of backgrounds, ranging from new graduates through to senior security managers seeking a formal qualification in Information Security. Graduates of the programme can be found in a range of organisations working as security professionals, from large financial institutions to technology and research-oriented organisations.

To ensure that the programme is completely up to date, several modules involve substantial input from internationally recognised information security experts. Furthermore, all academic staff have links with external organisations that are involved with information security and secure digital business.

In addition to the distance learning version, the programme is also available directly through Royal Holloway (full/part time, block mode, or as short courses for continuing professional development).

Flexible study

Studying at a distance allows you a high degree of flexibility. Generally, you can study whenever, wherever and however you choose.

■ Fits your continuing professional development needs

You can study for either a full MSc or Postgraduate Diploma, or choose to take any core modules for your continuing professional development.

■ Fits your lifestyle

You can fit your study around family and work commitments.

■ Fits your finances

Your overall costs are substantially lower than if you came to London to study full time. You will have no travel, relocation or accommodation costs.

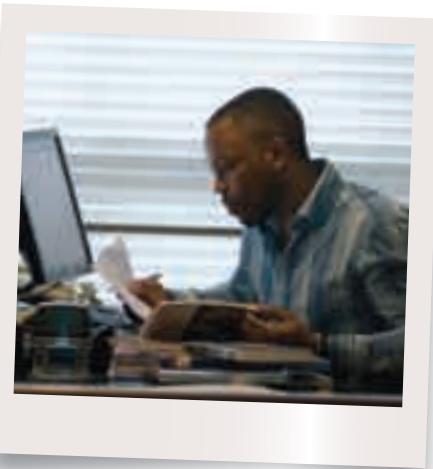
■ Fits with your location

You can study anywhere and choose where you sit your exams.

David Lindsay Prize

The British Computer Society Information Security Specialist Group awards the David Lindsay Prize for the dissertation that best addresses innovative applications of Information Security. All MSc projects in the area of Information Security are eligible for the prize. The final decision is made by the British Computer Society Information Security Specialist Group.

Programme structure



Structure

The **MSc** consists of **six modules** and a **Project**. The **Postgraduate Diploma** consists of **six modules**. The structure for each is shown below.

Four compulsory core modules

- Security management
- An introduction to cryptography and security mechanisms
- Network security
- Computer security

PLUS two optional modules chosen from:

- Secure electronic commerce and other applications
- Standards and evaluation criteria
- Advanced cryptography
- Database security
- Information crime
- Smart cards/tokens security and applications

PLUS (MSc only)

- Project

There is an induction module for this programme available through our website. You are strongly advised to look at this for further details about learning materials and online support.

Assessment

You do not have to come to London to sit your exams, as we have exam centres in more than 180 countries worldwide.

Modules are assessed by unseen written examinations in May each year. The assessment of the project will also include the submission of a written dissertation.

Time commitment

For individual modules, a reasonable expectation for study and exam preparation would be around 200 hours. For most students a reasonable expectation for completion of the programme in the minimum period would be to study 20 hours per week during the academic session (September-April). You have between 2-4 years to complete the MSc, and between 1-4 years to complete the Postgraduate Diploma.

'The tutors were always willing to make contact in times of need and there was an on-line network of students who were keen to share the ups and downs of study. I have moved from being a wary student who had been out of the academic world for years to an eager student who has been accepted for a part-time PhD'

David Boyd, MSc Information Security graduate, UK

An innovative approach to learning

The programme is offered online and is fully supported by a Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). The VLE is like a virtual classroom that the University uses to deliver the content of the programme via the Internet. The VLE will allow you to:

- access your study materials
- take part in discussions/seminars with your tutor and other students
- receive notices, seminar dates, project support and other programme-related information
- ask questions regarding the administration of the programme
- seek help for technical problems that you may encounter.

Study support

The VLE enables you to communicate with tutors and other students from around the world, share insights and support each other in the distance learning process.

You will discuss topics in tutored groups. You will also be able to contribute to the conferencing 'discussion' at the times that suit you

best. All contributions are stored so that you can make reflective and considered contributions. You are also able to print out a permanent record of all discussions on a particular topic within your tutor group.

Most subjects will include a variety of non-assessed coursework and you will be expected to participate in all the virtual seminars.

Study materials

When you register we will send you:

- a Student Handbook
- a copy of the Regulations
- a copy of *The Sciences Good Study Guide*
- Textbooks (for certain modules)
- CD-ROMs
- Password and username to allow you to log on to the VLE.

Continuing Professional Education (CPE)

CPE credits are earned through activities related to the information security profession, including the completion of higher academic courses. All of the compulsory core modules are also available on a stand-alone basis for the purposes of CPE. On the successful completion of each module you will receive a University of London certificate.

Students who have completed the Postgraduate Diploma or MSc degree in Information Security may also register for any optional modules offered by the programme.

If you meet all the necessary entrance requirements you may later apply to register for the MSc and gain credits for the modules you have already passed.

'A pioneering course that continues to provide students with the essential knowledge and understanding of information security, with many graduates going on to fill senior roles'.

Malcolm Marshall, Partner, KPMG

Further information

Entrance requirements

Academic

A second class honours degree or the equivalent, in a relevant discipline (eg. computer science, electronics, information systems, and mathematics) from a university or other institution acceptable to the University.

Mature students with industrial experience will be considered and are encouraged to apply.

AND English language

A high level of competence in English (you may be required to pass, or to have passed within the last three years, at the appropriate level, a test of proficiency in English acceptable to the University).

AND Computing requirements

An IBM-compatible PC (Macs are not supported), a modem and printer (optional). For details of the minimum PC specification please visit the programme entrance requirements section on our website.

Fees

Registration fee	£1,183
Fee per module	£1,531
Project	£3,045
Short course fee (per module)	£1,734
TOTAL MSc	£13,414
TOTAL Postgraduate Diploma	£10,369

The fees given above refer to the 2009–2010 academic year only and are subject to annual review. When you register you can either pay the total amount upfront or pay as you go (a one-off registration fee plus a fee for each module).

If you are taking exams outside London you will have an additional fee to pay to your local examination centre (this fee will vary).

How to apply

For further information on this programme and details on how to apply, please go to our website:

www.londonexternal.ac.uk/infosec

If you have any questions or would like information about any of the other programmes we offer, please contact our Information Centre (details on back cover).



Key dates

Application deadline: 31 May

Registration deadline: 31 July

Course starts: September

Examinations take place: May

The information contained in this leaflet was correct at the date of publication but may be subject to change. The University does not intend by publication or distribution of this leaflet to create any contractual or other legal relation with applicants, registered students, their advisers or any other persons. For the most up-to-date information please visit our website. Copyright © University of London. February 2009.



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE SINCE 1858

We offer more than 100 degrees, diplomas and certificates in the following subject areas:

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|---------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
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| ■ Agriculture | ■ Economics | ■ Humanities | ■ Management |
| ■ Business | ■ Education | ■ Information Systems | ■ Social Sciences |
| ■ Computing | ■ Environment | ■ Languages | ■ Veterinary Science |
| ■ Development | ■ Finance | | |

All programmes offered through the External System are designed by academics at the University of London's constituent Colleges. Assessment is the responsibility of academics at these Colleges. Currently these include: Birkbeck, Goldsmiths, Heythrop College, Institute of Education, King's College London, The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, Queen Mary, Royal Holloway, Royal Veterinary College, School of Oriental and African Studies, and UCL (University College London).

For further information on the range of programmes we offer, please visit our website or contact us at:

The Information Centre, University of London, Stewart House,
32 Russell Square, London WC1B 5DN United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0)20 7862 8360/1/2

Fax: +44 (0)20 7862 8358

Email: enquiries@london.ac.uk

www.londonexternal.ac.uk