UNIVERSITY OF Southampton

Programme Specification

Web Science (Social Science) (2017-18)

This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided.

Awarding Institution	University of Southampton
Teaching Institution	University of Southampton
Mode of Study	Full-time
Duration in years	3
Accreditation details	None
Final award	Bachelor of Science in the Social Sciences with Honours (BSc SocSci (Hons))
Name of award	Web Science (Social Science)
Interim Exit awards	Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE)
	Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)

FHEQ level of final award	Level 6
UCAS code	I200
Programme code	5185
QAA Subject Benchmark or other external reference	N/A
Programme Lead	Susan Halford (sjh3)

Programme Overview

Brief outline of the programme

The Web Science programme is a cross-faculty interdisciplinary undergraduate degree. This programme represents the distinctive approach to Web Science of the University of Southampton. Its strong interdisciplinary foundations allow exploration of both the social and technical aspects of the World Wide Web, and the relations between these.

The programme in Web Science allows students to choose between two 'pathways': Web Science (Computer Science) and Web Science (Social Science). Students on both pathways will take a shared core curriculum, which enables development of the knowledge and skills required to develop critical understanding of the Web, its history and current trajectories of development. These core modules will draw on a range of disciplines to offer a common grounding in Web Science. Each pathway also has a series of compulsory modules, designed to develop in depth computational or social science, knowledge and understanding.

Your contact hours will vary depending on your module/option choices. Full information about contact hours is provided in individual module profiles.

Learning and teaching

- Staff-led lectures, demonstrations, laboratories and seminars
- Directed reading
- Student-led seminars and presentations
- Written assessments, including literature searches and surveys
- Specification, design, analysis, implementation and verification exercises
- Group work exercises, presentations and reports
- Revision for written examinations
- Staff and post-graduate supervision of your research dissertation

Assessment

- In the case of staff-led lectures and seminars, your knowledge and understanding is assessed through written examinations and assessments.
- Your understanding of research methods and your ability to locate and present theoretical approaches is assessed through student-led presentations, written assessments and written examinations, and additionally your dissertation.
- Understanding of current and emerging research questions is assessed through your dissertation, which must include a significant literature survey to set the context for your work, a review of your progress relative to your initial plan, and a critical evaluation and reflection.

Special Features of the programme

This programme is the flagship cross-faculty undergraduate programme launched as part of the University of Southampton Curriculum Innovation Programme. Its innovative core modules have been designed and are taught by web scientists from across the social and computational sciences.

Please note: As a research-led University, we undertake a continuous review of our programmes to ensure quality enhancement and to manage our resources. As a result, this programme may be revised during a student's period of registration; however, any revision will be balanced against the requirement that the student should receive the educational service expected. Please read our Disclaimer to see why, when and how changes may be made to a student's programme.

Programmes and major changes to programmes are approved through the University's programme validation process which is described in the University's Quality handbook.

Educational Aims of the Programme

The aims of the programme are to:
- Provide you with knowledge of Web Science.
- Provide an opportunity to study in an interdisciplinary and research-intensive environment.
- Develop your transferable research skills and interdisciplinary knowledge for a wide range information and technology, research and policy careers.
- Stimulate your interest in the subject using a variety of teaching and learning methods

Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding

On successful completion of this programme a student will have knowledge and understanding of:

A1.   Social and technological approaches to understanding the web;

A2.   The range of disciplines, research methods and theoretical approaches required to analyse, critique and develop the Web;

A3.   Practical skills in applying appropriate research methods and technologies to the solution of real-world problems;

A4.   Current and emerging research questions for Web Science.

Teaching and Learning Methods

- Staff-led lectures, demonstrations, laboratories and seminars.
- Directed reading.
- Student-led seminars and presentations.
- Written assessments, including literature searches and surveys.
- Specification, design, analysis, implementation and verification exercises.
- Groupwork exercises, presentations and reports.
- Revision for written examinations.
- Staff and post-graduate supervision of your research dissertation.

Assessment Methods

Your achievement is assessed as follows:

- In the case of staff-led lectures and seminars, your knowledge and understanding (outcomes A1-A3) is assessed through written examinations and assessments.
- Your understanding of research methods and your ability to locate and present theoretical approaches (outcome A2) is assessed through student-led presentations, written assessments and written examinations, and additionally your dissertation.
- Understanding of current and emerging research questions (outcome A4) is assessed through your dissertation, which must include a significant literature survey to set the context for your work, a review of your progress relative to your initial plan, and a critical evaluation and reflection.

Subject Specific Intellectual and Research Skills

On successful completion of this programme a student will be able to:

B1.   Describe the technical infrastructure and architecture of the web, including hypertext, social and semantic Web;

B2.   Critically appraise and integrate knowledge from a range of social and technical approaches to the we ;

B3.	Acquire and assess different ways of thinking and problem solving within and across disciplinary boundaries;

B4.	Apply your knowledge and understanding to specific problems and research questions about the Web;

B5.	Employ qualitative and quantitative research methods to examine and analyse aspects of the Web.

Teaching and Learning Methods

·	Staff-led lectures, demonstrations, laboratories and seminars.
·	Directed reading.
·	Student-led seminars and presentations.
·	Written assessments, including literature searches and surveys.
·	Specification, design, analysis, implementation and verification exercises.
·	Groupwork exercises, presentations and reports.
·	Revision for written examinations.
·	Staff and post-graduate supervision of your research dissertation.

Assessment Methods

Your ability to employ and integrate knowledge from technical and social disciplines (outcomes B1, B2) will be assessed through written assessments and examinations.

Your understanding of research methods, ability to locate, critique and present information (outcomes B3, B4, B5) will be assessed through student-led presentations, written assessments and your dissertation.

Your ability to think critically, appraise information and apply knowledge (outcomes B2, B3) will be assessed through problem solving exercises, presentations, written assessments and your dissertation.

Your ability to integrate your learning, develop a research question relevant to the web, design and execute research independently and present this (B1, B3, B4) is assessed through your dissertation, which must include a significant review of relevant literature, interdisciplinary analysis of a problem or question relevant to Web Science and critical evaluation and reflection.

Transferable and Generic Skills

On successful completion of this programme a student will be able to:

C1.	Use a range of sources, including the web, to locate relevant information, and critically appraise that information;

C2.	Present specialist information in different written and verbal formats, tailored to a variety of audiences;

C3.	Work efficiently and effectively as a member of a team;p

C4.	Work independently on a significant research project.

Teaching and Learning Methods

·   Directed reading.
·   Student-led seminars and presentations.
·   Technical reports, including literature searches and surveys.
·   Specification, design, analysis, implementation and verification exercises.
·   Group design exercises, presentations and reports.
·   Staff and post-graduate supervision of your research project.

Assessment Methods

Your understanding of research methods, ability to locate, critique and present information (outcomes C1, C2, C3, C4) will be assessed through student-led presentations, written assessments and your dissertation.

Students will be expected to provide documentary evidence of their contribution to group projects and team work (outcome C3), and these may also be assessed in verbal presentations and group activities.

Your ability to integrate your learning, develop a research question relevant to the web, design and execute research independently and present this (outcome C4) is assessed through your dissertation, which must include a significant review of relevant literature, interdisciplinary analysis of a problem or question relevant to web science and critical evaluation and reflection.

Programme Structure

The programme structure table is below:

Information about pre and co-requisites is included in individual module profiles.

Part I

Typical course content

The Web Science programme represents an interdisciplinary undergraduate degree structure that is cross-faculty. This Web Science programme represents the distinctive approach to Web Science of the University of Southampton, its strong interdisciplinary collaborations and the understanding that Web Science is as much about social and organizational behaviour as about the underpinning technology of the World Wide Web.

Individual pathways offer the theoretical and methodological expertise for specialisation in the different aspects of understanding and analysis of the Web. Building on the core curriculum, students will take additional core modules in pathway specific areas, and may choose from a range or optional choices across anthropology, demography, economics, humanities, geography and law.

Programme details

The structure of the programme and the modules currently offered are set out below. Of the modules shown against each year of your programme, some are compulsory (i.e. enrolment is automatic) and others are optional. Against each year, you are directed to which modules are compulsory and which are optional. The option modules shown below constitute an indicative list; there will always be choice but the options might vary between years. A full list of modules and rules will be available to you via the Student Record Self-Service system once you enrol at the University.

The programme comprises three parts, each corresponding to one year of full-time study. You will normally have to take 4 modules (30 ECTS) each semester (i.e. 8 modules (60 ECTS) in each year of the programme. Each credit can be considered as the equivalent of approximately twenty hours of study. All the modules offered in this programme (except the dissertation) are 7.5 ECTS (15 CATS) modules. This means that each module comprises around 150 hours of study divided into contact time (e.g. lectures, seminars, workshops) and non-contact time when you will be engaged in directed study (preparation for classes) and independent study when you will be involved in producing assignments and preparing and taking examinations.

The dissertation is a 15 ECTS (30 CATS) module comprising 300 hours of study divided into contact time (workshops and supervisory tutorials) and a significantly larger portion of hours allocated to non-contact, independent study time. This is because the dissertation is designed to foster independent inquiry and is the culmination of three levels of study, enabling you to apply theories and methods explored at all years and to examine one area of the discipline in detail.

In your first year, you will take 60 ECTS (120 CATS) at FHEQ Level 4, 30 ECTS (60 CATS) in each semester as shown below. Note that all Part I compulsory modules are core, and must be passed in order to progress.

Part I Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
SOCI1014	Foundations in Social & Anthropological Theory	7.5	Core
WEBS1001	Information, Technology and Social Change	7.5	Core
STAT1003	Introduction to Quantitative Methods	7.5	Core
PAIR1002	Political Systems	7.5	Core
SOCI1002	Transformations of The Modern World	7.5	Core
SOCI1001	Understanding Everyday Life	7.5	Core
COMP1056	Web Design	7.5	Core

Part I Optional

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
COMP1215	Foundations of Computer Science	7.5	Optional

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
ECON1001	Foundations of Microeconomics	7.5	Optional
MANG1020	Ideas that Shaped the Business World 1: Government and Society	7.5	Optional
CRIM1003	Introduction to Criminology	7.5	Optional
DEMO1001	Introduction to Demographic Methods	7.5	Optional
MANG1003	Introduction to Management	7.5	Optional
DEMO1003	Population and Society	7.5	Optional
ECON1003	Principles of Microeconomics	7.5	Optional
COMP1202	Programming I	7.5	Optional
SOCI1003	Social Problems and Social Policy	7.5	Optional
MANG1018	Technologies that Shaped the Business World 1: Mechanical Age	7.5	Optional

Part II

In your second year, you will take 60 ECTS at FHEQ Level 5, 30 ECTS in each semester.

Part II Compulsory

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
COMP2213	Interaction Design	7.5	Compulsory
UOSM2012	Online Social Networks	7.5	Compulsory
SOCI2020	Qualitative Research: Foundations, Principles and Skills	7.5	Compulsory
SOCI2031	Social Theory	7.5	Compulsory

Part II Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
WEBS2001	Cybernetics, Societies and the Web	7.5	Core
WEBS2002	Interdisciplinary Group Project	7.5	Core

Part II Optional

You may only select COMP2202 following discussion with your personal academic tutor. It may be possible to choose other relevant option modules, if approved by the programme lead.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
MATH2014	Algorithms	7.5	Optional
COMP2203	Application Scripting	7.5	Optional
SOCI2017	Class Structure and Social Inequality	7.5	Optional
CRIM2002	Crime and Criminal Justice: Historical Perspective	7.5	Optional
CRIM2006	Criminology: Policy & Practice	7.5	Optional
COMP2202	Database and Database Applications	7.5	Optional
PAIR2005	Development and International Relations	7.5	Optional
SOCI2003	Gender & Society	7.5	Optional
LAWS3130	Industrial Law	7.5	Optional
UOSM2017	Intercultural Communication in a global world	7.5	Optional
MUSI2094	Introduction to Music Technology	7.5	Optional
GEOG2010	Introductory Geographic Information Systems	7.5	Optional
DEMO2004	Migration	7.5	Optional
CRIM2001	Perspectives in Criminology	7.5	Optional
PAIR2002	Political Thinkers	7.5	Optional

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
COMP2209	Programming III	7.5	Optional
GEOG2007	Remote Sensing for Earth Observation	7.5	Optional
MATH2012	Stochastic Processes	7.5	Optional

Part III

In your third year, you will take 60 ECTS at FHEQ Level 6, 30 ECTS in each semester.

A major element of your third year is the Dissertation, which runs across both semesters.

Part III Compulsory

COMP6218 is a Level 7 module and UOSM2008 is Level 5, but you may back- or forward-track one or two modules as permitted by the University's credit scheme.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
SOCI3073	Cyber Lives? New Technologies and Social Change	7.5	Compulsory
UOSM2008	Living and Working on the Web	7.5	Compulsory
COMP6218	Web Architecture	7.5	Compulsory

Part III Core

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
WEBS3001	Web Science Dissertation	15	Core

Part III Optional

You may only select COMP3211 and/or COMP3218 following discussion with your personal academic tutor. It may be possible to choose other relevant option modules, if approved by the programme lead.

Code	Module Title	ECTS	Type
COMP3211	Advanced Databases	7.5	Optional
GEOG3006	Advanced Geographical Information Systems	7.5	Optional

MANG3052	Digital Marketing: Engaging with the Customer	7.5	Optional
COMP3218	Game Design and Development	7.5	Optional
CRIM3006	Global Crime and Justice	7.5	Optional
PAIR3014	Globalisation and World Politics	7.5	Optional
MATH3033	Graph Theory	7.5	Optional
LAWS3064	Intellectual Property Law	15	Optional
UOSM2017	Intercultural Communication in a global world	7.5	Optional
ENTR3005	International Entrepreneurship	7.5	Optional
CRIM3002	Issues in Law Enforcement and Social Control	7.5	Optional
MANG3046	Managing Innovation	7.5	Optional
MANG3054	Marketing in the Digital Age	7.5	Optional
DEMO3003	Migration	3.75	Optional
DEMO3008	Population and the Environment	7.5	Optional
COMP3208	Social Computing Techniques	7.5	Optional
GEOG3065	Terrestrial Ecosystems: Carbon Modelling and Monitoring	7.5	Optional

Progression Requirements

The programme will follow the University's regulations for *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Undergraduate and Integrated Masters Programmes* or the University's regulations for *Progression, Determination and Classification of Results: Standalone Masters Programmes* as set out in the General Academic Regulations in the University Calendar: http://www.calendar.soton.ac.uk/sectionIV/sectIV-index.html

Support for student learning

There are facilities and services to support your learning some of which are accessible to students across the University and some of which will be geared more particularly to students in your particular Faculty or discipline area.

The University provides:
- library resources, including e-books, on-line journals and databases, which are comprehensive and up-to-date; together with assistance from Library staff to enable you to make the best use of these resources
- high speed access to online electronic learning resources on the Internet from dedicated PC Workstations onsite and from your own devices; laptops, smartphones and tablet PCs via the Eduroam wireless network. There is a wide range of application software available from the Student Public Workstations.
- computer accounts which will connect you to a number of learning technologies for example, the Blackboard virtual learning environment (which facilitates online learning and access to specific learning resources)
- standard ICT tools such as Email, secure filestore and calendars.
- access to key information through the MySouthampton Student Mobile Portal which delivers timetables, Module information, Locations, Tutor details, Library account, bus timetables etc. while you are on the move.
- IT support through a comprehensive website, telephone and online ticketed support and a dedicated helpdesk in the Hartley Library.
- Enabling Services offering support services and resources via a triage model to access crisis management, mental health support and counselling. Support includes daily Drop In at Highfield campus at 13.00 – 15.00 (Monday, Wednesday and Friday out of term-time) or via on-line chat on weekdays from 14.00 – 16.00. Arrangements can also be made for meetings via Skype.
- assessment and support (including specialist IT support) facilities if you have a disability, long term health problem or Specific Learning Difficulty (e.g. dyslexia).
- the Student Services Centre (SSC) to assist you with a range of general enquiries including financial matters, accommodation, exams, graduation, student visas, ID cards
- Career and Employability services, advising on job search, applications, interviews, paid work, volunteering and internship opportunities and getting the most out of your extra-curricular activities alongside your degree programme when writing your CV
- Other support that includes health services (GPs), chaplaincy (for all faiths) and 'out of hours' support for students in Halls and in the local community, (18.00-08.00)
- A Centre for Language Study, providing assistance in the development of English language and study skills for non-native speakers.

The Students' Union provides
- an academic student representation system, consisting of Course Representatives, Academic Presidents, Faculty Officers and the Vice-President Education; SUSU provides training and support for all these representatives, whose role is to represent students' views to the University.
- opportunities for extracurricular activities and volunteering
- an Advice Centre offering free and confidential advice including support if you need to make an academic appeal
- Support for student peer-to-peer groups, such as Nightline.

Associated with your programme you will be able to access:
· Module co-ordinators support. Module co-ordinators will be available at designated times during the week to discuss issues related to the particular modules you are studying at the time. This will be in addition to class contact time.
· Academic/personal tutor. As soon as you register on this programme, you will be allocated a personal tutor. S/he is a member of the academic team and will be available to discuss general academic issues related to the programme as well as offer advice and support on any personal issues which may affect your studies.
· Module handbooks/outlines. These will be available at the start of each module (often in online format). The handbook includes the aims and learning outcomes of the module, the methods of assessment, relevant background material to the module and a session-by-session breakdown of the module together with appropriate reading lists.
· Within the faculty, administrative support is provided by your student office which deals with student records and related issues and with queries related to your specific degree programme.

Methods for evaluating the quality of teaching and learning

You will have the opportunity to have your say on the quality of the programme in the following ways:

· Completing student surveys for each module of the programme
· Acting as a student representative on various committees, e.g. Staff: Student Liaison Committees, Faculty Programmes Committee OR providing comments to your student representative to feedback on your behalf.
· Serving as a student representative on Faculty Scrutiny Groups for programme validation

· Taking part in programme validation meetings by joining a panel of students to meet with the Faculty Scrutiny Group

The ways in which the quality of your programme is checked, both inside and outside the University, are:

· Regular module and programme reports which are monitored by the Faculty
· Programme validation, normally every five years.
· External examiners, who produce an annual report
· A national Research Excellence Framework (our research activity contributes directly to the quality of your learning experience)
· HE Review by the Quality Assurance Agency

Further details on the University's quality assurance processes are given in the *Quality Handbook.*

Criteria for admission

The University's Admissions Policy applies equally to all programmes of study. The following are the typical entry criteria to be used for selecting candidates for admission. The University's approved equivalencies for the requirements listed below will also be acceptable.

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Qualification	Grades	Subjects required	Subjects not accepted	EPQ Alternative offer (if applicable)	Contextual Alternative offer (if applicable)
International Baccalaureate	34 points overall with 16 at Higher Level				
GCSE	Grade C (Numerical scale 4)	Maths and English			
A Level	ABB		General Studies & Critical Thinking		

Mature applicants

Studying for a degree later in life can be extremely rewarding and mature students are often among our most successful.

Applications from mature students (over 21 years in the October of the year of entry) are welcome. Applications will be considered on an individual basis.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

The University has a **Recognition of Prior Learning Policy**

Students are accepted under the University's recognition of prior learning policy; however, each case will be reviewed on an individual basis.

English Language Proficiency

The table below sets out the English proficiency requirements for this programme in terms of the IELTS test. We accept a range of other English proficiency tests including TOEFL and Cambridge Advanced/Proficiency. For full details of the recognised tests and the equivalent requirements in those tests please see *www.southampton.ac.uk/admissions-language*.

Overall	Reading	Writing	Speaking	Listening
6.5	5.5	5.5	5.5	5.5

Career Opportunities

Web Science will equip students with unique cross-cutting knowledge and skills, marketable to a broad range of employers and employment sectors. We have strong relationships with employers, and our graduates are particularly in demand for their understanding of organisations and their practical abilities in the workplace.

External Examiner(s) for the programme

Name: Tom Hall - University of Cardiff

Name: Dr Anthony J Beaumont - Aston University

Students must not contact External Examiner(s) directly, and external examiners have been advised to refer any such communications back to the University. Students should raise any general queries about the assessment and examination process for the programme with their Course Representative, for consideration through Staff: Student Liaison Committee in the first instance, and Student representatives on Staff: Student Liaison Committees will have the opportunity to consider external examiners' reports as part of the University's quality assurance process.

External examiners do not have a direct role in determining results for individual students, and students wishing to discuss their own performance in assessment should contact their Personal Academic Tutor in the first instance.

Please note: This specification provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. More detailed information can be found in the programme handbook.

Appendix 1:

Students are responsible for meeting the cost of essential textbooks, and of producing such essays, assignments, laboratory reports and dissertations as are required to fulfil the academic requirements for each programme of study. In addition to this, students registered for this programme also have to pay for:

Additional Costs

Type	Details
Stationery	You will be expected to provide your own day-to-day stationery items, e.g. pens, pencils, notebooks, etc.). Any specialist stationery items will be specified under the Additional Costs tab of the relevant module profile.
Textbooks	Where a module specifies core texts these should generally be available on the reserve list in the library. However due to demand, students may prefer to buy their own copies. These can be purchased from any source. Some modules suggest reading texts as optional background reading. The library may hold copies of such texts, or alternatively you may wish to purchase your own copies. Although not essential reading, you may benefit from the additional reading materials for the module.
Approved Calculators	Candidates may use calculators in the examination room only as specified by the University and as permitted by the rubric of individual examination papers. The University approved models are Casio FX-570 and Casio FX-85GT Plus. These may be purchased from any source and no longer need to carry the University logo.
Printing and Photocopying Costs	In the majority of cases, coursework such as essays; projects; dissertations is likely to be submitted on line. However, there are some items where it is not possible to submit on line and students will be asked to provide a printed copy. A list of the University printing costs can be found here: https://www.southampton.ac.uk/isolutions/students/printing/

In some cases you'll be able to choose modules (which may have different costs associated with that module) which will change the overall cost of a programme to you. Details of such costs will be listed in the Module Profile. Please also ensure you read the section on additional costs in the University's Fees, Charges and Expenses Regulations in the University Calendar available at www.calendar.soton.ac.uk.