

Entry Requirements and Applying

Students are normally expected to have at least a Second Class honours degree. We accept students from diverse backgrounds, including, but not restricted to, computer science, electronics, information systems and mathematics. Mature students without a degree but having relevant work experience (and/or industry certifications) are particularly encouraged to apply. A high level of competence in English will be required from students for whom English is not their first language: typically a minimum IELTS of 6.5, or equivalent. All “non-standard” applications are viewed sympathetically, each case being considered individually on its merits.

Some modules require understanding of computer networks/systems, and of elementary mathematics. However, no sophisticated mathematics or scientific skill is required and extra tutorials during the first few weeks of the term cover the necessary material for those students without degree level experience in these aspects.

Entry to the course. Students can start the degree course in September of every academic year.

For detailed information on all aspects of the MSc, including application links visit, royalholloway.ac.uk/ISG

Location. Our beautiful campus is conveniently located in Egham just 19 miles from the centre of London, minutes from the M25, M3 and M4. London Heathrow is 7 miles away and trains to London Waterloo take 40 minutes.

Mark Hanvey, Director, PwC

“I completed the Masters at Royal Holloway and found the teaching to be truly inspirational. The skills I learnt have been hugely beneficial to my career development.”



 @ISGnews  @ISGofficial
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INFORMATION SECURITY GROUP

Masters courses in
Information and Cyber Security

The Information Security Group (ISG) at Royal Holloway, is a world-leading interdisciplinary research group dedicated to research and education that spans information and cyber security.



MASTERS IN INFORMATION AND CYBER SECURITY AT ROYAL HOLLOWAY

There are many reasons why Royal Holloway is the ideal place to study for an MSc in Information and Cyber Security:

Pioneering. Our MSc was the first of its kind in the world, introduced in 1992. The programme continually builds on the fundamental principles that underpin information and cyber security while keeping up to date with the latest developments.

Strength in depth. The strength and breadth of the ISG's expertise and its network of security professionals underpins the programme. There are few MSc courses in the world backed by such a large interdisciplinary group of experts.

Industrially relevant. The MSc syllabus is informed, designed and taught with the assistance of the ISG's extensive network of industrial contacts. The principal objective of the MSc is to prepare graduates for successful careers in the information and cyber security profession. We also offer flexible study modes which can support students in mid-career employment.

An international community. Over 5,000 of our alumni from more than 100 countries now work in the information security sector. By studying our MSc you will join a proud global alumni network of professionals, many of whom are in very senior positions.

Valued extra-curricular activities. On campus we run several specialist short courses, industrial seminars, careers seminars, and are regularly visited by organisations recruiting our students.

Nationally and internationally recognised. Our MSc is certified by the UK National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC), a part of GCHQ. The unique contribution made by the ISG was recognised by a prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize in 1998, and through the formation of a government funded Centre for Doctoral Training in Cyber Security. Royal Holloway ISG is recognised as a UK Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research (ACE-CSR) and has received an ACE-CSE Gold Award in recognition of its excellence and good practice in cyber security education by the UK NCSC.

Structure of the Masters

The MSc has a very rich structure that provides a unique and diversified learning opportunity.

The Core Element. This provides a solid foundation for the Options and Project elements. The Core contains four taught modules covering Security Management, Cryptography and Security Mechanisms, Entrepreneurship, and Research Methods. The research methods material provides students with a sound basis for engaging in the project element.

The Options Element. Two specialist modules are chosen from a diverse list which may include: Secure Business Architectures, Computer and Network Security, Cyber Crime, Legal and Regulatory Aspects of Security, Digital Forensics, Security Testing, Social Foundations of Security and Privacy, Software Security and Critical Infrastructure Security. Students are encouraged to attend as many modules as they like at no extra cost.

The Project Element. This major individual piece of work can be of an academic nature or may document the ability to deal with a practical aspect of information and cyber security.

Flexible learning for everyone

The delivery modes enable very flexible ways of studying the MSc Information and Cyber Security. The following options are available for campus based courses:

Full-time on campus. Students attend lectures, seminars and tutorials during the Autumn and Spring terms. Exams are in May, after which students focus exclusively on their projects.

Part-time on campus. A 'typical' part-time student will attend one or two days per week in term over two years.

Over this period students will attend exactly the same lectures and tutorials as full-time students.

Block-mode on campus. This is ideal for students in full-time employment who find it easier to take individual weeks away from work rather than in part-time mode. Block-mode is broadly similar to part-time except that modules are taught in one-week blocks. Students are therefore only required to be on campus for the specific weeks. Irrespective of the part-time or block study mode, students can take up to five years to complete the MSc.

Information and Cyber Security with a Year in Industry.

A two year full time masters. In the first year, you'll complete four core and two optional modules. In the second year, you'll have the opportunity to undertake a full-time work placement. This will attract a salary and be assessed towards your final degree. On returning to campus you'll complete a supervised project on a topic of your choice. If you decide not to complete the second year you can revert to the standard MSc Information and Cyber Security and complete your project a year early to graduate at the end of year one.

More course information is available at royalholloway.ac.uk/ISG

Distance Learning. The uniquely designed MSc Cyber Security builds on our highly successful programme offered for over 30 years. Delivered online in partnership with the University of London and Coursera, the course is supported by members of the ISG and approved information security professionals, including distinguished alumni of the MSc itself. Students join an integrated network of information security professionals studying the MSc concurrently from many countries worldwide, which presents exciting opportunities to exchange experiences and perspectives. You can complete the course from the comfort of your home and exams are online, so you are not required to visit a Royal Holloway campus at any stage of the distance learning programme. The degree is awarded directly by the University of London, of which Royal Holloway forms part. More details of online study are at: london.ac.uk/study/courses/postgraduate/msc-cyber-security

