

Computing & IT

Computer Networking & Systems Engineering Foundation Degree



The Computer Networking & Systems Engineering Foundation Degree is validated by, and leads to an award of, the University of Bedfordshire.

Academic Level: 5
Award: Foundation Degree
Awarding Body: University of Bedfordshire
Mode of Delivery: Full-Time or Part-Time
Duration: 2 years (full-time) 3 years (part-time)
Location: University Centre Milton Keynes
Start Date: October
UCAS Code: HG65

Entry Requirements

Typically you will progress from A Levels, BTEC National Diploma or equivalent qualifications. Applications from those with relevant work experience are welcomed. As a guideline, a typical offer would ask you to obtain a UCAS tariff score of 120 points, based on your level 3 studies.

For those students whose first language is not English, we require one of the following qualifications:

- International English Language Testing System (IELTS) with a grade of 6.0+
- Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL) with a score of 580 or above
- Cambridge Advanced with a Proficiency Grade C
- The University's own English Language qualification, Test for English Language Assessment Service (TELAS), as a minimum qualification.

How to Apply

Applications should be made through UCAS to the University of Bedfordshire.

Key Features

- Delivered at the technically-advanced University Centre Milton Keynes (UCMK)
- Training incorporates the professional Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) qualification
- Teaching and learning takes place in a custom-built lab with live networking equipment
- Opportunities to undertake work placements available as part of the course
- Registration on the Cisco online academy.

About the Course

The Computer Networking and Systems Engineering course has been designed to enable you to maximise computer network design and development technologies in pursuit of new career opportunities in this rapidly growing industry. This course comprises fundamental subjects entwined with computer systems and networking as a central supporting pillar. This thematic approach to systems and networking enables you to orient your studies towards particular learning outcomes, leading to the ability to progress towards specialisation, whilst maintaining the flexibility that the core provides.

Course Content

Year 1:

- Fundamentals and Concepts in Object-Oriented Programming
- Network Fundamentals and Routing
- Essential Support Skills and Development
- Data Analysis and Database Design
- Network and Operating Systems.

Year 2:

- LAN Switching and Accessing the WAN
- End User Systems – Planning, Deployment, Development and Support
- Server Management and Disaster Recovery Planning
- Project Management and Professional Development.

Assessment

You will be assessed by two principal means during your course of study: formal time-constrained examinations and coursework-based assignments. Assessment methods, depending on the nature of the subject, will consist of either: examination and assignment, 100% coursework or electronic portfolio. The assignments will contribute to your overall profile within a unit and help reinforce your understanding of the subject matter by making sure the relevant learning outcomes are covered. Completion of these assignments is seen, therefore, as an important factor in the successful completion of studies. Examinations take place at the end of the period in which you complete the study of a unit and test your understanding of the subject matter developed over the preceding weeks.

Next Steps

On completing this course, you are likely to progress to the following areas: University of Bedfordshire – BSc, Professional Certification for Cisco Certified Network Associate (CCNA) and then Cisco Certified Network Professional, SUN Java certification.

Career Opportunities

Upon successful completion, you could progress on to a variety of career paths, including, IT operations technicians (network support), network/systems designers and engineers, IT user support technicians and junior software programmers.