Studying Computing at City

This Online Chat session is for anyone who is interesting in studying Computing at City. The session will be run by current students giving you the opportunity to ask questions about your subject of interest and find out what life is like as a university student. Throughout the session you can type questions for the students to answer and there will be interactive quizzes on student life and your subject.

Welcome to this Computing taster session at City, University of London. Unfortunately, we cannot have you on campus at the moment, but we hope our online session will still give you a good idea of what it is like to study Computing at City. To give you an idea of what to expect, our session will follow this format: 1) Our academic staff have recorded a short presentation to give you an idea of the topics covered on Computing courses and the career options related within the professions. 2) We will follow this with a short quiz, don’t worry this is just a bit of fun and all answers are anonymous! 3) You will be able to ask questions throughout the session, but we will also be dedicating some time at the end of the session so that you can ask questions to our academic staff and student ambassadors. We hope you find the session useful!

Hi, my name is Chris and I work in the Marketing and Recruitment team here at City - I hope you enjoy the session!

City, University of London: Dogus Guccav, BSc Computer Science alumnus

https://youtu.be/TRRV4wLisa4

Hi everyone and welcome! My name is Elliott and I work in the Marketing and Events team here at City. Looking forward to answering any questions you may have about City and student life!

Hi, I'm the Undergraduate Admissions Tutor for Computer Science. Please ask me any questions you may have about our Computer Science and Data Science courses.

Welcome to the session! We will be playing a short presentation about the course, but feel free to introduce yourself and ask any questions.

Hi everyone, My name is Martin and I study Computer Science with Cyber Security with Placement Year. Don’t hesitate to ask me any questions about the course, modules, placement and uni life.
Hello everyone, my name is ___ and I’m currently in Year 12.

Hi ___ welcome to the session!

Hi, my names ___.

Welcome ___ Great to have you here!

Hey! My name is ___ and I am currently in Year 12 studying Mathematics, Computer Science and Economics.

Hi there ___ Great subject choices, hope you enjoy the session!

Hi all, I’m ___ and I’m a year 12 student ;)

Afternoon ___.

Hi, I’m ___.

Hi, this is ___.

Hi, I’m ___ and I’m in year 12 studying computer science, maths and physics.

Hey, my name’s ___ and I’m a year 12 student.
Hey I'm Thank you for doing this!

Hey I am

Hi everyone! I'm and I am currently in Year 12 ;)

Hi, my name is and I am a year 12 student currently studying computer science, maths and business

Hello everyone, My name is and I'm a year 12 student

Hi I am and I am just wondering where does a Computer Science degree take you after university

Hi Our degrees are aimed at software developers, software analysts, data analysts, security analysts, etc.

Hello im im a year 12 student

Hi, I'm

Hi, I do computer science for A-level, do I need a maths a level to study computer science at city?

Hi welcome! Great question. At the moment, our entry requirements for BSc Computer Science is ABB (with one of those being Computer Science or Mathematics). If you’ve like to look further into entry requirements, please do have a look at this page: https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/computer-science

Computer Science (BSc)
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UNIVERSITY OF LONDON
EST. 1894

| Hi I am and I am just wondering where does a Computer Science degree take you after university
Hello in uni you study different modules which give you a broad knowledge. After you find what interests you specifically, you can get the entry level job in that field with the degree from the university.
Hi martin, I'm just wondering what's difference between computer science and software engineering in terms of studying?

They're pretty much the same thing, I'd say.

What's the best way to prepare for a computer science degree?

Try a bit of programming to see if it's the sort of thing you enjoy and have an aptitude for.

How many students are there going to be in each class?

In a lecture in first year you start with around 250 students, which may change for the following year. In a tutorial there is usually around 20 people per session.

Hello! I am _[Redacted]_ and I am just wondering what the difference between Bsc and Meng are?

Hi, studying an MEng will mean that you can will graduate with a masters as well as your undergraduate degree.

We hope you enjoyed the presentation and it gave you a good insight into studying Computing at City! We will now begin a short subject quiz. Note that you won't be able to change your answer once submitted, but your responses will be anonymous. If you are on mobile, please swipe left when the question mark appears to view the question. If you are using Internet Explorer, you may need to click on the question mark to view the question.

Hi, do computer science for A-level, do I need a maths a level to study computer science at city?

Hi _[Redacted]_ We really like it if people have done Maths of Computer Science, but we don't require both (and we would consider applications from people with neither).

If you would like to watch the presentation again, you can view it here - [https://youtu.be/jadhapmlA6U](https://youtu.be/jadhapmlA6U)

**Computer Science Taster Session**

Chargement...

Hi, what type of companies have graduates been employed in
Recent Computer Science graduates have joined employers such as Accenture, Blackrock, Feral Interactive, Hamilton-Brown Business Graphics, Imaginations Technology, QA Consulting, Sky and Unruly Group.

**QUESTION (1)** In the late 1970s, the fastest computer in the world was the Cray-1 supercomputer. Each of these 5-tonne machines cost about $8 million. About 100 of them were made, and they were used for weather simulation, code-breaking, nuclear weapons research, etc. (One of them is on display at the Science Museum.) How do you think the computing power of a Cray-1 compares with the processor in a midrange smartphone?

- (A) The Cray-1 was about 1000 times faster than the phone. 3.125%
- (B) The Cray-1 was about 30 times faster than the phone. 3.125%
- (C) The two are approximately equivalent. 15.63%
- (D) The phone is about 30 times faster than the Cray-1. 34.38%
- (E) The phone is about 1000 times faster than the Cray-1. 43.75%

**Hi** I’ve received a conditional offer to study Computer Science at City and was wondering if a one year industrial work experience placement takes place in the third year?

**Hi**, great that you’re thinking ahead about this! After students have completed their second year, you can have a one-year placement. In the past some of our students have been lucky enough to have placements at IBM, Playstation, Microsoft and Disney! If you’d like to find out a bit more about this, the department have their very own dedicated team for this: [https://www.city.ac.uk/about/schools/mathematics-computer-science-engineering/placements-and-internships](https://www.city.ac.uk/about/schools/mathematics-computer-science-engineering/placements-and-internships)

**Placements and internships**

Information about internships and placements with City, University of London’s Department of Mathematics, Computer Science and Engineering

**Hi** How intensive is the study for computer science? Adding on to that, how much of it is theory based along with practical applications?

Hi, City is more practically oriented than theoretical, you still have a lot of theory in some modules, but some are mostly practical, like programming, databases etc.
Hi I've recieved a conditional offer to study Computer Science at City and was wondering if a one year industrial work experience placement takes place in the third year?

There's an optional (but highly recommended) placement year after the second year. City also has a unique Professional Pathway scheme, which a few people take up.

ANSWER (1): Option E - The Cray-1 could perform 160 million numerical operations per second, but the processor in a typical modern phone can perform over 100 billion operations per second. This is typical of the astounding rate of change in computing, which will be surveyed in the Systems Architecture module in the first year. It means that previously unanticipated applications are becoming possible. It also means that computing professionals need more abstract skills and knowledge, not just today's technologies.

Is City accredited for Computer Science?

Our courses are accredited with the British Computer Society.

if i didnt pick maths is it too late and i wont be allowed to pick Computer science

Hi a typical offer to study Computer Science would ask for ABB (one of those to include Mathematics or Computer Science). If you'd like to find out more, please take a look here: https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/computer-science

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QUESTION (2) How many lines of program text are there in the Linux operating system?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(A) about 10,000 lines.</td>
<td>5.263%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B) about 50,000 lines.</td>
<td>13.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) about 100,000 lines.</td>
<td>28.95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(D) about 500,000 lines.</td>
<td>36.84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(E) about a million lines.</td>
<td>15.79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Are there part time software job opportunities for computer science students in London while studying in city?

Hello, yes you can find a part time job, I used to do it, you can ask for help from city for your CV, but it depends on you to find the companies and apply.
Hi, are students who take EPQ given lower offers?

We welcome applications that include the EPQ. Where relevant, this may be included in our offer, resulting in an ‘A’ Level offer reduced by one grade.

Hi! what kind of programming language knowledge we need before entering unibsc course?

It would be really helpful, but not absolutely essential. We start with Processing and move to proper Java in the first year.

We have a lot of questions so please be patient - we will answer them all!

ANSWER (2): Option B - The Linux operating system consisted of 48975 lines when I checked last week, about about half of them in "drivers" for various add-on devices. Other operating systems, such as Windows, are considerably larger. Operating systems manage provide basic services for the vastly larger body of application software needed to make a useful system. In our course, there is a module devoted to them in the second term of the first year.

Hi! Does the course offer a complete computer architecture teaching?

We have modules on Systems Architecture and Networks, but our main focus is software rather than electronics.

Do your computer science courses have any machine learning modules?

Yes, there are options in the final year.

how does it work 2 year then 1 year placement then finished??

**QUESTION (3) Which of these programming languages is the oldest?**

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(A) C++</td>
<td>27.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B) Haskell</td>
<td>40.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) Java</td>
<td>21.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(D) JavaScript</td>
<td>5.405%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(E) Python</td>
<td>5.405%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Generally, what is the percentage of theory compared to programming? And does this change throughout the years of study?
Hi, this will all depend on which modules you elect to take. There is an approximate percentage comparison if you wish to see at the bottom of the course page here: https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/computer-science

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how does it work 2 year then 1 year placement then finished??

If you choose the BSc course then you will go on placement in 3rd year and then come back to study for your 4th year, however placements are not guaranteed so you may finish the course in 3 years

Hello, I'm How much programming knowledge would you recommend for starting the course?

The more the better, though some people arrive without prior programming knowledge (and have to work hard to get up to speed)

Hey, I'm studying maths, physics, further maths, and product design. Are these subjects well suited to computer science? I can do VERY basic programming in C/C++ for my Arduino projects and intend on making a wireless remote control car. Would this be useful? I have several electrical engineering work placements and summer schools, would they be useful too? I don't want it to seem like I want to do engineering, as I have mechanical engineering placements as well.

Hi, any programming experience will be helpful for your studies, but it's not required as you start with basics when you start a new programming module. Arduino would be helpful for your 1st year introduction week.

Hi, can I do a joint course (ie Computer Science with Mathematics) and have optional modules?

We don't have a joint course with Maths. We have options in the final year, but they're all computer science.

Hello, how do I make my personal statement competitive
10 Top Tips For Writing Your Personal Statement

If you read our [Guide to Writing a Personal Statement](https://api.unibuddy.co/og/city-university-of-london/blogs/5e81fe366b9e4a401e658c288) you would know that the personal statement breaks down into roughly 6 sections: Introduction - Love of subject evidence - Your studies - Work experience - Extra activities - Conclusion. To make writing your personal statement even easier we have listing below some great tips for writing each of the sections. Not only that, we’ve also included some general tips along way to make sure you are ready and prepped to get writing. 

Tip 1 - GENERAL TIP: If you’re applying for courses with different titles, talk about the subject area and don’t use a course title - so that it works for all of your choices. However, if it’s too different, you need to really consider if you need to narrow down your choices any further.

Tip 2 - INTRODUCTION TIP: Write it in Word or Google Drive etc and not straight into UCAS – so you can save it and amend it as much as you need to, as UCAS has a 35 minute time limit and if you forget to save, you’ll lose your work!

Tip 3 - INTRODUCTION TIP: Don’t use phrases like ‘from a young age’, ‘from an early age’ or ‘I have always wanted to do…’ as you haven’t, and that’s fine! If you have only discovered a love for a subject since starting sixth form that’s fine. The most important thing is that you’re letting us know why you love this subject.

Tip 4 - INTRODUCTION TIP: We recommend avoiding using quotes anywhere in your personal statement, but especially in the introduction. We would always rather hear your words than someone else’s.

Tip 5 - LOVE OF SUBJECT EVIDENCE TIP: Do not just list what you did, REFLECT on it and let us know how it has been useful in helping to prepare you for the course you are applying for.

Tip 6 - YOUR STUDIES TIP: Let us know about any presentations, group work or anything extra you have done as part of your course, and what you gained from these experiences.

Tip 7 - WORK EXPERIENCE TIP: 

A Guide to Writing a Personal Statement

_Why do I have to write a Personal Statement?_ The primary purpose of a personal statement is for university admissions staff to find out information about you outside of the rest of your UCAS application. Remember, you are writing the personal statement for the university not yourself, so focus on your studies and preparation rather than your life story. Essentially, you need to answer this question: ‘Why do you want to study this subject, and what makes you the right person for the course?’ The priorities are to show:

- Genuine interest and enthusiasm in the course
- How you enjoy the subject beyond the sixth form syllabus
- Skills developed through sixth form, work experience and extra-curricular activities that relate to your chosen course or university life

These skills will be useful on your chosen course. _But remember_: you write one personal statement for all five of your choices and you only get 4000 characters including spaces.

_How do I write a Personal Statement?_ The personal statement is usually made up of these paragraphs:

- Introduction: Love of subject evidence - Your studies - Work experience - Extra activities - Conclusion. Let’s start with the easy parts: _The introduction_: a few short sentences that tell us what subject you’re interested in, why you’re interested in it, where your interest has come from, and how you have developed this over the years. _The conclusion_: a few concluding sentences that either summarise your statement, let us know your future career plans, or let us know what you’re most looking forward to at university. Now, the order of the middle paragraphs is more flexible but the general rule is that your best content should go after your introduction. This is typically ‘love of subject evidence’ or your work experience (if you’re applying for a practical course like Nursing, Midwifery, Teaching etc). _Love of subject evidence_: this is where you let us know what you have done outside of the sixth form...
ANSWER (3): Option A - The oldest of these programming languages is C++, which was introduced in 1982, followed by Python and Haskell in 1990 and Java and JavaScript in 1995. All of them have been substantially revised since. These are languages used in some of the modules of our courses. We use Java as the main language in the first year, and introduce C++ in the second year.

Are there any specific programming languages that would be useful to learn before starting the course?

Hello, yes, Java, C++ and after that if you like programming there is a module which is based on Python (Artificial Intelligence), so Python would be of use.

**QUESTION (4)** Suppose I have implemented a program that can re-arrange 1,000,000 names in alphabetical order in 1 millisecond. How long do you think it would take my program to do the same with 10,000,000 names?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(A) about 10 milliseconds</td>
<td>66.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(B) about 30 milliseconds</td>
<td>9.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(C) about 100 milliseconds</td>
<td>18.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(D) about 10 seconds</td>
<td>3.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(E) about 10 minutes</td>
<td>3.03%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

How mathematically intensive is it?

There is a Mathematics for Computing module in the first term, but it is sets and logic rather than trigonometry and calculus. You will need basic maths, though. Some final-year options may use a bit more maths.

Martin, will I be able to use my own laptop at uni and have all the software that I need on my laptop?

Yes, you can use your laptop and it’s good if you have one during lectures, so you can follow the exercises in some more practical modules.

When looking at personal statements for computer science, what do you look out for?

Hi — the personal statement is your chance to tell us all about your skills, interests and passions related to the areas of study you want to go into. Mention extra things you did of your own accord (extra reading, research, on line courses, taster days) and reflect on them - what did you gain from them? Most people just list and that’s not what we’re looking for.

Are there any year abroad/placement year opportunities?

We encourage year-long placements on our Computer Science courses, we will help you to find placements and work experience. There is also support to help you with CV’s, cover letters etc.
Do you need to have taken computer science at A-level?

Our entry requirements state that Computer Science/Maths are preferable subjects. But you could use your personal statement to show your experience in the subject.

could you tell me more about the computer science with artifical intelligence course please?

We don't currently offer an undergraduate CS with AI course. (We have a postgrad MSc for people who have already done a BSc in computer science.)

ANSWER (4): Option B - It would take my program about 30 milliseconds to re-arrange 10,000,000 names in order, if I have implemented it well.
Methods for solving general problems are called algorithms, and are a key part of computer science. One of their key properties is how their cost changes as we apply them to larger problems, as here.
Re-arranging things in order is a common operation, called sorting.
The time taken by best sorting algorithms grows more quickly than the problem size, but not much more.Algorithms are covered in the second term module Introduction to Algorithms and the second year module Data Structures and Algorithms.
There is also an advanced option on the topic in the final year of the Master’s degree.

I was wondering do the PCs at City run on windows, linux, or mac os?

Hello, all of the OSCs in city run Windows, but you are not restricted on using only windows machines, you can use what you feel most comfortable with.

it is modules for computer Science differs for different universities?

Modules will differ depending on University. All of ours are listed on the course page - https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/computer-science

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QUESTION (5) Consider a country with several cities, for which we know the distance between each pair of cities. Suppose I have a program to find the tour that visits all the cities while travelling the shortest distance, and that my program solves this problem for 100 cities in 1 millisecond. How long do you think it would take my program to do the same with 200 cities?

(A) about 2 milliseconds  28.13%
(B) about 100 milliseconds  59.38%
(C) about 30 days  12.50%

Is processing difficult?

It is intended as a friendly way of starting Java, and is a good way to explore programming and see quick results. Of course programming in general can be a challenge.

I was wondering do the PCs at City run on windows, linux, or mac os?

The uni has PC labs, but we ask computing students to have laptops, because they’ll be using them in lectures and for all their work.

Would City consider lowering their grade requirements for students with extenuating circumstances?

Decisions would be made on a case-by-case basis. Please contact our admissions team and they will be able to help [https://www.city.ac.uk/about/contact#tab=tab:3](https://www.city.ac.uk/about/contact#tab=tab:3)

Contact City, University of London

General contact form for City, University of London.

Do your chances of being employed increase if you have a masters compared to a BSc

In computer science oriented job skills are what matter the most, but I see with my MSci more employers and recruiters are contacting me even before I have graduated. This does not mean that you have to do it, I guess it is based on your skills in the CV and to be able to demonstrate them.

What would be useful to include in my personal statement specifically for computer science?
Personal statements are a great way to show off your experience of the course e.g. some programming projects you have already done and also why you are passionate about the subject.

**ANSWER (5):** Option E - finding the shortest tour of 200 cities would take billions of billions of years. (For reference, current estimates of the age of the universe are about 15 billion years.) This problem, known in the computer science literature as the travelling salesman, is one of a large groups of problems for which no fast solutions are known. The best known algorithms take twice as long for each extra city. Even the explosive growth in computing power cannot overcome this. No-one knows if we can do better: no-one has found a better algorithm, but no-one has proved that none can exist, but we do know that if we could solve one of these problems quickly, we could do the same for all the others. Deciding this question is one of the Millennium Problems: a $1,000,000 prize and lasting fame await anyone who can solve it.

**is the master's degree integrated?**

If you choose to study the MSci course, then yes :)

so because i didn't pick maths or computer science a level theirs literally no way for me to study this now since i didn't know back then but i am interested now but too late

We will consider applications that don't include Maths or CS. We'd like other scientific subjects, and personal statements that show interest in computing.

are there any programming languages you recommend to study before starting the course?

Hi, knowledge in Java and C++ would be useful, but you will study the basics of these languages anyway when you get the modules, Java 1st year and C++ 2nd.

Hi! what is the difference between work experience and placements?

Placements are 12 months so will be done in the 3rd year of the course. Work experience can be done anytime.

We hope you enjoyed the subject quiz! How many did you get right? We now have a few questions about university life.

thanks

What's the difference between computer science and software engineering?
They’re really two labels for much the same thing, though people say CS to indicate a broad focus and SE to emphasize software development.

How much self study would you recommend when taking this course?

Hi, it depends on your speed of studying, based on my experience, I would suggest you follow the university’s guide of how many hours you should invest each week. You can check the overall workload in the following link: https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/computer-science

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how comfortable are the seats in each room? I would need a comfortable seat to avoid my back pain.

Most of the lecture theatre seats are padded so are comfortable. Our student support services may be able to help out if this is a problem though.

1) What is a society?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A top-secret alliance</td>
<td>9.375%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A sport team</td>
<td>3.125%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A club that students can join</td>
<td>87.50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There have recently been a few apprenticeship opportunities for software engineering recently, what could be the advantages of studying computing at university than through an apprenticeship?

I’d say you get more depth and background at university, and that’s quite important in a field that changes as much as computing.

Is the extra year needed to get a Meng different to a regular year at university?

We do an MSci rather than MEng, but it’s four years rather than three for the BSc. The final year offers lots of specialized options and is closer to the cutting edge of CS research than the earlier years.

What activities outside of A-levels would you recommend to prepare for the course.
You can play around with the programming and databases to get familiar, read some UML and get familiar with the diagrams.
You can see the modules which you will study and research additionally: https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/computer-science

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Hi, I just wanted to ask whether the application process would involve an interview and/or entrance tests?

Our entry requirements are based on A-level or equivalent, no test :)

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A club that students can join. Societies are generally ran by students for students around a particular hobby or interest but can be formed for a lot of things really! Societies are an ideal way to meet people, get more out of university, learn new skills and more importantly have a good time.

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Are there part time software job opportunities for computer science students in London while studying in city?

Apart from the placement year, we have a Professional Pathway scheme. It starts after the first year, with 4 days a week with an employer and one day a week at uni.

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What sort of things do you recommend to do in your free time to be most prepared for a computer science course? And is knowing generally about components useful?

Components is mostly for electrical engineering, but computer architecture is always useful. I would suggest you follow the lecture notes and always do the exercises after each lecture, this will help you with your exam preparation.
What proportion of people on the course didn’t take computer science at A level?

This will depend year-on-year, some students may have studies Maths or Computer Science, or both!

When can you use the careers service?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Final year when I’m looking for a job</td>
<td>7.143%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whenever I want</td>
<td>82.14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never – it’s not for students</td>
<td>10.71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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I want to study computer science/software development), but I’m not sure which course I want to do, do you have any suggestions?

At City, the first year is common to all our degrees, so you can switch at the end of that year once you know more about the subject.

How much of the course is self study?

- **Year 1**: Scheduled learning: 20% Independent learning: 80%
- **Year 2**: Scheduled learning: 18% Independent learning: 82%
- **Year 3**: Scheduled learning: 14% Independent learning: 86%
- **Year 4**: Scheduled learning: 14% Independent learning: 86%

Are there any books you would advice to read that could be included in a PS?

Learning a bit of programming would help. It doesn’t have to be a book: there are online sites, such as [https://processing.org/](https://processing.org/)

**Processing.org**

Processing is a flexible software sketchbook and a language for learning how to code within the context of the visual arts. Since 2001, Processing has promoted software literacy within the visual arts and visual literacy within technology.

Does City offer accommodation on-campus?
We work with accommodation providers to enable students to have subsidised living. They are located very close to the campus [https://www.city.ac.uk/study/living-in-london/accommodation](https://www.city.ac.uk/study/living-in-london/accommodation)

**Accommodation**

Find out about accommodation options and halls of residence for students at City, University of London.

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Hi, does a general computer science degree allow me to go into a cyber security/Network engineering career or do I need to specifically study those at university?

You can do options on those subjects in the final year (or final two years of an MSci).

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Hi, does a general computer science degree allow me to go into a cyber security/Network engineering career or do I need to specifically study those at university?

Hello, general degree might not be enough and you would need some side reading and certifications as in the Cybersec field they have some specific requirements. It will definitely give you most of the basics. It should be fine for entry level position in Networks. You can also check the MSci for Cyber Security: [https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/computer-science-cyber-security-msci](https://www.city.ac.uk/study/courses/undergraduate/computer-science-cyber-security-msci)

**MSci Computer Science with Cyber Security**

This degree prepares students for a successful career in technical areas of computer science and information security by developing skills in analysis, design and programming and specialisms in cyber security.

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Do you have any recommended resources for learning programming before coming to university? And do you have a recommended reading list?
If you want to try Processing, it is at [https://processing.org/](https://processing.org/) We have a reading list [https://www.city.ac.uk/applicant/reading-lists](https://www.city.ac.uk/applicant/reading-lists) and we'll be updating it soon for 2021.

**Processing.org**

Processing is a flexible software sketchbook and a language for learning how to code within the context of the visual arts. Since 2001, Processing has promoted software literacy within the visual arts and visual literacy within technology.

**Reading lists**

No widgets were found.

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Would it be useful to work on a project that I can then show off for my statement?

It certainly would.

Whenever I want. You can go to the careers service at any time during your studies with help for looking for part time work, CV’s, and mock interviews and much more.

What kind of projects do students do in year 2 or do they get to choose?

In year 2 there is a team project, developing a piece of software specified by us. In year 3 you do an individual project supervised by an academic, with whom you agree a topic particular to you.

It was said that in the third year, some people get internships - are they still studying at university and paying tuition fee at that time?

If you decide to do a placement it is a full 12 months of working, you won't be required to study.

What kind of projects do students do in year 2 or do they get to choose?

Hi, you have a group project with randomly selected students. It involves programming and databases. It is a real world based project where you interview the teacher/s ask for requirements and create diagrams and a real working application.
### 3) What does SU stand for?

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students' Union</td>
<td>92.59%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sooo Uncool</td>
<td>7.407%</td>
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Is C# a good start for when starting this course? Because for our A levels, we have been using C# most of the time, we had a little experience with Java

The two languages are very similar (some would say C# copied much of Java)

thank you

How does the placement scheme work?

We help you to find a placement, we also help with supporting you with your CV and cover letter etc. but you will need to apply for placements and attend interviews or assessment days. Unfortunately placements aren’t guaranteed

Are there summer placements?

A very few: we find that employers want to have placement students for longer, so that the placement students learn the business and are able to contribute.

Is it possible to choose to study the Bsc course and then change to the Msc course later on?
Yes, this can be done any time up to the end of the second year, provided you get at least 55% in the second year.

We have 10 minutes of the session remaining. We will answer all remaining questions but please be patient as we work through them all.

Do you like students who have a mix of essay and maths based subjects? I'm doing History, politics, maths and computer science a level.

Typically it is good that you are studying Maths and Computer Science but we also look for students who show enthusiasm for the course in their personal statement!

Absolutely. These are useful skills in the computing world.

Do candidates for MSc or BSc computer science require an interview as part of the process?

Our entry requirements are based on A-levels or equivalent, no interview.

What is the most enjoyable thing about studying computer science, (can give your personal opinion) how did you know you wanted to study this degree at uni?

Hi, for me it was the Integrated Masters in Cyber Security, as I want to be in this field. City is more real world based in their studies and more practical (still has theory of course). Also London was my main choice as you get more employment opportunities and City has some big companies like Microsoft and Accenture which partner and look for students from City.

Do you meet many new people when studying in City? (As in friendships and such)

Absolutely! We have a fantastic student community where the more you get involved in the better! We have clubs and societies you can join to meet like minded people as well as meeting people on your course and accommodation (if staying in halls). :)

Are work placements paid for?

Most are! But it does depend on the employer and you will know before you apply whether it is or not.
Would any type of programming project outside the a-level course be beneficial? Say for example if I wanted to teach myself languages such as HTML and CSS to build a website for myself or a group I work with, would this still be considered as a supracurricular activity even though it isn’t in Java or C++?

I think I’d be more impressed with something like Python or PHP than HTML or CSS, which are not complete programming languages.

What are the things you would need to do in independent learning? Do you have any advice?

We will help you with this when you start, the library has lots of resources on how to manage your time effectively etc.

What are some things you recommend putting in an application? What are the things to not put on there?

Hi the more enthusiasm for the course you show the better! Your personal statement is also your chance to tell us all about your skills, interests and passions related to the area of study you want to go into. Mention extra things you did of your own accord (extra reading, research, on line courses, taster days) and REFLECT on them - what did you gain from them? Most people just list and that’s not what we’re looking for.

Hi, what do you think the ratio is for male to female students?

Our current first year is 82% male, 18% female.

How about the exams and coursework we have to do like percentage wise?

Based on this year, this is what the split is: Year 1
Written examination: 41% Coursework: 59%
Year 2
Written examination: 35% Coursework: 65%
Year 3
Written examination: 26% Coursework: 74%
Year 4
Written examination: 24% Coursework: 76%

Is physics recommended for the course or is it a good addition to have?

It is not a requirement and I haven’t seen modules requiring it.

How about the exams and coursework we have to do like percentage wise?

It varies between modules. There are a few coursework-only modules, but most have exams. A common pattern in the second and third years is 70% exam to 30% coursework. First year is slightly more coursework.
There's 5 minutes to go in the session. Thank you for all your questions, we will answer the remaining one's before the session ends.

Is the course generally really challenging?

Generally, no, but it is recommended that you follow the study plan given from city so you don't fall behind on studies.

Do you value AS-levels?

We'll be looking primarily at your three A-levels, but we will also look at AS-levels.

Is tech-city any relevant to the placement scheme?

We are located very close to tech-city and have close links with companies. Every year it varies for how many placements they offer.

Hi Martin, what languages did you use or need to know on the cyber security course?

Hello, I am still doing it, but python and C++ would be of help, for last 2 years, the first 2 years are the same for normal Comp Sci, Software Eng and Cyber Sec.

Is it any type of electronics involved in computer science course?

No, we're about using computers rather than building them.

Electrical engineering work experience or general science summer school? For personal statement. Which would be most beneficial?

Both would be good. Do what interests you the most.

Hi, does a general computer science degree allow me to go into a cyber security/Network engineering career or do I need to specifically study those at university?

You may want to specialise in one of those subjects through doing a masters degree, but we will give you the foundations for knowledge through the modules you will study.
Thank you for joining us for today’s session, we hope you found it useful! If you have any further questions please contact us via our website - [https://www.city.ac.uk/about/contact](https://www.city.ac.uk/about/contact) or chat to our students and staff via our Unibuddy platform - [https://www.city.ac.uk/study/ask-a-student](https://www.city.ac.uk/study/ask-a-student)

**Contact City, University of London**

General contact form for City, University of London.

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**Ask our students and staff**

Speak with one of our current students and find out more about what it is like to study at City.

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**What is the study to social life balance like at City?**

It all depends on you and how fast you can learn and study, but from my personal experience you can have a normal social life and study full time. But if you want to work as well, this will affect your social life.

**Is teaching Scratch to kids a good thing to have on a personal statement?**

Sure. Explaining stuff is a great way to learn.

**Is the learning environment good? (can i ask for a personal experience please :))**

The library is really good, you have both quiet and social area!

**Thank you all for your time.**

Thank you

**What’s a good way to gain experience in the computer science industry when you’re 16/17?**
There are lots of online courses you could do to get familiar with coding :)

How many hours of lectures or scheduled learning are given a week?

typically you’re doing 4 modules, each of them with 2 hours of lectures and one hour of lab/tutorial.

Would C# be a good start for this course? We have used C# for our A Levels.

Yes

Thank you for this session!

Thank you so much

thank you so much for this opportunity

Thanksks

Thank you so much!

Thank you

Thank you very much!

Thanks guys

Thanks!

thanks

thank you this was useful
It was great to talk to you all today! I hope you found the session useful. Best of luck and take care!

Thank you.

Thanks for your time!

Thank you!

Does the course focus more on the methodology behind creating software or just the methods themselves?

We have a second year module on methodology, but most programming modules have a practical focus.

What are a few examples of admissions projects which you’ve seen in the past that have been most useful to the applicant? Or most impressive?

Some people have done some impressive development projects, but just do what you will learn from.