Experience your career in IT with City University London

Ask yourself: would you like...
- a head start in your career in the IT industry?
- to find out first-hand what role in the IT industry suits you best?
- to really put into practice what you learn in your degree?
- to learn valuable skills that employers demand?
- to earn a competitive salary before graduation?

Employability through experience
City University London’s placement schemes offer you all this and more. Students gain marketable skills and frequently achieve higher marks in their degrees. Many students secure graduate job offers from their placement employers.

Long-standing employer links
City University London has been delivering placements in the IT industry for over 20 years. Microsoft, IBM, Accenture and Goldman Sachs regularly recruit our students. We have developed an excellent reputation with an impressive and diverse range of companies spanning both large and small organisations. Our unique location in London enables us to work closely with start-ups in the fastest growing technology cluster in Europe – TechCity.

Unrivalled support
At City we take your industrial placement seriously. Our dedicated placements team (Professional Liaison Unit) proactively seeks out placement opportunities for you and helps you to apply for them. While on placement, you will receive regular visits from City’s Work-based Learning Advisors who will provide full support in helping you maximise your achievements during your IT industry experience.

Two routes to success, which is right for you?
As a computing student at City, we offer you an outstanding opportunity to gain practical experience alongside your studies. Our placement schemes give you the chance to see for yourself how the latest technologies you are learning about are being used in the workplace. A placement enables you to develop your technical skills and business knowledge, to really understand the IT industry and to learn about the many different career paths available to you.

City University London offers two types of highly regarded placement schemes: our one-year placement scheme and our unique Professional Pathway scheme.

One-year placement scheme
One year placements are taken after you have successfully completed your second year of study (or on completion of the 3rd year of an MSci). You can undertake a 9-12 month placement and then return to finish your studies. Each year, a large number of students secure a graduate role with their placement employer.

Professional Pathway
Professional Pathway (PP) offers you a unique opportunity to gain three years of professional experience alongside your studies. Students take the same course content and exams as full-time students, but at a slower pace and over a longer period of time. For 45 weeks of the year.
FAQs
These are the most common questions we’re asked, do get in touch if you’d like more information.

Q. Do I get paid?
Yes. Placements are paid, although some students carry out voluntary work. The average salary for paid placements is between £15-22,000 per year. In exceptional cases, this can be substantially more.

Q. When do I need to decide whether I want to do a placement?
One year placements are finalised during your second year. We prepare you for applying for placements through a core module during your second year, guiding you through things like creating a professional CV, answering application questions, preparing you for interviews etc.

Q. How do I find a placement?
We will support you throughout your search for a placement. City has extensive experience in enabling students to secure placement employment in the IT industry. The Professional Liaison Unit works with large multinationals and SMEs, often securing placements exclusively for our students.

Q. What happens on placement?
Students undertake meaningful work in a supportive learning environment. Examples of this are: user support, software development, business analysis, project management, software testing, web development, games programming etc. City ensures that you are provided with a planned sequence of learning opportunities, goals and industrial training.

Q. Do I get marks for my placement year?
Yes. When you accept a placement, you are enrolled on a distance learning module and complete various components while on placement to document your learning and professional development.

Q. When can I join Professional Pathway and how does it work?
PP is unique because placements are finalised at the end of the first year. We will work with you during the first year to help you find a PP employer. You would then complete the remaining two years of your degree over three years – combining study with employment.

Q. How do I find a PP placement?
We offer you employability support through workshops and one to ones. We then inform you about PP placement opportunities (often with employers working exclusively with us) and assist you with your applications.

Professional Pathway (PP)

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<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td>Full-time university</td>
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<td>PP year 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>PP year 4</td>
<td>Employment and university</td>
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Students can also join PP at the end of their placement or at the end of the second year, but the most common entry point is the end of the first year. Overseas students can only join PP on completion of their second year.