Postgraduate programmes in

Cyber Security

With academic direction from:

ROYAL HOLLOWAY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

london.ac.uk/cyber-security

World class. Worldwide.

Join the World Class

1 Gain hands-on experience with real-world case studies
This degree offers a combination of modules covering important areas such as security management and governance, cybercrime, applied cryptography and information privacy. Through these modules, you'll gain hands-on experience with the latest industry case studies to help you make an impact at any organisation.

2 Learn from world-class cyber security experts
You'll benefit from the wide-ranging expertise of pioneering and influential academics, researchers and professionals in the cyber security field. As you advance through the curriculum, you'll learn about the most relevant tools, techniques, and technologies from thought leaders defining the future of cyber security.

3 Employability and career progression
This programme is targeted at career-minded individuals who wish to develop their professional skills with academic and practical insights into the subject of cyber security.

4 Study at your own pace, on your schedule
Studying a University of London degree online gives you the flexibility to work while you study, turning almost any location into your own classroom without the costs of face-to-face study on campus.

5 A mark of excellence
Earn an internationally recognised qualification from the University of London. The University has a track record of teaching, innovation and research dating back 160 years.

"In a fast changing environment of worldwide access to higher education, a University of London degree continues to offer a guarantee of quality, value and intellectual rigour."

Professor Wendy Thomson
Vice-Chancellor,
University of London

Your prestigious University of London qualification

About your qualification

When you graduate with a degree, diploma or certificate from the University of London you will receive two important documents – your Final Diploma (the parchment you receive on graduation) and a Diploma Supplement.

The Final Diploma

- Indicates that you were registered with the University of London and awarded a University of London degree, diploma or certificate.
- Gives the name of Royal Holloway, University of London as the Member Institution that developed the syllabus and provided assessment.
- Features the University of London crest and the Vice-Chancellor's signature.

The Diploma Supplement

- Describes the nature, level and content of the programme you successfully completed.
- Includes the transcript of courses taken, marks achieved and overall classification.
- States the role of Royal Holloway, University of London and the method of study.

Contents

Key dates

Applications and registration open

19 December 2022

Applications close

27 March 2023

Registrations close

3 April 2023

Programme starts

April 2023

Intake per year

April, October

A University of London degree from anywhere in the world

Dr Fauzia Idrees

Programme Director, Distance Learning MSc Cyber Security

In a world that is deeply interconnected by digital technologies, cybersecurity and global security have become the same thing. Technologies like AI, quantum computing, internet of things (IoTs), cloud computing, and blockchain represent the future of our digital world. The potential cyber risks of these technologies define the future of cyber security. With increased dependency on cyberspace, security lies at the heart of prosperity of any nation.

Cyber security is a challenging field. It requires continuous updating and extraordinary awareness, to countermeasure the novel and rapidly expanding threat landscape. Our active research community at the Royal Holloway Information Security Group (ISG) continuously contributes to new research findings and incorporates this

cutting-edge research into the course materials and syllabi. This ensures that our programme contents are aligned with contemporary research, industry and market demands, and the ever-evolving attack landscape.

Just like our flagship campus and distance learning MSc Information Security programmes, the distance learning MSc Cyber Security is also founded on decades of experience at Royal Holloway and has evolved continuously.

The new programme offers excellent opportunities to students, as all requisite support is made available through online forums and seminars that are operated within a virtual learning environment.

One significant feature of the programme is availability of a universally integrated network of information security professionals who come from multifaceted backgrounds and versatile experiences, and form networks to share their extremely fascinating experiences and perspectives with other students.

Please note: the Programme Director is unable to respond to individual enquiries relating to the MSc Cyber Security. If you have any questions, please contact us via the enquiry form at: **sid.london.ac.uk**, or register your interest in the programme via Coursera: **coursera.org/degrees/msc-cyber-security-london**

A trusted name in global education

The University of London is one of the world's leading universities, internationally recognised for its high academic standards. This reputation is based on the outstanding teaching and research of our 17 Member Institutions.

Upon finishing a programme of study, graduates automatically become part of the University of London alumni community, a diverse global network. Among former students are seven Nobel Prize winners, including Nelson Mandela and Charles Kao, a pioneer in the development of fibre-optics.

London made global

Founded in 1836, the University of London is one of the oldest and most prestigious universities in the UK and is internationally regarded as a centre of academic excellence. In 1858, we made our degrees available to study anywhere in the world.

Today, we have more than 45,000 students in over 190 countries, studying on 100-plus degrees, diplomas and certificates.

Learn from internationally renowned experts

The programme has been developed with Royal Holloway, University of London. Royal Holloway is ranked among the top 35 universities in the UK by the 2023 *Guardian* University Guide, and is highly regarded for its strong industry ties, dynamic and engaged community of professional alumni, and its foundational commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Royal Holloway is recognised as a UK Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research (ACE–CSR) and has received an ACE–CSE Gold Award from the National Cyber Security Centre in recognition of the institution's excellence in cyber security education. The ISG at Royal Holloway also recently earned an Athena SWAN award recognising its commitment to, and excellence in, advancing gender equality.

Throughout your studies you'll be taught by world-class cyber security experts with decades of both industry and academic experience.

As pioneering and influential researchers, academics and professionals in the security field, the programme's faculty regularly provide expert advice to a range of major bodies. These include, UK All-Party Parliamentary Groups, the International Organization for Standardisation, the International Electrotechnical Commission, the European Telecommunications Standards Institute and the Internet Engineering Task Force.

Build essential skills to help you advance your career

This master's degree is designed for aspiring professionals who are looking to gain valuable insight into the methods, approaches and concepts in cyber security.

You'll build essential foundation skills over the long term, while gaining hands-on experience with the latest industry case studies. You'll learn a broad range of timely and relevant topics to prepare you for real-world career success and ensure that you can make an immediate impact at any organisation.

By studying this programme, you will gain:

- practical applied skills relevant to current and emerging demands in the cyber security field

- the ability to master the latest and most relevant tools, techniques, strategies and technologies

- the ability to think critically about how organisations manage security

- direct access to industry professionals with specific expertise in key areas of cyber security

- experience of working with real-world case studies that reflect new and timely challenges

- independent critical and evaluative skills, and intellectual curiosity for life-long learning

- a globally recognised qualification from one of the top 35 universities in the UK with a long history of leadership and innovation in information security and cyber security.

In some countries, qualifications earned by distance and flexible learning may not be recognised by certain authorities or regulators for the purposes of public sector employment or further study.

We advise you to explore the local recognition status before your register, even if you plan to receive support from a local teaching institution.

Collaboration with Coursera

An academic first approach

We are extremely proud to have been the first university to partner with Coursera when it embarked on its first bachelor's degree back in 2018. The University of London has more than 53 courses on the Coursera platform, generating over 3.4 million Coursera learner enrolments.

Coursera has over 97 million registered learners spread over more than 5,400 courses and more than 640 specialisations. They've partnered with some of the world's leading universities, which include Johns Hopkins University, University of Michigan, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, and Shanghai Jiao Tong University.

Coursera's courses are used by leading brands to train and update their staff. You can read more about Coursera at: **about.coursera.org**

US-imposed restrictions

United States export control regulations prevent Coursera from offering services and content to users in certain countries or regions. More information about which countries or regions are affected can be found at: **bit.ly/intl-restrictions**

Coursera must enforce this restriction in order to remain in compliance with US law and, for that reason, we advise that all learners check this information before applying to the programme.

Welcome from Betty Vandenbosch, CCO

We are honoured that the University of London is launching its fourth degree programme on Coursera. This new programme enables the next generation of cyber security leaders to earn a flexible, affordable degree from one of the top 35 universities in the UK.

The Master of Science in Cyber Security was designed by leading experts at the ISG, recognised as one of eight Academic Centres of Excellence in Cyber Security Research in the UK.

Through lectures you can watch at any time, real-world projects and online tutorials showcasing the latest tools, you will study and learn how to apply security management, cybercrime, cryptography and information privacy skills.

This job-relevant programme will prepare you for the nearly six million new cyber security jobs that will emerge by 2025 – of which nearly 100,000 will be in the UK.

I am eager for the incoming students, and eventual graduates, of this programme to shape the future of cyber security and help keep organisations safer and more secure.

About Coursera

Coursera was launched in 2012 by two Stanford Computer Science professors, Andrew Ng and Daphne Koller, with a mission to provide universal access to world-class learning. It is now one of the largest online learning platforms in the world, with 113 million registered learners.

Coursera partners with over 275 leading university and industry partners to offer a broad catalogue of content and credentials, including courses, specialisations, professional certificates, guided projects, and bachelor's and master's degrees.

Institutions around the world use Coursera to upskill and reskill their employees, citizens and students in fields such as data science, technology, and business. Coursera became a B Corp in February 2021.

How you study
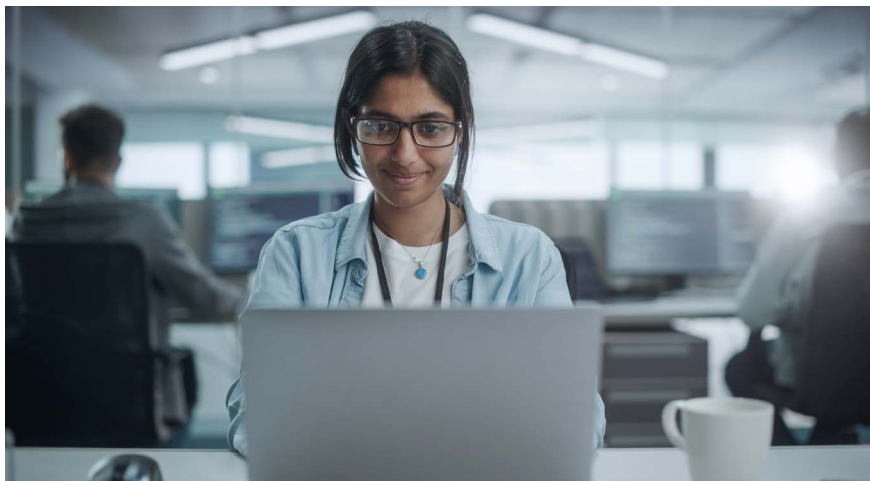
The programme offers a variety of highly engaging learning materials and activities. Your learning experience will be enhanced with an accessible and attractive virtual learning platform and opportunities for self-assessment so you can understand your own progress.

A range of integrated knowledge and skills development approaches are used to encourage learning: pre-recorded videos, readings, formative discussion forums, formative multiple-choice quizzes and online tutorials.

Each 15-credit module comprises weekly topics, corresponding to the key content items detailed in the module descriptors, and equating to approximately 10–12 hours of directed learning per week.

There are four study sessions in a year, each lasting 10 weeks. Sessions begin in October, January, April and July. Each session is followed by an assessment submission point.

Programme structure

MSc Cyber Security consists of:

10 core modules (15 credits each)

One Project module (30 credits)

Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) Cyber Security consists of:

One core module (15 credits)

Seven optional modules (15 credits each)

Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) Cyber Security consists of:

One core module (15 credits)

Three optional modules (15 credits each)

Select modules from the MSc Cyber Security are available to study on a stand-alone basis, subject to module availability. You may take three modules (45 credits total) on a stand-alone basis without being registered for the PGCert, PGDip or MSc.

Online support

The programme is delivered online and there is no requirement to come to the UK as part of your studies. Our flexible online programme allows you to work around your own schedule and leads to a globally-recognised qualification.

When you register, we will give you access to the Student Portal. You can then access your University of London email account and other key resources including:

- The Student Guide which provides information is common to all students and gives useful information about your relationship with the University of London through to graduation.

- The Virtual Learning Environment (VLE) which provides access to:

  - study materials (including lessons, activities and assignments)

  - sample examination questions and formative multiple-choice quizzes (MCQs) to aid revision

  - online tutorials and interactive webinars provide support and guidance throughout each study session

- communication tools such as discussion forums, Slack (a cloud-based messaging system) and Zoom (video conferencing software)

- the Online Library, which provides access to over 100 million academic electronic items comprising ebooks, ejournals, conference proceedings etc. In addition, you can request items which are not held in the library via the Online Library's Inter Library Loans service with the British Library. All registered students have free access to the University of London's Online Library via: **onlinelibrary.london.ac.uk**

- Senate House Library provides free reference access for all registered distance and flexible learning students.

Study materials

All essential resources, activities, videos, discussions and support are provided through the VLE. This allows you to fit your studies around your work commitments. There is no need to purchase additional textbooks.

Time commitment

The flexible approach to learning allows students to complete the MSc Cyber Security in a minimum of two years (subject to module availability) to a maximum of five years.

You can study at your own pace, either part time or full time, adjusting the intensity of learning to suit your needs.

"Upon successful culmination of the programme, you will find yourself on a launch pad to commence your journey as a qualified and very well-equipped cyber security professional. The programme is outlined in such a way that you will have a variety of options to either pursue your career in the preferred specialties or further your higher studies in selective disciplines."

Dr Fauzia Idrees
Programme Director

Entrance requirements and further information

To register for the MSc Cyber Security, you will normally need to satisfy our general entry requirements.

The University of London welcomes qualifications from across the world, which are equivalent to UK GCSEs and A levels. This degree is open to those with non-traditional qualifications via our performance-based route. This route also welcomes applications from those with relevant work experience but no formal qualifications. For further information visit: **london.ac.uk/cyber-security**

Entry route 1: Direct entry route

To qualify to register for the MSc, PGDip or PGCert you will need a bachelor's degree which is considered at least comparable to a UK second-class honours degree from an institution acceptable to the University.

Entry route 2: Performance-based admissions

If applicants do not meet the requirements for direct entry, they can apply for the MSc via the performance-based admissions (PBA) route. To qualify for entrance via the PBA route you will need a third-class bachelor's degree or Aegrotat.

Applicants with an appropriate professional experience qualification from a recognised professional body will be considered on an individual basis. Students on the PBA route may transfer to the MSc on successful completion of two modules (30 credits).

Entrance requirements for stand-alone individual modules

To qualify to register for a stand-alone individual module you will need a third-class bachelor's degree or Aegrotat.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

We consider applications for RPL on the basis of studies successfully completed at an appropriate level.

If you are registering on the MSc Cyber Security, you may apply for RPL for up to 120 credits (eight 15-credit modules).

If you are registering on the PGDip Cyber Security, you may apply for RPL for up to 75 credits (five 15-credit modules).

If you are registering on the PGCert Cyber Security, you may apply for RPL for up to 30 credits (two 15-credit modules).

English language requirements

You must satisfy the English language requirements for the programme. For more information on the requirements please visit: **london.ac.uk/applications/ how-apply/english-requirements**

If you do not meet the English language proficiency requirements but believe that you can demonstrate the requisite proficiency, the University may, at its discretion, consider your application.

Computer requirements

The University of London sets minimum basic computer requirements because your study resources are accessed via the Student Portal and it is vital that you can access this regularly.

For this programme, you will need regular access to a computer with an internet connection. You will also need to be able to view video material and access to a media player (such as VLC) to play video files.

For more information about computer requirements, please visit: **bit.ly/computer-reqs**

How to apply

Please refer to the MSc Cyber Security webpages for details on how to apply: **london.ac.uk/cyber-security**

Fees

The total fee payable to the University of London for 2023–2024 will be published on our website once confirmed. On average, fees incur a five per cent year-on-year increase. For the latest information on programme fees, please visit: **london.ac.uk/fees**

Please note: student fees shown on our website are net of any local VAT, Goods and Services Tax (GST) or any other sales tax payable by the student in their country of residence. Where the University is required to add VAT, GST or any other sales tax at the local statutory rate, this will be added to the fees shown during the payment process. For students resident in the UK, our fees are exempt from VAT.

Postgraduate programmes in Cyber Security

For further information on the range of programmes we offer, please visit our website (**london.ac.uk**) or contact us at:

The Student Advice Centre
University of London
Senate House, Malet Street
London WC1E 7HU
United Kingdom

Telephone enquires: **+44 (0)20 7862 8360**

Online enquiries: **sid.london.ac.uk**

This material is available in alternative formats upon request.
Please contact: **special.arrangements@london.ac.uk**

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