

UNIVERSITY OF KENT AT CANTERBURY

MODULE SPECIFICATION

- 1 **The title of the module:** CO791 Industrial Placement for visiting students
- 2 **The Department which will be responsible for management of the module:**  
Computing Laboratory
- 3 **Start Date:** Autumn 2007
- 4 **The cohort of students (onwards) to which the module will be applicable:**  
2008
- 5 **Number of Students:** 2
- 6 **Modules to be withdrawn:** None
- 7 **The level of the module:** I
- 8 **The number of credits which the module represents:** 120
- 9 **Which term(s) the module is to be taught in (or other teaching pattern):** 1, 2 and 3. Based on the Canterbury campus in term 1 and on industrial placement in terms 2 and 3. Students return to the Canterbury campus following their placement for a further period of study.
- 10 **Prerequisite and co-requisite modules:** Prerequisites are dependent upon the combination of non-contributory modules selected from the BSc Computer Science programme.
- 11 **The programmes of study to which the module contributes:**  
This module is intended for short-term visiting students leading to a Diploma in Computer Science.
- 12 **The intended subject specific learning outcomes and, as appropriate, their relationship to programme learning outcomes**
  - a) During their placement, students will learn to apply the knowledge, understanding and skills they have developed during the Autumn term and earlier stages of their home University programme to “real world” tasks in an industrial or commercial setting
  - b) Other subject-specific learning outcomes drawn from the non-contributory Computing modules followed in the Autumn term and the industrial placement.
- 13 **The intended generic learning outcomes and, as appropriate, their relationship to programme learning outcomes**

On completion of this module students will be able to:

  - c) Work effectively as a member of a professional team. **(D1)**
  - d) Make succinct presentations to a range of audiences about technical problems and their solutions **(D2)**.
  - e) Make effective use of general IT facilities; information retrieval skills **(D3)**
  - f) Depending on the requirements of the placement, understand and explain the quantitative dimensions of a problem **(D4)**
  - g) Manage their own learning and development, including time management and organisational skills **(D5)**
  - h) Appreciate the need for, and have engaged in, continuing professional development **(D6)**

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- i) Other generic learning outcomes drawn from the non-contributory modules followed in the Autumn term and the industrial placement.

### 14 **A synopsis of the curriculum**

Students attend a pre-term acclimatisation course suitable for international students.

In the Autumn term, students register for 60 credits of non-contributory modules. Where necessary, LZ329 Developing English Language will be one of these. The remaining credits are chosen from appropriate Computing (CO) Autumn term modules at level I or above. These are selected with the advice and assistance of a member of staff responsible for short-term students.

Students spend six months (January - June) working in an industrial or commercial setting, applying and enhancing the skills and techniques they have developed and studied in the Autumn term and in the earlier stages of their home University programme. The work they do is entirely under the direction of their industrial supervisor, but support is provided via a dedicated Placement Support Officer within the department. This support includes ensuring that the work they are being expected to do is such that they can meet the learning outcomes of the module.

Students return to the Canterbury campus following their placement for a further period of study.

Note that participation in this module is dependent on students having obtained an appropriate placement, for which guidance is provided through the department in the year leading up to the placement.

### 15 **Indicative Reading List**

None

### 16 **Learning and Teaching Methods, including the nature and number of contact hours and the total study hours which will be expected of students, and how these relate to achievement of the intended learning outcomes**

During the Autumn term, students undertake a full-time course load on 60 credits of non-contributory modules. This includes completion of normal coursework. Summer examinations in these modules will not be taken.

While on placement students' learning is expected to be directed by their industrial supervisor, depending on the requirements of the role they take in the organisation. The Placement Coordinator makes at least two visits to the student during the year. The first near the start of the placement to check that integration into the workplace is proceeding, and that the work being required of the student is appropriate, the second at a later stage to assist both the student and the organisation with the requirements of the assessment process.

Following the placement, the student returns to the Canterbury campus for a period related to assessment – see section 17.

### 17 **Assessment methods and how these relate to testing achievement of the intended learning outcomes**

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Assessment has the following components:

- When taken as a non-contributory module, LZ329 (Developing English Language) must be passed.
- A coursework element drawn from the assessments of the non-contributory Autumn term Computing modules (20%).

Overall coursework marks for each module will be combined with relative weights based on the coursework weights of the individual modules. For instance, overall coursework marks from three modules with cwk:exam weightings of 20:80, 30:70 and 50:50 would be combined in the ratio 2:3:5, respectively, to derive a single overall coursework mark for this module.

- Assessment of the placement (80%).

This has two components:

- Assessment by the industrial supervisor (40%), covering the student's management capability and decision-making skills (learning outcome *(g)*), the resourcefulness and creativity they have evidenced (*(a)*), their functional/technical skills and knowledge (*(a, e, f)*), written and oral communication skills (*(d)*), ability to work in a team (*(c)*) and general reliability (*(g)*). This assessment is guided by the Placement Coordinator, and moderated internally by the department.
- Assessment of a reflective written report (40%) produced by the student on their return to the Canterbury campus (*(d)*). This report is required to include:
  - § A description of the organisation in which the placement took place, and the student's roles within it (*(c)*).
  - § A description of the various tasks undertaken during the placement (*(a)*).
  - § The training, both formal (courses) and informal (on the job), undertaken by the student in the period plus any other learning experiences (*(g, h)*).
  - § Any changes to the supervision or nature of the placement.
  - § A discussion about the outcomes of the work, or other influential impacts on the placement (*(a, c, h)*).
  - § Reflection on significant achievements and personal developments through the year (*(g)*).

### 18 **Implications for learning resources, including staff, IT and space**

A placements officer is employed to coordinate the placements programme. Students will need to be accommodated in University accommodation on their return from placement. This may be outside the normal term-time dates.

### 19 **SENDA statement**

The department recognises and has embedded the expectations of SENDA, and supports students with a declared disability or special (educational) need in its teaching, through the establishment of Inclusive Learning Plans agreed between student, department and the Disability Support Unit. We liaise with the Disability Support Unit in order to provide specialist support where needed.

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**Statement by the Director of Learning and Teaching:** "I confirm I have been consulted on the above module proposal and have given advice on the correct procedures and required content of module proposals"

.....  
Director of Learning and Teaching

.....  
Date

**Statement by the Head of Department:** "I confirm that the Department has approved the introduction of the module and will be responsible for its resourcing"

.....  
Head of Department

.....  
Date

7<sup>th</sup> November 2008