



# Cyber Defence and Information Assurance MSc (Defence)

[www.cranfield.ac.uk/cdia](http://www.cranfield.ac.uk/cdia)



**Designed to develop military and defence industry professionals who can lead in a defensive cyber environment, to effectively exploit the threats and opportunities of cyberspace at the organisational level. The course focuses on understanding and articulating the strategic and executive-level responses to serious present and emerging threats in the information domain.**

## Who is it for?

Students will be military personnel, civil servants and defence industry professionals who are one or more of the following:

- Managers or leaders in a cyber environment who need to understand information risk and respond to cyber threats;
- Procurement staff commissioning critical or sensitive projects;
- Policy and planning staff interested in computer network and security operations;
- Those charged with accreditation and assessment of security measures;
- Those holding the positions of, or aspiring to be, Chief Information Officers (CIO) or Chief Information Security Officers (CISO).

## Your career

This qualification will take you on to become one of the next generation of managers who can understand and effectively manage and exploit the threats and opportunities of cyberspace at the organisational level. Crucially, it will also enable graduates to communicate cyber issues to senior management or executive board level. The course is directly relevant to those wishing to improve their knowledge and skills as, or those aspiring to become, a CIO or CISO.

## Cranfield Careers and Employability Service

Cranfield's Career Service is dedicated to helping you meet your career aspirations. You will have access to career coaching and advice, CV development, interview practice, access to hundreds of available jobs via our Symplicity platform and opportunities to meet recruiting employers at our careers fairs.

Our strong reputation and links with potential employers provide you with outstanding opportunities to secure interesting jobs and develop successful careers. Support continues after graduation and as a Cranfield alumnus, you have free life-long access to a range of career resources to help you continue your education and enhance your career.

## Overview

### Start date

September

### Duration

MSc: 11 months full-time or up to three years part-time; PgDip: up to two years part-time; PgCert: up to two years part-time

### Qualification

MSc, PgDip, PgCert

### Study type

Full-time / Part-time

### Structure

The course is delivered via blended learning, with a mixture of residential and online teaching, and assessment is through coursework, group practicals, presentations and (MSc only) an individual dissertation.

### Campus

Cranfield University at Shrivenham

### Entry requirements

A first or second class honours degree; or 3rd class degree with three years' relevant experience; or pass degree with five years' relevant experience; or HND/C with seven years' relevant experience.

Exceptional candidates may be accepted with ten years' relevant experience, where this experience is gained in Information Security, Information Operations, Information Risk or a related role.

### Security clearance for Shrivenham

Some Cranfield University courses are delivered at the Defence Academy of the United Kingdom, Shrivenham which is a Ministry of Defence (MoD) site. All applicants to courses that are wholly or partially delivered at Shrivenham must complete the BPSS (HMG Baseline Personnel Security Standard V4 April 2014) prior to registration on the course or must already hold a security clearance to this level or higher.

Please visit our security clearance page for further information.

## Fees

Please see [www.cranfield.ac.uk/fees](http://www.cranfield.ac.uk/fees) for detailed information about fee status, full-time and part-time fees as well as deposit requirements and bursary and scholarship information.

# Course details

The course is taught in a series of one-week residential courses at the Cranfield University at the Defence Academy, a military establishment in Shrivenham.

It has two components: a taught component comprising twelve 10-credit modules (PgDip/MSc) (PgDip has six 10-credit modules); and (MSc only) an 80-credit research project assessed by dissertation.

## Modules

Keeping our courses up-to-date and current requires constant innovation and change. The modules we offer reflect the needs of business and industry and the research interests of our staff. As a result, they may change or be withdrawn due to research developments, legislation changes or for a variety of other reasons. Changes may also be designed to improve the student learning experience or to respond to feedback from students, external examiners, accreditation bodies and industrial advisory panels.

To give you a taster, we have listed below the compulsory and elective (where applicable) modules which are currently affiliated with this course. All modules are indicative only, and may be subject to change for your year of entry

## Compulsory modules

All the modules in the following list need to be taken as part of this course.

### Foundations of Cyber

## Elective modules

Select 11 from the list below

- Understanding Risk
- Cyber Attack - Threats and Opportunities
- Social Technologies
- Data-led Decision Support
- Emerging Technology Monitoring
- Incident Management
- Cyber Law
- Information Operations
- Cyber Deception
- The Human Dimension
- Critical Networks and Process Control
- Systems Thinking for Organisational Viability

# Accreditation

The course is accredited by the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals. (CILIP)



## Term dates

<b>Orientation Week:</b>
September 2024 – October 2014
<b>Term One:</b>
October 2024 – December 2024
<b>Term Two:</b>
January 2025 – March 2025
<b>Term Three:</b>
April 2025 – 3 July 2020
<b>Term Four:</b>
6 July 2020 – 11 September 2020

## Class profile 2023/24

<b>Gender:</b>
Male 86% - Female 14%
<b>Age range:</b>
20 - 60 years
<b>Number of nationalities:</b>
3
<b>Nationality:</b>
UK/EU: 95% - International: 5%
<b>Class size:</b>
101

For more information contact our Admissions Team:  
T: +44 (0)1793 785220

Visit campus for yourself and meet current students and our academics at our next Open Day:  
[www.cranfield.ac.uk/openday](http://www.cranfield.ac.uk/openday)

March 2024

Every effort is made to ensure that the information provided here is correct at the time it is published. Please check our website for the latest information.