



# MSC PROGRAMME

## APPLIED COMPUTER SCIENCE Q&A

### What is the MSc Programme?

- A partnership between FDM and the University of Brighton to allow our FDM employees to work towards an MSc in Applied Computer Science.

### How long does it take?

- 3 years. FDM delegates will sign a 3 year contract with FDM instead of the usual 2 year contract.

### What's involved?

- The programme is a project based, part-time, distance-learning MSc. In addition to Professional Skills, SQL and Unix (covered during FDM academy training) there are 4 projects that must be completed by the student during the course.

### Will students be required to travel to Brighton?

- No. The entire course is distance based learning.

### How long has FDM been running the Programme?

- Since 2011.

### Who is eligible to join the programme?

- Anyone on the FDM Software Development training programme is eligible, this includes non-UK trainees and those without existing degrees (e.g. ex-forces personnel).
- The enrollment procedure includes: successful completion of all academy training modules, a written literature assessment and a formal interview with the MSc Programme Leader.

### Who will make the decision as to who joins the programme?

- The FDM MSc Programme Leader will handle applications and make decisions with regards to an individual's suitability for the programme.

### When can a candidate sign up for the programme?

- Whilst candidates are encouraged to express their interest in the programme as early as possible, they cannot actually join until they've spent at least 6 weeks on client site. This will give them a chance to assess their workload before joining.

## How much will it cost me?

- Nothing. FDM covers the fees associated with the MSc Programme. In return, candidates will work as FDM consultants for a period of three years.

## What if I want to leave the programme before the three years?

- A cost may be incurred to cover the fees associated with the programme. For more information, please discuss this with the programme leader by emailing [MSc.appcomp@fdmgroup.com](mailto:MSc.appcomp@fdmgroup.com)

## How much study time a week is recommended?

- Recommended study time is around 8 hours a week.

## What is the curriculum?

- Please see the MSc fact sheet, which includes a brief breakdown of the modules involved.

## What programming languages can the MSc Programme be completed in?

- Java or C# are recommended, but any Object Oriented language is suitable.

## What resources are available for study?

- All FDM Academy resources, including PluralSight, the University of Brighton's online library services and the potential to enrol in the SCONUL programme (a UK wide partnership between university libraries: <https://www.sconul.ac.uk/sconul-access>)

## What qualifications are included?

- After 1 year of study, students are eligible for a Post-Graduate Certificate award, after 2 years they are eligible for a Post-Graduate Diploma and will achieve the full MSc after 3 years.

## If someone already has CATs points, will they contribute?

- Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme (CATS) points will not normally be counted toward the MSc as a means to reduce the required study time. This is due to the dependencies upon standard FDM consultant training programmes.

If you require more information, please contact the MSc Programme Course Leader:

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