Degree courses combined with computing

University of Kent | Computing

Meeting the demands of future industries

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Why do a computing joint honours degree?

A computing joint honours degree enables you to gain a thorough understanding of computing, while also studying another subject of your choosing, either to enhance your career prospects or for personal interest.

Graduates who can offer employers a good understanding of the application of computing to business situations in addition to expertise in another specialism, such as accountancy or languages, are in great demand.

If you combine a business-related subject with computing, for example, the Computing and Business Administration degree, you can gain valuable work experience while studying by opting for the Year in Industry scheme or by becoming a student consultant with the Kent IT Clinic, further enhancing your job prospects.

What will I study?

A computing joint honours degree lets you study a combination of modules offered by the School of Computing and modules offered in your joint subject. There is a wide range of joint subjects available and you should contact the relevant department for further details about course content for that subject.

For the computing element of the joint honours programmes, while gaining a broad technical expertise, you will focus on the application of computers rather than the more theoretical aspects of computer science. Central to the course are information systems, and programming using the object-oriented language Java. You can also choose from a wide range of topics including electronic commerce, data mining and web publishing.

The programmes offered are listed opposite.

How is my time divided between the two subjects?

You can choose a programme which lets you spend an equal amount of time studying computing and your joint subject. These programmes have 'and' in their name (for example, Computing and Philosophy).

Alternatively, you can choose a programme in which you spend more time studying your joint (major) subject and less of your time studying computing. These programmes have 'with Computing' in their name (for example, Economics with Computing) and around a quarter of your time is spent on computing.

Will I be taught by computing experts?

Our courses are taught be leading researchers – 95% of our Computer Science research is of international quality with 65% rated as world-leading or internationally excellent in the latest national research exercise.

One of our staff, Professor Sally Fincher, has become the first British academic in 30 years to receive the SIGCSE Award for Outstanding Contribution to Computer Science Education. The award is made by ACM, the world's largest educational and scientific computing society.

Sun Microsystems awarded us the Sun Center of Excellence in Object Oriented Programming in recognition of our expertise in teaching the Java programming language.

You will use the leading Object-Oriented teaching environment, BlueJ, developed jointly by staff from the School of Computing at Kent and Deakin University in Australia, for learning Java. Our staff have written a widely used text book which supports teaching Java with BlueJ: *Objects First with Java*. This is now in its fourth edition and has been translated into several languages.

Many of our lecturers are experts in their field: Richard Jones, Professor in Computer Science, is a Distinguished Scientist of the ACM; Professor Sally Fincher, is a Senior Fellow of the Higher Education Academy; Professor Michael Kölling has been awarded a National Teaching Fellowship for his innovative work in developing the BlueJ and Greenfoot systems which help students to learn computer programming.

You can choose from a wide range of joint honours programmes

Computing as a major subject
Computing and:
- Business Administration (GNL2)
- Business Administration with a Year in Industry (GNK2)
- English and American Literature (QG34)
- Film Studies (WG64)
- French (RG14)
- German (RG24)
- History (VG14)
- Italian (RG34)
- Philosophy (VG54)
- Psychology (CG84)
- Hispanic Studies (GR44)
- Classical & Archaeological Studies (QG84)

Computing as a minor subject
.. with Computing
- Economics (L1G4)
- Social Policy (L4G4)

Other combinations of subjects for joint honours programmes are possible. You can choose to combine some of these degree programmes with a Year in Industry. Those taking a modern language spend a year abroad.

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What careers will I be able to follow?

Our students are very successful at finding jobs after graduation. The School of Computing was ranked 6th in the UK for graduate prospects in the *Guardian Good University Guide 2010*.

Our graduates have launched their careers in many different sectors including finance and insurance, technology and IT, commerce, engineering, government, health and education.

A wide range of jobs are available within these sectors including software engineering, applications programming, project management, systems analysis and administration, consultancy, networking, internet technology and e-commerce. Some students go on to study for Masters and PhD qualifications.

Our recent graduates now work at Accenture, BT, Cisco, GlaxoSmithKline, IBM, Intel, Lilly, Logica CMG, Microsoft, Morgan Stanley, Reuters, Siemens, Thales, and Yahoo.

Further information…

Please contact the School of Computing's admissions officers or visit the School of Computing's web site:

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E: cs-admissions@kent.ac.uk
www.cs.kent.ac.uk/students

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