Master of Computer Science (MCS) with specialisations in computer science, software engineering and digital communications

In the fast changing world of IT any technological advantage is only temporary. The ability to adapt to new technologies, new standards and new products to meet the challenges presented by market opportunities requires highly skilled and trained personnel.

This MCS is launched in response to the need for updating computing skills while providing a flexible learning schedule particularly suited to individuals in full or part time employment. We believe it provides the education, skills and training that are necessary for the advancement of a computing career.

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The MCS is a course of 2 years’ duration, with intakes in March and July. The program offers students the opportunity to study a wide variety of topics in depth under the guidance of dedicated experts and aims to prepare students for a rewarding career in technical computing in particular, and in information technology in general.

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Entry Requirements

A three year undergraduate qualification in Computer Science or equivalent with a Credit Grade Point Average in the final year of study, from an Australian university or equivalent. Demonstrated English language proficiency is also required.

Graduates of a four year program such as Software Engineering or Computer Science (Honours) may apply for admission to the MCS with advanced standing, including exemptions for up to 48 points of prior study in comparable units at the graduate level.

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Course Structure

To qualify with the MCS, students must complete 96 points of graduate study - a minimum of 72 points from SCSE and a maximum of 18 points of free choice electives, and a 6 point Research Methods unit taken from anywhere in the faculty.

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The free choice electives can be taken from any graduate program in the faculty, or, with the approval of the course leader, from other faculties of the University.

Each student's study program must include a Research Methods unit, to be undertaken in the first semester of study, plus a minimum of 4 core (Group A) units comprising 2 study sequences from the specialist areas.

Students may choose sequences of 24 points of Group B units to form specialisations in any of the specialist areas (such as Computer science, Digital Communications and Software Engineering).

Upon completion of the first year of study, students who have attained a Grade Point Average of Distinction or above in their MCS units may apply for admission to the MCS (Minor Thesis). This option requires 36 points of research project, plus 2 units of elective study. Completion of the Minor Thesis at H1 or H2A level qualifies students for admission to the PhD program in the Faculty of Information Technology at Monash. Coursework students will undertake a further 8 units to complete the required 96 points of study.

Students who successfully complete 24 points of study from SCSE postgraduate units may exit the course with a Postgraduate Certificate in Computer Science. Students who successfully complete 48 points of study of which at least 36 points are from graduate units within SCSE, may exit the course with a Postgraduate Diploma in Computer Science. Those who successfully complete 72 points, of which at least 60 points are from graduate units in the MIT, including at least 4 5000 level units, may exit the course with a Master of Information Technology.