



DEPARTMENT OF
**COMPUTER
SCIENCE**

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January 2019

MSc in Computer Science

Hilary Term examination 2019

NOTICE TO CANDIDATES

Twelve courses are scheduled for examination at the end of Hilary Term 2019. This notice gives information about what to hand in and when, and guidelines for mini-projects (Appendix A).

The Examination Regulations for the MSc in Computer Science 2018-19 are available online:

<https://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/examregs/2018-19/mosbcincompsci/studentview/>

The Examination Conventions are available from the following page:

<http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/teaching/examconventions/MSCinCS.html>

1. Examination Entry

Please note that you will need to enter for your examinations using Student Self Service. For further information please see the Examination Entry website: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/exams/entry> and your Course Handbook: <https://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/files/5740/MSc%20Handbook%2018-19%20V1.1.pdf>

2. Written Examination

Date and Papers

The following courses will be examined by a sit down exam which will take place in week 0 of Trinity Term (dates of term can be viewed here: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/about/facts-and-figures/dates-of-term>), the actual day and time to be determined:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Computational Complexity
- Knowledge Representation and Reasoning

Exams will take place at the [Examination Schools](#), High Street, Oxford, OX1 4BG. You will have three hours to complete each exam.

Please note that previous years' papers can be viewed here:

<https://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/teaching/internal/papers/MSCinCS/2017/> and on [OXAM](#).

Examination Timetable

You will find your personal examination timetable under the link 'Examination Timetable' in the 'My Exams' section of Student Self Service. Until your timetables are available, the screen will display no examinations information.

Sitting your exams

Subfusc (academic dress)

You will be required to wear academic dress with subfusc clothing at these exams, as specified here: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/dress>

1. one of:
 - dark suit with dark socks, or
 - dark skirt with black tights or stockings, or
 - dark trousers with dark socks or dark hosiery
2. dark coat, if required - worn underneath the gown
3. black shoes
4. plain white collared shirt or blouse
5. white bow tie, black bow tie, black full-length tie, or black ribbon.

PLUS:

1. the appropriate academic gown (see [Academic Gowns for Students](#))
2. mortar board or soft cap

Taking items into an examination

For information on the required and permitted items you may take into an examination, when to arrive, and examination conduct, please visit: <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/exams/guidance>

3. Submitted Mini-project(s)

Release Date

The mini-projects for each course may be downloaded from WebLearn from 12:00 noon on the date shown:

Monday of week 8, Hilary Term (4 March):

- Lambda Calculus and Types
- Automata Logic and Games
- Categorical Quantum Mechanics
- Probability and Computing

Friday of week 8, Hilary Term (8 March):

- Concurrent Programming
- Computers in Society
- Advanced Machine Learning
- Advanced Security
- Database Systems Implementation

Submitting a mini-project

The following mini-projects must be submitted online through WebLearn by **12:00 noon, Monday 15 April** (Week Minus 1, Trinity Term):

- Concurrent Programming
- Computers in Society
- Advanced Machine Learning
- Automata Logic and Games
- Database Systems Implementation
- Probability and Computing
- Categorical Quantum Mechanics

The following must be submitted on paper to Examination Schools by **Thursday 25 April** (0th week, Trinity Term):

- Lambda Calculus and Types
- Advanced Security

The assignment must be submitted in an envelope clearly marked with your candidate number (not your student number) to the Chairman of Examiners via Examination Schools, 75-81, High Street, Oxford, OX1 4GB by 12.00 noon on the submission date detailed above. Unless the answers are delivered by hand, students are advised to use registered post or a courier delivery service. Please ensure that you receive documentation from the courier service ensuring delivery by the above date. It is your responsibility to make sure that your assignments are submitted by the deadline stipulated. **Please note that Examination Schools will be closed on Thursday 18 April to Monday 22 April inclusive, so will not be receiving deliveries on those dates.**

Please ensure that you include your candidate number on the front page of each mini-project submitted. Your candidate number should be the only means of identification of your work.

DO NOT include your name or Student Number. You can obtain your candidate number through Student Self Service. For guidance on using Student Self Service, please visit <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/selfservice>. Should you encounter any problems doing this, please contact Tim Jones (tim.jones@cs.ox.ac.uk).

Each assignment submitted on paper must be accompanied by a declaration form stating that it is entirely your own work (except where otherwise indicated). Please place each assignment and declaration form in the appropriate envelope, ensuring that the scripts are firmly tied or stapled, but in a manner that allows the script to be read without detachment.

Guidelines for mini-projects

Please refer to [Appendix A](#).

4. Practicals

Your practical work should be handed in to Tim Jones (Room 112) at the Department of Computer Science by **12:00 noon on Friday 31 May 2019 (week 5, Trinity Term)**. The work should be submitted in one bundle in a single envelope addressed to the Chairman of Examiners, MSc in Computer Science and must be marked clearly on the outside with your name and candidate number. **Please keep the work in a safe place until required for submission.**

Please note that you have to sign a declaration stating that the work you are submitting is all your own, except for marks and comments by demonstrators and other material clearly indicated. This will be sent to you in due course.

Please also note that each separate report of practical work should be conspicuously labelled with your candidate number only, and not with your name or college. Please complete and attach a [cover sheet](#) to each of your reports.

All practical work must be signed off by a demonstrator before you submit it.

Please find more information about how to submit your practicals and a cover sheet to download [on the Computer Science website](#).

5. Problems

You MUST NOT contact any member of the Examination Board, your supervisor, or lecturer in charge of the course with any queries about the mini-project.

If you think an exam question contains an error, please email Tim Jones (tim.jones@cs.ox.ac.uk), who will advise you of the next steps. You must do so no later than **12 noon on Wednesday 13 March 2019**. Please note that we will **NOT** accept queries about the content of exam questions.

For questions about your exams in general, please feel free to contact Tim Jones, or any other member of the academic administration team.

If other problems arise (eg personal issues, illness, bereavement) please consult your supervisor (or the Director of the MSc course) in the first instance. It is possible to apply for an extension of time to complete your mini-projects due to reasons like the ones listed above. In such cases, you must apply via your College as soon as possible, and please also inform Tim Jones that you are doing so. Your College will then write to the Proctors to request an extension. Please note that evidence will be required.

If you do not require an extension, but your circumstances have affected your performance, you can submit a Mitigating Circumstances Notice to the examiners. [Please find more information here.](#)

Supervisors will not be able to help you answer the questions in the mini-projects, but they may be able to help you with your reading and planning. If you need to contact your supervisor but have difficulty doing so, you should contact Tim Jones.

6. Results

It is anticipated that results will be available sometime after **Thursday 16 May 2019**. You will be able to view your results by logging on to Student Self Service, using your single sign-on.

7. Examination Board

Dr Jonathan Whiteley (Chair)
Prof Sadie Creese
Prof David Kay
Dr Mark Kaminski
Prof Daniel Kroening
Prof Elizabeth Scott (External)

Dr Jonathan Whiteley
Chairman of Examiners
MSc in Computer Science

Enc.

Copy: Supervisors

Appendix A [Guidelines for mini-projects](#)

A mini-project will normally take the form of a tutorial sheet containing several questions on the course, and will also contain new exercises. While you are free to work until the hand-in date, the expectation is that you will spend around 2/3 days per mini-project for topics under Schedules A and B, and around 3/4 days per mini-project for topics under Schedule C, including preparatory reading.

If you plan to complete your mini-projects away from Oxford, make sure that you have access to adequate computing resources, including email.

Please note that some mini-projects have page limits, as set out in your student handbook. If there is no page limit, you should aim at writing about 10 pages. For any mini-projects which are submitted on paper, use one side of the paper only, and use standard A4. If you write by hand, write legibly. Illegible scripts will be transcribed at your cost, as laid out in the [examination regulations](#).

If prior to entering for your exams, you think you will have trouble with completing all the mini-projects you planned to do, and want to drop one of them, discuss this with your supervisor. If you do decide to drop a mini-project, make sure you advise Tim Jones and the tutor of the relevant class **before Monday 4 March**. The same applies if you change your mind about which mini-projects you want to take, or want to complete an additional one. To change an option outside the examination entry window you must apply for permission in writing through your senior tutor or college officer. Please note that a payment will be required. For more information on this, please visit <http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/exams/entry>. Failure to submit a required element of assessment will result in the failure of the assessment.

When submitting your mini-projects as a paper copy, you will have to complete a Declaration Form attesting that they are your own work, except where indicated. For assessed work submitted online, the declaration will be an on-screen form. Failure to correctly acknowledge your sources is plagiarism, which is treated as a very serious disciplinary offence. Please consult (a) the University web site regarding plagiarism (<http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/skills/plagiarism>) and (b) the detailed guidance on plagiarism in Appendix E of the MSc Computer Science Handbook.

YOU SHOULD NOT show your mini-project to, or discuss it with, any other student.
YOU SHOULD NOT ask or seek to look at anybody else's work.

If you use material from any other source such as textbooks, lecture notes or the web, then you should reference it explicitly at the relevant point. Your supervisor can give you guidance on proper referencing, or for more guidance see <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/skills> and <http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/files/3161/Referencing.pdf>

There is also an online course on WebLearn, a link to which can be found at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/guidance/skills/plagiarism> which provides an overview of plagiarism and the issues surrounding it, and will be beneficial for you to take.