



November 2023

**MSc in Advanced Computer Science**

**Michaelmas Term assessments 2023**

**NOTICE TO CANDIDATES**

Full particulars of the examinations are given in the [Examination Regulations](#), and the Examination Conventions for 2023-24 will be found at <https://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/teaching/examinations>.

Seven courses are scheduled for examination at the end of Michaelmas Term 2023. This notice gives information about what to submit, and when, and guidelines for mini-projects (Appendix A).

**1. Submitted Mini-project(s)**

Release Date

The mini-projects (take-home assignments) for each course may be downloaded from [Inspira](#) from 12:00 noon (UK time) on the date shown:

**Friday of week 8, Michaelmas Term (1<sup>st</sup> December 2023):**

- Computational Biology
- Computational Learning Theory
- Computer-Aided Formal Verification
- Concurrent Algorithms and Data Structures
- Distributed Processes, Types and Programming
- Graph Representation Learning
- Quantum Processes and Computation

Submitting a mini-project

Mini-projects must be submitted online through [Inspira](#). We do not accept printed copies.

**Important! Please note:**

- **Your candidate number must be the only means of identification of your work.**
- **Include your candidate number on the front page of each mini-project submitted.**
- **DO NOT include your name or student number.**

You can obtain your candidate number through Student Self Service (for guidance on using the Student Self Service, please visit: <http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/selfservice/>). Should you encounter any problems doing this then please contact [academic.administrator@cs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:academic.administrator@cs.ox.ac.uk).



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Once mini projects have been published they are not to be shared or discussed with other students or anybody else. Please note, where mini-projects are set for candidates studying a different degree programme the material covered in the mini-project may be similar but may not be identical.

Submission Date

**Submission Date: 12.00 noon, Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024.**

Guidelines for mini-projects

Please refer to [Appendix A](#).

## 2. Late submission or failure to submit coursework

Under the provisions permitted by the regulations, late submission of coursework (i.e. mini-projects) where there are no extenuating circumstances may result in the following penalties:

Lateness	Cumulative penalty
Up to 12 hours	10 marks
12 – 48 hours	20 marks
48 – 72 hours	30 marks
72 – 96 hours	40 marks
96 hours – 14 days	50 marks
More than 14 calendar days after the notice of non-submission	Fail

Failure to submit a required element of assessment will result in the failure of the whole of the MSc. Where permission for late submission has been granted by the Proctors, no penalty will be imposed.

## 3. Practicals

Please do not submit the practical work from your Michaelmas Term courses with your mini-projects, **but please do keep the work in a safe place until required for submission**. You will be required to submit your practical work for all your courses in one bundle in Trinity Term. Details of the submission date and time will follow in Hilary Term.

Please remember that you need to obtain an overall pass in your practicals to be able to pass the MSc. See the [Conventions](#) for details.

## 4. Results

It is anticipated that results will be available subsequent to the examiners' meeting in Week 3 of Hilary Term 2024. You will be able to view your results by logging on to Student Self Service, using your single sign-on.



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## 5. Problems

If you wish to report any errors or omissions, 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. Please address any such queries to [academic.administrator@cs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:academic.administrator@cs.ox.ac.uk), who will advise you of the next steps. You must do so no later than **12 noon on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023**.

**For questions about your exams in general, please feel free to contact the academic administration team ([academic.administrator@cs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:academic.administrator@cs.ox.ac.uk)).**

If other problems arise (e.g. personal issues, health issues, 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 the [academic.administrator@cs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:academic.administrator@cs.ox.ac.uk) that you are doing so. Your College will then write to the Proctors to request an extension. Please note that evidence will be required.

## 6. Examination Board

Prof Rahul Santhanam (Chair)  
Prof Paul Goldberg  
Prof Bartek Klin  
Prof Alfonso Bueno-Orovio  
Dr Hanno Nickau  
Prof. Carmine Ventre (External)

Prof Rahul Santhanam  
Chairman of Examiners  
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Enc.  
Copy: Supervisors



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## Appendix A

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 3/4 days per mini-project, including preparatory reading.

1. 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 of your mini-projects have page limits, as set out in the rubric of the exam paper. Even if there is no page limit, you should aim at writing no more than 10 pages.

2. If, prior to entering for your exams, you think you will have trouble with completing all the mini-projects you planned to do, and you want to drop one of them, discuss this with your supervisor. If you do decide to drop a mini-project make sure you advise us at [academic.administrator@cs.ox.ac.uk](mailto:academic.administrator@cs.ox.ac.uk) and inform the class tutor. The same applies if you change your mind about which mini-projects you want to take, or if you 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.
3. When submitting your mini-projects 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 the [University website regarding plagiarism](#), and the detailed guidance on plagiarism in your [student handbook](#).

**YOU SHOULD NOT** show your mini-project to, or discuss it with, any other student or anybody else. **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>