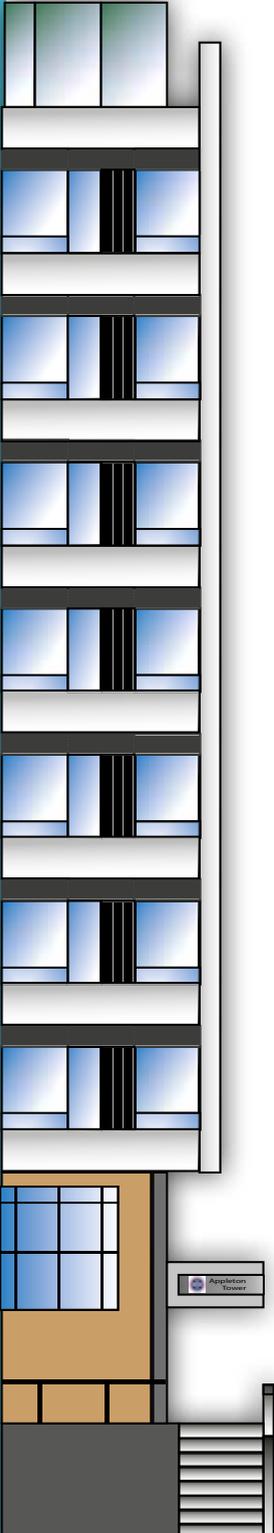


Undergraduate Prospectus 2021/22 Entry



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH  
**informatics**

Artificial Intelligence  
Cognitive Science  
Computer Science  
Informatics  
Software Engineering



The School of Informatics has produced more world-leading and internationally excellent research in computer science and informatics than any other university in the UK (rated 4\* and 3\* in the latest Research Excellence Framework – REF – assessment).

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# What is Informatics?

Informatics is the study of how natural and artificial systems store, process and communicate information.

Combining insights from Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence and Cognitive Science, Informatics is the study of information, computation and communication in both computer systems and natural systems such as the brain, our genes and the human language. An Edinburgh degree offers you a sound foundation in the traditional subjects together with a new perspective of how to bring 'computational thinking' to a host of novel settings.

In the School of Informatics we start with a view that our subject is central to a new enlightenment in scholarship and learning. For us, informatics is critical to the development of science, technology and society. In the information age, computing technology changes how we work and play. Informatics changes the way we think.

## Our school

The School of Informatics at the University of Edinburgh is one of the best in the world. We have more leading and internationally excellent research in computer science and informatics than any other UK university, according to the latest Research Excellence Framework (REF) assessment. Our students rate us highly too. Members of staff are proud to have received EUSA Teaching Awards on the basis of student nominations and votes.

We provide outstanding facilities. Computer laboratories are available to all Informatics students 24 hours a day. Our city centre premises include both teaching and research centres.

## Our degrees

We teach the fundamental science of computation, the practical skills needed to build hardware and software, and the cutting edge of research and applications in Informatics.

You will receive a strong grounding in the basics: computation and logic, programming, algorithms, data manipulation, systems and mathematics for informatics. You can also choose from a wide range of specialisations, from computer reasoning to robotics, from the theory of computability to computer graphics.

Informatics is interdisciplinary by nature so you also have the choice to combine mathematics, physics, philosophy, linguistics, psychology or management science with your degree in computer science, cognitive science, software engineering or artificial intelligence. See pages 8-10 for more information on our single and joint degrees.

Our course materials and student projects are based on our world-class research, so you will graduate with knowledge and skills in the forefront of the field.



# Studying in Edinburgh

Scotland's historic capital city is thriving, vibrant, beautiful – and regularly voted one of the best places to live in the UK.

Steeped in history and tradition, Edinburgh combines stunning Georgian architecture with airy modern buildings. There are winding cobbled streets and green open spaces, excellent shops, theatres, libraries, galleries, cinemas and sporting facilities, all within easy reach of the coast, mountains and scenic Scottish countryside.

Ancient monuments overlook centres of cutting-edge research and technological enterprise. Famous landmarks include the Castle, Scottish Parliament, Holyrood Palace, Forth Rail Bridge and Arthur's Seat. Together the Old and New Towns are classified as a World Heritage Site.

## Entertainment and culture

Edinburgh's nightlife has something for everyone. Pubs, cafes, concerts, plays, comedy, musical theatre, opera and dance. If you enjoy music, many venues offer live performances all year round. The city has more restaurants per head than any other in the UK city outside of London. Catering for all budgets and tastes, from traditional Scottish fare to a feast of international cuisines. Haggis is not obligatory, but you might acquire a taste for it!

Edinburgh's national art galleries attract big-name exhibitions, while its many museums provide fascinating insights into Scotland's colourful history and far-flung cultures, past and present.

Not least, Edinburgh is truly the Festival City, celebrating science, magic, film, jazz and blues, books, history, storytelling

and cultural diversity, as well as the month-long extravaganza of the Arts that is the Edinburgh International Festival and Fringe.

If all that isn't enough, the University has over 290 clubs and societies to choose from. This is a great way to meet new people and make friends from around the world.

## Sport

The University's sports facilities are superb – ranked among the best in the UK. Users range from occasional exercisers to international athletes. Facilities include the Pleasance gym, with its two climbing walls, Peffermill playing fields, Firbush outdoor centre and a 25 metre, six lane swimming pool.

The city itself boasts the Royal Commonwealth Pool, newly refurbished for the 2014 Commonwealth Games, Europe's longest dry ski slope, Murrayfield international rugby stadium, an ice rink and golf courses galore. Not to mention the football. For those who love walking, running, cycling and adventure sports, there is spectacular scenery on your doorstep.

Explore the city at:  
[www.ed.ac.uk/visit/city](http://www.ed.ac.uk/visit/city)



# The University of Edinburgh

A member of the Russell Group of universities – the UK ‘Ivy League’ – Edinburgh’s eminent staff and graduates have changed the world. Nobel Prize Laureate Professor Peter Higgs’ discovery of the Higgs-Boson particle may solve some of the biggest puzzles of particle physics. Professor Ian Wilmut famously led the team who cloned Dolly the Sheep. Professor Tom Devine is a leading voice on Scottish history. Astronaut Piers Sellers, Olympians Chris Hoy and Katherine Grainger, former Prime Minister Gordon Brown and former MI5 director Stella Rimington all studied at Edinburgh.

Don’t forget, Bill Laing, who took his MPhil in Computer Science and went on to become a corporate vice president with Microsoft – and Artificial Intelligence alumnus Professor Andrew Blake, who recently became the first Director of the Alan Turing Institute, the UK’s national institute for data science.

## The student experience

With more than 35,000 students from 120 countries, the university has a vibrant, cosmopolitan campus community. Edinburgh offers more than 600 degree programmes, including at least 200 joint degree combinations.

Our degree courses are flexible. Students can develop a range of academic interests. The structure of our programmes enables and encourages students to study a broad range of subjects in the first two years, taking a more specialised approach in the final two years.

## Student services and facilities

The university offers a wide range of student services and support to cater for all your academic, practical or personal needs while you study here.

## IT facilities

You will have access to large, well-equipped, 24-hour computer labs within the School of Informatics, as well as the computing facilities of the University’s central services, such as the Main Library. We also provide high speed internet and telephone services to the vast majority of students staying in University accommodation.

## Library

The Main Library at George Square is one of many libraries within the University and is also one of the largest copyright libraries in the UK.

## Accommodation

You can choose between self-catered or catered residences, self-contained flats or halls. The main residential area, at Pollock Halls, is at the foot of Arthur’s Seat, offering some stunning views.

## Making friends

Many of our students are not just new to Edinburgh, but new to the UK. Edinburgh University Students’ Association offers a vast array of services and more than 290 clubs and societies. Our Centre for Sports and Exercise offers top-rate facilities. All of our students are welcome!

Explore our student blogs:

[www.studentstories.ed.ac.uk/](http://www.studentstories.ed.ac.uk/)



Consistently ranked among the best universities in the world, the University of Edinburgh is one of the largest and most successful research universities in the UK, ranking 1st in Scotland and 4th across the UK in the REF 2014.



# Degrees in the School of Informatics

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Join us in Edinburgh and you can study for a degree in:

- Informatics (MInf)
- Computer science (BSc Hons/BEng Hons)
- Artificial intelligence (BSc Hons)
- Cognitive science (BSc Hons)
- Software engineering (BEng Hons)

Our degree courses provide a firm grounding in the underlying knowledge that informatics graduates will need throughout their careers, enabling them to stay at the forefront of this ever changing field.

[www.ed.ac.uk/ug/9](http://www.ed.ac.uk/ug/9)

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## Informatics (MInf)

Our flagship Informatics (MInf) degree is an integrated programme taking you to a Masters level qualification over five years of study. The first three years of the MInf are similar to our BSc and BEng degrees providing a firm foundation for advanced study in Informatics and covering a diverse range of topics including computer science, artificial intelligence, linguistics, cognitive science, neuroscience, psychology and biology. The final two years of study include a personal project and access to a wide range of Masters level courses given by leaders in their fields.

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## Computer Science (BSc & BEng)

If you want to know everything about computers, this is the degree for you. The four-year BSc or BEng degree in Computer Science gives students a firm basis in the understanding, design, implementation and use of computing systems – from the components of a single processor to networks as vast as the internet. Our courses cover topics that range from programming languages and software to distributed, parallel and quantum computing.

You can study for a BSc or a BEng Computer Science on its own or in combination with artificial intelligence, management science, mathematics or physics.

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## Artificial Intelligence (BSc)

A degree in a subject that we pioneered. Our four-year degree in Artificial Intelligence (AI) combines the areas of science you need to understand how computers can emulate human intelligence by performing tasks that usually require the sophistication of a human brain. Edinburgh Informatics is a world leader in research in AI. In their degree projects, our students have a chance to contribute to real scientific advance in this field.

You can study for a BSc in Artificial Intelligence on its own or in combination with computer science.

Our broad approach to informatics, our world-class research and the fact that Edinburgh Informatics is the UK's largest computer science department, means that we offer students a broad range of flexible degree courses.



# Degrees in the School of Informatics

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## **Cognitive Science (BSc)**

A degree designed for understanding brains and behaviour - human and otherwise. An undergraduate degree in an exciting area, Cognitive Science analyses and synthesises human and animal behaviour and mental processes, at many levels. The degree programme blends challenging theoretical ideas and hands-on practical projects. A core theme underpinning this programme is the computational modelling of mental abilities at many levels, from neurons to social groups. Options within the Cognitive Science degree include Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences. An MA version of the programme is also offered by the School of Philosophy, Psychology and Language Sciences.

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## **Software Engineering (BEng)**

A degree course for professional programmers. It gives students the engineering skills they need to write good software, to understand what programs have to do, and how to test, validate and implement software.

### **Professional recognition**

A degree from Edinburgh's School of Informatics is highly regarded by employers. Most of our graduates also fulfil the educational requirement to become a member of the British Computer Society, the UK's leading professional body for people working in IT. You can also obtain the status of Chartered Engineer (CEng) with the Engineering Council UK if you complete work equivalent to an additional undergraduate year of study, within industry for example.

## **Our Joint degrees:**

### **Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science (BSc)**

The mixtures of complementary and overlapping aspects make Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science a great degree combination. You will gain a strong grounding in both areas and have the flexibility to pursue advanced topics in each area or that combine both, such as using machine learning to improve code or processor efficiency.

### **Computer Science & Management Science (BSc)**

This joint programme allows students to develop a strong background across a wide range of topics in both computer science and management science. It provides an excellent blend of technological knowledge in computer science and business skills.

### **Computer Science & Mathematics (BSc)**

This programme aims to give you a thorough understanding of both mathematics and computing to enable you to operate at the cutting edge of data science, machine learning and artificial intelligence, cryptography and security, and other mathematically sophisticated areas of Informatics. You will have the flexibility to focus on the areas of computer science or artificial intelligence that most interest you.

### **Computer Science & Physics (BSc)**

This joint programme draws on Edinburgh's joint strength in computational physics and informatics. You will develop a strong interdisciplinary background covering relevant topics in both computer science and physics and will have the chance to study topics that cross both fields, such as



# Entry requirements

The University's entry requirements reflect its long-standing commitment to broadening access to higher education but they also ensure that we attract entrants who will be well-equipped to handle our challenging courses.

## Standard entry

The typical offer is likely to be:

- SQA Highers: AAAA in one sitting
- A Levels: AAA in one sitting
- IB: 37 points with 666 at HL

The minimum entry requirements are:

- SQA Highers: AABB by end of S5 or AABBB/AAAB from S4-S6, with a minimum of BBB achieved in one year of S4-S6, to include Mathematics at Grade A. We strongly recommend that you study Advanced Higher Mathematics.
- A Levels: ABB in one sitting, to include Mathematics at Grade A.
- IB: 32 points overall and award of IB Diploma with 655 at HL to include Mathematics at Grade 6.

A pass is required in English, at least at SQA Standard Grade 3 or GCSE Grade C – or the equivalent.

[www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/entry-requirements](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/entry-requirements)

## Overseas applicants

If English is not your first language, you must have one of the following qualifications as evidence of your spoken and written English:

- IELTS Academic module overall 6.5 with 5.5 in each component
- TOEFL-IBT 92 or above with 20 in each section
- Cambridge English: Advanced or Proficiency overall 176 with 162 in each component
- Pearson Test of English (Academic): Total 61 with at least 51 in each "Communicative Skills" section
- Trinity ISE: ISE II with a distinction in all four components

[www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/entry-requirements/english-language](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/entry-requirements/english-language)

## Mature applicants

For applicants aged 21 or over by 1 September in the year of entry, entrance may be gained in a variety of ways including recent SQA Highers or A-levels, an Open Studies Credit for Entry Certificate which is awarded by the University of Edinburgh's Office of Lifelong Learning, Open University credits or satisfactory completion of a validated access course.

Entry requirements for joint degrees may differ.

[www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/entry-requirements/mature](http://www.ed.ac.uk/studying/undergraduate/entry-requirements/mature)

# If you receive an offer

Given the reputation of the School, entry to courses is competitive. However if you receive an offer you will be notified well in advance of the start of your first term.

Depending on the timing, you may be invited to attend one of our offer holder days, held in the early part of each calendar year. Here you will have the opportunity to speak to Informatics staff and students in more depth about your course and what it's like to be a student at the University of Edinburgh.

If you have received an offer to study at the School of Informatics and would like further information you can contact us at [ito@inf.ed.ac.uk](mailto:ito@inf.ed.ac.uk)

For more information about the student experience and living in Edinburgh, go to:

[www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/undergraduate/why-study-here](http://www.ed.ac.uk/informatics/undergraduate/why-study-here)

We're ranked 22nd in the world and 5th in the UK in the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2021 by Subject for computer science.



# Studying with us

## Duration of Degree

In line with the Scottish University system, honours degrees in Edinburgh for Informatics last four years and integrated masters degrees five years. Outstanding candidates may be considered for direct entry into the second year. Please contact us if you want to pursue this possibility.

Each year of undergraduate study involves taking a series of courses. Each course offers a unit of formal learning and teaching, and earns students a number of credit points, depending upon its level. A typical workload for each year of full-time study is a set of courses worth a total of 120 credits but please note that courses are subject to regular review and change.

For detailed course information see the Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study (DRPS) website:

[www.drps.ed.ac.uk](http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk)

## Mathematics for Informatics

Most Informatics students will study mathematics during the first two years. Informatics students take selected mathematics courses and will study alongside Mathematics students. We believe this is the best way to expose our students to skills in proof and problem solving that are key both to Mathematics and Informatics. Your mathematics courses reinforce and extend topics you have previously studied, and will introduce you to new topics that are particularly relevant to information processing.

Students on the Cognitive Science degree and joint degrees also take mathematics courses during the first two years, but these may differ somewhat from our single honours requirements in order to accommodate the other requirements of each degree.

## Study support

When you enrol you will be allocated a Personal Tutor, a member of academic staff who will advise you on the choice of courses and will help you to find your way through the University's regulations and practices for the duration of your degree.

# Overview of Studies

## Pre Honours Years

The lectures are interactive. Student feedback may be used to gauge students' understanding of key concepts. Materials for each course are provided through course web pages. Some lectures are recorded and made available online for future reference.

In most courses, additional support for learning is provided through scheduled laboratory sessions with tutors available, weekly tutorial sessions that typically have 12-14 students, or a combination of both.

INFBASE provides a drop-in service to support student learning. InfBase is staffed by Course Tutors, Teaching Assistants and Graduate Students.

Informatics Peer Assisted Learning Scheme (InfPALS) is a system of student-to-student support where students in their first year of an Informatics degree are supported in their academic and social transition into higher education by one another, in group meetings which are facilitated by students in higher years.

A dedicated administrative team, the Informatics Teaching Organisation (ITO) provides course materials and the Student Support Team can offer you support and guidance.

## Honours Years

In your third year you enter the honours stream and will focus on your chosen degree specialisation. At the University of Edinburgh you will have access to a unique range of honours courses and specialisations. With the help of your Personal Tutor, you will build an honours course portfolio to suit your interests. If you are on a combined degree, approximately half of your courses will be in Informatics. You can choose the remainder from a range of options in your other subject.

The focus will also shift towards more independent work, such as designing and evaluating systems, investigating research areas, and undertaking experimental projects. For some courses you will work in groups, developing vital skills in management, communication and team-working – all highly valued by employers. You will also have the opportunity to further your presentation skills and abilities in delivering both oral and written reports.

A major part of the third year is the systems design group project, where students work in small teams to develop a large scale system. In recent years our students have faced the task of developing football playing robots, competing against each other in a local RoboCup.

# Sponsorships and Funding

## Placements, prizes and scholarships

The School of Informatics prides itself on teaching graduates who will be desirable candidates for employment with the best companies. We are involved in schemes that help our students to stand out in the competitive job market.

The School has long-standing relationships with local and global companies, many of which use technology stemming from our research. These companies understand the value of our students and are keen to recruit them. As a result they offer financial incentives in the form of work placements and prizes.

## Scholarships

Our undergraduate scholarships offset some of the cost of your studies, while also providing opportunities for work experience.

Scholarships provide £1,000 a year and may include a placement during the summer between your third and fourth years of study. Sponsors may offer students further work placements or employment at the end of their degree, but they are not obliged to take them.

Scholarships are normally awarded at the end of the first year of study. Selection is based on academic results.

## Work placements

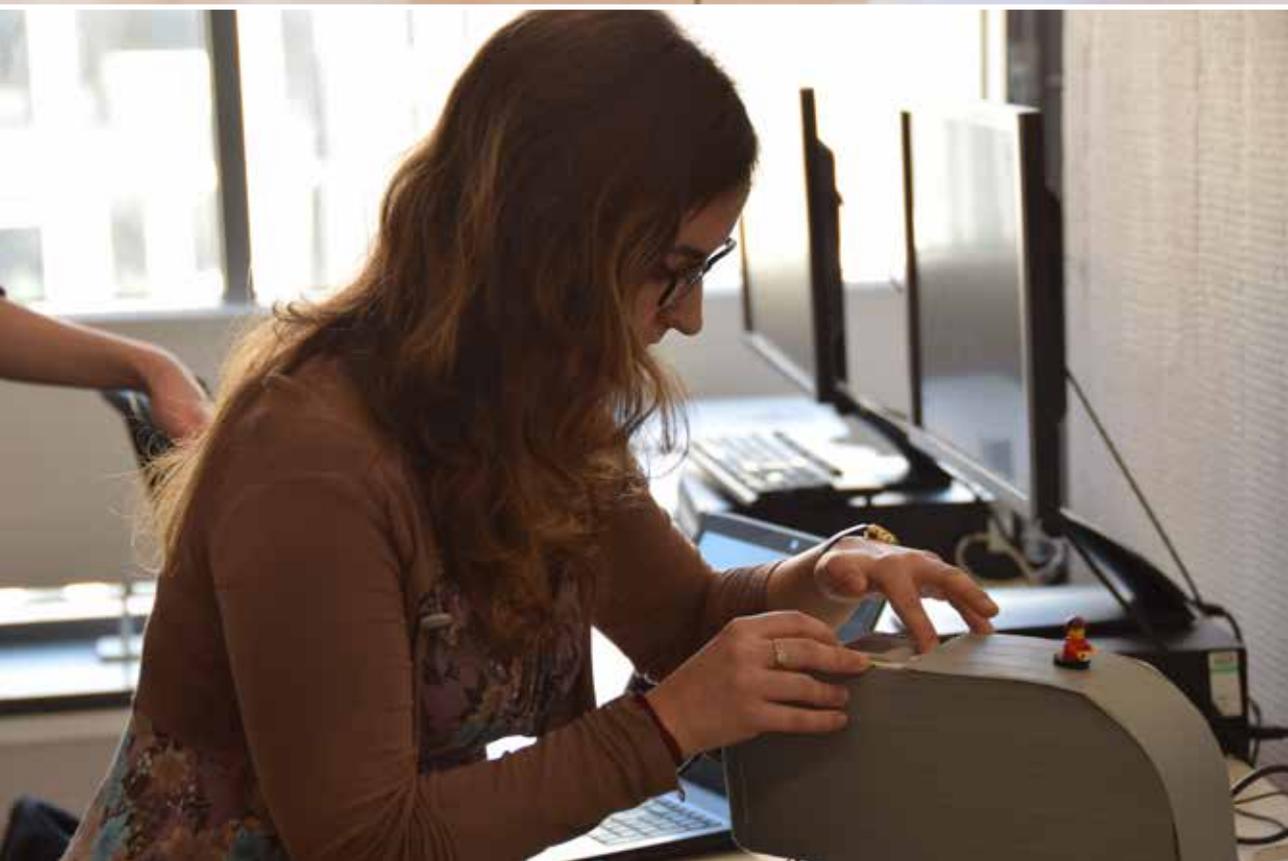
Work placements may be offered by companies with which the School has built a relationship. Placements last up to a year working in industry and are typically open to students who have just completed their third year of study.

## School internships

The School sponsors some of the best students to take part in research projects. This provides an excellent opportunity to engage in cutting-edge science and to gain valuable experience of working in a research environment. These internships usually take place during the summer, between the third and fourth years.

## Prizes

Our Student Prize Scheme rewards and recognises outstanding student performance. The sponsors of these prizes include the School of Informatics along with professional organisations, such as the British Computer Society, and major companies, including Accenture, Citigroup, Freeagent, JP Morgan, Google, Netcraft and Microsoft.



# Case Studies: Our Students

## Connie Crowe

MInf (Hons) Informatics, Year 5

As Connie leaves us to start her graduate position as a software engineer, she told us about her time studying at Edinburgh.

In my opinion, there is a good sense of community within the department. A lot of people end up working in the computer labs, and it means you get to know the people on your course quite well. It makes it really easy to ask for help and make new friends.

Join societies! I joined a lot of societies when I started university. My favourite is definitely the Murder Mystery Society. They really are a great way of trying new things and getting to know people with similar interests. I would also suggest talking to older students in your department. Getting advice about areas which could interest you early on can be helpful in choosing your courses.

## Viktorija Lukosiute

BSc (Hons) Computer Science, Year 3

Viktorija revealed why she chose Informatics, her interests and advice for future students.

Informatics is a very varied course and I guess that's what got me so hooked. Plenty of topics to choose from and who knows how many more will be introduced in the future – machine learning, security, data, language processing... Having some interest in technology really helps as well, but there's even a creative side to this degree that I discovered once in university. It just fit and proved to be very fun as well.

I love to teach others and help people learn about technology, so quite a bit of my time has been spent while volunteering and mingling within societies. When I have the time, I also discovered my passion for hiking and am learning more about mountaineering. Oh, and how could I ever say no to a good book with a cup of coffee?

The University of Edinburgh has a lot (and I mean a lot) of opportunities. None of them are too obvious or simply handed out to you, instead you should be proactive and talk to people, look for opportunities. Some professors have projects that are just waiting for someone who has the time and interest! If you get stuck – don't be afraid to ask help, even from older students. Everyone was a first year at some point and knows how it feels and as you go along you will learn. All the best for whatever path you choose.

## Alexandru Brisan

MInf (Hons) Informatics, Year 3

Alex reflected on his 3 years at Edinburgh, and told us his top 3 things about studying with us so far.

1) Being taught by passionate people who are leaders in their field. In all my three years, I have had courses where you could really see that the lecturer was passionate about the course content. Also, being taught by people who are at the forefront of research in most areas meant that I often received insights into content that I think I could not have received otherwise.

2) Being exposed to top level employers: big tech companies (Bloomberg, Microsoft, Google, JP Morgan, Sky Scanner, Amazon etc.). This means that there are loads of recruitment events during the academic years, providing you not only with an opportunity to meet new people and potentially get a job out of it, but also a way to interact socially with professionals and to get to know your colleagues better.

3) Getting an opportunity to be actively involved in teaching and administrative processes at University: Informatics is really special within the University in that it offers its honours students an opportunity to work in Teaching Support, by being tutors or demonstrators. Whilst this is certainly rewarding from an academic point of view, one must remember that taking up such a position makes you a staff member, meaning you can get a unique insight into what happens behind the curtains.

## Qais Patankar

BEng (Hons) Computer Science, Year 2

Qais shared with us why he choose Edinburgh and his advice to prospective students.

The School of Informatics has fantastic facilities and a great reputation for research.

Edinburgh is such an amazing city and the tech community here is so welcoming and encouraging. There are endless possibilities and the size of the city is just perfect. The city is not at all daunting and it's hard to run out of things to do.

In my first year I found the compulsory mathematics courses very similar to the mathematics A-Levels I had studied for in school. Even though I had prior experience with programming, the compulsory courses for Computer Science were very engaging.

If you're not yet sure about what you want to do, the degree is very flexible and there are so many courses for you to pick from in the final two years of your degree. Definitely get involved with societies and definitely do ask questions (even before you get here!).

# Careers and Industry

## Spinouts

Our commercialisation team builds on our strong research base to support and inspire globally ambitious software companies in Scotland.

Examples of companies founded by informatics graduates:

- CereProc, [www.cereproc.com](http://www.cereproc.com), creates text-to-speech solutions for any type of application. Their core product, CereVoice, is available on any platform, from mobile and embedded devices to desktops and servers. Their voices sound engaging when reading long documents and web pages, and add realistic, emotional, voices to animated characters.
- Actual Analytics use cutting-edge video analysis to analyse behaviour, a crucial step in the development of drugs treating diseases such as Alzheimer's and Parkinson's. Their customers cut costs by automating a time-consuming and error-prone manual step in the \$80bn drug discovery pipeline.
- Skyscanner is a global metasearch engine which compiles information from the internet about flights, hotels and car hire. It presents all the information in one place, in an accessible way that is unbiased, time-saving and free to use.

Computers are everywhere in modern life. Some of the most interesting – and best-paid – opportunities in the future are open to people who really know about computing, software and

information systems. The advent of pervasive 'big data' is changing the way every company works and Informatics is at the heart of this revolution.

Upon graduation, you are a qualified professional, a computer scientist or software engineer. You will leave the School of Informatics with the practical skills required for your profession, for example, you can build a computing system. More importantly, you are not just a programmer: you understand the underlying concepts of computer science.

Our degrees will also provide you with a set of transferable skills such as time management, team work, communication, self-directed learning, networking and decision making. These are just the sorts of skills that employers look for in their recruits.

Most of our graduates make direct vocational use of their degree and work in the IT industry. We are proud to say that nearly a fifth of our graduates are such passionate computer scientists that they go into further training and study either with us or elsewhere.

Some of our graduates have started multi-million pound businesses with help and advice from the School's commercialisation team and from institutions such as Scottish Enterprise.

IT entrepreneurs often start young. If you have a business idea, one of our Business Development Managers can help you to raise funds and find advice.

Our graduates are well placed to seek careers in one of the many industries that rely heavily on computer systems.

## Media and entertainment industry

If you have seen the inside of a television, radio or music recording studio you will appreciate the extensive interdependence of media and information technology. Applications of informatics in media and entertainment include advanced CGI for films, creative web access to museum collections, tools for music composition, and new media, such as virtual reality and social media.

## Mobile systems

From mobile phones to tablets, there has been an explosion in the amount of information we can carry with us, or access on the move. Advances in computation and information processing are at the root of this technology – from compression algorithms for pictures and sounds, to faster and more reliable communication networks.

## User-friendly technology

New technology often brings new problems. Improving the interface, for example, by building computer systems that can understand everyday language, will make technology more accessible to all. Complex systems, such as coordinating emergency services or security monitoring, require advanced information processing that uses intelligent algorithms.

## Environment

Understanding the effects of human actions on the environment – local and global – is an enormously complex problem. Accurate prediction requires three-dimensional time-varying simulations that need optimised code running on high-performance parallel computing systems.



# Our Alumni

## **Dimple Gulrajani, Class of 2017**

### **Computer Science with Management (BEng Hons).**

After leaving university, I returned to India and joined an organisation called 'I For Indya' (IFI) as the Head of Education. I was determined to create a practical curriculum for Indian students to learn and practice useful skills like critical thinking and creative problem solving. In the 6 months I was there, we developed and ran Design Thinking based curricula for students and teachers.

Since then, I have been working as a freelance web developer, while learning more about decentralised and distributed networks which could run offline and at low-cost. I've also discovered dozens of organisations in India doing amazing work in this sector and am collaborating with them on creating tools to help disadvantaged and differently-abled people to learn better.

## **Monica Paun, Class of 2014**

### **Artificial Intelligence (BSc Hons)**

Monica's student journey started on a direct entry to year 2 on the Astrophysics (MPhys) programme.

After my first year at the university, I started looking for internships and I realised I found the ones targeted to Informatics students the most interesting. I applied to few of those and got my first internship at the Center for Speech technology Research of the Edinburgh University. There, I worked on a mobile app interface for their Speech Synthesis System. I enjoyed software development so much that I ended up switching to an Artificial Intelligence degree.

During my penultimate year of university, I signed up for a programming competition for students organised by Blackrock, an asset managing company, and got invited to an interview afterwards. I took the offer and, after the internship, was offered a graduate role. I was there for about one year and a half, where I did three rotations in different teams, in a technical customer support role, then a DevOps role and finally a DBA role. During that time, I realised I wanted to do a full development role and a friend of mine, who was my classmate in university, referred me to a position in Amazon. I ended up getting a software developer engineer role, where I have been ever since, for more than two years now. During this time, I've been doing both software development as well as designing the architecture of a new system.

## Kolos Kantor, Class of 2012

### Artificial Intelligence and Psychology (BSc Hons)

Artificial Intelligence and Psychology degree is now classed as Cognitive Science (BSc).

The University of Edinburgh is at the absolute forefront of Artificial Intelligence research and as such they offer quite unique and cutting edge courses.

Edinburgh is a fantastic town which is very international and welcoming. There is plenty to be discovered here, everything from history through culture and nature to part time jobs, Edinburgh's got it all.

The University's Careers Service was pivotal in identifying my strengths and interests, leading to a successful application for an IT consultancy job on a graduate training scheme.

In my 4 years of consulting, I have worked on 7 very different challenging roles with different financial institutions giving me a great overview of the industry enabling the rapid professional progression I was looking for.



Our graduates fulfil the educational requirement to become a member of the British Computer Society, the UK's leading professional body for people working in IT.

# Making your application

## How to apply

The Universities and Colleges Admissions Service (UCAS) coordinates admissions to universities in the UK. You can access an online database of all courses offered in the UK, and make an application online at: [www.ucas.ac.uk](http://www.ucas.ac.uk).

You can apply directly to your chosen programme using one of the codes below. This will not limit your final choice of specialisation, you don't have to do that until your third year.

If you plan to register for any of the joint honours degrees with Computer Science or Software Engineering, subject to satisfactory performance, you may still be able to transfer to single Honours in Computer Science or Software Engineering at any time during your first two years of study.

### BSc (Hons)

Artificial Intelligence G700

Artificial Intelligence & Computer Science  
GG47

Cognitive Science C859

Computer Science G400

Computer Science & Management  
Science GN42

Computer Science & Mathematics GG14

Computer Science & Physics GF43

### BEng (Hons)

Computer Science G401

Software Engineering G600

MInf- 5-year Undergraduate Masters  
Informatics G500

If you intend to register for any joint degrees with Humanities disciplines you are also eligible for transfer to single honours in Artificial Intelligence or Computer Science, subject to satisfactory performance in the first-year Informatics course. (Please note that second year entry is not available to these degrees.)

Our UCAS institution code is E56. For more information please see

[www.ed.ac.uk/studying/  
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Choosing a university is an important part of your education. We know that people like to check out new places before they choose where to study. There are opportunities to visit the School of Informatics throughout the year, before or after you apply. The University of Edinburgh holds open days, usually in June, September and October. Or you can arrange a visit with us.

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The University's Student Recruitment and Admissions Service also coordinates visits by groups and individuals.

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