

Programme Specification

MSc Informatics (full-time)

BFTZINFORMDM

For students entering in 2027/28

This document sets out key information about your Programme and forms part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

Awarding Institution	University of Reading
Teaching Institution	University of Reading
Length of Programme	MSc Informatics (full-time) - 22 months
Accreditation	Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB) European Foundation for Management Development (EQUIS)
Programme Start Dates	August
QAA Subject Benchmarking Group	Business and Management

Programme information and content

This programme aims to equip students with knowledge and skills to investigate, identify and implement digital and technological strategic solutions through technology leadership. It covers essential knowledge, skills and behaviours to lead digital technology provision, to understand organisation goals, strategies and practices and to implement technological strategic solutions. This programme will prepare students to become digital and technology solution specialists who are confident, competent and capable individuals, capable of applying leadership and change management skills in digital transformation processes. The programme has two technical pathways: Data Analytics and IT Strategy. This programme is a partnership programme between University of Reading and Beijing Institute of Technology.

Programme Learning Outcomes

-MSc Informatics (full-time)

During the course of the Programme, you will have the opportunity to develop a range of skills, knowledge and attributes (known as learning outcomes) For this programme, these are:

	Learning outcomes
1	Demonstrate a developed knowledge of informatics and digital technologies, showing competency at analysing how they support business processes.
2	Describe technology road mapping including implementing strategies and digital transformation plans, and examine how they achieve improved productivity, functionality and end user experience.
3	Develop skills to plan and implement technology based business changes, applying them to deliver effective transformation in the workplace through establishing clear

	objectives, discerning priorities and setting out responsibilities in collaboration with others.
4	Analyse the strategic importance of technology-enabled business processes, and how they are designed and managed to determine an organisation's ability to compete effectively.
5	Synthesise business transformation and integration of different management functions in the context of technological change in organisations.
6	Reflect critically on own ability and leadership to deliver digital transformation in contemporary organisations.
7	Communicate effectively digital solutions and transformation strategies as well as key performance outcomes with team members with different backgrounds.
8	Demonstrate empathy and motivate others to deliver collaborative, high-quality technical solutions and outcomes within organisational contexts.

You will be expected to engage in learning activities to achieve these Programme learning outcomes. Assessment of your modules will reflect these learning outcomes and test how far you have met the requirements for your degree.

To pass the Programme, you will be required to meet the progression or accreditation and award criteria set out below.

Module information

The programme comprises 180 credits, allocated across a range of compulsory and optional modules as shown below. Compulsory modules are listed.

Compulsory modules

Module	Name	Credits	Level
INMB30	Digital Innovation	20	M
INMB31	Dissertation (MSc Informatics)	60	M
INMB32	Informatics in Organisations	20	M
INMB33	Leading in the Digital Organisation	20	M

Noncredit-bearing BIT modules: Since this programme is a partnership programme between Beijing Institute and Technology (BIT) and University of Reading (UoR), noncredit-bearing modules provided by BIT are needed to meet the requirements of the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China. These modules include: Theory and Practice of Socialism with Chinese Characteristics in the New Era (2700006); Marxism and Social Science Methodology (2700005).

Noncredit-bearing Academic English modules: ILMAL1B Academic Language Skills 1 and ILMAL2B Academic Language Skills 2. These modules are also required to meet the English requirement for this programme of IELTS 6.5 (with no component below 5.5) or equivalent.

PATHWAYS

A student must complete all compulsory modules listed above, and compulsory modules for the chosen pathway as listed below.

Pathway 1 – Data Analytics

In addition to the compulsory core modules in section 1 above, compulsory modules for the Data Analytics pathway are:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
INMB34	Data Management	20	M
INMB35	Business Data Analytics	20	M
INMB36	Data Analytics Strategy in Business	20	M

Pathway 2 – IT Strategy

In addition to the compulsory modules above, compulsory modules for the IT strategy pathway are:

Module	Name	Credits	Level
INMB37	Managing Strategic Alignment of Business and IT	20	M
INMB38	Digital Business Strategy	20	M
INMB39	Strategic Technology Consulting	20	M

Part-time or flexible modular arrangements

This is a full time programme.

Placement opportunities

N/A

Study abroad opportunities

N/A

All modules are taught at Beijing Institute of Technology, China

Optional modules

There are no optional modules but students have an opportunity to choose between two pathways to customise their learning and development.

Teaching and learning delivery

All the modules will be delivered through a mixture of online learning and in-person workshops. Learning support will be provided through academic tutor support,

email, bulletin board, electronic discussion forum and employment of other e-learning technologies.

Excluding the noncredit-bearing Stage 1 modules (BIT and Academic English), total study hours for the programme are 1800 hours. The contact hours will depend upon the module combination. In addition to scheduled contact hours, students will be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Elements of your programme will be delivered via digital technology.

The scheduled teaching and learning activity hours and amount of technology enhanced learning activity for your programme will depend upon your module combination. In addition, you will undertake some self-scheduled teaching and learning activities, designed by and/or involving staff, which give some flexibility for you to choose when to complete them. You will also be expected to undertake guided independent study. Information about module study hours including contact hours and the amount of independent study which a student is normally expected to undertake for a module is indicated in the relevant module description.

Accreditation details

Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB)

European Foundation for Management Development (EQUIS)

Assessment

Assessment of knowledge and understanding of learning outcomes and behavioural skills is achieved via both summative and formative assessments. Forms of assessment, which are specified in the individual module descriptions, include:

- Individual written assignments
- Presentations, individual or group
- Reflective learning assignments
- Individual or group projects

A final dissertation, which is an individual research project, is often undertaken through exploring the student's own research, work experience and career interests.

Progression

There are two stages in this programme:

- Stage 1: non-credit-bearing BIT and Academic English modules, and Informatics in Organisations
- Stage 2: Leading in the Digital Organisation, Digital Innovation, modules in either the IT Strategy pathway or Data Analytics pathway, and the Dissertation.

Progression from Stage 1 to Stage 2:

In order to progress from Stage 1 to Stage 2, a student will normally be required to:

1. Obtain a mark of at least 60% in each non-credit-bearing BIT module.
2. Obtain a PASS in ILMAL2B Academic Language Skills 2 (equivalent to 6.5 IELTS with no component below 5.5)

It is normally expected that all the modules in Stage 1 are completed prior to entry to Stage 2 of the programme.

Reassessment of BIT modules: BIT policy applies.

Reassessment of University of Reading modules: the relevant University of Reading policies apply.

Please refer to the programme handbook for more information on reassessment arrangements.

Classification

The University's taught postgraduate marks classification is as follows:

Mark	Interpretation
70 - 100%	Distinction
60 - 69%	Merit
50 - 59%	Good standard (Pass)

Failing categories:

40 - 49%	Work below threshold standard
0 - 39%	Unsatisfactory Work

For Master's Degree

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Master's degree:

Award of a Master's degree

- (i) an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 180 credits
- (ii) a mark of 50% or more in at least 120 credits
- (iii) no credits with a mark below 40%

In addition, for all classifications, students must:

- (i) achieve a mark of 50% or more for the Dissertation

In addition to the threshold conditions for the award of a Master's degree, the following **further** conditions must be satisfied for a classification of Distinction or Merit:

Distinction

[An overall weighted average of 70% or more over 180 credits

OR

an overall weighted average of 68% or more over 180 credits and marks of 70% in at least 90 credits]

[AND

where the dissertation is included in the conditions for the award of a Master's degree a mark of at least 60% in the dissertation]

AND

no marks below 40%.

Merit

[An overall weighted average of 60% or more over 180 credits

OR

an overall average of 58% or more over 180 credits and marks of 60% in at least 90 credits]

AND

no marks below 40%.

For Postgraduate Diploma

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma:

Award of a Postgraduate Diploma

(i) an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 120 credits

(ii) a mark of 50% or more in at least 80 credits

(iii) no credits with a mark below 40%

In addition to the threshold conditions for the award of a Postgraduate Diploma, the following **further** conditions must be satisfied for a classification of Distinction or Merit:

Distinction

[An overall weighted average of 70% or more over 120 credits

OR

an overall weighted average of 68% or more over 120 credits and marks of 70% in at least 60 credits]

AND

no marks below 40%.

Merit

[An overall weighted average of 60% or more over 120 credits

OR

an overall average of 58% or more over 120 credits and marks of 60% in at least 60 credits]

AND

no marks below 40%.

For Postgraduate Certificate

The following conditions must be satisfied for the award of a Postgraduate Certificate:

Award of a Postgraduate Certificate

- i. an overall weighted average of 50% or more over 60 credits
- ii. no credits with a mark below 40%.

Details of the classification method is given in detail in the [Assessment Handbook](#) under:

- Section 19: Awards: Postgraduate Master's, Postgraduate Diploma, Postgraduate Certificate

Please note that there may be a specific version for your year of entry.

Additional costs of the programme

The core textbooks / e-books need to be purchased. Students are encouraged to discuss the purchase of additional textbooks or other resources with the module convenor before purchasing. Some books may be available second-hand, which will reduce costs.

A range of resources to support your curriculum, including library and electronic resources, are available through BIT.

Costs are indicative and may vary according to optional modules chosen and are subject to inflation and other price fluctuations. Estimates were calculated in 2026.

Students may consider purchasing a laptop to help support their learning. Information on recommended device specifications can be found on the [DTS Student Hub](#).

For further information about your Programme please refer to the Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions, which are available at <http://www.reading.ac.uk/module/>. The Programme Handbook and the relevant module descriptions do not form part of your Terms and Conditions with the University of Reading.

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13 July 2026

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