

Proposed Change to the DRPS for Advanced Design Informatics

Current DRPS: <http://www.drps.ed.ac.uk/16-17/dpt/ptmscadein1f.htm>

Advanced Design Informatics is a 240 credit, 2-year course. Students take 180 credits worth of courses, with their final thesis worth 60 credits. The original structure is as follows:

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2	Summer
1	60 credits from courses, 40 mandatory (CDI1; HFT)	60 credits from courses, 40 mandatory (DwD, DIP)	Internship, assessed in S1Y2
2	40 credits from courses, 20 mandatory (CDI2) + 20 credits dissertation work	20 credits from courses, 20 mandatory (PD) + 40 credits dissertation work	

The Semester 2 course is mandatory, Product Development (PD, SSPS11002).

We propose to drop the requirement to take Product Development in Semester 2 of Year 2. It is a frequent target for change requests, as many students come from a professional IT background and already have this knowledge. In addition, we propose to encourage students to shift to the following pattern:

Year	Semester 1	Semester 2	Summer
1	60 credits from courses, 40 mandatory (CDI1; HFT)	60 credits from courses, 40 mandatory (DwD, DIP)	Internship, assessed in S1Y2
2	60 credits from courses, 20 mandatory (CDI2; includes IRR/IRP style components)	60 credits dissertation work	

The new CDI2 structure has already been discussed at BoS and agreed in principle; the changes to DRPS have been made for 2017/18.

Based on our experience with running the course, this gives students more time to focus on their final dissertation, while providing them with the structured preparation that has proved beneficial for the other Informatics MSc cohorts.