2nd October 2017

Dear MSc Student,

Welcome and congratulations on obtaining a place in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at Imperial College. I join all my colleagues in wishing you every success in your studies over the coming year.

The information attached is intended to give you a rough idea of what to expect during your studies here: the lecture programme and assessment criteria of the MSc programme that you will be expected to follow; information on the resources available to help you to achieve your objectives; and a description of our responsibilities to you as the provider of resources and academic supervision. There is also a section on the welfare and pastoral support services that you can turn to in the event of personal or academic difficulty.

There will be an opportunity to discuss this in more detail with your Course Director this week and also at an individual interview to be arranged for you later in the term with your Personal Tutor. In the meantime may I welcome you to what I hope you will find is a supportive and thriving research community.

Yours sincerely

Professor Eric Yeatman
Head of Department
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</tbody>
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1. **MSc Communications and Signal Processing Programme**

This Handbook is designed to provide you with the key information that you need to know about the Communications and Signal Processing MSc Programme and the assessment process.

Further details about each aspect of the MSc Programme can be found in the [A – Z for current students](#).

2. **Key Dates for the Academic Year**

These are the official MSc term dates:
- Autumn Term: 30th September 2017 – 15th December 2017
- Spring Term: 6th January 2018 – 23rd March 2018
- Summer Term: 28th April 2018 – 28th September 2018

The compulsory Online Plagiarism Awareness Course for Master’s Students must be completed by **31st October 2017**.

**Examinations**: 1st May 2018 – 25th May 2018

The main work on your Individual Research Project will take place from late May 2017 to early September 2018 with the following submission deadlines:

- **Initial Project Report**: 16th March 2018 at 4:00 pm
- **Electronic version of Poster**: 31st August 2018 at 4:00 pm
- **Project Report (Soft-bound and electronic versions)**: 7th September 2018 at 4:00 pm
- **Poster Presentation**: 10th September 2018
- **Last official day of the MSc course 2017/2018**: 28th September 2018

3. **Penalty for Late Submission of Assessed Work**

There is a strict penalty for any piece of assessed work that is submitted after the deadline. Any assessed work submitted up to one day after the deadline will be capped at the passmark. Any work submitted more than one day late will be given a mark of zero. Please see [here](#) for more details about the penalty for late submission.
4. Departmental Postgraduate Administration

Prof. Eric Yeatman, Head of Department
(e.yeatman@imperial.ac.uk) EEE Room 609

Prof. Andrew Holmes, Director of Postgraduate Studies
(a.holmes@imperial.ac.uk) EEE Room 701

Andrew has overall administrative responsibility for the Department’s postgraduate affairs. He is responsible for ensuring that all College regulations are applied appropriately in the Department.

Dr. Imad Jaimoukha, Postgraduate Tutor
(i.jaimoukha@imperial.ac.uk) EE Room 1113

Imad is responsible for the welfare and training of students. If you need to meet Imad to discuss any difficulties with your studies or if you have personal circumstances which are hindering your progress, please e-mail him to arrange an appointment.

Mr. Calum MacLeod, Postgraduate Office
(c.macleod@imperial.ac.uk) EEE Room 614

Calum is always available to give advice on postgraduate matters and provide the required forms for Mitigating Circumstances, Interruption of Studies etc.
5. MSc Communications & Signal Processing Administration

Dr. Tania Stathaki – MSc Course Director
(t.stathaki@imperial.ac.uk)
EEE Room 812
020 759 46229

Miss Charlotte Grady - MSc Communications and Signal Processing Course Administrator
(c.grady@imperial.ac.uk)
EEE Room 810, 020 759 46267

Charlotte is available to give advice on all general MSc Communications and Signal Processing matters.

Dr. Cong Ling – MSc Laboratory Organiser
(c.ling@imperial.ac.uk)
EEE Room 815
020 759 46214

Mr. Paul Norman – MSc Laboratory Technician
(p.norman@imperial.ac.uk)
EEE Room 303b, 020 759 46344

Paul manages the MSc Laboratory (Room 303) and should be contacted for any queries relating to the MSc Laboratory or MSc Study Room (Room 405).
6. **MSc Communications & Signal Processing Lecturers**

**Dr. Javier Barria**  
(j.barria@imperial.ac.uk)  
EEE Room 1012  
020 759 46275  
Course: Traffic Theory & Queuing Systems

**Mr. Mike Brookes**  
(mike.brookes@imperial.ac.uk)  
EEE Room 814  
020 759 46165  
Course: Digital Signal Processing and Digital Filters

**Dr. Bruno Clerckx**  
(Bruno.clerckx@imperial.ac.uk)  
EEE Room 816  
020 759 46234  
Course: Wireless Communications

**Dr. Wei Dai**  
(wei.dai1@imperial.ac.uk)  
EEE Room 811  
020 759 46333  
Courses:  1) Coding Theory  
          2) Topics in Large Dimensional Data Processing

**Prof. Pier Luigi Dragotti**  
(p.dragotti@imperial.ac.uk)  
EEE Room 802  
020 759 46192  
Course: Wavelets and Applications
Prof. Erol Gelenbe
(e.gelenbe@imperial.ac.uk)
EEE Room 1011
020 759 46274

Course: Distributed Computation and Networks: a performance perspective

Dr. T-K Kim
(Tk.kim@imperial.ac.uk)
EEE Room: 1017
020 759 46317

Courses: 1) Machine Learning for Computer Vision
         2) Pattern Recognition

Dr. Cong Ling
(c.ling@imperial.ac.uk)
EEE Room 815
020 759 46214

Courses: 1) Probability and Stochastic Processes
         2) Information Theory

Dr. Sergio Maffeis
(maffeis@doc.ic.ac.uk)
Room 441, Huxley Building
020 759 48390

Course: Network and Web Security

Prof. Danilo Mandic
(d.mandic@imperial.ac.uk)
EEE Room 813
020 759 46271

Course: Adaptive Signal Processing and Machine Intelligence
Prof. Athanassios Manikas  
(a.manikas@imperial.ac.uk)  
EEE Room 801  
020 759 46266  
Courses: 1) Advanced Communication Theory  
2) Communication Systems

Dr. Krystian Mikolajczyk  
(k.mikolajczyk@imperial.ac.uk)  
EEE Room 1015  
020 759 46220  
Course: Pattern Recognition

Dr Patrick Naylor  
(p.naylor@imperial.ac.uk)  
EEE Room 803  
020 759 46234  
Course: Speech Processing

Dr. Tania Stathaki  
(t.stathaki@imperial.ac.uk)  
EEE Room 812  
020 759 46229  
Course: Digital Image Processing

Prof. Eric Yeatman  
(e.yeatman@imperial.ac.uk)  
EEE Room 609  
020 759 46204  
Course: Optical Communication
7. Where to find more information about the course

Imperial College London has a very comprehensive website with information about each aspect of the course, student life, and the resources, facilities and support available to you. Listed below are the key web pages that you may wish to visit.

a. Electrical and Electronic Engineering Current Students’ Course Handbook

The EEE Current Students’ Course Handbook webpages contain all of the important information that you will need to know throughout the course. The pages that you may find most useful are listed below:

- Assessment information
- Attendance and absence
- Blackboard: Log-In, Using Blackboard and Self-Enrol details
- Examinations
- Modules and programmes
- MSc individual research project
- Options registration
- Plagiarism awareness (cheating) and the Plagiarism Awareness online course
- Posters (MSc project)
- Postgraduate Staff/Student Committee
- Professional Skills Development - For MSc students, Graduate School
- Reading lists (MSc Courses)
- Academic and Examination Regulations
- Term dates
- Timetables

b. Electrical and Electronic Engineering New MSc Students website

The EEE New MSc Students webpage contains information to help you prepare for the start of your course and to help you settle into the Department. It includes information such as: Visas, Health and Vaccination Advice, Registration, Week 1 Information, Timetables, Resources, Student Information, Contacts and a Campus Map.

c. Imperial College London New Postgraduate Students website

The Imperial College London New Postgraduate Students webpages have sections that provide guidance and advice on ‘Arrivals and Induction’, ‘Fees and funding’ and ‘Making the most of your Imperial experience’ and ‘Living in London’.
8. **Sources of Help**

There is clear information online containing details of the support available to you at Imperial College London. Here is a list of some of the different places where you can seek support if you need help or advice on a variety of matters:

- **The Advice Centre (Imperial College Union)** – Welfare and Confidential Advice
- **Careers/Career Planning (EEE Department)** and the **Careers Service**
- **Chaplaincy**
- **Disability Advisory Service**
- **English Language Support (Centre for Academic English)**
- **Exam Stress Workshops (Health Centre)**
- **Fees, funding and finance**
- **Imperial College Health Centre**
- **Health, Safety and Security (EEE Department)**
- **Special Examination Arrangements**
- **Student Counselling and Mental Health Advice Service**
- **Student Hub**
- **Student Space (College student support)**
- **Support for non-academic issues**

You will be allocated a Personal Tutor soon after you join the MSc course. If you need help with any aspect of the lectures or coursework, speak to the lecturer after a lecture or state your problem in an email to the lecturer, asking for help. The lecturer may be able to provide help by responding with a short email. If it is clear that you need to speak to the lecturer, please arrange an appointment by email. It is better to show your work to the lecturer and ask where you have gone wrong than to meet with them without having tried to do the work. If you need more help, try asking your Personal Tutor or the Course Director.

9. **Resources and Facilities**

There are many resources available to you at Imperial College London. As an MSc student in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering there is a dedicated **MSc Study Room** with computers for you to use. The MSc Study Room is in Room 405, on Level 4 of the EEE Department. This is a quiet study area, so please keep noise levels to a minimum.

There is also a dedicated **MSc Laboratory** with desk space and computers for you to
use. The MSc Laboratory is in Room 303 (Level 3) and is managed by Mr Paul Norman.

The main computing facilities available are in the MSc study room (Room 405, EEE) and the MSc Laboratory (Room 303 EEE). You can access these rooms using your swipe card. There are more computers and quiet study areas in the EEE Departmental Study Area (on the 6th Floor of the EEE building) and in the Central Library.

Mobile phones
Mobile phones must be turned off while in any lecture theatre, teaching laboratory or library.

Noticeboards
You should consult the notice boards concerning your course regularly. The notice board is located in the MSc Lab, Room 303 on level 3.

Photocopying and printing facilities
Photocopying and printing facilities are available on Level 1 and Level 6 of the EEE building. You will need to load print credit on to your College ID Card and use this to print from the multi-functional devices available. You can add print credit to your College ID Card online or in the Central Library using cash.

10. Attendance Monitoring

Students are required by the general College regulations to attend regularly. All lecture rooms in our Department, including the MSc Laboratory (Room 303) and the computer room (Room 304), have card readers (pictured) installed by the doors on the inside of the rooms. You are required to ‘touch in’ on at least two different days per week, using any of the card readers. The card readers are monitored on a regular basis.

The scanners to unlock the doors on the outside of the doors are part of a College wide system and do not record attendance.

If the card reader bleeps three times when you scan your card this means that your card details are not working. If the card reader bleeps three times please contact Daniel Harvey on d.harvey@imperial.ac.uk or 020 7594 6324.
11. Reporting Absences from College

Students must notify the EEE Department's Postgraduate Office, preferably by email to (c.macleod@imperial.ac.uk) if they will be away from College for more than 3 days, with the exception of the official College Closures at Christmas and Easter. If your absence is due to illness you should produce a medical certificate after 7 days' absence.

12. Compulsory, Optional & Unassessed Modules – How to Register

You will automatically be registered for the four compulsory modules (i.e. subjects) on the MSc. You will need to choose four or five optional modules on which to be examined from the available examinable options. The only constraint on your choice is that the modules must not have exam/lecture timetable clashes.

The pass/fail decision and degree classification are based on your four compulsory module marks and the best four module marks from your optional modules. In other words, if you are examined on four compulsory modules and four optional modules then all of these module marks will count. However, if you are examined on four compulsory modules and five optional modules, then the lowest module mark from your optional modules will be discarded.

Unassessed module – Communication Systems

There is an unassessed module on the MSc CSP course. The module is Communication Systems (Course Code: EE9-SU30) and it is taught by Professor Manikas in the Autumn Term. As it is unassessed, this means that this module does not carry any credits and does not count towards your degree. However, it is recommended that you attend the lectures and complete the coursework as it will provide you with a good understanding and foundation in the topic which will be very useful to you throughout the course.

How to register for your optional modules

You can register for your four or five optional modules online via the EEE Department options registration site. The deadline for registering your Autumn Term modules is Friday 20th October 2017. The deadline for registering your Spring Term modules is Friday 1st February 2018.
## 13. List of Modules

### Compulsory Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th>Coursework (%)</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SC1</td>
<td>Mr M. Brookes</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>Digital Signal Processing and Digital Filters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SC2</td>
<td>Prof. A. Manikas</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>Advanced Communication Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SC3</td>
<td>Dr C. Ling</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>Probability and Stochastic Processes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SC4</td>
<td>Prof. D. P. Mandic</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Adaptive Signal Processing and Machine Intelligence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9S-LAB</td>
<td>Dr. C. Ling</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>MSc CSP Laboratory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9S-PRJ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>2 &amp; 3</td>
<td>MSc CSP Project</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Optional Courses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Lecturer</th>
<th>Course-work (%)</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Course Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO7</td>
<td>Dr. J. A. Barria</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Traffic Theory and Queuing Systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO9</td>
<td>Prof. E. M. Yeatman</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>Optical Communication</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO11</td>
<td>Dr. W. Dai</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>Coding Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO14</td>
<td>Dr. T. Stathaki</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>Digital Image Processing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO16</td>
<td>Dr. P. Naylor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Speech Processing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO20</td>
<td>Dr. C. Ling</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Information Theory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO22</td>
<td>Prof. P.L. Dragotti</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>Wavelets and Applications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO23</td>
<td>Prof. E. Gelenbe</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Distributed Computation &amp; Networks: a performance perspective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO24</td>
<td>Dr. S. Maffeis</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Network and Web Security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO25</td>
<td>Dr. T-K. Kim</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Machine Learning for Computer Vision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO27</td>
<td>Dr. B. Clerckx</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>Wireless Communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO28</td>
<td>Dr. W. Dai</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>Topics in Large Dimensional Data Processing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EE9-SO29</td>
<td>Dr. T-K Kim; Dr. K Mikolajczyk</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>Autumn</td>
<td>Pattern Recognition</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
14. Lecture Programme and Examinations

Overview
The lecture programme provides a broad coverage of material on communications and signal processing. Most lectures are held in the EEE Building. In addition to the course lectures, there is a programme of seminars by outside speakers, which we also encourage you to attend although many are aimed at researchers. These are generally held in the Gabor Seminar Room (Level 6 EEE Building). These talks are announced using the EEE e.e.talks service via email.

Important notes on the modules
It would be wise to sample the first few lectures for each module at the start of each term in order to help you choose which subjects you will take for examination purposes. Of course, you need to do the coursework (if applicable) if you wish to be examined on a module. You may attend the lectures for any module without choosing to be examined on it.

Coursework
The lecturer sets a date by which time the coursework has to be submitted. Normally at least five weeks is allowed for the completion of each piece of coursework except when coursework consists of several relatively small parts that are issued separately. We aim to have coursework marked within 2 weeks of the deadline. Students are not allowed to keep their marked coursework since we need to keep it for the External Examiner to inspect during one of their visits to the Department. You can find the coursework percentage for each course on the relevant module page online and in the table below.

15. Plagiarism

Please take plagiarism very seriously when preparing your coursework and Project Report.

As it is a valuable part of the educational process, you are free to discuss the coursework with other students. However, unless it is specified to be group work, your submission for marking must be entirely your own work. You must not copy any part of another person’s work (i.e. you must not copy any part, or all, of the text, equations, programs, figures, graphs, etc.). You must not copy material from any publication without making it clear what you have copied (usually by enclosing the copied material in ‘ ’ and following it by a reference such as [Page 32, 5].) There will be
serious consequences for you if we detect any copying from another student or any unacknowledged copying from the web or any publication.

**All Master’s students are required to complete a Plagiarism Awareness online course and test for Masters students.** The full course details can be found [here](#).

An Avoiding Plagiarism Session has been arranged for all Master’s students on **Monday 16th October 2017, 1.00 – 2.00 pm, Room 408, Electrical and Electronic Engineering.** Attending this session will help you understand the topic and what to expect in the online course and test.

All MSc students must complete the compulsory course by the deadline of **31st October 2017.** More information about the course and how students can enrol is available [here](#).

**16. Assessment Criteria and Degree Classification**

At the end of your degree your degree classification (Fail, Pass, Merit or Distinction) will be based on three marks (examination, laboratory and individual research project marks). For more details about the criteria for each degree classification please see the [MSc Communications and Signal Processing Programme Specification](#).

1. **Examination Mark**
   This is the average mark for the 8 individual modules that are counted. Each of the 8 examination results is equally-weighted.

2. **Laboratory Mark**
   The assessed laboratory work involves experimental work and associated theory, provided by Dr. Cong Ling. The overall mark for this component of assessment is a weighted sum of the marks for the various items of laboratory work that you have completed. The amount of work involved will be approximately the equivalent of two examinable courses (i.e. two modules).

   Dr. Cong Ling's Advanced Communications and Signal Processing laboratory work will be carried out in the MSc Laboratory (Room 303). Details and the time it starts will be emailed to you in due course and your work on it will be marked as part of your assessment. You can find more information on the ACSP lab's webpage - [http://www.ee.ic.ac.uk/msc_csp/ACSPLab.html](http://www.ee.ic.ac.uk/msc_csp/ACSPLab.html).

3. **Individual Research Project Mark**
The Project will be assessed based on your performance on the Project, the Project Report and Poster Presentation in mid-September. Your Project mark is a weighted sum of these (85% Project Report and 15% Poster Presentation).

A list of projects proposed by staff will be published in mid-December. You will be required to submit your Project preferences 1-2 weeks after this. In addition, students may propose a Project themselves or carry out a Project as an intern with a company or at other universities provided the MSc Course Director agrees that the Project is suitable.

**17. Notification of Results**

You will be given a provisional indication of your performance in the exams (subject to confirmation by the Board of Examiners) in July 2018. Your final results will not be available until after an Examiners' Meeting in late October 2018. All grades and marks are provisional until confirmed by the Board of Examiners. Before then, provisional indications of your exam results can be included in confidential references for potential employers or other Universities.

Your final MSc degree classification (Fail, Pass, Merit or Distinction) and your transcript will be made available to you from the Registry website soon after the Board of Examiners Meeting (usually by early-November). Registry will email you instructions to allow you to view your transcript once it is ready.

**18. Interpretation of Grades and Marks**

The table below is designed to give a helpful interpretation of the grades for coursework, Project and examination marks. Please note that these interpretations apply to individual items of coursework and exam questions (for which the pass mark is 50%).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade on coursework</th>
<th>Mark (%) (on transcript)</th>
<th>Interpretation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A+</td>
<td>100</td>
<td><strong>Distinction standard</strong> - an exceptionally well presented exposition of the subject, showing: (i) command of the relevant concepts and facts, (ii) a high critical or analytical ability, (iii) originality, and (iv) evidence of substantial outside reading (where applicable). Distinction standard - excellent answer - a very well presented exposition of the subject, showing many of the above features, but falling short in one or two of them.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>70</td>
<td><strong>Merit standard</strong> - Good to very good answer which (i) shows a clear grasp of the relevant concepts and facts, (ii) gives an accurate account of the relevant taught material (as exemplified in the model answer), and (iii) shows evidence of some outside reading or of critical or analytical ability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>60</td>
<td><strong>Pass standard</strong> - adequate to quite good answer which (i) shows a grasp of the basic concepts and facts, (ii) gives a mainly accurate account of at least half of the relevant taught material (as exemplified in the model outline answer), and (iii) does not go beyond that, or goes beyond that but is marred by significant errors.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>50</td>
<td><strong>Fail standard</strong> - Unsatisfactory answer: shows only a weak grasp of the basic concepts and facts, and is marred by major errors or brevity; presents only about one third to one half of the relevant taught material. Shows a confused understanding of the topic; presents less than a third of the relevant taught material.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Answer is too inaccurate, too irrelevant, or too brief to indicate more than a vague understanding of the topic, less than a quarter of the relevant taught material. Presents only one, two or three sentences or facts that are correct and relevant to the topic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Contains nothing correct that is relevant to the topic.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>