This document provides a definitive record of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student may reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if s/he takes full advantage of the learning opportunities provided. This programme specification is intended as a reference point for prospective students, current students, external examiners and academic and support staff involved in delivering the programme and enabling student development and achievement.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Programme Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Programme Title</td>
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<td>Person responsible for the specification</td>
<td>Dr William Proud</td>
</tr>
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<td>Date of introduction of programme</td>
<td>October 2008</td>
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<td>Date of programme specification/revision</td>
<td>January 2017</td>
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**Description of Programme Contents**

The Department offers a prestigious MSc in Physics, tailored to very able BSc graduates who wish to deepen their knowledge of physics and who are looking to pursue a research career within a university, industrial or national research laboratory.

The course is open to both physicists and students from mathematics, chemistry or engineering disciplines, provided they have a sufficiently strong physics and mathematics background.

**Learning Outcomes**

The Imperial Graduate Attributes are a set of core competencies which we expect students to achieve through completion of any Imperial College degree programme. The Graduate Attributes are available at: [www.imperial.ac.uk/students/academic-support/graduate-attributes](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/students/academic-support/graduate-attributes)

MSc in Physics graduates will have:

- Acquired an understanding of selected areas of physics at the frontiers of knowledge, beyond the undergraduate level;
- Extended their knowledge of advanced mathematical methods;
- Received training in research skills and methodology;
- Experienced undertaking a major, individual, physics-related project and reporting the results in a full scientific report and oral and poster presentation;
- Developed communication skills, both written and oral, to specialised and non-specialised audiences.

**Entry Requirements**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Academic Requirement</th>
<th>First class (1st) Honours degree in Physics. Other scientific disciplines (e.g. Engineering, Chemistry, Mathematics) may be considered.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Non-academic Requirements</td>
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<td>English Language Requirement</td>
<td>Standard requirement</td>
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The programme’s competency standards documents can be found at: [http://www.imperial.ac.uk/natural-sciences/departments/physics/students/current-students/taught-postgraduates/](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/natural-sciences/departments/physics/students/current-students/taught-postgraduates/)

**Learning & Teaching Strategy**

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<th>Scheduled Learning &amp; Teaching Methods</th>
<th>Lectures</th>
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<td>Tutorials</td>
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<td>E-learning &amp; Blended Learning Methods</td>
<td>Blackboard</td>
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<td>Project and Placement Learning Methods</td>
<td>Self-study project</td>
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</table>
### Assessment Strategy

#### Assessment Methods
- Examination
- Coursework
- Practical
- Written report
- Oral presentation
- Viva
- Poster
- Dissertation

### Academic Feedback Policy

The feedback policy will follow the guidelines of the Department of Physics, where written feedback should be provided to the student within two weeks of the work being submitted.

Many of the lecture modules have classworks, which allow students to work through problems under the guidance of the lecturer.

### Re-sit Policy

The College’s Policy on Re-sits is available at: [www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/exams/resit](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/exams/resit)

### Mitigating Circumstances Policy

The College’s Policy on Mitigating Circumstances is available at: [www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/exams](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/exams)

### Programme Structure

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<th>Full-time</th>
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<th>Spring Term</th>
<th>Summer Term</th>
<th>Summer Vacation</th>
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### Assessment Dates & Deadlines

- **Written Examinations**: May. Modules taken outside the MSci programme may have examinations at other times.
- **Coursework Assessments**: Continuous
- **Project Deadlines**: January and September
- **Practical Assessments**: Continuous
Assessment Structure

Marking Scheme

The MSc consists of two elements:

- Taught modules, accounting for 52% of the total programme mark, and;
- Practical work, accounting for 48% of the total programme mark.

The marking scheme for the elements and components will follow the ‘Regulations for the Examinations of Masters Degrees’

Final Degree Classifications

Pass - *a candidate must*:

- Achieve an aggregate mark of 50% or higher in each element;
- Pass each component with a mark of 40% or higher.

Merit - *a candidate must*:

- Achieve an aggregate mark of ≥60% and;
- A mark of ≥60% for at least two of the elements and;
- An aggregate mark of ≥50% for the other element.

Distinction - *a candidate must*:

- Achieve an aggregate mark of ≥70% and;
- A mark of ≥70% for at least two of the elements and;
- An aggregate mark of ≥60% for the other element.
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<th>Element (% Weighting)</th>
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*These modules may be replaced if the material has already been covered at undergraduate level.

**Module weightings are dependent on the size of the module e.g. modules worth 1.5 or 3 ECTS are weighted at 7.75%. Modules worth 6 or 8 ECTS are weighted at 14.29%.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Title</th>
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<th>L&amp;T Hours</th>
<th>Ind. Study Hours</th>
<th>Placement Hours</th>
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<th>% Practical</th>
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### Indicative Module List

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<th>% Coursework</th>
<th>% Practical</th>
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Please note that additional modules from outside the department as well as a range of specialist modules within the Department of Physics may be taken at the discretion of the Programme Director.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Supporting Information</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Programme Handbook is available at: <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/natural-sciences/departments/physics/students/current-students/taught-postgraduates/">http://www.imperial.ac.uk/natural-sciences/departments/physics/students/current-students/taught-postgraduates/</a></td>
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<td>The College’s entry requirements for postgraduate programmes can be found at: <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements">www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/apply/requirements</a></td>
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<td>The College’s Quality &amp; Enhancement Framework is available at: <a href="http://www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance">www.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/qualityassurance</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>The College’s Academic and Examination Regulations can be found at: <a href="http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/regulations">http://www3.imperial.ac.uk/registry/proceduresandregulations/regulations</a></td>
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<td>Imperial College London is regulated by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE) <a href="http://www.hefce.ac.uk/reg/of/">http://www.hefce.ac.uk/reg/of/</a></td>
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