

MSc Information, Communication and Wireless Technologies (ICWT) – E533

1. Introduction

The Programme is established with the purpose of educating candidates capable of meeting society's growing demand for Information, Communication and Wireless Technology Engineers.

Information, Communication and Wireless Technologies (ICWT) are being called nowadays to play a critical role in the socio-economic transformation of Mauritius. ICWT are powerful tools to serve the local industry. They are revolutionizing life as no other technology has ever done before.

ICWT have deep influence on almost all facets of modern life making it cheaper, more pleasant and more enjoyable. In a surprisingly short time span, ICWT have emerged as the fastest growth sector in the world and will no doubt have a positive impact on the Mauritian economy as a whole, on culture, on the educational system, on travel, on medicine, on agriculture, on social interaction amongst many other areas.

The need for professionals in Mauritius with advanced knowledge and skills in ICWT is therefore being felt at all levels and it is in this vein that such a specialised MSc Programme has been designed, more specifically for graduates in ICT related fields such as Electrical, Electronic, Computer Science and Mechatronic Engineering. The job prospects include technical as well as management positions in the field of ICT, Telecommunications, Broadcasting, Regulations, and related fields.

2. Aim and Objectives

Aim

The aim is to increase the appreciation and critical understanding of the principles of communication engineering and information theory with a view to allow the graduates of the Programme to effectively design, implement and maintain communication systems, computer networks and related technologies.

Objectives

The Programme fulfils this aim by teaching students to:

- a) know, understand and apply basic theory and practice of data communication and information theory;
- b) know and understand the principles of mobile and wireless communication systems;
- c) know, understand and design modern communication systems including the maintenance of security, integrity and confidentiality of data;
- d) be able to analyse a particular communication problem and use latest, state of the art information and communication technology to design solution(s) to the problem; and
- e) show critical and analytical thinking in the application of knowledge and/or research in a particular communication system.

3. General Entry Requirements

Successful completion of an undergraduate degree with

- at least a Second Class or 50%, whichever is applicable or
- a GPA not less than 2.5 out of 4 or equivalent, from a recognised higher education institution.

OR alternative qualifications acceptable to the University of Mauritius.

4. Programme Requirements

At least a Second Class Degree in Electrical, Electronics, Mechatronics, Computer Science and/or Computer Engineering from a recognised University or GPA not less than 2.5 or alternative qualifications acceptable to the University of Mauritius.

5. Programme Duration

The Programme will be offered on a part-time basis. The duration of the Graduate Programme should normally not exceed 4 years (8 semesters), subject to the approval of the Faculty. However, students wishing to exit before the end of the course may do so as follows:

- a) After successfully completing **five (5)** modules for the award of a **Postgraduate Certificate**.
- b) After successful completion of **nine (9)** modules, for the award of a **Postgraduate Diploma**.

	Normal	Maximum
Master's Degree:	4 Semesters	8 Semesters
Postgraduate Diploma:	4 Semesters	8 Semesters

6. Credits per Semester: Minimum 3 credits subject to Regulation 5.

7. Minimum Credits Required for the Award of

Master's Degree:	36
Postgraduate Diploma:	27
Postgraduate Certificate:	15

Breakdown as follows:

	Minimum Core Taught Modules	Project	Electives/ Optional Modules
Master's Degree:	18 credits	9 credits	9 credits
Postgraduate Diploma:	18 credits		9 credits
Postgraduate Certificate:	15 credits		

8. Assessment

Each module will carry 100 marks and will be assessed as follows (unless otherwise specified): Assessment will be based on a written examination of 3-hour duration and continuous assessment of 30% to 40% of total marks.

Continuous assessment may be based on laboratory work, seminars and should include at least two (2) assignments/tests per year per module.

An overall total of 40% for combined Continuous Assessment (CA) and Written Examination (WE) components would be required to pass the module, without minimum thresholds within the individual CA and WE components.

All modules carry equal weighting.

The Project carries 9 credits.

Submission Deadlines for Dissertation:

First Draft: End of July of Final Year.

Final Copy: Last working day of August of Final Year.

9. Plan of Study

Students are required to submit at the end of Semester 1 a Plan of Study for their whole Programme of Studies, indicating the list of elective modules and in which semester each of them will be taken.

The University reserves the right not to offer a given elective module if the critical number of students is not attained and/or for reasons of resource constraints.

10. Programme Structure

The Programme consists of taught modules and a research thesis. Each module takes place during the first 15 weeks of each semester and examinations are held at the end of the semester. Each student is required to take at least 9 taught modules – out of which 6 would be core modules. These core modules set the framework for Information and Communication Engineering and will be offered during the first two semesters. The elective modules offered in the third and fourth semester are aimed at covering particular areas in more depth. The contact hours for each 3-credit module will be 45 hours (i.e. 3 hours/week) and the proposal is to run the course over the equivalent of 1½ days/week. The total contact (taught) hours of the course therefore will be 405 hours. The Research Project will involve 180 working hours including direct supervision by a member of academic staff and/or an external supervisor.

A minimum of 6 contact hours is scheduled per week (3 hours on a weekday and 3 hours on Saturday). However candidates are expected to attend daily, for a period of two weeks, normally after 4.00 p.m., those modules, which are taught by visiting lecturers.

The department reserves the right to change the order in which the modules are offered and the right not to offer certain of the elective modules.

11. Important Note

The rules as stipulated in this Programme Structure and Outline Syllabus will replace all other rules and regulations found in previous Programme Structures.

12. List of Modules

CORE MODULES

Code	Module	Hrs/Wk	Credits
		L+P	
ELEC 6510	Data Communications	3+0	3
ELEC 6511	Communication Theory	3+0	3
ELEC 6512	Wireless Technologies I	3+0	3
ELEC 6513	Telecommunications Regulations & Policies	3+0	3
ELEC 6514	Mobile Communications	3+0	3
ELEC 6515	Wireless Technologies II	3+0	3

PROJECT

ELEC 6000	Project	-	9
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ELECTIVES

ELEC 6520	Network Security	3+0	3
ELEC 6407	Audio & Video Broadcasting Technologies	3+0	3
ELEC 6522	ICWT Applications	3+0	3
ELEC 6523	Satellite Communications	3+0	3
ELEC 6524	Nanotechnology	3+0	3
CSE 6525	Management Information Systems	3+0	3
ENGG 6101	Principles of Project Management	3+0	3

13. Programme Plan – MSc Information Communication and Wireless Technologies

YEAR 1							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module	Hrs/Wk L+P	Credits	Code	Module	Hrs/Wk L+P	Credits
CORE				CORE			
ELEC 6510	Data Communications	3+0	3	ELEC 6513	Telecommunications Regulations & Policies	3+0	3
ELEC 6511	Communication Theory	3+0	3	ELEC 6514	Mobile Communications	3+0	3
ELEC 6512	Wireless Technologies I	3+0	3	ELEC 6515	*Wireless Technologies II (PR: Wireless Technologies I)	3+0	3

YEAR 2							
Semester 1				Semester 2			
Code	Module	Hrs/Wk L+P	Credits	Code	Module	Hrs/Wk L+P	Credits
CORE				ELECTIVES			
ELEC 6000	Project	-	-	ELEC 6000	Project	-	9
	Elective 1	3+0	3		Elective 3	3+0	3
	Elective 2	3+0	3				

List of Electives for Year 2, Semester 1 & Semester 2

ELECTIVES				ELECTIVES			
ELEC 6520	Network Security	3+0	3	ELEC 6523	Satellite Communications	3+0	3
ELEC 6407	Audio & Video Broadcasting Technologies	3+0	3	ELEC 6524	Nanotechnology	3+0	3
ELEC 6522	ICWT Applications	3+0	3	CSE 6525	Management Information Systems	3+0	3
ENGG 6101	Principles of Project Management	3+0	3				

Note 1: Students are required to register at the Faculty for modules that they intend to follow in a given semester on a date specified by the Faculty. However, students will be allowed to withdraw from a module subject to satisfying the relevant regulations.

Note 2: An elective will be provided only if sufficient number of students have opted for it and depending on availability of resource persons.

Note 3: In order to be allowed to register on the project (ELEC 6000), students must pass in at least four core (4) modules in Year 1

Note 4: ELEC 6515 has ELEC 6512 as pre-requirement.

September 2010