



BCS ACADEMIC ACCREDITATION

PREPARING STUDENTS FOR THE TECH INDUSTRY





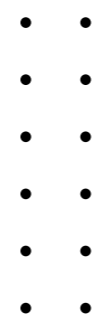
The future health, wealth and growth of our digital society is dependent on the continual flow of exceptional computing talent into the IT profession. It means your work is vital in preparing and qualifying students for the technology industry.

At BCS, we share your responsibility. Through our academic accreditation programme, we ensure your computing graduates gain the skills and knowledge they need to build a rewarding career for themselves and a brighter digital future for everyone.

What is academic accreditation?

BCS Academic Accreditation validates the quality of your undergraduate and postgraduate computing degrees, providing you with assurance and recognition from the professional body for tech. Your course content and provision are assessed by academics and employers, aligned with IT industry frameworks and benchmarked against other educational institutions, to ensure they meet the rigorous standards set by the profession.

Students choose to study BCS-accredited degree programmes knowing they'll gain the right set of technical, personal and professional skills for the evolving tech industry — while employers can be confident your course graduates are prepped and ready to make an impact in their workplace.



BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, is the professional body for the people who work and are preparing to work in the tech industry. With the support of key partners and our global membership community, we're on a mission to improve IT education, influence ethical practice, share expertise, raise professional standards and support career progression. It's all set out in our Royal Charter.

One of our key areas of responsibility is inspiring young people to follow a career in tech and providing them with solid learning foundations. It's why we work with over 100 higher education institutions (HEIs) to accredit their computing degree courses and provide professional development support for their students and computing departments.

Why work with your professional body?

Because we have the same objective! That's why, when you connect with BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT, you find we soon become an essential partner to your faculty. We believe your computing students are preparing for the most exciting careers of our age and we'll help you give them the best possible start to their professional lives. Together we can equip them with the IT skills and understanding they need to go far in the industry.

Introduce your students to their lifelong career partner

While students understand the role their university has in shaping their career prospects, they may not be aware of the support and professional development opportunities available from their professional body — opportunities that are also available to your teaching teams and technical support staff.

Introducing your computing students to BCS while they're studying means they'll be able to get more from us, and for longer! We can put them in touch with our student chapter network, professional mentoring, volunteering opportunities, local BCS groups and events where they can start connecting with IT employers and practitioners. And when they graduate, they can continue their BCS journey as professional members and lifelong learners, supported at every career stage with CPD resources, industry registration and a global network of likeminded professionals.

Accreditation provides the foundation of professionalism and opens the gateway to membership for IT professionals.

Rashik Parmar, CEO, BCS



Why accredit your courses with BCS?

There are far-reaching benefits that come with the BCS Academic Accreditation programme — not just for you and your university, but for your students, their future employers and the tech industry as a whole.

HEIs aligned with industry

- **Independent recognition** — grow the reputation of your university and your computing department with independent assurance and recognition from the industry body for tech
- **Attract top students** — faced with today's wide choice of IT study options, students are increasingly searching for degrees that have been accredited by their professional body
- **University benchmarking** — compare your course content and delivery with those of other institutions, both nationally and internationally, and learn from others in similar fields
- **Continual improvement** — our accreditation process highlights areas of best practice and offers support and guidance for the ongoing development of your programmes
- **Better graduate outcomes** — increase the reputation and success of your graduates in the job market where employers are looking for recruits with accredited degrees
- **Raising your faculty profile** — show senior management that your department is committed to providing high quality computing education and exceptional career prospects for students

Students prepared for employment

- **Employability** — graduates from accredited programmes stand out in the competitive job market with credentials that tech employers recognise and value
- **In-demand IT skills** — through regular employer consultation, BCS accredited degrees equip students with the knowledge, skills and capabilities employers are demanding in their organisation
- **Professional recognition** — BCS accredited programmes introduce students to professional registration and set them on the path to Chartered IT Professional status
- **BCS induction** — we'll prepare lectures for staff to deliver to students telling them about their professional body and the impact of BCS-accredited study
- **Industry connections** — your BCS partnership gives students a direct line into the industry and world of work, a thriving community of IT employers and practitioners, and the latest tech ideas and innovations
- **Global mobility** — BCS accredited degrees are recognised in educational institutions and organisations around the world so graduates can enjoy international career prospects

Top talent entering the profession

- **Independent assurance** — degree programmes are independently reviewed and validated by experts from education and industry confirming they meet the high standards set by the profession
- **Exceptional talent** — BCS accredited degrees promote a steady flow of qualified talent into the industry with the calibre and skills to strengthen the profession and drive digital growth
- **Business acumen** — as well as specialist expertise, BCS accredited degrees nurture valuable workplace and business skills and an understanding of risk, security, and legal, social, ethical and professional issues
- **Recruiting with confidence** — employers select graduates from accredited programmes knowing they'll have the subject-relevant knowledge and skills to start adding value to their tech team from day one
- **Bridging industry and academia** — employers and educators collaborate on the design of the degree programmes ensuring they deliver the right skills and capabilities to meet real world demands
- **Strengthening the profession** — by partnering with the Chartered Institute for IT, you join organisations around the globe playing a part in raising standards of competence and professionalism — and making IT good for society.

Accredited for chartered success

Depending on the content of your degree programme, there are different types of BCS accreditation providing different levels of recognition towards professional membership and registration:

- **MBCS membership** Students who graduate with a fully accredited degree are eligible for Professional (MBCS) membership at the point of graduation
- **Chartered IT Professional** When graduates complete a BCS-accredited degree they meet the educational criteria required for CITP registration — partially or fully depending on the accreditation type
- **Chartered Engineer** BCS also accredits degree programmes for Chartered Engineer (CEng) and Incorporated Engineer (IEng) registration



More than accreditation

Complement your Academic Accreditation programme with BCS Academic Membership and cement your status as an HEI dedicated to exceptional computing education and unrivalled graduate outcomes.

BCS membership for your students

BCS Academic Membership is available for all your computer science students, covering the duration of their study, and offering a gateway to the IT industry. They won't need to wait until they graduate to build their own professional network and understand how they can apply their studies in the real world.

Student members can tap into our vast information resources to support their studies, including 25% discount across our online BCS bookshop, and an elearning library for honing their business and workplace skills. They could connect with someone on the same path ahead of them in our career mentoring network, find their voice in our Academic specialist group, or exchange views and ideas in the online community forum. Plus there are industry events, webinars and local meet ups happening every week to inspire your future tech professionals.

[bcs.org/academic](https://www.bcs.org/academic)

Membership for you and your academic team

The benefits of membership aren't reserved for your students! BCS membership for your teaching staff and technical support teams endorses the professionalism of your department and the standards you uphold.

Our thought leadership and information services are second to none, bringing the news from the frontline straight to your faculty. Exclusive research like our annual digital leaders survey will keep you informed while our renowned membership magazine, ITNOW, keeps you up to date with the latest IT thought leadership, best practice and innovation.

You can make a difference to computing education in the UK by having a say in our policy work and be the first to access valuable reports like our ***Computing qualifications in the UK*** landscape review.

And don't forget to showcase your partnership with the professional body for IT by adding the BCS logo and branding on your website and other material.

For the road ahead

You take great pride in your alumni and their future success in the industry. It's why you do what you do!

BCS membership provides you with the added confidence that your graduates will cruise from classroom to career, where they'll continue developing their tech potential.

As soon as they graduate, BCS student members can upgrade to Professional (MBCS) membership at a reduced fee. They'll have access to practical employability tools and resources, just when they need them most, including our CV builder, interview simulator and aptitude tests, and video advice from recruitment experts — plus our industrywide network of professional contacts.

For further information please contact:

BCS

The Chartered Institute for IT

T +44 (0)1793 417 417

www.bcs.org

© 2022 Reserved. BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT

All rights reserved. No part of this material protected by this copyright may be reproduced or utilised in any form, or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, or by any information storage and retrieval system without prior authorisation and credit to BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT.

Although BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT has used reasonable endeavours in compiling the document it does not guarantee nor shall it be responsible for reliance upon the contents of the document and shall not be liable for any false, inaccurate or incomplete information. Any reliance placed upon the contents by the reader is at the reader's sole risk and BCS, The Chartered Institute for IT shall not be liable for any consequences of such reliance.

