

3 Year Degree or 4 Year Degree?

WHICH IS FOR ME?

4 YEAR HONOURS DEGREE PROGRAMME

In Scotland, an Honours degree programme normally lasts for 4 years – the same as equivalent programmes in Australia, Canada, the United States and some EU countries. The Scottish school system is geared towards preparing students for this programme length and most students who have studied at secondary school in Scotland will be suited to the 4 year Honours programme.

3 YEAR HONOURS DEGREE PROGRAMME

In England, Northern Ireland and Wales, an Honours degree programme typically lasts for 3 years because the A-Level qualification has prepared students studying in these countries for a 3 year Honours degree programme, therefore students from these countries should typically aim to take the 3 year degree programme. This is also the best choice for applicants from non-EU countries who are following the A-Level programme.

If you study on the 3 year Honours programme, you will effectively enter level two of the four year programme. If you have met the programme's entrance requirements, this level will be suited to your skills and experience so far.

WILL I MISS OUT ON FRESHERS ACTIVITIES?

As a new student to Heriot-Watt University you are considered a fresher, regardless of the duration of your programme. You will have the opportunity to participate in a comprehensive programme of academic, social and integration activities during the week before the academic teaching starts.

WILL I BE ENTITLED TO GUARANTEED CAMPUS ACCOMMODATION?

As a new student to Heriot-Watt University you will be entitled to our guaranteed campus accommodation pledge, so long as you apply by the deadline for applications, which is usually the 22nd August each year.

WHAT ABOUT THE MENG SOFTWARE ENGINEERING PROGRAMME?

An MEng Programme in Scotland typically lasts for 5 years. Applicants who have A-Level ABB, SQA Advanced Higher BBB or IB 30 including Mathematics and Computing as well as competence in a high level programming language are able to enter level 2 of this programme, and duration would then be 4 years.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE 3 YEAR DEGREE?

You should apply via UCAS and enter the UCAS course code for your preferred programme(s) into your online application. You should select entry point 2 for the 3 year Honours degree or the 4 year MEng degree.

WHAT IF I DON'T MEET THE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE 3 YEAR DEGREE?

If you don't meet the conditions of your offer, but still meet our A-Level conditions for the 4 year degree, you have the option to switch to the 4 year programme.

COMPUTER SCIENCE PROGRAMME REQUIREMENTS

Our Computer Science, Information Systems and Software Engineering degrees are designed for those looking for a programme with a broad foundation, practical skills and flexibility. The requirements for our 3 year Honours degree programme are:

GCE A-Level: ABB including Mathematics and Computing

SQA Advanced Higher: BBB including Mathematics

IB: 30 points with Mathematics and Computing at Higher Level 6

Those entering our 3 year Honours degree are expected to be proficient in a high level programming language, Java is our preference.

