

1. Admissions/ Management Information				
Title of the programme – including any lower awards				
Please provide the titles used for all awards relating to this programme. Note: all programmes are required to have at least a Postgraduate Certificate exit award.				
See guidance on programme titles in:				
Masters	MSc Intelligent Robotics			
Postgraduate Diploma	PGDip Intelligent Robotics	Please indicate if the Postgraduate Diploma is available as an entry point, ie. is a programme on which a student can register, is an exit award, ie. is only available to students exiting the masters programme early, or both.		Exit
Postgraduate Certificate	PGCert Intelligent Robotics	Please indicate if the Postgraduate Certificate is available as an entry points, ie. is a programme on which a student can register, is an exit award, ie. is only available to students exiting the masters programme early, or both.		Exit
Level of qualification	Level 7			
This document applies to students who commenced the programme(s) in:		2019		
Awarding institution			Teaching institution	
Unviversity of York			University of York	
Department(s): Where more than one department is involved, indicate the lead department			Board of Studies	
Lead Department	Department of Electronic Engineering		Department of Electronic Engineering	
Other contributing Departments:				
Route code (existing programmes only)		PMELESIRO1		
Admissions criteria				
Applicants are normally expected to hold (or expected to gain) the equivalent of a 2.1 honours degree or above from a university recognised by the University of York. This degree should either be in computer science, computer science/mathematics joint honours, electronic engineering, mechanical engineering or a related subject. We are willing to consider applications from students with lower qualifications, particularly when the student has high marks in relevant modules and/or appropriate industrial experience. For applicants whose native language is not English, the minimum University English language requirements of IELTS 6.0 (with at least 5.5 in each of the four language components) or the equivalent are required.				
Length and status of the programme(s) and mode(s) of study				
Programme	Length (years/ months)	Status (full-time/ part-time)	Start dates/months (if applicable – for programmes that have multiple intakes or start dates that differ	Mode

		Please select	from the usual academic year)	Face-to-face, campus-based		Distance learning		Other
MSc Intelligent Robotics	1 year	Full-time	September	Please select Y/N	Yes	Please select Y/N	No	N/A
Language(s) of study								
English								
Language(s) of assessment								
English								
2. Programme accreditation by Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Bodies (PSRB)								
2.a. Is the programme recognised or accredited by a PSRB								
Please Select Y/N:	No	Please note that we are planning for IET Accreditation for this programme in our next visit in 2019						
3. Additional Professional or Vocational Standards								
Are there any additional requirements of accrediting bodies or PSRB or pre-requisite professional experience needed to study this programme?								
Please Select Y/N:	No	if Yes, provide details						
N/A								
4. Programme leadership and programme team								
4.a. Please name the programme leader for the <u>year to which the programme design applies</u> and any <u>key</u> members of staff responsible for designing, maintaining and overseeing the programme.								
Dr Shuhei Miyashita								
5. Purpose and learning outcomes of the programme								
5.a. Statement of purpose for applicants to the Masters programme								
Please express succinctly the overall aims of the programme as an applicant facing statement for a prospectus or website. This should clarify to a prospective masters student why they should choose this programme, what it will provide to them and what benefits they will gain from completing it.								
<p>The use of robotics in many aspects of life is on the increase. From autonomous transportation, to farm machinery, to medical and environmental applications, to logistics, robots are present. Developing robots that are capable of adapting, and learning from experience, is a significant driver in the robotics industry and at the cutting edge of research development. The MSc Intelligent Robotics provides you with the tools and skills necessary to become a leader in these expanding areas. Through lectures and hands-on experience, you will learn about the development of mechanisms, control systems, algorithms that can learn and adapt, and swarm systems - multiple robots working together. There is a strong focus on practical implementation, both in hardware and simulation. The MSc culminates in a large research project focussed on collective robotic systems, ranging from ground-based units to flying robots and new mechanisms at variable scales for manufacturing. You will work in a state of the art, dedicated, robotics laboratory for some modules and the final project (see the York Robotics Laboratory website for more details on the lab). This will prepare you for employment in robotic and autonomous systems related industries or pursuing further research into Intelligent Robotics. Example careers in the rapidly expanding field of robotics include service industries, manufacturing, automation, logistics or the entertainment industry.</p>								
5.b.i. Programme Learning Outcomes - Masters								
PLO	On successful completion of the programme, graduates will be able to:							

1	Subject Knowledge: Conduct research and development in intelligent robotics design, theory and practice to advance the state of knowledge in intelligent robotics.
2	Engineering Analysis: Extract and critically evaluate literature and other data about complex robotic systems from simulations and hardware deployment using analytical, statistical, and computational methods.
3	Engineering Design: Create innovative and optimised designs to address intelligent robotics research problems involving hardware and/or software by synthesising novel ideas into practical solutions.
4	Practical Skills: Apply professional skills of programming, control and design to independently address challenging research-based problems of intelligent robotic systems.
5	Technical Communication: Communicate, debate, and contextualise information in a succinct and technically accurate manner for engineers and non-technical audiences, and to write and interpret technical documentation.
6	Management & Personal Development: Proficiently manage themselves, teams and complex projects in preparation for technical careers as leaders in intelligent robotics.

5.c. Explanation of the choice of Programme Learning Outcomes

Please explain your rationale for choosing these PLOs in a statement that can be used for students (such as in a student handbook). Please include brief reference to:

i) ... in what way will these PLOs result in an ambitious, challenging programme which stretches the students?

The PLOs for this programme have been developed by the programme team as the best way of capturing the skills and competencies that graduates of the programme will be able to demonstrate. PLO1 indicates that the specialist robotics, control & programming knowledge gained will be actively applied in individual research, working at the cutting edge of intelligent and autonomous robotics research. PLOs 2-4 represent the main skillset that engineers are expected to have - that of analysing complex problems in today's world, designing innovative solutions, and having the practical technical ability to bring novel ideas into being. This programme specifically develops an engineering skillset that is applicable in the world of intelligent robotic systems. PLO5 emphasises the importance of an engineer being able to communicate their questions, analysis, findings and solutions to a variety of audiences via a variety of media. PLO6 crystallises the need in the modern world for engineers to be effective team-players, adaptable to working alone or in different sized teams for a variety of different purposes. Together these PLOs bring together up-to-date knowledge, cutting-edge engineering skills, with the ability to work effectively with others and communicate with the wider world.

ii) ... in what way will these PLOs produce a programme which is distinctive and advantageous to the student?

York has been developing programmes in this area for many years and staff have a wide range of experience in the core subject knowledge, working on related research projects, and guiding students through the process of learning and practically experiencing the subject. The PLOs form a series of learning ladders that ensure that the different strands of learning receive full coverage across the programme. Whilst students need to learn a good deal of information about their subject, the job of a university in today's knowledge-rich world, is to provide context, guidance and experience of applying that knowledge in practice. For this programme in Intelligent Robotics, students will gain knowledge, experience and confidence in a combination of areas that are of direct applicability to today's major research topics in autonomous systems, swarm robotics and control systems engineering.

iii) ... how the design of the programme enables students from diverse entry routes to transition successfully into the programme? For example, how does the organisation of the programme ensure solid foundations in disciplinary knowledge and understanding of conventions, language skills, mathematics and statistics skills, writing skills, lab skills, academic integrity

Prior to arrival: Students receive newsletters with information about the programme.

Upon arrival: 3 afternoon intensive induction specifically designed to introduce students to the way we do things here at York, to level the understanding playing field; to give students the chance to get to know each other and work together in groups; to lay down a foundation of generic skills training and UK conventions, especially in teaching and learning; to get them started in writing and speaking skills, working in teams, some tools for creative problem solving, thinking, etc. We generally mix students in supervision groups by gender and country of origin - with the intention of helping them integrate.

During the year: A specially developed module in *C Programming* provides workshops to help people with limited experience of engineering coding to make rapid progress. Workshops in the *Practical Robotics* module allow students to practice technical skills. Each module is designed to introduce key topic material, but also to allow students to apply this in practice in labs, tutorials, and via supported self-study.

iv) ... how the programme is designed to enable students to progress successfully - in a limited time frame - through to the end of the award? For example, the development of higher level research skills; enabling students to complete an independent study module; developing competence and confidence in practical skills/ professional skills. See QAA masters characteristics document <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Masters-Degree-Characteristics-15.pdf>

During the Autumn Term students undertake three major modules in Robotics (*Practical Robotics* , *Swarm Robotics* and *Control Systems Engineering*). These all cover both theoretical and practical topics. The module order allows students to start learning about programming/software in a dedicated module (*C Programming*) as acquiring the skill can be done relatively in short period, while developing hardware skills through the first two terms. Modules continue in the Spring Term, but these build upon the foundations covered in the Autumn Term, to allow more complex systems to emerge, and to focus more on systems programming, data communication and neural networks. These two terms are supported by *Personal Effectiveness* workshops, which help to develop the student's digital literacy, research skills and industry readiness. In the Summer Term the main feature is broadening the students' research methods and data processing skills in preparation for the main project, and students are supported in the development of their research, writing, literature review, time management and project management skills. Using what they learn in the modules in the first two terms, students will study how to read and write a scientific paper in *Critical Evaluation of Intelligent Robotic Systems* , and implement in *Group Robotics Project* at the end. This is a major research and development project in the area, carried out in industry-style teams but developing personal skills and responsibilities. Groups have regular contact from an academic supervisor actively researching in this area. Thus the whole one-year process can be seen as a transition from a generalist interested in electronics & robotics, to a specialist researcher with a wider range of experience and industrial skills in intelligent robotics and control systems engineering.

The main vehicle for student progress is the design and arrangement of modules, which supports the students in a deep understanding of theme-based fundamental knowledge, leading rapidly to more specialist research-based knowledge and application. Together the PLOs ensure that the industry-expected skillset is covered, and the modules and framework provide the material, time and support to help students develop to their full potential.

v) ... how this programme (as outlined in these PLOs) will develop students' digital literacy skills and how technology-enhanced learning will be used to support active student learning through peer/tutor interaction, collaboration and formative (self) assessment opportunities (reference could be made to such as blogging, flipped classrooms, response 'clickers' in lectures, simulations, etc).

The entire programme is imbued with developing digital literacy. A variety of programming languages are encountered and applied by students (PLOs 1-4) as a key part of the modules. The field of Intelligent Robotics can only exist with a deep understanding of the design and use of hardware and software systems, and so this is built in deeply to the module and programme structure. Students not only learn how to use digital tools, but how to design and build them. PLO1 enhances personal research by developing students' skills to independently find, evaluate and use sources. Students also need to develop their personal communication skills (PLO5) and the programme and its assignments provide multiple opportunities for this; from keeping technical logbooks, to portraying information to the public via poster preparation, and by doing public presentations. PLO6 is developed not only in the module assignments (managing themselves, teams and complex projects) which use collaborative tools such as Google Apps, but in the final teamworking project, and by involvement in the Professional Development Framework (see below in 5.c. vi).

vi) ... how this programme (as outlined in these PLOs) will support and enhance the students' employability (for example, opportunities for students to apply their learning in a real world setting)? The programme's employability objectives should be informed by the University's Employability Strategy:

<http://www.york.ac.uk/about/departments/support-and-admin/careers/staff/>

All our MSc programmes incorporate a carefully designed Professional Development Framework. In consultation with our Departmental Advisory Board, with key contributors from Industry, Research and Academia, this ensures that all students gain awareness of the essential skills that employers need and opportunities to develop their personal and team-based effectiveness. This begins with an Induction Week including an introduction to masters-level learning, and student team activities. Throughout the Autumn and Spring Terms students develop their personal effectiveness in a series of workshops (covering such issues as literature, research, referencing, teamwork, leadership, reflective learning, ethics, and business skills). These lead on to Interdisciplinary Masterclasses which cover key research and development cross-curricular topics in emerging technology. In the Summer Term students are prepared for research methodology and digital literacy, and undertake regular developmental training in project management. This all leads to a major group project (60 credit units) which is designed to give research and industry-relevant experience to individuals and teams as a major component of each programme.

viii) ... how learning and teaching on the programme are informed and led by research in the department/ Centre/ University?

York's world-leading Intelligent Systems and Nanoscience Research Group in the Department of Electronic Engineering is involved in research and development of autonomous robotics systems for a variety of industrial purposes. The modules are taught by leading academics specialising in control systems engineering, robotic systems and computer programming. Modules are informed by this research and development and are kept up to date with the latest research, equipping them with state-of-the-art knowledge in this rapidly evolving area. Students have multiple opportunities to work with and be guided by staff who are actively working in these developing subject fields, in a state-of-the-art, dedicated, robotics laboratory for some modules and the final project.

5.d. Progression

For masters programmes where students do not incrementally 'progress' on the completion of a discrete Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma, please summarise students' progressive development towards the achievement of the PLOs, in terms of the characteristics that you expect students to demonstrate at the end of the set of modules or part thereof. This summary may be particularly helpful to students and the programme team where there is a high proportion of option modules and in circumstances where students registered on a higher award will exit early with a lower one.

Note: it is not expected that a position statement is written for each masters PLO, but this can be done if preferred.

On completion of modules sufficient to obtain a Postgraduate Certificate students will be able to:

If the PG Cert is an exit award only please provide information about how students will have progressed towards the diploma/masters PLOs. Please include detail of the module diet that students will have to have completed to gain this qualification as an exit award.

Students can receive a postgraduate certificate by achieving a minimum of 60 credits in taught modules. This could occur for instance by failing a pass/fail module, or by not being able to progress onto the project for other reasons such as failing the *Critical Evaluation of Intelligent Robotic Systems* module. Up to this point in the programme all PLOs are covered, but PLO1 will be lacking the literature review contextualisation, and PLO6 will be under-practiced as the major project is not experienced.

On completion of modules sufficient to obtain a Postgraduate Diploma students will be able to:

If the PG Diploma is an exit award only please provide information about how students will have progressed towards the masters PLOs. Please include detail of the module diet that students will have to have completed to gain this qualification as an exit award.

Students can receive a Diploma by passing everything except the project (due to leaving early or by failing the project). Thus they will have covered the majority of PLOs 1-5. Their completion of PLO6 will be limited compared to a Masters graduate, but it is not entirely missing as they will have still have completed the *Critical Evaluation of Intelligent Robotic Systems* module and attended support sessions on Project Management.

6. Reference points and programme regulations

6.a. Relevant Quality Assurance Agency benchmark statement(s) and other relevant external reference points

Please state relevant reference points consulted (e.g. Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, National Occupational Standards, Subject Benchmark Statements or the requirements of PSRBs): See also Taught Postgraduate Modular Scheme: Framework for Programme Design:

<https://www.york.ac.uk/media/staffhome/learningandteaching/documents/programmedevelopment/Framework%20for%20Programme%20Design%20-%20PG.pdf>

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/en/Publications/Documents/Masters-Degree-Characteristics-15.pdf>

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/assuring-standards-and-quality/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements>

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/publications/information-and-guidance/publication?PubID=2843#.VthM1fmLS70>

Framework for Higher Education Qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland – August 2008

<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Documents/FHEQ08.pdf>

IET Accreditation – October 2014:

<http://www.theiet.org/academics/accreditation/policy-guidance/>

6.b. University award regulations

The University's award and assessment regulations apply to all programmes: any exceptions that relate to this programme are approved by University Teaching Committee and are recorded at the end of this document.

7. Programme Structure

<p>iii) Summative Assessment</p> <p>Please outline how summative assessment within and across modules has been designed to support and evidence the progressive achievement of the programme learning outcomes. (For example, the use of different assessment methods at the 'introduction' stage compared to those used to evaluate deeper learning through the application of skills and knowledge later in the programme).</p> <p>This programme has a mix of summative assessment styles. Theoretical modules are usually assessed by closed-book examination. Assignments are designed to be more than just a test, but to provide a challenging experience for personal work. Scenarios are given for each such assignment which reflect the range of real-world applications that the students may encounter in this topic area. Early stage assessment is more restricted to testing the knowledge and understanding of fundamental theory and its application to practical problems. Beyond the Autumn term, assessments include parts which require the students to apply their knowledge to solve particular problems. In modules during the later stages of the degree programme, notably the group project, every student is required to be creative and develop their own designs and solutions to challenging robotics problems. Thus the assignments, including the final project, tend to cover most PLOs as they require the application of knowledge (PLO1), the analysis and design of a problem (PLOs 2 & 3), the practical building and development of a technical solution (PLO4), managed in a creative and effective way (PLO6) and described effectively to others (PLO5). As the programme progresses, the assignments incorporate a greater degree of student innovation and independence, culminating in a final creative and technical project.</p>	
<p>8. Additional information</p>	
<p>8.a. Continuing Professional Development</p> <p>Will any of the programme's modules be available on a free-standing basis?</p>	
<p>Please Select Y/N:</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>8.b. Transfers out of or into the programme</p>	
<p>i) Transfers <u>into</u> the programme will be possible? (please select Y/N)</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>ii) Transfers <u>out</u> of the programme will be possible? (please select Y/N)</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>11. Exceptions to University Award Regulations approved by University Teaching Committee</p>	
<p>Exception</p> <p>Please detail any exceptions to University Award Regulations approved by UTC</p>	<p>Date approved</p>
<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>Quality and Standards</p> <p>The University has a framework in place to ensure that the standards of its programmes are maintained, and the quality of the learning experience is enhanced.</p> <p>Quality assurance and enhancement processes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · the academic oversight of programmes within departments by a Board of Studies, which includes student representation · the oversight of programmes by external examiners, who ensure that standards at the University of York are comparable with those elsewhere in the sector · annual monitoring and periodic review of programmes · the acquisition of feedback from students by departments, and via the Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey (PTES). <p>More information can be obtained from the Academic Support Office: http://www.york.ac.uk/about/departments/support-and-admin/academic-support/staff/#quality</p>	
<p>Date on which this programme information was updated:</p>	
<p>5th June 2018</p>	
<p>Departmental web page:</p>	

https://www.york.ac.uk/electronic-engineering/postgraduate/taught_masters_degrees/msc_robotics/

Please note:

The information above provides a concise summary of the main features of the programme and the learning outcomes that a typical student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if they take full advantage of the learning opportunities that are provided. Detailed information on the learning outcomes, content, delivery and assessment of modules can be found in the module descriptions. The University reserves the right to modify this overview in unforeseen circumstances, or where the process of academic development, based on feedback from staff, students, external examiners or professional bodies, requires a change to be made. Students will be notified of any substantive changes at the first available opportunity.

Template Last Updated 11/01/2017 by Adrian Lee

Overview of modules by stage

Notes:

[1] The credit level is an indication of the module’s relative intellectual demand, complexity and depth of learning and of learner autonomy (Level 4/Certificate, Level 5/Intermediate, Level 6/Honours, Level 7/Masters)....

[2] The credit value gives the notional workload for the module, where 1 credit corresponds to a notional workload of 10 hours (including contact hours, private study and assessment).....

[3] Special assessment rules (requiring University Teaching Committee approval); P/F – the module marked on a pass/ fail basis (NB pass/ fail modules cannot be compensated); NC – the module cannot be compensated; NR – there is no reassessment opportunity for this module. It must be passed at the first attempt

[4] Independent Study Modules (ISMs) are assessed by a dissertation or substantial project report. They cannot be compensated (NC) and are subject to reassessment rules which differ from ‘taught modules’. Integrated Masters programmes may designate a project in the final stage as an ISM which is then subject to the assessment rules as set out in the postgraduate programmes section of the Guide to Assessment.

Core & option module table (add additional rows as required)

Core/ Option	New/ substantially revised module – Yes/ No	Module title	Module code	Credit level[1]	Credit value[2]	Prerequisites, Corequisites, Prohibited combinations (name of modules(s))	Assessment rules[3],[4]	Timing of module (eg. AuT – Autumn, SpT – Spring, SuT – Summer Term, Year long)	Format, contribution to module mark and timing of summative assessment (eg. essay, 50%, AuT wk10, exam and 50%, SpT wk1)
Core	No	C Programming for MSc	ELE00107M	7/M	10			AuT	C Program & Report, 100% SpT wk 3
Core	No	Control Systems Engineering for Robotics	ELE00093M	7/M	20			AuT, SpT	Exam, 100%, SuT wk 1
Core	No	Critical Evaluation of Intelligent Robotic Systems	ELE00128M	7/M	30			SpT, SuT	Report, 100%, Wk 6, SuT
Core	No	Practical Robotics	ELE000118M	7/M	30			AuT, SpT	Exam, 50%, SpT wk 1, Robot Arm Assessment, 50%, SuT wk 1
Core	Yes	MSc Personal Effectiveness	ELE00119M	7/M	10			AuT, SpT	Portfolio, 100%, Wk 10 SpT
Core	No	Swarm Robotics	ELE00114M		10			AuT	Coursework, 100%, Aut wk 8
Core	No	Group Robotics Project	ELE00094M	7/M	60		ISM	SuT, SuV	Coursework, 100%
Core	Yes	Neural Networks and Neural Computing	ELE00115M	7/M	10			SpT	Closed book exam, SuT wk 1