

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

1. Key Information

Programme Title:	BSc (Hons) Intelligence, Security and Resilience BSc (Hons) Intelligence, Security and Resilience with Foundation Year
Awarding Institution:	Buckinghamshire New University
Teaching Institution(s):	Buckinghamshire New University
Subject Cluster:	Security
Award Title (including separate Pathway Award Titles where offered):	Bachelor of Science with Honours, BSc (Hons)
Pathways (if applicable)	
FHEQ level of final award:	Level 6
Other award titles available (exit qualifications):	Certificate Diploma
Accreditation details:	n/a
Length of programme:	3 years / 4 years with Foundation Year
Mode(s) of Study:	Full time
Mode of Delivery:	In person (on-site) delivery
Language of study:	English
QAA Subject Benchmark(s):	Business and Management
Other external reference points (e.g. Apprenticeship Standard):	
Course Code(s):	BSINSRFT BSINSRFY
UCAS Code(s):	
Approval date:	April 2023
Date of last update:	March 2024

2. Programme Summary

The ability of organisations to survive and thrive is measured by their resilience. They increasingly seek graduate intelligence, security and resilience specialists who can quickly move into leadership and management roles. This is a full-time, face-to-face programme designed to prepare graduates for exciting and influential careers across a wide range of emerging roles in global and corporate security, insurance, fraud and financial services as well as increasingly specialist roles in the Armed Forces, Police, civilian government departments and the security services.

The team delivering this programme come from a range of highly relevant professional backgrounds spanning the intelligence and security industry across private and public spheres. Academics have experience in commercial security, corporate resilience and risk management, government security, diplomatic protection, armed forces intelligence operations and in providing consultancy advice to governments and to the United Nations.

This programme is progressive. In the first year, learners start with a workshop-based five week module in which they learn and apply a selection of analytical techniques. They then move onto a five-week introduction to learning approaches in order to equip them with the skills and approaches to thrive in degree level study. In the second and third terms, learners take a series of specialist modules to give the foundational knowledge for the remainder of the programme. There are modules for each of Intelligence, Security and Resilience. Alongside this, you select two Opportunity modules which can be related topics from within the school or interest topics from across the university.

In the second year, the programme builds on this foundation to develop the technical skills needed in professional roles. Learners start the year following a core module in Global Resilience which gives them the opportunity to put the programme so far into the context of world affairs and introduces the geo-political and economic systems in which corporate, public sector services and charities must function. There is then core modules in Advanced Structured Analytical Techniques and Research Methods. At this level you have the chance to start to select two Option modules to start specialising in areas which particularly interest you. This list is always growing but currently includes: Terrorism and Counterterrorism, Technology and Security, Organisational Resilience Challenges: Preparation and Recovery, Corporate Intelligence and Security, Intelligence Security and Resilience Work Placement and a live Local Resilience Project. A further two Opportunity Modules, again chosen from across the university, provide a further chance to personalise your individual programme.

In the final year, the learner applies all the previous learning to areas of individual interest in the contemporary world. Each learner selects and conducts an individual self-directed project to research a topic of your own choosing. You will be supported in this work by your individual supervisor but the onus will be on you to drive the work forward. Learners must select three option modules from a growing list which currently includes: Operational Leadership, Strategic Intelligence, Corporate Security Challenges, Global Resilience, Risk Management, and Aviation Security.

Finally, all learners reunite to take the core module, Real World Application of Intelligence Security and Resilience. In this exciting conclusion to the programme, we go on a series of visits to meet people, see the technology they are using and understand how their organisations conduct operations; learners can see for themselves how their studies apply to current intelligence, security and resilience operations in the real world.

Throughout, assessment is based on authentic workplace tasks tailored to the individuals' personal interests. For example, in the second year, learners deliver a structured analysis on a topic of their choosing. Several assessments require a verbal presentation; these include a formal intelligence brief and a simulated decision brief at board level. Written work includes a variety of formal reports and management briefs, all based on real world tasks expected of graduates in the early stage of their careers.

Graduates of this programme will be confident, knowledgeable professionals immediately ready to begin a worthwhile and highly rewarding career in intelligence, security and resilience.

3. Programme Aims and Learning Outcomes

Programme Aims

This programme aims to:

1. Provide specialised knowledge of public sector and corporate resilience to enable graduates to embark on corporate, public-sector or charitable careers with confidence.
2. Develop the professional leadership and technical skills needed by graduates in a range of emerging careers.
3. Encourage a systematic and structured approach to analysis and assessment.
4. Embed all technical and theoretical study in a global resilience context.
5. Offer an effective employment gateway for graduates into existing intelligence and security roles and emerging roles across a wider range of business and crisis management careers.

4. Programme Learning Outcomes

Knowledge and Understanding (K)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
K1	Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of public and private sector intelligence, security and resilience requirements and applications.
K2	Recognise the significance of cyber space in the context of intelligence, security, and resilience.
K3	Define specific contemporary focus areas of Intelligence, Security and Resilience.
K4	Explain the impact of legal and ethical considerations in the management of intelligence and security operations.
K5	Contrast approaches to intelligence, security, and resilience across private and public sector organisations in the physical and cyber domains.

Analysis and Criticality (C)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
C1	Evaluate the range of activities within key organisational functional areas and their interconnectedness with intelligence, security and resilience requirements and management.
C2	Examine management decisions affecting organisational resilience in a manner which balances legal and ethical factors with operational imperatives.
C3	Analyse information, arguments, and concepts in relation to organisational intelligence, security and resilience challenges in the global physical and cyber contexts.
C4	Critique options to enable effective problem-solving and decision-making using appropriate qualitative, quantitative, and data-processing techniques and skills.
C5	Assess government responses to contemporary intelligence, security, and resilience challenges in the physical and cyber contexts.

Application and Practice (P)

On successful completion of the programme, you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
P1	Manage decision-support briefs and creative, innovative activities that support organisational integrity, business continuity and resilience.
P2	Apply a range of structured analytical techniques to support management activities driven by intelligence, security, and resilience.
P3	Conduct complex research activities relating to physical and cyber risks that impact organisations locally, nationally, and internationally.
P4	Prepare workable frameworks for analysing intelligence, security and resilience risk in the physical and cyber domains.
P5	Demonstrate appropriate research, analysis, and data management techniques to organisational resilience problems.

Transferable skills and other attributes (T)

On successful completion of the programme you will be able to:

ID	Learning Outcome
T1	Recognise your own leadership style and how it should be adapted to different contexts
T2	Demonstrate a range of skills including the capacity for continuous learning, time management and effective communication.
T3	Clarify complex questions, developing and considering alternative solutions and critically evaluating outcomes in creative and innovative ways
T4	Exhibit effective presentation skills that engage and inform an audience using understandable language and visual aids
T5	Analyse data and information to identify trends, patterns, and themes and communicate these clearly and concisely to a range of audiences

Graduate Attributes

The BNU Graduate Attributes of: Knowledge and its application; Creativity; Social and ethical awareness and responsibility; and Leadership and self-development focus on the development of innovative leaders in professional and creative capacities, who are equipped to operate in the 21st Century labour market and make a positive impact as global citizens.

On this programme, we introduce each broad theme of the course in the first year (K1, K2). We also focus a great deal on developing the learning skills necessary to thrive on the remainder of the programme (C3, T2, T3, T4).

In the second year, we explore contemporary approaches to work-based problems (C1, C2, K3, K4, P3) and teach techniques and work-based skills to enable you to solve them (C4, P1, P2, P4, P5, T5).

Finally, in the final year, each individual is encouraged to lead their own learning, focussing on specific areas of personal interest as well as honing the professional skills to operate successfully in the work-place (K5, C1, C4, C5, P3, T1)

4. Entry Requirements

The University's [general entry requirements](#) will apply to admission to this programme with the following additions:

- All applicants will be interviewed to ascertain their motivation and suitability for this programme.
- Applicants will require to use ICT throughout and so should arrive with, as a minimum, confidence in using MS Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

Previous study, professional and / or vocational experiences may be recognised as the equivalent learning experience and permit exemption from studying certain modules in accordance with our [accreditation of prior learning](#) (APL) process.

5. Programme Structure

The programme consists of a core programme leading to the award of BSc (Hons) Intelligence Security and Resilience. The core programme provides a foundation for all pathways at Level 4. At Level 5 and 6, learners may select further optional modules.

Those undertaking the Foundation Level will follow the same pathways and have the same choices once they have completed the foundation year.

The core and optional modules are listed below.

Foundation Level (Optional for students on all pathways)

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
Foundation Year ¹	Core modules: Preparing for Success: Self-development and Responsibility Inquiry Based learning Preparing for Success: Knowledge and Creativity Fundamentals of Intelligence, Security and Resilience	N/A. No credit is awarded at this Level.

¹ Modules on the Foundation Year only apply to learners who are enrolled on the “with Foundation Year” programme.

BSc (Hons) Intelligence, Security and Resilience

Level	Modules (Code, Title and Credits)	Exit Awards
<p>Level 4</p>	<p>Core modules:</p> <p>LAW4035 Intelligence Concepts and Practice (20) LAW4036 Security Operations and Management (20) LAW4037 Organisational Resilience (20) LAW4049 Structured Analytical Techniques (20) LAW4001 Academic and Professional Development (20)</p> <p>Option modules: No option modules are available at this level.</p> <p>Opportunity modules: You must choose 2 x 10 credit Level 4 Opportunity modules from the Opportunity module catalogue www.bnu.ac.uk/oppmodules</p>	<p>Certificate of Higher Education, awarded on achievement of 120 credits at Level 4</p>
<p>Level 5</p>	<p>Core modules:</p> <p>LAW5059 Global Intelligence, Security and Resilience (20) LAW5041 Advanced Structured Analytical Techniques (20) LAW5004 Research methods (20)</p> <p>Option modules: Choose modules to the total of 40 credits:</p> <p>LAW5047 Terrorism and Counter Terrorism (20) LAW5046 Technology and Security (20) LAW5055 Intelligence Security and Resilience Work Placement (20) LAW5048 Organisational Resilience Challenges: Preparation and Recovery (20) LAW5049 Corporate Intelligence and Security (20) LAW5058 Local Resilience Project (20)</p>	<p>Diploma of Higher Education, awarded on achievement of 240 credits, including a minimum of 120 credits at Level 5</p>

	<p>Opportunity modules: No Opportunity modules are available at this level.</p>	
Level 6	<p>Core modules:</p> <p>LAW6003 Extended Independent Work (40) LAW6043 Real World Application of Intelligence Security and Resilience (20)</p> <p>Option modules: Choose modules to the total of 60 credits:</p> <p>LAW6060 Strategic Intelligence (20) LAW6047 Operational Leadership (20) LAW6044 Global Resilience (20) LAW6046 Risk Management (20) LAW6040 Corporate Security Challenges (20) LAW6057 Aviation Security (20)</p> <p>Opportunity modules: No Opportunity modules are available at this level.</p>	<p>Ordinary Degree, awarded on achievement of 300 credits, including 60 credits at Level 6 and 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5</p> <p>Honours Degree, awarded on achievement of 360 credits, including 120 credits at each of Levels, 4, 5 and 6</p>

Please note: Not all option modules will necessarily be offered in any one year. Other option modules may also be introduced at a later stage enabling the programme to respond to changes in the subject area.

6. Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Learning and teaching

The team delivering this programme take great pride in providing a learner-centred course. The programme is progressive. Initially in the first term, we expect you to bring enthusiasm and to engage with the learning opportunities we provide to help you adjust to learning at degree level. By the end of the first year, you will be confident in your abilities and ready to take a more independent approach to the remainder of the programme.

From an early stage, you will have the chance to focus on topics which interest you. There is a constant focus on combining your learning of the subjects with developing your professional skills and employment confidence. All teaching will be conducted in-person. Most sessions will be interactive, including small group work, in which you will be supported to develop your leadership and presentation skills as the programme develops. We will give you every opportunity to guide the programme and to present your own research and opinions, when you are ready, during seminars.

You will also be encouraged to develop the habit of individual learning by accessing online resources and physical books from the university library and elsewhere. There will also be some more formal lectures. Guest lecturers will provide the opportunity to focus on areas of contemporary relevance and ensure learners are aware of up-to-date issues in this rapidly developing field. You will learn about theories, techniques and context but then use live, real-world examples to practice applying them in the classroom, lab or IT suite.

Learners will frequently conduct live exercises where they will simulate a work-based task, initially lead by the tutor but, from the second year (Level 5), learners will increasingly lead small groups themselves.

Assessment

Assessment will be progressive. There are no written exams; assessments are based on real world tasks including oral presentations, one-to-one briefings, technical demonstrations, group activities and some written work.

In the first year (Level 4), quizzes are used to check understanding of basic concepts and learners participate in group exercises, demonstrate technical challenges and give oral presentations. In all cases, the assessments will be built on realistic work-based scenarios.

As learners progress through the programme, everyone will have increasing autonomy to select their own topics. For example a written report about bias in intelligence reporting could be answered using an example from a recent police investigation or a discussion about inter-service rivalry in the second World War. Likewise, a presentation demonstrating a structured analytical technique could be successful using a wide range of techniques and might be based on a corporate security challenge or a Cold War espionage (spying) case.

At Level 6, learners will produce reflective portfolios which will enable them to directly relate their learning to their future career aspirations. An extended independent project (dissertation) is also produced in the final year (Level 6) which provides learners with the opportunity to conduct their own research into a relevant subject of interest.

7. Programme Regulations

This programme will be subject to the university's Academic Assessment Regulations.

8. Support for learners

The following systems are in place to support you to be successful with your studies:

- The appointment of a personal tutor to support you through your programme
- A programme handbook and induction at the beginning of your studies
- Library resources, include access to books, journals and databases - many of which are available in electronic format – and support from trained library staff
- Access to Blackboard, our Virtual Learning Environment (VLE), which is accessible via PC, laptop, tablet or mobile device
- Access to the MyBNU portal where you can access all University systems, information and news, record your attendance at sessions, and access your personalised timetable
- Academic Registry staff providing general guidance on University regulations, exams, and other aspects of students and course administration
- Central student services, including teams supporting academic skills development, career success, student finance, accommodation, chaplaincy, disability and counselling
- Support from the Bucks Students' Union, including the Students' Union Advice Centre which offers free and confidential advice on University processes.

9. Programme monitoring and review

BNU has a number of ways for monitoring and reviewing the quality of learning and teaching on your programme. You will be able to comment on the content of their programme via the following feedback mechanisms:

- Formal feedback questionnaires and anonymous module 'check-ins'
- Participation in external surveys
- Programme Committees, via appointed student representatives
- Informal feedback to your programme leader

Quality and standards on each programme are assured via the following mechanisms:

- An initial event to approve the programme for delivery
- An annual report submitted by the External Examiner following a process of external moderation of work submitted for assessment
- The Annual Monitoring process, which is overseen by the University's Education Committee
- Review by the relevant PSRB(s)
- Periodic Subject Review events held every five years
- Other sector compliance and review mechanisms

10. Internal and external reference points

Design and development of this programme has been informed by the following internal and external reference points:

- The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- The QAA Subject Benchmark Statement – see detailed mapping below
- The QAA Business and Management Characteristics Statement
- The Apprenticeship Standard – see detailed mapping below
- The BNU Qualifications and Credit Framework
- The BNU Grading Descriptors
- The University Strategy

Mapping of Subject Benchmark Statement (QAA Business and Management) to Programme Learning Outcomes

Subject Benchmark Statement / Apprenticeship Standard:	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
Knowledge and understanding of the key areas of business and management, the relationships between these and their application	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			X	X	X				X
Demonstrated competence within the range of subject-specific and generic skills and attributes						X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
A view of business and management which is predominantly influenced by guided learning with a limited critical perspective.	X		X		X									X	X					X

Mapping of Programme Learning Outcomes to Modules

Programme Learning Outcome	Knowledge and understanding (K)					Analysis and Criticality (C)					Application and Practice (P)					Transferable skills and other attributes (T)				
	K1	K2	K3	K4	K5	C1	C2	C3	C4	C5	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	T1	T2	T3	T4	T5
Level 4																				
Introduction to Intelligence	X	X	X							X							X			
Introduction to Security	X	X	X	X		X			X		X			X			X		X	
Introduction to Resilience	X		X		X		X				X				X		X	X	X	X
Structured Analytical techniques	X		X						X			X		X			X	X		X
Level 5																				
Global Intelligence Security and Resilience	X		X					X		X	X				X					X
Advanced Analytical Techniques	X		X					X	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X	
Research			X					X	X				X	X	X		X	X		X
Level 6																				
Extended Independent Work	X							X	X	X			X		X		X	X		X
Real World Application of Intelligence Security and Resilience		X		X	X	X	X	X	X						X	X	X		X	