MANCHESTER 1824
The University of Manchester



MICROCREDENTIALS | 100% ONLINE

# DIGITAL TRUST AND SECURITY

# EMPOWERING DIGITAL TRUST

This suite of four online microcredentials explores cybersecurity, privacy, digital markets and online harms.

You'll examine how digital technologies, data and online systems influence risk, trust and decision-making in everyday and professional contexts.

Through flexible, postgraduate-level learning, you'll build practical insight into some of the key challenges facing digital society today, from cyber threats and misinformation to trust in digital markets and the social impact of online technologies.

Each microcredential is delivered online over 10 weeks and requires approximately 50 hours of learning. Study a single course to focus on a specific topic, or combine multiple microcredentials to build broader knowledge across digital trust and security.

Microcredentials
Level: Postgraduate
FHEQ: 7

You can choose from four different microcredentials

Our microcredentials are shaped by input from an Industry Advisory Board

Each microcredential delivers 50 hours of learning in 10 weeks

Assessments are designed for practical, real-life application

**You can gain certification with detailed, verifiable information**



# WHAT ARE MICROCREDENTIALS?

**Our postgraduate-level online microcredentials offer a flexible, self-paced format to fit your schedule.**

With 50 hours of learning delivered across 10 weeks, each course features assessments based on real-world challenges, ensuring your skills are practical and industry ready.

## INDUSTRY-RELEVANT AND EMPLOYER-ALIGNED

Developed with employers to address key skills gaps, these non-credit bearing microcredentials complement formal qualifications and offer practical workplace applications.

## RECOGNISED AND ACCREDITED

Earn a digital certificate with verified credentials recognised by employers, institutions, and professional bodies. Embedded metadata verifies study level, total learning hours, and validity for added transparency.

## ONLINE AND FLEXIBLE

Study independently with high-quality digital content that fits around your professional commitments.

## APPLIED KNOWLEDGE DEVELOPMENT

**Each microcredential includes 50 hours of learning, with 10 hours dedicated to assessments to ensure practical understanding.**

# TRY OUR SAMPLE

**Our postgraduate-level microcredentials are ideal for professionals and learners who want to deepen their understanding of digital trust and security in today's hyperconnected world.**

We've carefully selected three extracts from the microcredentials to give you a sense of the diverse themes, perspectives, and approaches explored throughout the full programme.

In this taster, you'll explore three topics that are central to trust in digital societies: the meaning and importance of privacy, why algorithms matter in shaping our online experiences, and the growing role of artificial intelligence in deepfakes and misinformation. These three topics are:

- The concept of privacy
- Why algorithms matter
- AI, deepfakes and misinformation

**TRY A COURSE SAMPLE ↗**



"These courses explore the risks of our hyper-connected world, examining the threats, actors, and methods shaping cybersecurity today. Through case studies, we'll analyse how cyberattacks unfold, the strategies to prevent them, and the broader implications for privacy, surveillance, and ethics."

**KORRY ROBERT**

Course Director




MICROCREDENTIAL 1

# CORE ISSUES IN DIGITAL TRUST AND SECURITY

# CORE ISSUES IN DIGITAL TRUST AND SECURITY

This online microcredential provides a practical introduction to cybersecurity. You will explore threats affecting individuals and organisations, how vulnerabilities arise and why everyday digital behaviours can have wider consequences. You will also consider how the internet and connected technologies have transformed risk across personal and professional settings.

## KEY INFORMATION

Microcredential
Level: Postgraduate
FHEQ: 7

Start dates:
January
May
September

50 hours self-directed study over 10 weeks

£630
(discounts available)

Assessment through reflective journal and final written assignment

Fully online, asynchronous course

## COURSE OVERVIEW

- Learn about threat actors, from individuals to nation-states, who exploit technology for malicious purposes.
- Learn about how increasing digital connectivity is reshaping everyday life, and the cybersecurity risks this creates for individuals, organisations, and society.
- Examine vulnerabilities that enable cybercriminals to steal data, money, and identities, and discover protective measures.
- Investigate how hackers operate, the tools and techniques they use, and study case examples that show how attacks unfold in practice.
- Consider how law enforcement and security agencies respond to cybercrime.
- Reflect on key dilemmas in digital trust and security.

RESERVE YOUR PLACE NOW ↗



MICROCREDENTIAL 2

# UNDERSTANDING DIGITAL SOCIETY

# UNDERSTANDING DIGITAL SOCIETY

This online microcredential explores how everyday digital activity generates data, how that data is collected and used by different actors, and how platforms, algorithms and AI shape the information people encounter, the choices they make, and the decisions organisations take. You will examine key issues including privacy, surveillance, disinformation, automation and data exposure, and consider the wider social, ethical and professional implications of these systems.

## KEY INFORMATION

Microcredential
Level: Postgraduate
FHEQ: 7

Start dates:
January
May
September

50 hours self-directed study over 10 weeks

£630
(discounts available)

Assessment through reflective journal and final written assignment

Fully online, asynchronous course

## COURSE OVERVIEW

- Understand how datafication, algorithmisation and automation act as key drivers of contemporary digital society.
- Communicate key issues relating to digital society to both specialist and non-specialist audiences.
- Analyse the opportunities and societal challenges arising from the increasing influence of digital technologies on everyday life.
- Explore how AI and automation shape behaviour, decision-making and outcomes.

**RESERVE YOUR PLACE NOW ↗**



MICROCREDENTIAL 3

# DIGITAL MARKETS AND TRUST

# DIGITAL MARKETS AND TRUST

This microcredential explores how digital technologies shape market structures and transactions, and how these changes affect society. You will examine how trust is established, maintained and challenged in online market spaces, and how questions of competition, fairness and platform governance shape digital interactions.

## KEY INFORMATION

Microcredential
Level: Postgraduate
FHEQ: 7

Start date:
January
May
September

50 hours self-directed study over 10 weeks

£630
(discounts available)

Assessment through reflective journal and final written assignment

Fully online, asynchronous course

## COURSE OVERVIEW

- Identify how trust is constructed, challenged, and maintained within digital markets.
- Analyse how platforms as digital infrastructures influence power dynamics, trust relationships, and market interactions within online environments.
- Examine how digital markets facilitate criminal activities, focusing on the growth of financial cyber crime, the role of cryptocurrencies and dark markets.
- Demonstrate an awareness of the opportunities, challenges, and risks posed by digital markets.

RESERVE YOUR PLACE NOW ↗



MICROCREDENTIAL 4

# ONLINE HARMS

# ONLINE HARMS

This online microcredential, explores the different forms of online harm in digital environments and the impact they can have on individuals and organisations. Examining issues such as misinformation, online radicalisation and the exploitation of vulnerable users, you will consider how online and offline factors influence these harms, the responsibilities of individuals, platforms and organisations, and the challenges of balancing safety with privacy and freedom of expression.

## KEY INFORMATION

Microcredential
Level: Postgraduate
FHEQ: 7

Start date:
January
May
September

50 hours self-directed study over 10 weeks

£630
(discounts available)

Assessment through reflective journal and final written assignment

Fully online, asynchronous course

## COURSE OVERVIEW

- Learn about how digital technologies and online environments can enable and amplify different types of harm.
- Explore how online safety is governed including the challenges of balancing harm prevention with privacy and freedom of expression.
- Learn how to recognise, assess and respond to online harms in personal and professional contexts.
- Examine approaches to mitigating online harms and the ethical and professional challenges involved in designing effective interventions.

**RESERVE YOUR PLACE NOW ↗**

# THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER EXCELLENCE

**56**

## 56TH IN THE WORLD REPUTATION RANKINGS 2026

Our University has been ranked the 56th most powerful global university brand in the Times Higher Education World Reputation Rankings 2026.



## CENTRE FOR DIGITAL TRUST AND SOCIETY

The Centre for Digital Trust and Society generates cross-disciplinary perspectives on digital trust and cyber security within a social context. Our Digital Trust and Security courses are informed by the Centre's research, providing you with up-to-the-minute insight and training in this area.



## DIGITAL FUTURES

Our Digital Futures team is committed to solving key societal challenges, including Digital Skills development as a core theme. We achieve this through close collaboration with students and industry to identify and deliver the digital skills needed to support and responsibly transform the global workplace.



## CYBER SECURITY

The University of Manchester has been named an Academic Centre of Excellence in Cyber Security Research. The award is made by the National Cyber Security Centre (part of GCHQ) and the EPSRC. It was awarded in 2024 and covers the entirety of The University of Manchester, making it one of only 21 institutions in the UK to hold this accreditation.

# FEES AND FUNDING

## COURSE FEES

Standard price

- £630 per microcredential

## INDIVIDUAL DISCOUNTS

- Loyalty discount: 5% off when you enrol in more than one microcredential.
- UoM alumni: 5% off for returning UoM learners (email learningsupport@manchester.ac.uk with proof of your alumni status e.g. your degree certificate). This discount can be used in conjunction with the loyalty discount.
- The University of Manchester staff discount: You may be eligible for a discount on your course fees. Please speak to your line manager before applying.

## CORPORATE DISCOUNTS

| Group Size | Discount |
|---|---|
| 5-10 learners | 5% |
| 11-20 learners | 10% |
| 21+ learners | 15% |

## WAYS TO PAY

You can pay using a credit or debit card.

To discuss corporate enrolment or payment by invoice, please contact: learningsupport@manchester.ac.uk

uom.link/dts-store

**VISIT THE ONLINE STORE ↗**

# EMPOWERING DIGITAL TRUST.



uom.link/dts-mc

learningsupport@manchester.ac.uk

This brochure is prepared in advance of the entry dates it relates to and all information is accurate at the time of publication (November 2026).