

Suggestions on Electives for 2nd year CIS Undergraduate Courses

The elective classes listed below are those believed to fit with the timetable for the compulsory curriculum for BSc(Hons)/ MEng CS and BSc(Hons) SE students based on timetables for session 2020-21. The timetable for 2021-22 for all university classes will be undergoing changes until the classes start. But the CIS timetable is likely to be similar to 2021-21, currently available at <https://local.cis.strath.ac.uk/wp/teaching/undergraduate/timetable/> .

Please notice that for some technical reasons the timetable does not include CS259 lecture and lab on Wednesdays 10-13pm in Term 1 and CS260 during the same time in Term 2. They will be taught in 2021-2022 as well.

It is recommended that you pick a **semester 2**, 10 credit elective from the list below which are believed not to clash with the compulsory timetable. However if you find another elective class which you wish to take which is not on the list below then if it is at a suitable level (level 1 or 2) and **does not clash** with your compulsory class timetable then you sign for it as well. Class details and links to timetables are available in the class catalogue at <http://ben.mis.strath.ac.uk/classcatalogue/>. If you use the Search facility be sure to select the appropriate year.

Semester 2 electives (10 credits)

[PH161](#) The Universe and Everything, 10 credits, Semester 2, Monday 1-2pm and Friday 1-2pm (Maths and Physics not required as prerequisites)

[59101](#) Use and Abuse of Drugs in Society, 10 credits, Semester 2, Monday 1-2pm and Friday 1-2pm

[57102](#) Herbal Medicines, Past, Present & Future. (Do They Work And Are They Safe?), 10 credits, Semester 2, Tuesday 12-1pm and Thursday 1-2pm

[QQ210](#) Vertically Integrated Project – TextLab, 10 credits, Semester 2, Wed 2-5pm (This class has limited availability. You must seek and be granted prior approval by George Weir – george.weir@strath.ac.uk before it will be approved on your curriculum and pass an email containing that approval to dmitri.roussinov@strath.ac.uk) You may choose this class whether you did or did not take the Vertically Integrated Project elective in year 1 but should use class code QQ210 if you are in year 2. TextLab focuses on the use of software tools and techniques for textual analysis and how these tools may be applied in understanding the content and characteristics of different types of text. Such applications of software textual analysis are increasingly used across a broad range of disciplines including literature studies (e.g., automating genre identification), education (e.g., for plagiarism detection) and digital forensics (e.g., for authorship analysis). TextLab will mainly comprise lab-based group activities and students will use both Linux and Windows-based software tools. Some of the software tools are generic and may be applied to any textual data. Other software tools are specifically configured for use in analysing Shakespeare plays. This class is available to CIS students in 1st and 2nd year and to English Studies students from all UG years. Assessment is largely based on group work. There is no examination for this class.

[16130](#) Introduction to Engineering, 10 credits, Semester 2, Tuesday 10-11am and Thursday 10-

11am

[99202](#) Introduction to Forensic Science, 10 credits, Semester 2, presented on-line with no timetabled slots

This class introduces students to forensic science, from the crime scene to the courtroom. All material is delivered online via video and podcast. Six modules will be presented over ten weeks, examining four specific evidence types – fingerprints, forensic biology including blood pattern analysis and DNA, impression evidence and drugs of abuse. These will be discussed within the context of a reconstructed murder case to illustrate how such an inquiry can develop over time.

[CS217](#) Agile Software Development, 10 credits, Semester 2, Wednesdays 2-5pm; participation in groupwork mandatory. Class size is capped. Details of how to apply for a place will be announced additionally by email.

Decisions on who can take cs217 will be made in September. If you need your curriculum approved before that, you can temporarily sign for some other elective. Once you are approved, it will automatically be replaced by cs217.

Semester 1 electives (10 credits)

[PH160](#) Introductory Astronomy, 10 credits, Semester 1, Tuesday 1-2pm and Thursday 1-2pm (normally requires Higher Maths and Standard Grade Physics)

[PH260](#) Physical Electronics, 10 credits, Semester 1, Monday 11-am-12pm, Wednesday 10-11am and Friday 11am-12pm, Pre-Requisites: Higher Physics and Mathematics or equivalents. (Please note that this has been moved to semester 1 and times changed.)

Electives running through both semesters (10 credits)

[23101](#) Pharmaceutical Sciences and Drug Development, 10 credits, Semester 1 and 2, Wednesday 9-10am

20 credit electives

[MS211](#) Managing Business Processes and Information Systems 20 credits, semester 2, Thursday 11-1 and Friday 3-5 (MS108 and MS109 should both have been taken and passed in 1st year.) Since this is a 20 credit class, approvals for BSc(Hons) students would not be made until June exam board results are known.

Modern Languages Department elective classes

These are usually 20 credit classes covering both semesters. There are usually a number of streams within these classes so that they can be organised around the other commitments which students have. You should check with the Department of Modern Languages that any language class you wish to register for fits in with your other compulsory class commitments and confirm this to dmitri.roussinov@strath.ac.uk before your elective choice will be approved.

Centre for LifeLong Learning classes

Not available for selection until after the CLL programme is published – probably early September. You may be able to select your elective (should you wish and should places be available) from the evening and weekend programme of classes run by the Centre for LifeLong Learning (CLL) as long as they are assessed in time for the June exam board. So they must be classes which start October or January (not later). You should check yourself when enquiring with CLL that they will be assessed in time for the June exam boards. Few places are offered to undergraduates taking electives so apply as soon possible if interested. Approval for a place on one of their classes must first be obtained from CLL and hence no 2nd year CIS curricula containing one of their classes will be approved on Pegasus until a student confirms that a place has been confirmed by CLL. For CLL classes available as electives please see <https://www.strath.ac.uk/studywithus/centreforlifelonglearning/studentsupport/electiveclasses/>

The process for the student is:

1. Contact CLL first to check availability at Reception on level 7, Graham Hills (40 George St.) or on 0141 548 2116.
2. Fill out the elective form and have it signed (CIS office staff can do this on behalf of Dr. Dmitri Roussinov).
3. Create an account in MyCLL at <https://mycll.strath.ac.uk/> under the staff and undergraduate login – this step is important since CLL cannot link you to a class without it.
4. Hand the form in at CLL who will enrol you and confirm the place(es). Time between step 1 and this step should be short, to gain a place.
5. Once confirmed, add the relevant class/OS codes to your curriculum on PEGASUS.
6. Email Dmitri Roussinov once CLL have confirmed your place so that Pegasus curriculum can then be approved. (This final part is not urgent – having a place confirmed by CLL is the important part.)