Job Description & Person Specification

Section 1
Role Overview

Job title:	Lecturer or Senior Lecturer in Information Systems and Cyber
Vacancy reference:	5426
Faculty /Professional Service Unit:	Faculty of Engineering and Applied Sciences
Theme:	Cranfield Defence and Security
Job type:	Part time Permanent
Hours of work:	22.2 hours per week, normally worked Monday to Friday. Flexible working will be considered. **Note:** MSc modules are typically delivered in intensive 5-day blocks (Monday-Friday). During active delivery weeks, working patterns will be discussed and agreed with the line manager.
Salary details:	**Lecturer:** Salary level 6 – range £49,735 to £59,837 per annum with potential progression to £72,471 per annum **Senior Lecturer:** Salary level 7 – range £62,220 to £71,959 per annum with potential progression to £88,001 per annum
Line Manager:	Dr Ian Owens, Senior Lecturer in Information Systems
Start date:	As soon as possible

Section 2
About Cranfield University

Cranfield's world-class expertise, large-scale facilities and unrivalled industry partnerships is creating leaders in technology and management globally. Find out more about our unique impact, and our vision, mission and values here.

We aim to create and maintain a culture in which everyone can work and study together and realise their full potential. We are a Disability Confident Employer. We are committed to actively exploring flexible working options for each role and have been ranked in the Top 30 family friendly employers in the UK by the charity Working Families. Find out more about our key commitments to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and Flexible Working here.

Section 3
About Cranfield Defence and Security

Based at the UK Defence Academy at Shrivenham in Oxfordshire, Cranfield Defence and Security has an unrivalled reputation for defence education, research and consultancy. Our expertise is trusted by governments, armed forces, and industry and security services around the world.

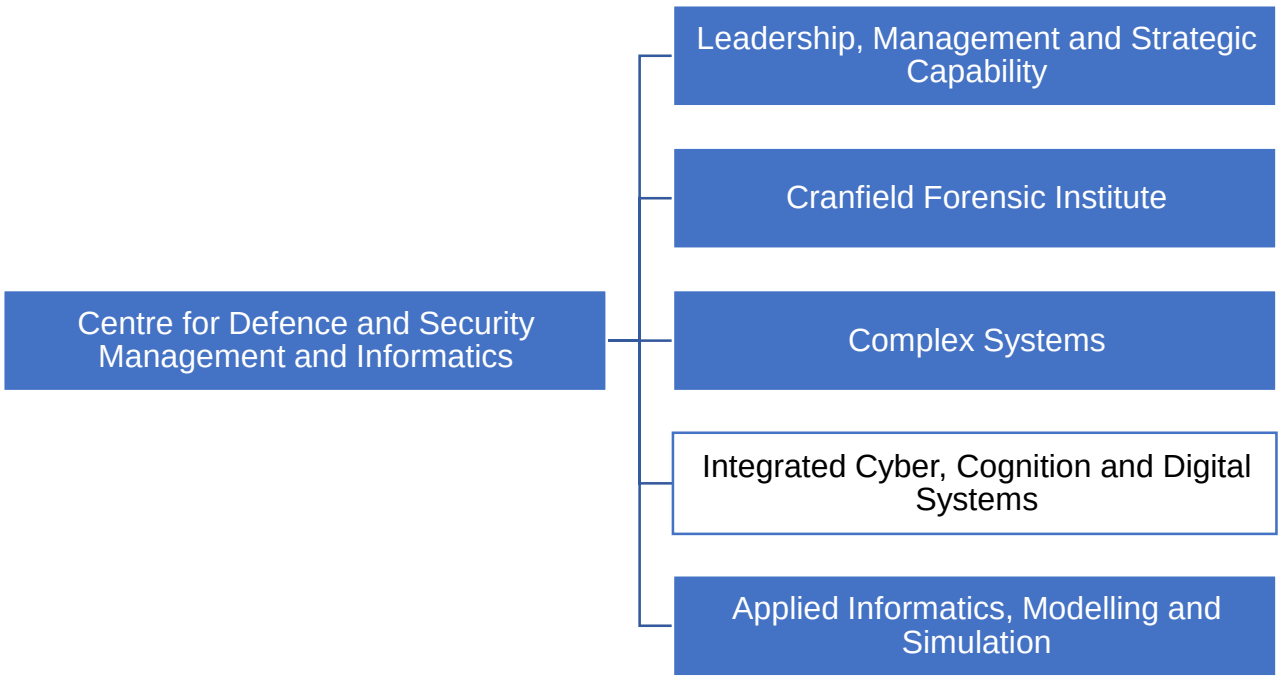
Visit the Cranfield University website here to learn more about the Faculty's current research activities, taught programmes and impact.

About the Centre for Defence and Security Management and Informatics (CDSMI)

The Centre brings together Cranfield's interdisciplinary strengths to address modern defence and security challenges. Drawing on the capabilities of its five specialist groups (Leadership Management and Strategic Capability; Cranfield Forensic Institute; Complex Systems; Integrated Cyber, Cognition and Digital Systems; and Applied Informatics, Modelling and Simulation) the Centre provides a cohesive hub for research, education and consultancy.

The Centre provides strategic leadership, advanced digital investigation, analysis and design of complex sociotechnical systems, system engineering analysis, cutting-edge cyber and cognitive systems research, and applied data-driven modelling and simulation for development of defence and security organisations. Through this blend of expertise, the Centre supports government, industry and international partners in building resilient security strategies, enhancing operational capability, and harnessing emerging technologies for national, regional and global security.

Organisational Chart



The position sits in the Integrated Cyber, Cognition and Digital Systems Group, located within the Centre for Defence and Security Management and Informatics. The Group provides a Centre of Excellence in the domain of defence and security.

Section 4
Job Details

Job Purpose

This is an Education and Scholarship focused role. The postholder will undertake teaching, scholarship and leadership duties primarily within the Integrated Cyber, Cognition and Digital Systems Group, and across the Centre for Defence and Security Management and Informatics as required. You will contribute to the declivery of the Academic Provider Contract by planning and delivering teaching, and contribute to the design and revision of courses, modules and short courses. You will also perform administrative duties and effectively contribute to excellence in the Group and across the Centre in line with Cranfield University's values.

The postholder will deliver core teaching primarily on the MSc in Information Capability Management course, and on the MSc Cyber programme as required. You will teach at least two of the following course modules of the MSc in Information Capability Management: Cyber Security and Information Assurance; Programme and Project Management in Information Systems; and Foundations of Information Systems. In addition, you should be willing to teach two or more of the course modules on the MSc in Information Capability Management and MSc in Cyber programmes (see website for details).

Key Deliverables

	Description of Deliverables	% of time
1	Deliver engaging, research-informed teaching to MSc-level students across assigned modules. Prepare high quality teaching materials, including lecture content, seminar activities, case studies and digital learning resources. Facilitate active learning through workshops, discussions, practical exercises and technology-enhanced learning tools. Provide academic support, guidance and feedback to students, ensuring an inclusive and supportive learning environment. Design, mark and moderate assessments, including coursework, examinations and project manuscripts.	65%
2	Contribute to other academic activities, such as curriculum development, and identification of opportunities that extend the financial and academic standing of Cranfield University.	10%
3	Supervision (including pastoral care) of MSc, MRes and PhD students.	10%
4	Identify opportunities for funding for consultancy and scholarship in information systems, cyber and related areas.	5%
5	Pursue scholarship personally and/or as part of a team, and present the findings in appropriate fora. This may include development of proposals and consultancy bids.	5%
6	Administrative duties, including training and administration, and job-related personal development as required. Health & Safety focused activities and training.	5%
	<u>Additional Key Deliverable for Senior Lecturer:</u> Provide leadership in the critical areas of course management, business development and preparing proposals, consultancy and research grant bids.	

Please be advised that the percentages allocated for the key deliverables may be adapted to take into account the needs of the Centre, Faculty and / or University.

Planning and organising

Modules, short courses, and Academic Provider Contract courses are planned one year ahead. The postholder will research and develop new material for modules and courses as required. You must

have or develop excellent project planning skills to ensure that research or course development is delivered to strict deadlines.

An important part of the role is to supervise students. Therefore, the postholder must schedule time to supervise both full- and part-time students to achieve high quality research outputs.

Communicating and influencing

Academic: In terms of teaching, communicating complex ideas to students with a range of backgrounds is essential. It is also necessary to be able to actively listen to support students.

External Security Bodies: This could include the armed forces, security forces, government departments and foreign governments. The postholder must be credible and confident in their communication to enhance the reputation of Cranfield University and assist in winning potential new business. Diplomacy, tact and discretion are essential when working with contractors, in particular UK and Foreign Governments. Many students on international courses hold very senior appointments in their respective countries. Many aspects of the role have a diplomatic purpose, and in some situations, the postholder may be the sole face of Cranfield University, the Defence Academy, and occasionally, the UK.

Commerical Organisations: This is in relation to the provision of teaching to students, the need to keep abreast of the way techniques are being applied, and in the provision of external casework services. Networking skills and the confidence to pursue ideas with partners are important.

A range of communication skills are required, thus the postholder must possess the ability to explain complex ideas clearly, and to persuade and negotiate with external customers.

If appointed as Senior Lecturer, you may be expected to play an active ambassadorial role for the University, which may include presenting or chairing sessions at conferences or international symposia, being utilised as an expert in your field. Active and collegiate team behaviours are the expected norm at Cranfield University.

Problem solving

The postholder will be responsible for managing and delivering a variety of teaching products in the UK, abroad and online, and responding very quickly to a variety of issues to ensure that staff and facilities are available to meet teaching commitments.

You will identify and apply the best teaching practices in the domain of Information Systems and Cyber. You will work with colleagues in the Integrated Cyber, Cognition and Digital Systems Group to ensure a balance between teaching workloads and other activities.

As an academic supervisor, you will act as a mentor and offer advice and guidance, intervening as necessary when needed, or when problems arise.

Decision making

I) Decisions you will take without reference to others

- The content and delivery of modules, lectures, tutorials and assessments, liaising with the Head of Group, the academic lead on the Academic Provider contract, and/or the Director of Education.
- Supervision of MSc and PhD students.
- Establishing collaborative links both nationally and internationally.

- Making changes in course programmes in accordance with University regulations, liaising with the Head of Group, Course Directors, the academic lead on the Academic Provider contract, and/or the Director of Education.

II) Decisions you will refer to your manager/colleagues

- Costs and quotations.
- Travel outside of the place of business for work activities.
- Supervision of PhD students, liaising with the supervising team and the Director of Research.
- Discussion of Intellectual Property Rights/Copyright issues.
- Approval of risk assessments.
- Changes in workload, lectures, meetings and reviews.
- Contractual requirements.

Guiding framework

The University's governance, policies, practices and procedures will govern the role as far as they exist. The postholder will be expected to operate within the academic quality assurance process of the University, including those covering research ethics.

Formal guidance will come from the Head of Centre and the Head of Group, as appropriate, who will set objectives, and strategies to achieve those objectives, as discussed. A personal development review process provides the opportunity to raise issues relating to the work environment and career objectives, including opportunities for promotion.

You must also operate within Cranfield University procedures and rules, including those relating to Health and Safety, Dignity at Work, Security, and Information Technology.

Impact

Each member of academic and research staff is expected to play a proactive role in the generation of income, generating an impactful academic profile, and enhancing the academic reputation of the University. We expect our staff to be recognised as credible and trustworthy domain experts.

As an academic staff member, you are likely to have responsibility for managing modules and courses, and will need to teach (and thus, provide opportunities for learning and development) to a high standard.

Facts and Figures

Cranfield University excels in strategic and applied research. In the latest 2021 Research Excellence Framework (REF), 88% of our research was considered 'world leading' or 'internationally excellent' in its quality. We are in the top 35 in the world for Engineering – Mechanical, Aeronautical and Manufacturing (QS World Rankings 2025).

Cranfield is a 'Top 5' research institute, based on commercial income (REF 2025). Our world-class academics, with proven research records, are in constant touch with industry through research, consultancy and product development. 3,800 students from over 100 countries study either full- or part-time, or in parallel with their career.

Section 5
Am I suited to this role?

Criteria	Essential	Desirable
Education / Qualifications	PhD or Masters in Computer Science, Cyber Security or a related discipline. **OR** MSc and equivalent professional experience in Information Systems, Computer Science, Cyber Security, or a related discipline.	Either possess or be working towards a PGCert in Academic Practice qualification, or an equivalent (FHEA for Senior Lecturer). Membership of a professional body, such as BCS and/or CILIP.
Experience	Contribution to course development, module design and teaching at MSc level or equivalent. Delivery of postgraduate-level teaching related to Cyber and/or Information Systems. Dealing with both academic and pastoral issues as required. Design and delivery of high quality learning materials.	Work experience within Defence or wider security sectors of the UK, or an allied state. Industry or military experience in information systems, cyber security or digital transformation. Experience supervising postgraduate projects or dissertations. Practical experience of UK Higher Education standards and assessment practices.
Knowledge	Understanding of fundamental issues and emerging research areas related to Information Systems and Cyber. Demonstrated ability to teach at postgraduate level in at least two core Information Capability Management (ICM) modules, and at last two Cyber modules from the following lists: **Core ICM Modules:** • Cyber Security and Information Assurance • Programme and Project Management in Information Systems • Foundation of Information Systems • Human Dimension • Professional Issues in Information Systems • Research Methods in Information Systems	Intimate understanding of Informaiton Systems and Cyber issues, and emerging research areas related to the needs of Defence. Knowledge of pedagogic approaches to teaching experienced adult learners.

	Cyber Programme Modules: • Foundations of Cyber Security • Cyber Attack Threats and Opportunities • Cyber Deception	
Skills / Aptitudes	Strong oral, visual and written communication and presentation skills. Ability to work effectively in a team. Proven ability to work independently. Ability to utilise students' feedback and improve. Excellent teamworking skills. Constructive and proactive team player who relates well to others.	Highly adaptive to the needs of the situation. Negotiating, influencing and networking. Good IT skills and experience of using Virtual Learning Environments for teaching.
Values	Ability to demonstrate our values: Ambition, Impact, Respect and Community.	
Other	Willingness to travel to teach at other venues other than primary workstation (which may include overseas).	

As part of Cranfield's continuing commitment to developing excellence in learning and teaching, members of staff with teaching responsibilities are expected to obtain formal recognition of their professional expertise in teaching. It is normal expectation, during probationary period, that individuals will enrol for and successfully complete Module 1 (Teaching, Learning and Student Support) of the PGCert in Academic Practice, which leads to Associate Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (HEA), unless an equivalent qualification is held already.

The module focuses on student learning, teaching methods and support of students, consists of 5 one day workshops, and assessment of two written submissions of approximately 3000 and 5000 words. Additional modules may be taken to gain Fellowship of the HEA, and the PGCert in Academic Practice if appropriate to the indivual's continued development.