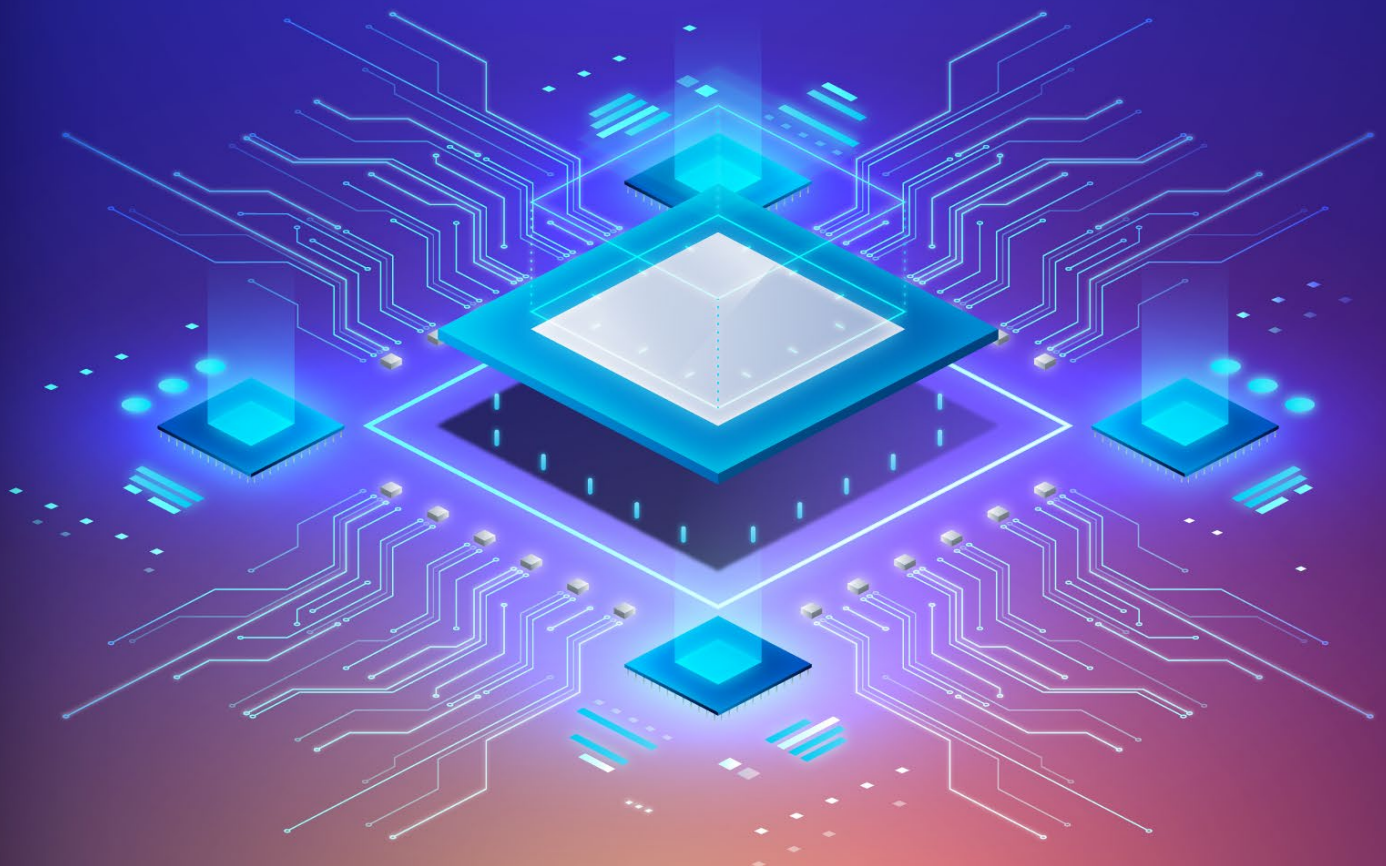


MASTER HANDBOOK

Academic Session

2026

2027



UNIVERSITI KEBANGSAAN MALAYSIA

The National University of Malaysia

FACULTY OF INFORMATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (FTSM)

MASTER'S PROGRAMME

STUDENT HANDBOOK & SURVIVAL GUIDE

Comprehensive Integrated Guide for Modular & Non-Modular Pathways

Semester 1, Session 2026 / 2027

Prepared by the Office of Postgraduate Studies, FTSM

Coordinators: Dr. Tan Siok Yee (Esther) — Coursework (Non-Modular)

Dr. Wandeeep Kaur — Coursework (Modular)

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Section 1 — Welcome Address, Dean's Message & Faculty Leadership

Welcome to FTSM

Assalamualaikum w.b.t and Salam Sejahtera.

Praise be to Allah SWT for His grace and blessings. It gives me great pleasure to extend my warmest welcome and congratulations to all students who have been selected to pursue your postgraduate studies at the Faculty of Information Science and Technology (FTSM), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).

Your decision to pursue postgraduate studies at UKM marks an important milestone in your academic and professional journey. Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia is recognised among the top 130 universities in the world in the recent QS World University Rankings. At the disciplinary level, Computer Science & Information Systems is ranked among the top 200 globally, while Data Science & Artificial Intelligence is ranked among the top 150 worldwide. These achievements reflect UKM's strong commitment to academic excellence, research, innovation and the development of future-ready graduates.

As postgraduate students of FTSM, you are joining an academic community at the forefront of digital technology, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, data science, information systems, software engineering and other emerging areas of computing and information technology. You will have opportunities to deepen your knowledge, engage in meaningful research, collaborate with academics and fellow researchers, and contribute to advancing knowledge and technology that can benefit society.

I encourage all of you to make full use of your time at UKM. Be curious, think critically and creatively, and continuously challenge yourselves to learn and discover new possibilities. Beyond academic achievement, develop your professional skills, strengthen your character and leadership qualities, and actively participate in academic, research and co-curricular activities. Your postgraduate journey should be about not only earning a qualification but also becoming a knowledgeable, innovative, ethical, and responsible professional and researcher.

I also urge you to uphold the values of integrity, discipline, excellence and responsibility throughout your studies. Conduct your research with honesty and rigour, respect others' contributions, and strive to create knowledge that has a meaningful impact. The challenges you encounter along the way are opportunities to grow, and I hope you will embrace them with perseverance, confidence and an open mind.

Once again, welcome to the Faculty of Information Science and Technology, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia. We are delighted to have you as part of our academic community and look forward to witnessing your growth, contributions and achievements during your time with us. May your postgraduate journey at FTSM and UKM be fulfilling, rewarding and successful, and may it open the way to many meaningful opportunities and achievements in the future.

Wassalamualaikum warahmatullahi wabarakatuh.

Prof. Dr. Shahrul Azman Mohd Noah

Dean, Faculty of Information Science & Technology, UKM

Faculty Leadership Directory

Role	Name & Contact
Dean	Prof. Dr. Shahrul Azman Mohd Noah (Dean of Faculty)
Deputy Dean (Postgraduate)	Assoc. Prof. Dr. Zakree Ahmad Nazri — Appeals & reinstatement after termination
Head of Postgraduate Programme (Masters)	Dr Kauthar Md Daud · kauthar.md@ukm.edu.my
Coursework Coordinator (Non-Modular)	Dr Tan Siok Yee (Esther) · esther@ukm.edu.my · Block G, L2
Coursework Coordinator (Modular)	Dr Wandeep Kaur · sarjanakhas.ftsm@ukm.edu.my · Block H, L2
Research Methodology Lead	Dr Ibrahim · ibrahim@ukm.edu.my

Section 2 — How to Use This Handbook

- **Front-loaded rules:** Read Section 4 first. It front-loads the hard deadlines and financial penalties that most often catch new students out.
- **Find your track:** Programmes run in two modes — standard weekly (Coursework / Mixed-Mode) and 5-day modular blocks (Cyber Security, Data Science, Health Informatics). Identify your delivery mode in Section 3, read your curriculum in Section 7, and follow the suggested study plan for your programme in Section 8.
- **International students:** Sections 5 and 10 carry the rules specific to you (LMCM1083, full-time status, visa renewal, VAL).
- **Administrative directory:** The Key Contacts & Email Routing Directory in Section 12 is a single who-does-what reference — use it instead of guessing.

Section 3 — Understanding Delivery Modes (Modular vs. Non-Modular)

Delivery Mode	Programmes Included	Schedule Pattern & Structure
Coursework — Non-Modular (Standard)	Master in Software Engineering (MiSE) Master in Artificial Intelligence (MiAI) Master in Information Technology (MiIT) Master in Information Science (MiInSc) Master in Creative Media Tech (MiCM) Master in Information System (MiIS) Master in Computer Science (MiCS)	Delivered over the normal semester period following the standard weekly timetable across 14 weeks. Students attend weekly scheduled classes.
Coursework — Modular	Master in Cyber Security Master in Data Science Master in Health Informatics	Intensive 5-day monthly block schedule based on programme-specific modular timetables.
Mixed Mode / Research	Computing, Software Engineering, AI, IT, Information Science, Creative Media, IS, Computer Science.	Standard weekly semester timetable for coursework modules combined with a research thesis.

⚠ CRITICAL TIMETABLE ADVISORY — find your track before you register.

Modular students follow block schedules in programme-specific timetables. Non-modular students follow the standard weekly semester timetable. Do not mix them up.

Modular programmes: if two courses clash in the timetable, you must choose only one of them.

Section 4 — Critical Rules & Financial Penalties (At a Glance)

⚠ REGISTER ON TIME OR YOU WILL BE DISMISSED. You must register for your courses by **26 October 2026**. Failure to register by this date equals immediate dismissal due to non-registration. Reinstatement is only possible by formal appeal.

⚠ PAY BEFORE YOU REGISTER. All fees and penalties must be paid via the eKewangan Portal before the early-registration window closes, or your next registration will be blocked.

⚠ NEVER DROP A COURSE INFORMALLY. Simply stopping attendance is not a withdrawal. Withdraw formally (status TD) within the window, or the course becomes an automatic Fail (Grade E).

Fees & Penalties Summary

Item	Amount	Notes
Late course registration	RM 50	Registering after the early window
Course withdrawal (status TD)	RM 100 per module	26 Oct – 6 Dec 2026; after this = Grade E
Appeal after dismissal	RM 200 processing + RM 50 late fine	Allowed within 2 consecutive semesters
Repeat a module	RM 300 (Local) / RM 600 (International) per course	Latest grade counts
Repeat a project	RM 200 per credit (≈ RM 1,200)	If Project I / II must be repeated
Late deferment / withdrawal	Full fees charged	After 4 weeks from semester start

Section 5 — Academic Calendar & Critical Deadlines (Semester 1, 2026/2027)

Event	Date
Returning students — early registration	1 – 28 Jun 2026 & 14 – 27 Sep 2026
New students registration (JOIN UKM)	By 26 Oct 2026
Deferment / withdrawal (before full fee)	Before 26 Oct 2026
Add / Drop courses window	28 Sep – 25 Oct 2026
Final registration & fee cut-off	26 Oct 2026
Course withdrawal window (status TD)	26 Oct – 6 Dec 2026
Mandatory Research Method & Project briefing	12 Oct 2026 (Face-to-Face, 10:00 AM)
Teaching & Supervision Evaluation (SPPP)	28 Dec 2026 – 17 Jan 2027
Examination period	18 Jan – 7 Feb 2027

Event	Date
Semester break	8 – 28 Feb 2027

Section 6 — Academic Rules, Assessment, Grading Scale & CGPA Rules

6.1 The 40-Credit Structure

Component	Credits	Detail
Compulsory (Core)	20 credits	5 courses × 4 credits, includes Research Methodology
Electives	8 credits	2 courses × 4 credits
Project	12 credits	Project I (TTTT6074) 4 cr + Project II (TTTT6078) 8 cr
Total	40 credits	Full programme requirement

6.2 Complete Grade Scale & Marks Range (Sela Markah)

Grade	GPA / Marks	Classification
A	4.00 / 80 – 100	Pass with Distinction
A–	3.67 / 75 – 79	Pass with Distinction
B+	3.33 / 70 – 74	Pass with Merit
B	3.00 / 65 – 69	Pass with Merit (Graduation Standard)
B–	2.67 / 60 – 64	Course pass point — below graduation requirement
C+	2.33 / 55 – 59	Course pass point — below graduation requirement
C	2.00 / 50 – 54	Course pass point — below graduation requirement
C–	1.67 / 1 – 49	Fail — compulsory to repeat
E	0.00 / 0	Fail / Barred / Informal drop

6.3 Academic Standing Rules

Standing	CGPA	Consequence
Pass	≥ 3.00	Continue without restriction; eligible to graduate.
Probation	2.00 – 2.99	Must improve CGPA in the next semester.
Termination	< 2.00	Triggered by low CGPA, non-registration, misconduct, or CGPA below 3.00 for two consecutive semesters.

6.4 Attendance Requirement

- A minimum of **75% attendance** is required for every course (modular and non-modular). Attendance below 75% will result in the student being **barred from the final examination**.

Section 7 — Programme Curriculum Structures

7.1 Non-Modular Degree Curriculums

Programme	Core Modules	Elective Modules
Software Engineering (MiSE)	TTTE6104, TTTE6204, TTTE6304, TTTE6404, TTTM6114	TTTA6434, TTTA6104, TTTA6604, TTTN6334, TTTP6534, TTTA6054, TTTC6544, TTTA6124
Artificial Intelligence (MiAI)	TTTM6114, TTTC6544, TTTA6434, TTTC6414, TTTC6244	TTTR6514, TTTP6534, TTTC6404, TTTA6604, TTTA6124
Information Technology (MiIT) / Information Science (MiInSc)	TTTP6084, TTTP6534, TTTP6544, TTTP6554, TTTM6114	TTTC6244, TTTP6014, TTTP6134, TTTC6544, TTTU6314, TTTU6024
Information System (MiIS)	TTTU6294, TTTU6424, TTTU6134, TTTU6314, TTTM6114	TTTU6234, TTTU6024, TTTH6454, TTTU6244, TTTR6144, TTTR6444
Creative Media Tech (MiCM)	TTTH6214, TTTH6124, TTTH6114, TTTH6104, TTTM6114	TTTH6254, TTTH6454, TTTH6134, TTTH6224, TTTH6234
Computer Science (MiCS)	TTTA6434, TTTC6544, TTTR6144, TTTN6484, TTTM6114	HPC Track: TTTA6604, TTTA6124, TTTA6054, TTTR6514, TTTP6534 Network Track: TTTN6014, TTTN6224, TTTA6024, TTTC6244

7.2 Modular Degree Curriculums

The three modular programmes run on intensive 5-day monthly blocks. Each follows the standard 40-credit structure (20 compulsory + 8 elective + 12 project).

Master in Cyber Security

Structure	Course Credit	Course
Compulsory	20 credits (5 courses)	TTTX6114 Computer Security TTTX6124 Network Security TTTX6144 Information Security Management TTTX6134 Cyber Law and Ethics TTTM6114 Research Method in Computing
Electives	8 credits (2 courses)	TTTX6244 Ethical Hacking and Penetration Testing TTTD6104 Fundamental of Digital Forensics TTTD6314 Digital Media Forensic Analysis
Project	12 credits	TTTT6074 Projek I TTTT6078 Projek II

Master in Data Science

Structure	Course Credit	Course
Compulsory	20 credits (5 courses)	TTTC6424 Fundamental of Data Science TTTT6124 Statistical Methods for Data Analytics TTTC6444 Machine Learning for Data Science TTTU6314 Business Analytics TTTM6114 Research Method in Computing
Electives	8 credits (2 courses)	TTTP6234 Unstructured Data Analytics

Structure	Course Credit	Course
		TTTU6434 Big Data Analytics and Management
Project	12 credits	TTTT6074 Projek I TTTT6078 Projek II

Master in Health Informatics

Structure	Course Credit	Course
Compulsory	20 credits (5 courses)	TTY6024 Health Informatics TTY6034 Analysis and Design of Health Information Systems TTY6044 Enterprise Architecture for Health Information Systems TTY6054 Information Technology Management TTS6024 Information Modeling and Databases TTM6112 Research Method in Computing (AUDIT)
Electives	8 credits (2 courses)	TTX6134 Cyber Law and Ethics TTC6424 Fundamental of Data Science TTU6314 Business Analytics TTP6234 Unstructured Data Analytics
Project	12 credits	TTY607C Project

Note: TTM6112 is an AUDIT (non-credit) course; the 20 compulsory credits comprise the five credit-bearing compulsory courses.

Section 8 — Study Duration, Registration Limits & Suggested Study Roadmaps

8.1 Study Duration & Registration Limits

- Full-time candidature follows one of two roadmaps below — **three semesters** (Option 1) or **four semesters** (Option 2).
- Course *sequencing* applies only to the Project: at least 3 core modules before Project I, Research Methodology before or concurrently with Project I, and Project I before Project II (full rules in Section 9).
- Maximum project duration is **2 semesters**.
- There is **no cap on the number of core or elective courses** you may take in a semester; the only limit is the maximum credit-hours per semester:

Study Mode	Credit Limit per Semester
Full-time	Maximum 20 credits
Part-time	Maximum 12 credits
Modular programmes (part-time only)	Minimum 4 credits

8.2 Suggested Study Roadmaps (Full-Time)

Both options are full-time. **Option 1** completes the degree in 3 semesters with a heavier load; **Option 2** spreads the same courses over 4. LMCM1083 Bahasa Melayu is a compulsory-pass requirement for international students and does not count toward the 40 credits.

Which plan applies to you: **Plan A** — Artificial Intelligence, Data Science, Cyber Security; **Plan B** — Health Informatics; **Plan C** — all other programmes (Software Engineering, Information Technology, Information Science, Creative Media, Information System, Computer Science).

Plan A — Artificial Intelligence, Data Science & Cyber Security

Option	Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4
Option 1	3 core modules + TTTM6114 Research Method <i>16 credits</i>	3 modules (1 core + 2 elective) + TTTT6074 Project I + LMCM1083 Bahasa Melayu (int'l) <i>16 credits</i>	TTTT6078 Project II <i>8 credits</i>	—
Option 2	3 core modules <i>12 credits</i>	3 modules (1 core + 2 elective) + TTTM6114 Research Method <i>16 credits</i>	TTTT6074 Project I + LMCM1083 Bahasa Melayu (int'l) <i>4 credits</i>	TTTT6078 Project II <i>8 credits</i>

Plan B — Health Informatics

Option	Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4
Option 1	5 modules (core & elective) + LMCM1083 Bahasa Melayu (int'l) <i>20 credits</i>	2 courses (core/elective) + TTTY607C Project + TTTM6112 Research Method <i>20 credits + TTTM6112 Research Method (AUDIT, 2 credits)</i>	TTYT607C Project (continues from previous semester)	—
Option 2	5 modules (core & elective) + LMCM1083 Bahasa Melayu (int'l) <i>20 credits</i>	2 courses (core/elective) + TTTY607C Project + TTTM6112 Research Method <i>20 credits + TTTM6112 Research Method (AUDIT, 2 credits)</i>	TTYT607C Project (continues from previous semester)	TTYT607C Project (continues from previous semester)

Plan C — All Other Master's Programmes

Option	Semester 1	Semester 2	Semester 3	Semester 4
Option 1	3 modules (2 core + 1 elective) + TTTM6114 Research Method <i>16 credits</i>	3 modules (2 core + 1 elective) + TTTT6074 Project I + LMCM1083 Bahasa Melayu (int'l) <i>16 credits</i>	TTTT6078 Project II <i>8 credits</i>	—
Option 2	3 modules (2 core + 1 elective) <i>12 credits</i>	3 modules (2 core + 1 elective) + TTTM6114 Research Method <i>16 credits</i>	TTTT6074 Project I + LMCM1083 Bahasa Melayu (int'l) <i>4 credits</i>	TTTT6078 Project II <i>8 credits</i>

8.3 Taking an Additional (Third) Elective

The programme requires **two elective courses**, for a total of 40 credits. You may request to take a **third elective** across your semesters — provided there is no timetable clash and you stay within the maximum credit limit for each semester.

- A third elective brings your total to **44 credits** instead of 40.
- The grade for the additional elective **is included in your final CGPA** — it is not excluded just because you have already met the two-elective requirement.
- A **high grade** may raise your CGPA; a **lower grade** may reduce it. Weigh the extra workload against the result you can realistically achieve.

i A third elective is beyond the programme requirement. You must submit a written request for special consideration BEFORE registering, stating the elective you wish to take and the reason for your request. Approval is subject to Faculty consideration.

Section 9 — Research Methodology & Project Rules

- Complete at least **3 CORE modules** before registering for Project I.
- **Research Methodology (TM6114)** must be taken before or concurrently with Project I.
- **Project I (TTTT6074)** is a prerequisite for **Project II (TTTT6078)**.
- Maximum project duration is **2 semesters**. Once registered for Project II, Project I cannot be repeated to raise CGPA.

Section 10 — International Students & Visa Compliance

- A valid **Student Pass** managed by UKMShape (Projek 7) is mandatory.
- Obtain a **Visa Approval Letter (VAL)** via EMGS prior to arrival.
- Apply for renewal via the **SMPE eVisa module** at least 3 months prior to expiry.
- Request visa attendance reports from **PPA** (requires 14 working days lead time).
- Must pass the compulsory module **LMCM1083 Bahasa Melayu**.

Section 11 — Digital Systems Onboarding

FTSM postgraduate study runs on several UKM digital systems. Activate your accounts early, and use your official student email for all university correspondence.

System	Purpose & Key Action
Siswa Mail	Your official UKM student email (@siswa.ukm.edu.my). All university correspondence and announcements are sent here — check it regularly.
JOIN UKM	New-student onboarding and registration portal. Complete your registration here by 26 October 2026.
SMPWeb	Student academic self-service for local students — course registration, academic records and results.
SMPE	Student academic self-service for international students — course registration and the eVisa module for visa renewal.
UKMFolio	UKM's online learning management system — access course materials, submit assignments and view coursework announcements.
eKewangan Portal	Fee and penalty payments. Clear all outstanding amounts here before registering.

For account activation and login help, refer to the onboarding guidance issued by the faculty or contact the relevant officer in Section 12.

Section 12 — Key Contacts & Email Routing Directory

Issue / Request	Officer	Contact
Coursework coordination	Dr Tan Siok Yee	esther@ukm.edu.my · Block G (L2)
Modular coordination	Dr Wandeep Kaur	sarjanakhas.ftsm@ukm.edu.my · Block H (L2)
Postgraduate (Masters Programme)	Dr Kauthar Md Daud	kauthar.md@ukm.edu.my
Research Method	Dr Ibrahim	ibrahim@ukm.edu.my
Academic admin — Non-modular (PPA)	Ms Nur Iffah · Pn Noramiza	nuriffahsyheera@ukm.edu.my · missza@ukm.edu.my
Academic admin — Modular (PPA)	Pn Marlina · Pn Noramiza	lyana@ukm.edu.my · missza@ukm.edu.my
International / visa (UKMSHAPE)	Ms Farisha · Ms Nuranis · Pn Fatin	farisha@ukm.edu.my · ansuhaila@ukm.edu.my · fatinatika@ukm.edu.my
Kad Prihatin Siswa (int'l)	UKM Care	ukmcare@ukm.edu.my
Attendance report (visa)	Pn Marlina / Ms Iffah	14 working days lead time

Academic matters (SMP/SMPE): sarjanakhas.ftsm@ukm.edu.my, esther@ukm.edu.my — cc Pn Noramiza (local) / Ms Nuranis · Ms Farisha (international).

Section 13 — Campus Conduct, Mandatory Dress Code & Academic Integrity

- **Display your matric card:** It must be worn and displayed prominently at all times on campus.
- **Strict prohibitions:** NO SMOKING OR VAPING anywhere on campus. No ripped jeans, tight leggings, shorts, tank tops, sandals/slippers, or caps in lecture halls.
- **Rule 26 penalties:** Non-compliance results in an official written disciplinary warning and a compound fine up to RM 200.
- **Academic integrity:** Plagiarism, falsification, cheating, collusion, and forgery carry escalating penalties — from Grade E to academic termination.

Section 14 — Student Survival Checklist & Graduation Requirements

14.1 Survival Checklist

- ☐ Register for all courses **before 26 October 2026** (late registration = dismissal).
- ☐ Pay all fees and penalties via **eKewangan** before registering.
- ☐ Identify your track (modular vs non-modular) and follow the correct timetable.
- ☐ Follow the suggested study plan for your programme (**Section 8**).
- ☐ Attend the **Research Method & Project briefing** (12 October 2026).
- ☐ Withdraw courses **formally (status TD)** — never just stop attending.
- ☐ Maintain **CGPA ≥ 3.00** and a minimum Grade B in your courses.
- ☐ Attend at least **75% of every course** — below 75% bars you from the final exam.
- ☐ Wear and display your matric card on campus.
- ☐ **(International)** Keep your VAL / Student Pass valid, renew at least 3 months before expiry, and pass LMCM1083.

- ☐ Complete all **40 credits**, including Project I & II.

14.2 Graduation Requirements

- Complete all **40 credits** (20 compulsory + 8 elective + 12 project).
- Pass **Project I (TTTT6074)** and **Project II (TTTT6078)** — or **TTY607C** for Health Informatics.
- Achieve the minimum **Grade B** graduation standard in your courses.
- Hold a **CGPA of at least 3.00**.

Section 15 — Important Notes & Governance Disclaimer

- This handbook is a practical guide. Where it differs from official UKM / faculty regulations, Senate rulings, or the e-systems of record, **the official source prevails**.
- Dates, fees and procedures are indicative and subject to change; always check official faculty announcements and your student email.
- Students are responsible for meeting all deadlines and requirements, whether or not individually reminded.
- For any matter not covered here, or for an authoritative ruling, contact the relevant officer in **Section 12**.
- Version 1.0 — Semester 1, Session 2026 / 2027.

Section 16 — Frequently Asked Questions

This FAQ covers only points that the sections above do not already state outright — interpretations, system quirks, and cross-cutting clarifications. For any rule set out in a section, see that section.

Q. My registration list shows a “Set” of L1 or L2 per course — what does it mean, and which do I pick?

“Set” is the class group in the registration system. Where a course gives you the choice, modular-programme students (Data Science, Cyber Security, Health Informatics) should always pick **L2**; students in all other Master’s programmes should always pick **L1**. Where only one set is offered, there is no choice to make.

Q. Does “completed 3 core modules” mean passed with results released? And can I take Project I with Research Method together?

Yes — “completed” means passed with results released. And yes, you may take them together: Section 9 allows Research Methodology (TTTM6114) before **or concurrently with** Project I, so Project I with Research Method alongside is permitted once the 3-core-module threshold is met.

Q. Are the study plans in Section 8 compulsory, or can I deviate from them?

They are **suggested** roadmaps. You may vary the spread, but you must still stay within the maximum credit-hours per semester and satisfy the Project sequencing rules (Sections 8–9). Clear any deviation with your coordinator.

Q. I passed all my courses — does that guarantee I graduate?

No. Passing individual courses (a C and above) is not enough. To graduate you need a **CGPA of at least 3.00** and the Grade B graduation standard (Section 6), plus all 40 credits and Project I & II (Section 14).

Q. What’s the difference between withdrawing a course (TD) and deferring a semester?

Withdrawal (status **TD**) removes one course within the withdrawal window (RM 100 per module — Section 4). Deferment postpones the **whole semester** and must be done before the full-fee date (Section 5).

Q. Does the AUDIT Research Method (TTTM6112) in Health Informatics count toward the 40 credits?

No — it is a **non-credit AUDIT** requirement (Section 7.2). You complete it as scheduled, but it does not add to the 40 credits.

Q. Can I change my status from part-time to full-time, or vice versa?

Yes, but only **once** throughout your studies, and the request must be made **before you begin Semester 3**. Contact Ms Iffah or Pn Marliana for assistance (Section 12).

MASTER HANDBOOK

Academic Unit

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2026 - 2027

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