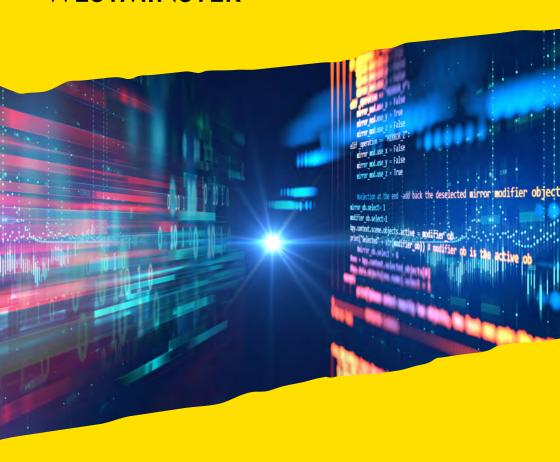
## UNIVERSITY OF WESTMINSTER#



# WESTMINSTER INDUSTRY EXCHANGE PROGRAMME (IXP)



#### **University of Westminster**

The University of Westminster boasts a rich history and has provided students with academic excellence, cultural engagement and personal enrichment since its inception as The Polytechnic Institution in 1838. With a vibrant community of over 20,000 students from more than 160 countries, it is one of the most diverse and inclusive universities in the world. Our rich multicultural environment fosters innovation, creativity, and global perspectives among students and staff.

The University has a wide range of undergraduate and postgraduate courses in Computer Science, which are designed to prepare our students for the rapidly evolving tech landscape. These courses cover in-demand topics such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, software development, data science, and more.

The University's Employability Strategy focuses on providing students with the skills and experiences essential for success in today's dynamic job markets. With initiatives such as Work-Based Learning (WBL) being embedded in our courses, every student gains practical experiences and develops skills that align with industry demands.



#### **About our Industry Exchange Programme**

Committed to bridging the gap between education and industry, the School of Computer Science and Engineering runs an Industry Exchange Programme (IXP). This program helps students apply their learning to real-world business challenges through the projects provided by organisations. By working on these projects, students gain valuable experience, build skills, boost confidence, and enhance their career prospects. In return, organisations gain access to a pool of talented students, bringing fresh perspectives to their organisational challenges for which internal resources or expertise may be limited, creating a mutually beneficial partnership.

All IXP projects are assessed elements of an undergraduate or postgraduate degree module, which will take place during the students' second or final year. Depending on the level, these modules will last one or two semesters during the academic year.

IXP projects are proof-of-concept projects in planning, design, or early implementation. They are not intended as fully developed or deployment-ready solutions. As student-led projects, they must be exploratory, low-risk, and non-business critical. Organisations should not expect a final product but a starting point for further investigation and development. If a company wishes to take a proof-of-concept forward, they would need to arrange the necessary resources for additional investigation, development and testing before deployment.

It is best practice to create project specifications that students can complete remotely or at the university premises. However, if this is not possible, arrangements can be made to complete the project at your organisation's premises.



#### What areas of technology can our students explore?

- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- Big Data Analytics
- · Cyber Security
- Data Mining, Data Exploration, Data Visualisation
- Games Development
- Mobile Application Development
- Systems Analysis and Specification
- Systems Engineering and Robotics
- Website Application Development

These are a few examples of areas in which our students can help you explore:

#### Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning:

- Developing predictive models to improve decision-making.
- Implementing AI algorithms to automate business processes.

#### Cyber Security:

- Conducting security audits and vulnerability assessments.
- Developing strategies to protect sensitive data and prevent cyber-attacks.

#### Data Analytics and Visualisation:

- Analysing large datasets to uncover trends and insights.
- Creating interactive dashboards for real-time data visualisation.



#### Game Development:

- Developing engaging computer games using an established platform (e.g. Unity).
- Implementing game mechanics and user interfaces to enhance player experience.

#### Software Development:

- Developing custom software solutions to address specific business needs.
- · Creating mobile or web applications to enhance customer engagement.

#### System Analysis & Specification:

- Analysing existing systems to identify improvements.
- Developing detailed requirements and design specifications for new software solutions.

#### Why participate in our IXP?

- Test your ideas by getting curious minds to develop proof-of-concept solutions to ideas you may not have the time or resources to explore.
- Promote your organisation to a diverse range of talented students soon joining the workforce.
- Gain publicity through the communications of the University via their website, social networks and other media

#### What are the requirements for participating in the IXP?

- You must be a registered company or charity and have been operating for over six months.
- You must be able to assign a mentor to each project you provide.
   The mentor needs to have in depth knowledge of the project field or have technical expertise.

You can trial the programme by starting with one project to ensure the experience is valuable for all parties involved. Following the trial, you can choose to proceed with multiple projects.

#### How do I submit a project proposal for the Westminster IXP?

If you want to propose a project, you will need to complete and submit our <u>Project Proposal Form</u>. This form provides the details of your organisation and the proposed project. The University's Ethics process and GDPR guidelines will be followed in all projects.

If you have any questions regarding intellectual property (IP), please email ixp@westminster.ac.uk

#### Can I get help with writing a project proposal?

If you want assistance writing or aligning your project proposal(s) with our IXP, please email **ixp@westminster.ac.uk**, and we will connect you with the appropriate academic.

#### What happens once I submit a project proposal?

Once we receive your project proposal, a team member will review it and let you know the outcome. Should further revisions be required, our academics will work with you to ensure your project matches the students' level and is mutually beneficial.

As soon as your project proposal has been approved, you will be invited to sign our Framework Agreement. The agreement is put in place to specify each party's responsibilities concerning the project.

#### What is the deadline for submitting a project proposal?

For our second year students, the deadline to submit a project proposal is mid-November. For our final-year and postgraduate students, the deadline is late April.

Be a part of shaping the future of the workforce by joining the Westminster Industry Exchange Programme.

Submit your <u>project proposa</u>l today or call **020 3506 7339** for more information.

### westminster.ac.uk

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