

August 2019

Dear incoming MSc in Applicable Mathematics Student,

My name is Andy Lewis-Pye. I am the Programme Director for the MSc in Applicable Mathematics at the London School of Economics and Political Science. It is my great pleasure to welcome you to our MSc and to the Mathematics Department. We are very much looking forward to meeting you in September. Please find below and attached some preliminary materials that will give you some information on courses in the 2019/20 academic session and advice on what is required of you when you arrive at the LSE. This information can also be found on our website (details below).

Welcome Activities

There will be a series of welcome activities organised by the School in September. The most up to date information will be posted on the New Arrivals page of the Mathematics Department's website at:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/Mathematics/Offer-Holders/WelcomeMScAM> and the corresponding LSE website: <https://info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/your-first-weeks>

However, some important dates and times are already known. You are expected to **attend all these meetings unless explicitly stated otherwise below.**

- ***School Welcome Presentation***

The School Welcome Presentation for all new Graduate Students will be on **Tuesday 24 September, 12.30–14.00**, in the **Peacock Theatre**. See the School's New Arrivals webpage for information on which sessions you are supposed to attend:

<https://info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/your-first-weeks/welcome-presentations>

- ***Mathematics Departmental Orientation Meeting***

The Mathematics Department is holding an orientation meeting for new MSc in Applicable Mathematics students on **Tuesday 24 September, 10.30–12.15** in room **CBR 1.06 (Houghton Street)**. This meeting will give you all kinds of information about your degree, so please be there at 10.30!

- ***Registration***

School registration for MSc in Applicable Mathematics students will take place on **Tuesday 24 September, 16.00** in the **Hong Kong Theatre** (Clement House building). More information on the registration process will also be available on the School's New Arrivals webpage at:

<https://info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/your-first-weeks/registration/post-graduates>

- ***Mathematics Departmental Welcome Reception***

The departmental MSc Welcome Reception will take place on **Wednesday**

25 September, 13.30–15.30 in the “Kinta Alley” in the basement of 32L Lincoln’s Inn Field building.

- **Pre-sessional Course on Java**

The Mathematics Department is providing a Pre-sessional Course on Java programming on **Wednesday 25, Thursday 26 and Friday 27 September, 11.00– 13:00** in rooms **STC S.08 & STC.S018** (St Clement’s building). The pre-sessional course is intended for students that do not have, or have limited, Java programming experience, but all students are welcome to attend.

- **Academic Mentor Meetings**

On either **Wednesday, 26, Thursday 27 or Friday 28 September** you will have a meeting with your Academic Mentor. The exact times and places of those meetings will be announced during the departmental orientation meeting.

The remainder of this letter contains some further information you may find useful.

Teaching

Lectures start in **week 1**, which is the week beginning **Monday 30 September**. Seminars and classes will start in week 2 or 3, depending on the course.

Academic preparation

We attach some information and a reading list to help you prepare for the programme. Please note:

- This is a degree in **mathematics**, so the lecturers will expect you to have a good background in mathematical methods and some understanding of the logical structure of a mathematical “proof” and related aspects of abstract mathematics. If you are unsure about your background, or if you just want to refresh certain parts, have a look at the **Preparatory Reading List** attached, and which can also be found at: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/Mathematics/Offer-Holders/WelcomeMScAM>.
- If you are not familiar with the programming language Java, and do not have any programming experience, you will be required to take the compulsory course **MA407 Algorithms and Computation**. If you have no or very little programming experience, we strongly recommend you work through the activities suggested in the **Notice Regarding MA407 and MA421**, attached and which can also be found at: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/Mathematics/Offer-Holders/WelcomeMScAM>.
- If you are familiar with Java or you have some programming experience, please also consult the **Notice Regarding MA407 and MA421** for advice about the choice between **MA407 Algorithms and Computation** and **MA421 Advanced Algorithms**, including the possibility of taking both courses.
- If you want to start reading some new material, suggested texts for some courses can be found in the attached **Preparatory Reading List**. Note that this is not compulsory, but meant to be friendly advice learned from experience.

Course Options

You may be interested in considering your module choices in advance. A copy of the **Degree Regulations** for 2019/20 is attached. You will also find the degree regulations at:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar/programmeRegulations/taughtMasters/2018/MScApplicableMathematics.htm> (The 2019/20 regulations will be updated on the School website in August). You will also be able to discuss your options with your Academic Mentor at the meeting we will arrange at the start of term.

Course Guides for the different courses can be found by clicking on the links in the regulations page above, or at: <http://www.lse.ac.uk/resources/calendar/courseGuides/graduate.htm>

Please note that updated course guides will be published sometime in August. Lots more information about course options will also be given at the Departmental Orientation meeting.

There are also short videos available to view for some of the Mathematics courses found on the [Mathematics Moodle](#) page. You can log in as a "Guest". The password is "Options".

Please be aware that optional courses from other departments may require previous knowledge of particular areas. This may be indicated on the course guides or their departmental website. In any case, we will advise you on these matters after you arrive, and some departments may give presentations about their modules.

For an indication of when courses take place, please see the attached ***Provisional Lectures Timetable***.

The course [choice system](#) will be available for you to start selecting your options at the start of term and you will have three weeks to confirm your final choices. Further details can be found at the following link: https://info.lse.ac.uk/current-students/services/course-choice/course-selection?from_serp=1. We will also provide details at the departmental orientation meeting.

Contact with other new students

We have created a [Facebook Group](#) that you can use to connect with other new students in the MSc in Applicable Mathematics programme before you arrive. Please note we will need to recognise your name in English to accept requests to join from within Facebook. The link to this group is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2080547738908921/>

Student Hub

The [Student Hub](#) is LSE's app, designed to help you navigate your day-to-day life at LSE. You can download the Student Hub from 15 August to start connecting with your department and course mates, and get information to help you familiarise yourself with everything that LSE has to offer. Download the Student Hub app on iOS or Android, or access the web app at <https://studenthub.lse.ac.uk/> (from 15/8/19).

Finally, if you have any further questions, please contact:

Rebecca Batey: MSc Programmes Manager, Department of Mathematics

Email: r.batey@lse.ac.uk

Once again, we are looking forward to meeting you in September.

Best wishes,

Andy Lewis-Pye
Programme Director for MSc in Applicable Mathematics
Department of Mathematics
London School of Economics and Political Science

Documents enclosed:

MSc in Applicable Mathematics Degree Regulations
Provisional Lectures Timetable
Preparatory Reading List
Notice regarding MA407 and MA421
Map of the LSE

Please note this email is being sent to all those who, according to our records, hold a conditional or unconditional offer for this programme. This email in itself does not constitute an offer. If you have any queries about this please contact the [Graduate Admissions Office](#)