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## Level 3 - Open Systems in Computing

### Level 3

### Level 3, Unit 1 - Computational Thinking (10 credits)

**1. understand the computational problem solving process.**

[1.1 consult with relevant industry professionals and academics to improve solutions.](#) [1]

[1.2 iteratively refine solutions to improve efficiency and effectiveness.](#) [4]

[1.3 organise data in terms of logical patterns.](#) [7]

[1.4 use multiple algorithms to solve complex problems.](#) [10]

[1.5 demonstrate how abstractions represent complex data structures and instructions.](#) [13]

**2. be able to apply number systems and logic to computing problems.**

[2.1 use mathematical functions in practical algorithms.](#) [2]

[2.2 explain how digital computers can work with a full range of real numbers.](#) [5]

[2.3 analyse expressions in boolean logic to simplify them.](#) [8]

[2.4 explain the difference between packed and unpacked binary coded decimal.](#) [11]

[2.5 explain the relationship between binary and hexadecimal numbers.](#) [14]

**3. analyse problems to create computational solutions.**

[3.1 work collaboratively and persistently to achieve a good computational solution.](#) [3]

[3.2 explain computational solutions in terms of sequential automated steps.](#) [6]

[3.3 identify practical problems suitable for a computational solution.](#) [9]

[3.4 find ways of making computational solutions more efficient.](#) [12]

[3.5 analyse complex problems into simpler related components.](#) [15]

### Level 3, Unit 2 - Principles of Software Engineering (10 credits)

**1. understand the role of the target audience.**

[1.1 describe methods for](#)

**2. understand strategies for maintaining quality.**

[2.1 explain and](#)

**3. adopt suitable methods to match circumstances.**

[3.1 explain the different](#)

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[providing feedback to users from errors in the code.](#) [17]

[demonstrate the importance of courage and persistence in solving problems.](#) [18]

[demands of large scale and small scale projects.](#) [19]

[1.2 receive user feedback and act positively.](#) [20]

[2.2 explain a sound testing strategy.](#) [21]

[3.2 specify a documentation strategy.](#) [22]

[1.3 describe the rationale for release early, release often.](#) [23]

[2.3 demonstrate quality strategies through small scale projects.](#) [24]

[3.3 compare procedural and object oriented programming.](#) [25]

[1.4 compare the user role in a range of software development models.](#) [26]

[2.4 establish clear communication channels with critical reviewers.](#) [27]

[3.4 describe an open source community project and its methods.](#) [28]

[1.5 explain principles of user interface design.](#) [29]

[2.5 identify design techniques to reduce risk.](#) [30]

[3.5 compare formal and agile methods.](#) [31]

## Level 3, Unit 3 - Delivering a Software Project (10 credits)

### 1. plan a suitable project.

### 2. carry out a significant practical software project.

### 3. communicate project outcomes to others.

[1.1 meet deadlines.](#) [33]

[2.1 show courage and determination to overcome problems.](#) [34]

[3.1 make a final presentation to a critical audience.](#) [35]

[1.2 present the proposal to critical experts.](#) [36]

[2.2 produce source code that has effective embedded documentation.](#) [37]

[3.2 gather opinions through peer review.](#) [38]

[1.3 identify an area of interest and scope the project.](#) [39]

[2.3 test code regularly involving third parties.](#) [40]

[3.3 provide regular updates on progress to a mentor.](#) [41]

[1.4 make modifications as a result of feedback.](#) [42]

[2.4 use logical techniques to debug code.](#) [43]

[3.4 use IT tools to enhance communication.](#) [44]

[1.5 agree and adopt the software development method.](#) [45]

[2.5 produce substantial code that works effectively.](#) [46]

[3.5 analyse issues arising and establish priorities for resolution.](#) [47]

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## Level 3, Unit 4 - Open Systems and Community Development (10 credits)

### 1. understand the process of community development.

[1.1 explain the importance of distributed revision control systems in community software development.](#) [49]

[1.2 explain the relationships between commercial and volunteer interests in a software development community.](#) [52]

[1.3 compare and contrast the processes of software development communities.](#) [55]

[1.4 describe Sourceforge and its role in community development.](#) [58]

[1.5 explain the principles of the Open Source Way.](#) [61]

### 2. understand licensing and intellectual property.

[2.1 describe the advantages and disadvantages of software patents.](#) [50]

[2.2 describe and explain the freedoms associated with free and open source software.](#) [53]

[2.3 explain the terms trademark, copyleft, creative commons, and public domain.](#) [56]

[2.4 analyse the effects of digital technologies on the enforcement of intellectual property rights.](#) [59]

[2.5 explain the relationship between copyright and licensing.](#) [62]

### 3. understand commercial models for software development.

[3.1 describe an advertising model to support software development.](#) [51]

[3.2 describe the perpetual license model for software development.](#) [54]

[3.3 describe the dual licensing model for software development.](#) [57]

[3.4 describe the freemium model for software development.](#) [60]

[3.5 describe the software as a service model.](#) [63]

## Level 3, Unit 5 - Computer Systems Management (10 credits)

### 1. set up systems.

[1.1 solve problems in systems setup](#)

### 2. support system storage and security.

[2.1 write a risk assessment for](#)

### 3. maintain systems.

[3.1 provide effective support for](#)

### 4. understand key internet systems.

[4.1 explain the role of an internet](#)

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<a href="#">and configuration.</a> [65]	<a href="#">system security including passwords and malware.</a> [66]	<a href="#">system users.</a> [67]	<a href="#">service provider.</a> [68]
<a href="#">1.2 customise the display to personal preference.</a> [69]	<a href="#">2.2 devise and implement a backup strategy.</a> [70]	<a href="#">3.2 set up a secure virtual connection to manage a system from a remote location.</a> [71]	<a href="#">4.2 explain the importance of TCP/IP.</a> [72]
<a href="#">1.3 install and set up an operating system.</a> [73]	<a href="#">2.3 describe a range of storage methods and their strengths and weaknesses.</a> [74]	<a href="#">3.3 install software updates and dependencies.</a> [75]	<a href="#">4.3 describe the terms HTML, W3C and HTTP.</a> [76]
<a href="#">1.4 set up network connections.</a> [77]	<a href="#">2.4 set up and understand how to customise a firewall for network connection.</a> [78]	<a href="#">3.4 install and remove applications.</a> [79]	<a href="#">4.4 explain the effects of proprietary standards and lock-in.</a> [80]
<a href="#">1.5 set and customise boot sequence and options.</a> [81]	<a href="#">2.5 format and partition storage devices.</a> [82]	<a href="#">3.5 set up cron jobs to automate regular procedures.</a> [83]	<a href="#">4.5 explain the function of a web server.</a> [84]

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