

**techskills**

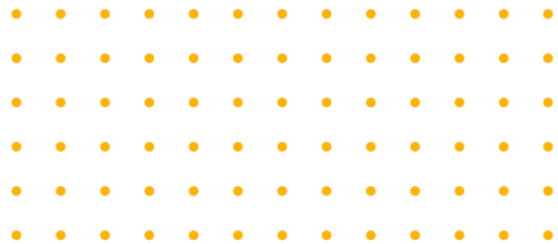


# A proven path to a digital career

## Alumni Stories

We brought together the voices of some of our alumni to showcase their achievements and share the benefits of their Tech Industry Gold journey





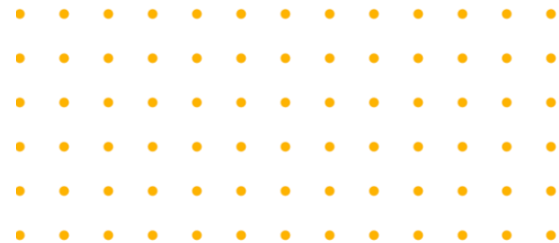


Tech Industry Gold is the industry accreditation for digital and tech degrees and degree apprenticeships.

Through TechSkills, employers of all sizes and across all sectors collaborate with universities to create and accredit the Tech Industry Gold programmes.

These are highly valued by industry and give students the highest quality development opportunity. They not only meet industry standards for content, delivery and assessment, but also offer a **unique student experience** with the active support of employers.

For more information, including availability of accredited courses, visit **[www.techskills.org](http://www.techskills.org)**.

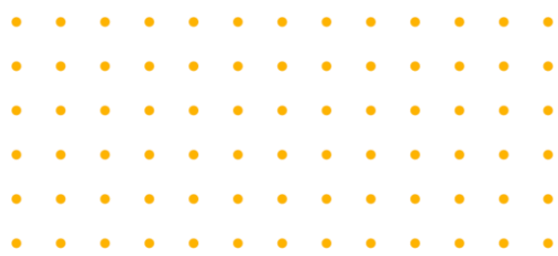




My course was 60% computer science and 40% business management so it gave me a healthy and proportional combination of both disciplines. I really enjoyed the fact that I was learning two subjects at the same time which allowed for the diverse nature of knowledge on how IT systems play a fundamental role in the world of business.

My placement year at Worcester Bosch as an IT support intern allowed me to build up my confidence and gain soft skills whilst solving IT problems, furthermore it allowed me to understand how all business functions work.

If I was to pick two modules that had a really profound impact on my career were Software Lifecycle and Project Management, these have helped me greatly as I now work on IT Software development projects as both Project Manager and Business Analyst.”





# Zakwaan Ali

Computing for Business (ITMB)  
Aston University, 2011–2015

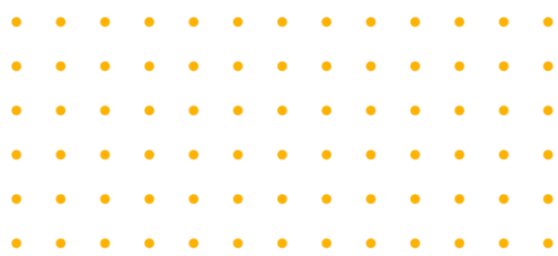
Business Analyst, PerfectHome

PerfectHome



My degree provided me with the intrinsic blend of technology and business elements that were pivotal in me being where I am in my career today. Whether my day-to-day role involves implementing software solutions, project delivery or vendor engagement, I am consistently utilising the fundamental skills that I developed at various points during my degree.

Attending the Tech Industry Gold Student / Employer Events was a phenomenal experience as it not only enhanced my leadership skills but offered me with the opportunity to network with some of the world's largest employers. Working in a team environment to brainstorm, develop and showcase our technical concepts at these events – which led to QMUL winning multiple awards including first place – was a definite highlight, along with making everlasting friends. Furthermore, I am grateful for the support and guidance received by the course directors and staff throughout my degree which helped shape my overall experience.”





# Shawal Atarid

Information Technology Management with Business (ITMB)  
Queen Mary University of London, 2013–2016

Mobile Infrastructure Lead, Bank of England

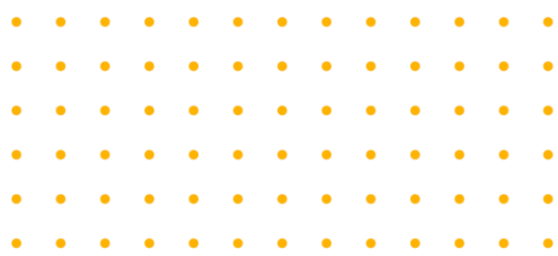


BANK OF ENGLAND



I wouldn't be in the position that I am in today without studying the ITMB degree. It's not just a standard university degree – its Tech Industry Gold accredited, which means it's sponsored and backed by some of the biggest technology companies in the world who are looking for talent. The student/employer events gave me a real insight to the IT corporate world and most importantly taught me how to network, which is one of the most important skills which I use every day in my career still today and will use forever.

I now work at Hewlett Packard Enterprise as a Partner Business Manager. I am responsible for building and executing strategic business plans with three of our gold partners to grow the business selling digital transformation solutions.”







# Lauren Ball

IT Management for Business (ITMB)  
Greenwich University, 2011–2015

Partner Business Manager, Hewlett Packard Enterprise

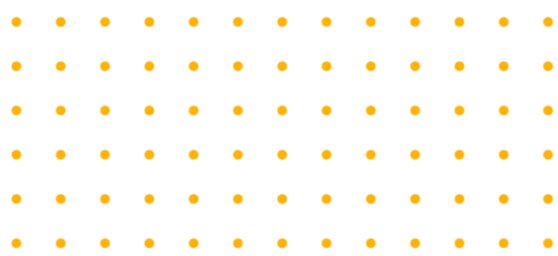


**Hewlett Packard**  
Enterprise



“ My degree was a perfect combination of IT and Business. I knew I wanted to apply IT to my career but focused more on business. IT and Business go hand in hand, so learning the basics of coding one semester followed by financial reporting and various other topics gave me a broader understanding and appreciation for how businesses run, prior to starting my career.

My current job involves guiding enterprise organisations through their Intelligent Automation journey, automating business processes to reduce manual effort and drive digital transformation. I worked with many of my Tech Industry Gold peers on Capgemini’s graduate program. This degree was invaluable in getting me that first position and I would highly recommend it!”





# William Bolt

IT Management for Business (ITMB)  
Loughborough University, 2009–2013

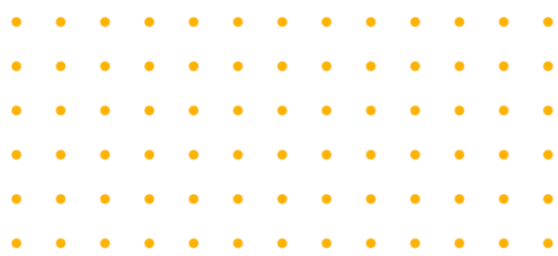
Products Industry Director, Automation Anywhere





“ This degree was a perfect fit for me as it was heavily influenced by the skills needed in industry. I made the most of every opportunity I could, like the Tech Industry Gold competitions, and wasn’t afraid to create my own opportunities. The skills I’ve acquired through the degree and extracurricular opportunities have enabled me to progress through a variety of business and technology roles across companies including Barclays, Finastra, EY and Bank of America Merrill Lynch.

My current role as a Design Technologist is a hybrid role between a designer, developer and product manager; focused on building the developer platform for a payments fintech, Fiserv. My degree and experience have helped enable me to create a role which is multi-faceted and be able to thrive in new disruptive environments.”





# Ryan Clifford

Computer Science with Management (ITMB)  
Queen Mary University of London, 2013–2016

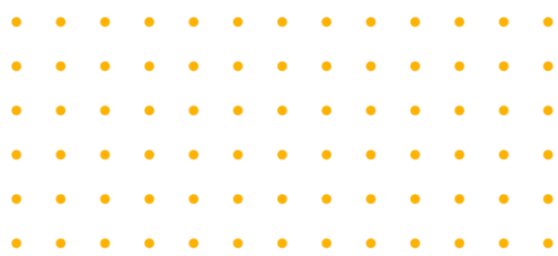
Design Technologist, Fiserv





I don't think I'd be where I am today in my career if it wasn't for studying a Tech Industry Gold accredited ITMB degree at UWE. There was a strong emphasis from day one on employability, and how important it is to exploit all opportunities on offer; from undertaking a year in industry, to volunteering and extra-curricular activities. This drove me to want to achieve more, not only during my time in university but into my professional life too.

The community feeling generated by events and engagements also taught me the importance of building a strong network; whether that was with students at other universities or employers who sponsored the degree. Many of which I'm still in touch with (or work with) today... you'd be surprised how small the IT industry is!"





# Carrie-Anne Cremin

IT Management for Business (ITMB)  
University of the West of England (UWE), 2012–2016

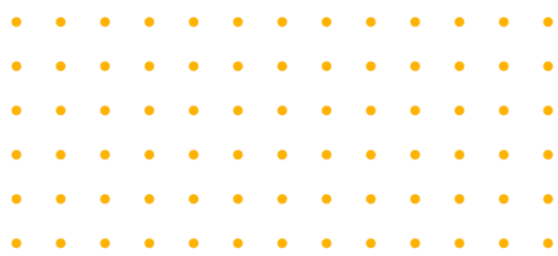
Account Executive, Microsoft





“ Studying this degree taught me a number of broad IT skills, alongside a deep understanding of Business Management and operations. The key (and most unique in my opinion) element of the degree, was the employer engagement throughout the course. The opportunity to present to decision makers at large IT organisations, really helped me to accelerate my career in IT sales.

Currently I manage a team of 40+ people who support organisations in selling over \$150m of IBM Business throughout the UK and Ireland, and I even work with some other Tech Industry Gold alumni from different universities! I'd highly recommend a Tech Industry Gold Degree/Apprenticeship and feel it certainly gave me an 'unfair advantage'!”







## Matt Deadman

IT Management for Business (ITMB)  
University of the West of England (UWE), 2011 (2009–2013)

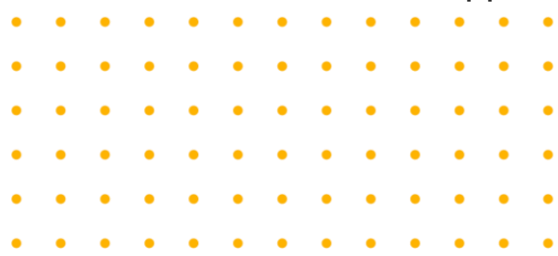
IBM Business Sector Manager, Arrow ECS





My Tech Industry Gold degree, with its unparalleled frequency of contact time with employers through events, competitions and insight talks, gave me the starting toolbox of skills, confidence and experience that accelerated me into my career. A placement with IBM at the Wimbledon Championships every summer, an insight day as Managing Director of CA Technologies UK, along with countless networking events helped secure me a Graduate placement at Hewlett Packard. This enabled me to build my expertise and customer relationships across many industries helping them on their Business and Agile Transformations.

My role enabled me to work abroad across Europe and, coincidentally meeting my Swiss fiancée, I took the leap of living abroad too. Now located in Bern, I support several teams in Swisscom as an Agile Coach and “Lean Agile Leader” empowering them to do what they do best and becoming high-performing teams. Despite the distance, I’m part of a growing, active Alumni community too, 10 years on – I couldn’t be happier.”





# Matt Long

IT Management for Business (ITMB)  
University of Greenwich, 2010–2013

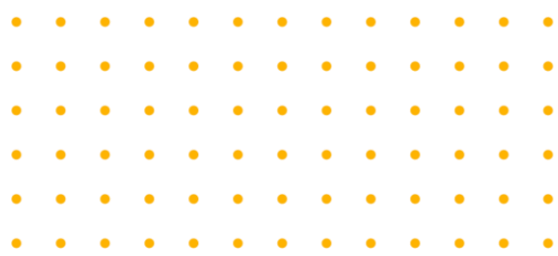
Lean Agile Leader & Agile Coach, Swisscom





My degree offered the perfect balance of tech and business. My career has been focused on managing the relationships between technology and business functions at some of the world's largest organisations: PepsiCo, Rolls-Royce, and Global Media & Broadcasting Group. I have needed to understand their commercial strategy and work with the Board and Tech teams to shape and deliver solutions to help them execute their plans.

The skills and experience I gained through my degree have been invaluable for building the career I have. I believe it gave me a strong advantage over graduates from single disciplines in technology and business as they didn't get to gain the all-round skills and experience you get from my course, nor the close involvement of industry organisations and alumni that I had with being a Tech Industry Gold programme. I feel very fortunate to be part of such a great community."





# Joe Macaulay-Yeoman

Information Technology Management for Business (ITMB)  
Loughborough University, 2008–2012

PMO Manager, Global

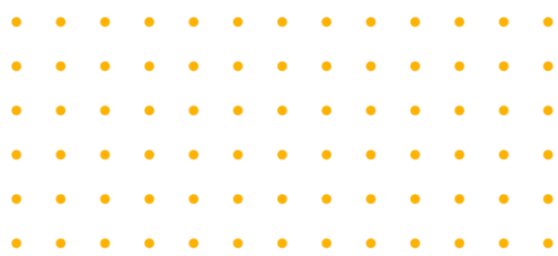




“ Successfully completing the ITMB Degree at the University of Greenwich is the cornerstone of my success to date. The mix of understanding technology and the insight into how it helps organisations make business decisions and achieve competitive edge is second to none.

Since graduating in 2013, and embarking on an 18-month graduate programme, I’ve worked hard in all the roles I’ve had, and benefited from understanding the entire lifecycle of an IT department.

This is helping me in my current role as I understand how these aspects intrinsically work together to provide better customer service/experience. Within my current role, it is imperative to be proactive and always try to identify any failure points within systems or processes. This allows my team and me to be on the front foot. Another key aspect of my role is to deliver strategic value to the business, ensuring my project delivery and service improvement portfolio are aligned to the organisation’s mission.”





# Leroy McAdjar

Information Technology Management for Business (ITMB)  
Greenwich University, 2010–2013

Head of Technology – DevOps, IT Security, Service Operations &  
Network and Infrastructure, Boohoo.com

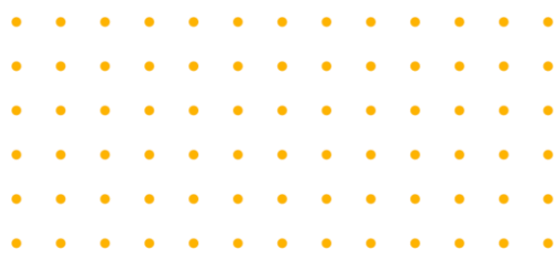
boohoo



I graduated from Loughborough University last year and during that year, I was elected as Enterprise Executive Officer for Loughborough Students Union.

I am now the Enterprise representative for all students that are entrepreneurial at heart who would like to either start a business or become more employable. As an Executive Officer, I want to give back to the student community and create opportunities for new graduates.

As I enjoyed my Tech Industry Gold degree and university journey, I want to share my experience and give 'something back'. I was awarded "A day as an Entrepreneur" at Digital Catapult, started my marketing company called Outbox Minds, graduated with a 1st class honours degree, and I am now using all these experiences to push student enterprise and allow students to work on themselves by collaborating with other companies."







# Emanuele Maccotta

Information Technology Management with Business  
Loughborough University, 2016-2020

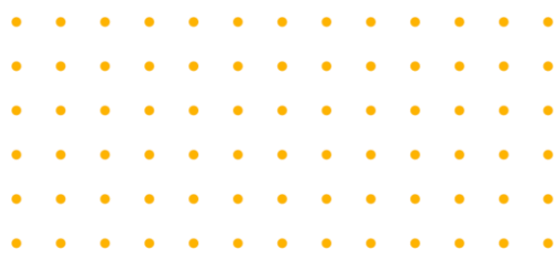
Enterprise Section Chair, Loughborough Students' Union





My degree was a blend of; Business and IT. With IT systems being so fundamental to businesses now, it was great to get an understanding of how they work – in particular how to implement them, how they can have a positive impact on operations, and how to code / design them.

My current job helps clients achieve digital transformations, and this degree provided me with the foundations to build my expertise on. Equally importantly the friends I made whilst on this course and whilst at university are still people I'm in touch with today."





# Karl Mulcahy

Management and IT (ITMB)  
Lancaster University, 2007–2011

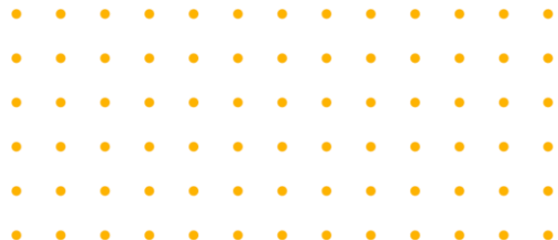
UK Sales Director, Persistent Systems





Doing my degree was so much fun, learning theory and skills that have helped me so much in the real world of work. Doing a degree that was a mix of IT and business has set me up for success with my stakeholders daily.

My career started post university with a year at SAS Software as a graduate consultant. That led on to me moving to the NatWest group, working in Data Technology for the last 5 years. My degree gave a great foundation to build a really great career.”





## Ross Sansom

Information Technology Management for Business (ITMB)  
University of Greenwich, 2011–2014

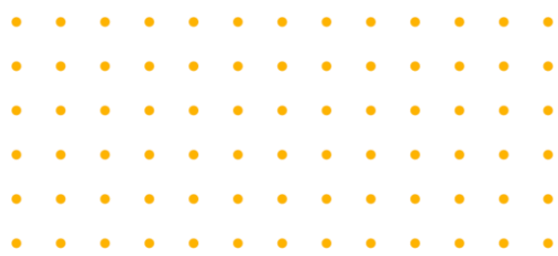
Lead Service Analyst, NatWest Group





“ ITMB was a unique and rewarding degree which combined multiple aspects of business, project management and IT. This combined with real life industry exposure and events hosted by IBM, Cisco and others gave me an in-depth knowledge of how organisations function and were the key distinctiveness of this degree. From mock interviews to relationships with organisations, this degree made you ready to hit the ground running. Its modules and exposure to corporations made me ready for my Graduate programme as a project manager and provided insight into all aspects of technology, management and IT services.

Undoubtedly this degree made me stand out from others and allowed me to secure a prosperous future.”





# Gaurav Saroye

Information Technology Management for Business (ITMB)  
Hertfordshire University, 2012–2016

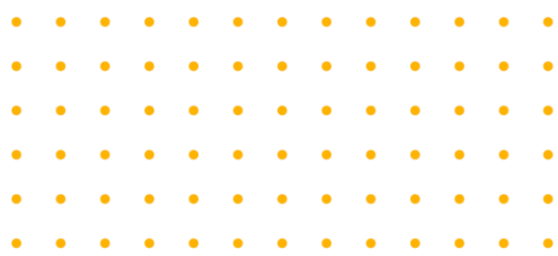
Security Operations Portfolio Manager, Computacenter





My degree gave me skills and experience in both business and IT, which offered a variety of career paths. Since graduating I have been in Digital Marketing roles, then, in the last two years, I have switched to computing with both my last and current roles being in Front-End Development.

I am now a Software Engineer at The Economist, working on the Web team alongside some great software engineers, learning so much, and this would not have been possible if I had not undertaken a degree like Computing for Business, with its industry backing.”







# Johti Vashisht

Computing for Business (ITMB)  
Aston University, 2011–2015

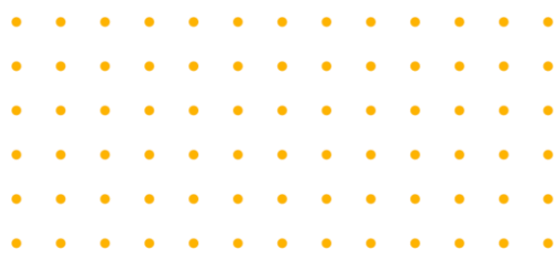
Software Engineer, The Economist

The  
Economist



Because my degree was developed by business and tech industries, I left university with the right skills for immediate employment. The course includes transferable skills that can lead you into many routes – in my case entrepreneurship.

Without this degree, I don't think I would have developed my skills and experience as quickly as I have. I would encourage anyone with interest in business and tech to go for a Tech Industry Gold programme – you will enjoy a superb course and incredible experience.”





# Josh Wintersgill

IT Management with Business (ITMB)  
University of the West of England (UWE) 2011–2015

Founder and Director, Able Move Ltd





The full-time degree programmes are available from the following universities:

Aston University  
University of Chester  
University of Chichester  
University of Derby  
University of Greenwich  
Henley Business School (University of Reading)  
University of Hertfordshire  
Lancaster University  
Loughborough University  
University of Manchester  
Northumbria University  
Queen Mary University London (QMUL)  
University of the West of England (UWE)  
University of West London (UWL)

For more information, go to <http://www.techskills.org/degrees>

For information on the degree apprenticeship, visit

<http://www.techskills.org/degree-apprenticeships>



Employer-led and not-for-profit, TechSkills unites employers and Higher Education Institutions to improve the flow of talent into the digital workforce. It is responsible for Tech Industry Gold, the industry accreditation for digital and tech degrees and degree apprenticeships.

TechSkills is a wholly owned subsidiary of techUK, the UK's leading technology membership organisation.

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