What is the course about?

This CCNA preparation course is split in to four semesters which are taught concurrently and it is expected that students will take two academic years to complete all four semesters. At the beginning of this course (mid-academic year) most students in a class will be moving on the 'Routing and Switching' course, while a small number will be working on earlier or later courses. Student may also join at this point and start the semester 1 course if they wish.

The course blends conventional teaching with extensive support materials available online, and hands on practical work. You are able to work at your own pace so some in the class will progress much more quickly than others.

Introduction to Networking (semester 1) looks at how data networking affects us all and examines in detail the underpinning technology that supports this.

Routing and Switching (semester 2) looks at how networks enable businesses to communicate reliably, quickly and securely.

Scaling networks (semester 3) takes the previous ideas and shows how they can be scaled up to meet the needs of larger and more complex enterprises.

Connecting networks (semester 4) examines the technologies that support world wide data networks.

What are the entry requirements?

Candidates are expected to have a good understanding of general computer technology and preferably some experience with networks in a commercial setting.

What subjects will I study?

Semester 1 - Network operating systems, protocols, Ethernet, IP addressing, and subnetting.

Semester 2 - Switch concepts, virtual LANs, routing concepts, routing protocols, access control lists, DHCP and network address translation.

Semester 3 - LAN redundancy, LAN aggregation, wireless networks, OSPF, and EIGRP.

Semester 4 - WAN design, WAN technologies, VPNs, WAN security, monitoring and troubleshooting.

How will I be assessed?

Online multiple choice exams are used to check your progress and understanding. At the end of each semester there is a longer online assessment and a practical skills test.

What are my progression and career options?

After successful completion of the first two semesters candidates should be ready to take the CCENT exam (not included in the course fee) if they wish, which forms the first part of the CCNA qualification. By successfully completing all four semesters you should be ready to take the Cisco CCNA exam (not included) which is widely recognised and sought after by the IT industry.

Who should I contact?

All enquiries relating to this course are to be directed to the Course Admissions Tutor via the Programme Area Secretary on 648202 or by e-mail to tracy.clift@ucm.ac.im

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