

1. Programme Title(s):

MA/MSc/PGDip in Heritage and Interpretation

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Part-time

b) Type of study

Distance learning / Ignite blended learning

4. Registration periods:

The normal period of registration is 2 years

The maximum period of registration is 4 years

5. Typical entry requirements:

In recognition of the diverse employment needs of the culture sector, our admissions process recognises and credits a range of prior qualifications and experiences.

Prospective candidates will **either** have gained a first class or second class degree, which can be in any subject area, **or** be able to demonstrate equivalent skills and aptitudes through the possession of a professional or vocational qualification and/or the accrual of relevant work experiences. Relevant experience can come from a wide spectrum of work or voluntary environments but clear evidence of this experience must be provided.

All candidates should be able to demonstrate a commitment to, or strong interest in, museums, galleries, or other kinds of heritage or cultural organisation.

If seeking entry without a degree, you will be asked complete an assessment, such as an essay, so as to demonstrate your readiness for postgraduate study. Clear guidance will be provided on assessment criteria. You may also be required to attend an interview

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:

No accreditation of prior learning is currently recognised on this programme.

7. Programme aims:

The programme aims to

- Provide a distinct course of the highest quality based on leading academic and professional research and practice in the field of heritage studies
- Engage students in the critical development of heritage studies as an emerging and expanding academic discipline

- Equip students with the professional knowledge, skills and values appropriate for the needs of a rapidly changing and diversifying cultural and environmental heritage sector
- Prepare students for further academic research in the fields of interpretation, representation, heritage and museums
- Produce a qualification which is recognised internationally by other academic bodies and by cultural and environmental heritage employers
- Provide an inclusive, supportive, and yet challenging, learning opportunity with access to a range of academic support systems
- Enable wide access to the course of study through distance learning
- Foster within students a motivation and aptitude for intellectual enquiry, critical assessment, creative innovation and a commitment to lifelong learning
- Actively develop students' abilities to learn and communicate within a highly diverse and international student and staff body
- Provide opportunities to develop a variety of personal transferable skills relevant to the needs of a range of employers, and develop students' abilities to identify, reflect upon and communicate these to a range of employers and professional colleagues within museums, galleries, heritage and wider sectors.

All the programme's graduates (MA/PGDip) should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of major theoretical, methodological and professional themes in the practice and critique of heritage, as defined in the learning outcomes and content of individual modules
- Demonstrate an awareness of a range of heritage-, interpretation- and representation-related issues, and creatively and thoughtfully apply the knowledge gained from the course within specific professional and academic contexts
- Demonstrate the intellectual skills appropriate to postgraduate study
- Plan a response to research questions by formulation of aims, objectives and methodologies
- Locate, select and analyse information relevant to a research project
- Construct arguments and communicate effectively in a diverse and international academic setting
- Construct arguments and communicate effectively in writing
- Demonstrate a range of personal transferable skills, including in time and work management and in written communication
- Perform effectively and utilise their knowledge in professional settings

Graduates from the MA in Heritage and Interpretation should be able to:

- plan, execute and write up an extended research project on a heritage-related topic

Graduates from the MSc in Heritage and Interpretation should be able to:

- plan, execute and write up an extended research project on science in heritage or science heritage, or utilise a technical or scientific methodology for the investigation of a heritage-related topic

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

University of Leicester Learning & Teaching Strategy 2011-2016

9. Programme Outcomes:

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(a) Subject and Professional skills		
Knowledge		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced knowledge of theory and practice of heritage and interpretation in political, social and historical contexts, and of a range of issues in heritage management, interpretation and representation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials Resource-based learning Independent research Unstructured peer-group discussion online (optional) Tutor support and tutor feedback Summer School sessions (optional, on-site or online) Feedback on essays and other assignments Dissertation study guide Dissertation supervisions and feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, project, report and other written assignments Participation in online discussion activities Dissertation
Concepts		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced grasp of major theoretical, methodological and professional principles in heritage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials Resource-based learning Independent research Unstructured peer-group discussion online (optional) Tutor support and tutor feedback Summer School sessions (optional, on-site or online) Feedback on essays and other assignments Dissertation study guide Dissertation supervisions and feedback Self-reflection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, project, report and other written assignments Participation in online discussion activities Dissertation Assignments reflecting on personal skills, weaknesses and learning
Techniques		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mastery of a range of techniques related to heritage and interpretation and their critique, including research, critical and communication skills Ability to assess and effectively interpret and represent controversial and sensitive issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials Resource-based learning Independent research Tutor support and tutor feedback Unstructured peer-group discussion online (optional) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, project, report and other written assignments Participation in online debate Dissertation

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summer School sessions (optional, on-site or online) • Feedback on essays and other assignments • Dissertation study guide and handbook • Dissertation supervisions and feedback 	
Critical analysis		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to apply understanding of concepts, techniques and issues in heritage with independence, rigour and reflexivity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction unit • Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials • Resource-based learning • Independent research • Tutor support and feedback • Unstructured peer-group discussion online (optional) • Summer School sessions (optional, on-site or online) • Feedback on essays and other assignments • Dissertation study guide and handbook • Dissertation supervisions and feedback • Self-reflection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays, project, report and other written assignments • Participation in online debate • Dissertation • Assignments reflecting on personal skills, weaknesses and learning
Presentation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to organise research material in a manner appropriate to the medium that is to be assessed • to distinguish between relevant and non-relevant material • to write-up and deliver reports (including online) on findings to a professional standard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials, particularly on research methods • Tutor support and tutor feedback • Summer School sessions (optional, on-site or online) • Feedback on essays and other assignments • Dissertation study guide • Dissertation supervisions and feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays, project, report and other written assignments • Participation in online discussion • Dissertation
Appraisal of evidence		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to analyse and assess a variety of complex interpretive, representational, heritage, conceptual and practical issues • Ability to mount and sustain an independent level of enquiry at an advanced level 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials • Resource-based learning • Independent research • Tutor support and tutor feedback • Unstructured peer-group discussion online (optional) • Summer School sessions (optional, on-site or online) • Feedback on essays and other assignments • Dissertation study guide • Dissertation supervisions and feedback • Self-reflection 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays, project, report and other written assignments • Participation in online debate • Dissertation • Assignments reflecting on personal skills, weaknesses and learning
(b) Transferable skills		
Research skills		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to define and describe the parameters of a problem to be solved • Ability to develop a methodology for solving it, draw up a realistic timetable and take into account communities and others affected by the problem and its solution • Knowledge of a range of research methods • Ability to analyse and draw appropriate conclusions from research data • Ability to research and critically engage with websites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials, particularly problem-based activities and exercises • Range of Research Skills/Methods units selected from a pool in Blackboard as appropriate • Module assignment feedback • Tutor support and tutorials • Summer School research skills sessions (optional, on-site or online) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays, project, report, dissertation and other written assignments • Dissertation
Communication skills		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to communicate views, needs and concerns effectively in the context of working relationships • Ability to write cogently and coherently at an appropriate academic level • Ability to write cogently and coherently at a level appropriate to different heritage contexts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction unit • Communications with tutor • Guidelines in course material • Self-directed learning • Feedback on written assignments • Online discussions (optional) • Dissertation study guide, handbook, supervisions and feedback • Summer School sessions (optional, on-site or online) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorial relationships • Essays, projects, brief, report, evaluation and other written assignments • Participation in online discussion activities • Dissertation
Data presentation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to present research clearly and effectively, using appropriate digital resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research skills units within Blackboard • Self-directed learning • Module assignment feedback • Tutor support • Feedback on essays and other assignments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays, project, report, dissertation and other written assignments • Participation in online discussion activities
Information technology		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to make use of digital resources for conducting academic research, locating resources, and assessing these resources for utility and reliability • Ability to use online resources set up by the School and the University (eg Blackboard, the Digital Library) • Develop skills in key software suites (office tools graphics search tools) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutor support • Dissertation supervision • Independent research • Induction unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of digital resources to produce and submit essays, other assignments (e.g reports) and dissertation • Contributions to online activities
Problem solving		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Independently approach the subject and form research objectives in relation to a particular 'problem' • Critically select and apply methods for addressing research questions • Critically select and analyse a range of material for addressing research questions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Module activities and assignments • Self-directed learning • Research skills units • The Research Skills Guide (on Blackboard) • Module assignment feedback • Tutor support and feedback • Dissertation supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments • Dissertation
Working relationships		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to contribute to and comment on ideas in group discussion • Peer assessment (where appropriate) • Knowledge of how and when to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others • Ability to present arguments and information to colleagues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials • Tutor support • Unstructured peer-group discussion online (optional) • Online group work, assessing and commenting on key reports/research • Summer School discussions (optional, on-site or online) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions to online discussions and activities • Essays, projects, brief, report, evaluation, dissertation and other written assignments
Managing learning		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to identify, categorise and organise research material • Effective time and work management skills • Ability to use IT resources to assist and organise research • Ability to operate in an online learning environment • Ability to apply research and theory to practical circumstances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction unit • Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials • Tutor support • Unstructured peer-group discussion online (optional) • Feedback on essays and other assignments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays, projects, report and other written assignments • Production of learning materials • Dissertation • Successful completion of modules
Career management		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commitment to continued professional development, ability to plan career progression, setting realistic and achievable goals, develop ways to improve employability, and demonstrate transferable nature of research skills • Confidence and ability to demonstrate personal attributes and experiences through effective CVs, applications and interviews 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction unit • Personal tutor guidance delivered by professionals /practitioners in the field • Networking opportunities with other distance learners (on-site or online Summer School and online discussion) • Assignments which develop professional skills • Self-reflective activities • University Career Development Service's online tools and tailored advice (optional) • A focus on employability in Summer School sessions (optional, on-site or online) • Student Handbook • Online group work, practical exercises/'learning by doing' • Dissertation supervisions and feedback • Tutor support • Vacancy List managed by the School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tutorials • Communications with tutors, peers and practitioners • Contributions to online discussion activities

10. Special features:

- Summer School (on-site or online)
- Carefully paced curriculum that encourages personal development and leads to acquisition of knowledge and technique
- Modules range from exploring issues in depth to a more technical nature. They lead to a final module which enables students fully to integrate key issues and subjects with methods and media of interpretation
- Course material encourages students to situate and reflect upon their learning in both local and international contexts

- Emphasis on dealing objectively and sensitively with controversial issues, particularly in cross-cultural and/or socially diverse contexts
- Independent learning
- Online group-work
- Case-study work
- Problem-solving
- Written and online communication skills
- Study visit or website visit (to be reported upon)
- Broad range of assignment types
- Research dissertation

11. Indications of programme quality:

External Examiner reports: External Examiners continue to praise the level of feedback provided and the rigour of assessment methods.

Student feedback mechanisms: Surveys and Student Staff Committees.

12. Scheme of Assessment

This programme follows the University's regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes: <http://www2.le.ac.uk/offices/sas2/regulations/general-regulations-for-taught-programmes>

13. Progression points

Panels of Examiners regularly meet to approve student progression. Where approval to progress is not given, student registration will be terminated and where applicable an interim award will be approved by the Board of Examiners.

Students will not normally be allowed to progress to Module 3 until Modules 1 and 2 have been successfully completed. Similarly, students will not normally be allowed to progress to the dissertation until Module 3 and 4 have been successfully completed.

14. Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions:

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study (www.le.ac.uk/senate-regulation6)

15. Additional information [e.g. timetable for admissions]

N/A

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

	Module Code	Module Title	Credit Rating
Compulsory	MU7521	Locating Heritage	30
	MU7522	Making Heritage	30
	MU7520	Supporting Heritage	30
	MU7530	Interpreting Heritage	30
	MU7531	Dissertation*	60

* Compulsory only for candidates for the degree of MA/MSc

Qualifications Awarded:

- (i) Candidates who accumulate 120 credits from the taught modules (i.e. not the dissertation) and satisfactorily complete the assessment requirements for each of the modules will be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma.
- (ii) Candidates who accumulate 180 credits, satisfactorily complete the assessment requirements for each of the modules and submit a satisfactory dissertation will be awarded the degree of Master of Arts.
- (iii) Candidates may graduate with the degree of Master of Science where they meet the criteria in (ii) and the dissertation concerns science in heritage, science heritage, or where a technical or scientific methodology is utilised.

Appendix 2: Module Specifications

See module specification database <http://www.le.ac.uk/sas/courses/documentation>