

Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2021/22

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 2

1. Programme title(s) and code(s)

MA International Education

Postgraduate Diploma/Postgraduate Certificate International Education*

Notes

* An award marked with an asterisk is only available as an exit award and is not available for students to register onto.

HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%
100459	60%
101088	40%

2. Awarding body or institution

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Full-time

b) Type of study

Campus-based

4. Registration periods

The normal period of registration for the MA International Education is one year

The maximum period of registration for the MA International Education is two years

5. Typical entry requirements

Entry requirements are:

- 1st degree at a good class 2.2. (UK equivalent) or above
- GPA 3 (US equivalent) or above

Students whose first language is not English or who have not lived in a country where the first language is English for at least three years immediately prior to starting the programme must possess an appropriate English language qualification.

Acceptable evidence includes: GCSE/O-Level English language at grade C or above; an overall score of 6.5 in the British Council IELTS test with a minimum score of 6.0 in each component; a TOEFL score of 600 (paper) or 90 (IBT).

In addition, students should have demonstrable evidence of engaging with education in school or college, either through practical experience as teachers and/or as a substantial element of their degree.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

N/A

7. Programme aims

The programme aims to

- To enhance understanding of contemporary educational issues, both national and international, for educational professionals across all phases of education. To develop participants' ability to reflect on theory in the area of teaching and learning and use it as the basis for understanding and improving practice.
- To develop participants' ability to undertake small scale research.
- To develop participant's understanding of ethical principles which underpin the design, conduct and reporting of educational research.

Students will be enabled to:

- Develop an understanding of pedagogical theories.
- Appreciate the relationship between theory and practice in education.
- Understand the influences of societal or national / regional / religious culture on teaching.
- Evaluate the use and management of learning resources, including ICT, for learners within their phase of education.
- Understand the various elements of the planning, monitoring and evaluation cycle as applied to education.
- Understand how to carry out and present small-scale research on the topic of effective education, teaching and learning.

By the end of each module, students will be able to:

- Select a topic within the area covered by the module and justify their choice in relation to their current or planned professional practice.
- Produce a coherent literature review of the topic which identifies and critically comments on appropriate theoretical, research and practice-based literature.
- Draw conclusions from literature reviews and apply findings to a consideration of teaching, learning or assessment or management of these processes, if and where appropriate.
- Have an understanding of the guiding principles of designing, conducting and disseminating ethical research in educational contexts.

In addition to the above generic Module objectives, students will be required – through the Core Introduction to Research Methods Module and the Dissertation - to design, pilot and conduct a smallscale research study in an area relevant to their current or planned professional practice and demonstrate an ability to critically evaluate research data and to apply findings to a consideration of teaching, learning, assessment or management.

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education

- University Learning Strategy
- <u>University Assessment Strategy</u>
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- United Nations Education for Sustainable Development Goals
- Student Destinations Data

9. Programme Outcomes

Unless otherwise stated, programme outcomes apply to all awards specified in 1. Programme title(s).

a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies

i) Knowledge

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the principles and practices of Education in International contexts. Students will be expected to draw on theory and research on a range of contemporary issues within Education. In doing so, students will have the opportunity to engage in studies that relate to their specific area(s) of interest in education.	 Induction programme plus a mixture of: Tutor-led classes Student-led seminars Tutorials Workshops Study-skills sessions Directed tasks Directed reading Blackboard (VLE) support site 	Formative and summative assessment, including: Essay Presentation Portfolio tasks Dissertation
Models of pedagogy; educational innovation and reform; educational leadership for social justice in education; inclusion and special educational needs.	 Tutor-led classes Student-led seminars Tutorials Workshops Study-skills sessions Directed tasks Directed reading Blackboard (VLE) support site 	Formative and summative assessment, including: Essay Presentation Portfolio tasks Dissertation
Students will also be expected to develop an understanding of the core principles of designing, conducting research which is informed by ethical principles.	 Tutor-led classes Student-led seminars Tutorials Workshops Study-skills sessions Directed tasks Directed reading Dissertation supervision Blackboard (VLE) support site 	Formative and summative assessment, including: Essay Presentation Portfolio tasks Dissertation

ii) Concepts

Intended Learning	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Outcomes Students will be expected to draw on theory and research on a range of contemporary issues within Education. In doing so, students will have the opportunity to engage in studies that relate to their specific area(s) of professional interest and expertise in educational contexts, which are explored through two Core modules:	Course materials including: Directed tasks Directed reading Study-skills development materials Lectures Tutorials Small-group tutorials/seminars Discussion forums/Blogs Student-led seminars Dissertation supervision	Formative and summative assessment, including: Essay Presentation Portfolio tasks Dissertation
 Contemporary Issues in International Education An Introduction to Educational Research Methods) and four specialist (two module) pathways which examine, respectively: Models of pedagogy 		
 Educational innovation and reform; Leadership for Social Justice in Education 		
Through each of these modules, students will also be expected to develop an understanding of the core principles of designing, conducting research which is informed by ethical principles, and how such research would inform their own professional contexts	Course materials including: Directed tasks Directed reading Study-skills development materials Lectures Tutorials Small-group tutorials/seminars Discussion forums/Blogs Student-led seminars Dissertation supervision	Formative and summative assessment, including: Essay Presentation Portfolio tasks Dissertation

iii) Techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
students will also be expected to develop an understanding of the core principles of designing, conducting research which is informed by ethical principles, and how such research would inform their own professional contexts	 Course materials including: Study-skills development materials Lectures Tutorials Small-group tutorials/seminars Discussion forums/Blogs Student-led seminars Dissertation supervision 	Formative and summative assessment, including: Essay Presentation Portfolio tasks Dissertation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of how to learn. The range of study skills would include: How to keep notes; how to reference; how to carry out a	 Course materials including: Directed tasks Directed reading Study-skills development materials Podcast lecture 	 Showing use of these techniques in: Poster Portfolio tasks
literature search; how to access online bibliographic resources; planning essays and dissertations Develop communicative and intercultural competence.	 Tutor support via: One-to-one tutorials Small-group tutorials/seminars Working alongside educational practitioners and those with experience 	<i>Student evaluation of the course.</i> <i>Students' reflections on their own</i> <i>personal and professional development.</i>
Develop the ability to apply the skills and knowledge gained to their own professional contexts.	of educational contexts from a wide range of cultural and professional backgrounds. Engagement with	
	educators/practitioners in UK context through (e.g.)PGCE programme, visiting experts, school visits	

iv) Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Display ability to analyse and critique relevant arguments, debates and points of view in areas of Educational theory, policy and	Classes and seminars involving critical debate based on pre-class reading.	Development of critical argument through extended essays, presentations, portfolio, poster and final dissertation.
practice.	Individual and group tutorials analysing aspects of educational theory, policy and practice	
Demonstrate understanding of developments in Educational		
systems in international contexts.	Online discussion with personal tutor regarding essay/dissertation drafts and other formative activities.	
Critically evaluate the relationship between Educational theory and Educational practice.		
Critically examine the ethical principles which underpin both existing research and how this informs the design, and conduct of their own empirical studies.	Online discussion with personal tutor regarding essay/dissertation drafts and other formative activities.	Development of critical argument through extended essays, presentations, portfolio, poster and final dissertation.

v) Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Produce articulate, fluent and well- structured assignments.	Study guides and induction to support development of academic literacy.	Good organisation and presentation are specific aspects of our formal marking criteria in all assignments, including use of tables and graphs etc. In terms of
Show accurate and appropriate handling of references and sources.	Study-skills sessions Tutorials	assessment, these are demonstrated through essays and also through assessed oral presentations to show mastery of presentational skills and an
Show ability to present work clearly and appropriately.		assessed presentation of a conference – style poster to demonstrate ability to display concepts and outcomes clearly and concisely for a public audience

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
The programme is designed to progressively develop in students the ability to interrogate contemporary issues in Education as increasingly autonomous and skilled researchers. This is achieved through the Module structure as follows: In Core Module 1 , students develop an understanding of key theories and concepts in international Education studies developed in tutor-led sessions	A mixture of: Tutor-led classes Student-led seminars Collaborative tasks Directed tasks Study-skills sessions Student presentations Tutorials Directed reading Blackboard (VLE) support site	Extended essays Presentations Online discussion 'threads'
In Core Module 2 students develop knowledge, skills and understanding of how to design and conduct robust, trustworthy and ethical educational research, further supported through additional Study Skills sessions which focus on practical experience of research techniques	A mixture of: Tutor-led classes Student-led seminars Collaborative tasks Directed tasks Study-skills sessions Student presentations Tutorials Directed reading Blackboard (VLE) support site	Extended essays Presentations Online discussion 'threads'
Specialist Pathways provide the opportunity for students to develop in-depth knowledge and understanding of a chosen aspect of Education (Modules 3 & 4).	 Tutor-led classes Student-led seminars Collaborative tasks Directed tasks Study-skills sessions Student presentations Tutorials Directed reading Blackboard (VLE) support site 	Extended essays Presentations Online discussion 'threads'
Module 4 focuses on dissertation preparation through a mixture of tutor-led classes, student-led seminars, online discussion-groups and individual tutorials.	 Dissertation supervision Tutorials Study-skills sessions 	Formal dissertation plan Final dissertation.

b) Transferable skills

i) Research skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
 Students should have a clear idea of the practicalities of carrying out trustworthy research e.g.: Developing researchable questions Constructing a realistic and robust research design which exemplifies appropriate consideration of paradigm, methodology, data collection methods and analytic procedures Planning a timetable for fieldwork; working out the feasibility of an intended study in particular contexts Gaining access to the field Keeping a research diary Gaining access to a site for research Carrying out research ethically 	Course materials including: Directed tasks Directed reading Study-skills development materials Podcast lectures Tutor support via: One-to-one tutorials Small-group tutorials/seminars 	Presentations Online discussion 'threads' Formal dissertation plan Final dissertation.

ii) Communication skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Constructing and managing a spoken argument.	Classroom discussions, seminar debates and student presentations	Oral presentation and/or poster 'defence' (formal assessment of presentations for
Communicating effectively and fluently in speech.	Programme-specific: Induction course in academic writing.	some Modules are included in the assessment arrangements).
Understanding the dynamics of oral communication.	Workshops on effective academic writing	Formative assignment focuses on writing skills.
Communicating effectively and fluently in writing.	Institutional support:	Tutorial advice offered on drafts prior to final assignments.
Demonstrating appropriate understanding of academic honesty	Academic writing training available at the ELTU for international students, with Wednesday afternoon sessions available. Writing support also offered by the Learning and Teaching Unit. Blackboard (VLE) site provides support for academic writing	Written assignments required in each module.
Using the appropriate register and style for academic writing and proper referencing in essays, posters, portfolios and dissertations.	Programme-specific: Induction course in academic writing. Workshops on effective academic writing Institutional support:	Oral presentation and/or poster 'defence' (formal assessment of presentations for some Modules are included in the assessment arrangements). Formative assignment focuses on writing skills.
	Academic writing training available at the ELTU for international students, with Wednesday afternoon sessions available. Writing support also offered by the Learning and Teaching Unit.	Tutorial advice offered on drafts prior to final assignments.

iii) Data presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
 Students should have a clear idea of the different ways in which they can present data. This will include understanding how to make effective poster and oral presentations; how to use PowerPoint and video as part of a presentation. 	Programme-specific: Workshops on data analysis, interpretation and presentation Additional resources via Blackboard (VLE) site Institutional support: Such training opportunities as are available via SSDS/the Learning and Teaching Unit.	 Presentations Portfolio Poster
 Understanding how to present numeric data in a variety of ways (e.g. tables, charts and figures) to make it accessible to readers and/ or viewers Understanding how to present qualitative data appropriately 	 Programme-specific: Workshops on data analysis, interpretation and presentation Additional resources via Blackboard (VLE) site Institutional support: Such training opportunities as are available via SSDS/the Learning and Teaching Unit. 	 Presentations Portfolio Poster Assignments Final dissertation

iv) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to use effectively bibliographic and other tools for identifying relevant research literature and associated resources	Induction - Education Library Staff Introduction to IT tools (e.g. Endnote, Turnitin) for referencing and plagiarism detection.	Literature search/research exercises (assessed and non-assessed). Various assessment modes where relevant
Able to demonstrate basic understanding of data analysis tools for both qualitative and quantitative data (e.g. NVIVO, SPSS)	Workshops on the use of analytic software. Online tutorials available through Blackboard	Data analysis exercises (assessed and non-assessed). Various assessment modes where relevant

v) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to identify and reflect on common learning and teaching problems Ability to recognise strengths and limitations of varying approaches within applied educational research	 Course materials including: Directed tasks Directed reading Study-skills development materials Podcast lectures 	Each Module offers opportunities to discuss and analyse problems and evaluate possible solutions related to contemporary issues in education in international contexts.
Ability to identify and reflect on cultural issues in education	Tutor support via:One-to-one tutorialsSmall-group tutorials/seminars	Formal assessment through essays reflecting on and critically discussing problems and issues in educational theory, policy and practice

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Core Modules 1 & 2 explore respectively key debate/ issues in contemporary education and key issues in educational research. The dissertation consolidates this learning in the form of an empirical investigation of a specific educational problem.	Course materials including: Directed tasks Directed reading Study-skills development materials Podcast lectures Tutor support via: One-to-one tutorials Small-group tutorials/seminars 	Each Module offers opportunities to discuss and analyse problems and evaluate possible solutions related to contemporary issues in education in international contexts. Formal assessment through essays reflecting on and critically discussing problems and issues in educational theory, policy and practice
In addition to the potential for problem solving implicit in Core Modules 1 & 2 and in the Dissertation, Specialist Pathway Modules (3 & 4) include key opportunities for problem solving in relation to chosen areas of education relating to (for example) curriculum design, assessment, effective schooling, leadership, educational reform, and so on).	Course materials including: Directed tasks Directed reading Study-skills development materials Podcast lectures Tutor support via: One-to-one tutorials Small-group tutorials/seminars 	Each Module offers opportunities to discuss and analyse problems and evaluate possible solutions related to contemporary issues in education in international contexts. Formal assessment through essays reflecting on and critically discussing problems and issues in educational theory, policy and practice
The dissertation consolidates this learning in the form of an empirical investigation of a specific educational problem.	 Course materials including: Directed tasks Directed reading Study-skills development materials Podcast lectures 	Each Module offers opportunities to discuss and analyse problems and evaluate possible solutions related to contemporary issues in education in international contexts.
	 Tutor support via: One-to-one tutorials Small-group tutorials/seminars 	Formal assessment through essays reflecting on and critically discussing problems and issues in educational theory, policy and practice

vi) Working relationships

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to communicate and work effectively in small groups.	Group work in classes and seminars	Informal/formative assessment of students' effectiveness in group activities.
Show willingness to learn from other education professionals and those with educational experience	Course related online Message Board and course specific Discussion Forum in Blackboard	

vii) Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Show ability to work independently, demonstrating initiative, self-organisation and time-management. Show ability to manage their own learning self-critically. Ability to identify and reflect on common learning and teaching problems Ability to recognise strengths and limitations of varying approaches within applied educational research Ability to identify and reflect on	Workshop on study skills, e.g. time management, organisational strategies. Tutorial support in time management and planning of assignments and dissertation.	Tutor reports on student progress. Course evaluation forms and staff/student committee meetings enable us to monitor how students see their own success in these areas. Formal assessment through essays reflecting on and critically discussing problems and issues in educational theory, policy and practice
cultural issues in education Core Modules 1 & 2 explore respectively key debate/ issues in contemporary education and key issues in educational research. The dissertation consolidates this learning in the form of an empirical investigation of a specific educational problem.	Workshop on study skills, e.g. time management, organisational strategies. Tutorial support in time management and planning of assignments and dissertation.	Each Module offers opportunities to discuss and analyse problems and evaluate possible solutions related to contemporary issues in education in international contexts.

viii) Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Participants come from an educational background in international contexts either via professional experience or through prior. Nevertheless students should acquire an understanding of the main steps in constructing a career; what qualifications and/or skills are needed for particular steps in it; know where to get help and support in developing their career; understand what time frame shapes their choices of particular moves in particular careers	This will draw on agencies specialised in giving careers advice; students will be guided into finding such agencies	Portfolio tasks Discussions with their tutors

10. Special features

- In 2009, the new MAIE programme was designed to combine three existing Masters programmes as pathway options while at the same time introducing a new international perspective as described above.
- The programme is designed to explore contemporary issues in education in an international/intercultural context. This moves away from the previous model in which such perspectives were mainly derived from students sharing knowledge and experiences in response to discussion focusing on largely UK-specific policy and practice, to one in which international/intercultural perspectives are embedded into programme content and assessment.

- Specialist pathways enable students to explore in depth areas of specific interest. The leadership and management pathway has been re-written to focus attention onto leadership for social justice in education. The pedagogy pathway remains the same, as does the educational innovation and reform pathway, which incorporates a range of emerging issues in education including globalization, sustainable development, citizenship education and alternative schooling. The new and updated pathway modules have all been given official approval.
- Each pathway consists of a lead module and a specialist study module. The specialist study module is focused on dissertation preparation and is designed to develop in the student skills and abilities of an autonomous educational researcher in an area of their choosing, through a combination of intensive tutorial support, student-led small group seminars and supported self-study.

11. Indicators of programme quality

• As noted above, the new programme was originally built upon the course content of the former programmes. The existing programmes shared various aspects of core Modules and hence assessment procedures and standards. Examiners' reports for all three of these programmes have been consistently positive, and their recommendations are fully discussed and followed up appropriately, with annual reports to the Vice-Chancellor of the action taken. Student feedback (through formal module and course evaluation surveys and staff-student councils) have similarly been consistently positive for all three programmes. Again student comments are followed up and revisions to course content, structure and support have been made where appropriate.

12. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the standard scheme of taught postgraduate award and classification set out in <u>Senate Regulations</u> – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

13. Progression points

As defined in <u>Senate Regulations</u> - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required to withdraw from the course and a recommendation will be made to the Board of Examiners for an intermediate/exit award where appropriate.

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

As defined in <u>Senate Regulations</u> - refer to the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

15. External Examiners reports

The details of the External Examiner(s) for this programme and the most recent External Examiners' reports for this programme can be found at <u>exampapers@Leicester</u> [log-in required]

16. Additional features (e.g. timetable for admissions)



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Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

The University regularly reviews its programmes and modules to ensure that they reflect the current status of the discipline and offer the best learning experience to students. On occasion, it may be necessary to alter particular aspects of a course or module.

MA in International Education

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	60 credits	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	60 credits	Choose an item.
Dissertation/project	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	60 credits	Choose an item.

180 credits in total

Level 7/Year 1 Choose an item.

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	ED7310	Contemporary Issues in International Education	30 credits
Semester 1	ED7311	Introduction to Educational Research Methods	30 credits
Semester 2	ED7320	Dissertation	60 credits

Notes

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	ED7314	^ Pedagogy (Lead Module) **	30 credits
Semester 2	ED7315	^ Pedagogy (Specialist Module)**	30 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	ED7316	Innovation and Reform (Lead Module)**	30 credits
Semester 2	ED7317	Innovation and Reform (Specialist Module)**	30 credits
Semester 2	ED7321	Leadership for Social Justice in Education (Lead Module)**	30 credits
Semester 2	ED7309	Leadership for Social Justice in Education (Specialist Study)**	30 credits

Notes

This is an indicative list of option modules and not definitive of what will be available. Option module choice is also subject to availability, timetabling, student number restrictions and, where appropriate, students having taken appropriate pre-requisite modules.

Entry Requirements:

- 1st degree at a good class 2.2. (UK equivalent) or above
- GPA 3 (US equivalent or above)
- Students whose first language is not English or who have not lived in a country where the first language for at least three years prior to starting the programme must possess an appropriate English Language qualification
- Acceptable evidence includes: GCSE/O-Level English at grade C or above; an overall score of 6.5 in the British Council Test (from October 2010 there is a requirement that a minimum score of 6.0 is obtained in each component); a TOEFL 600 (paper) or 90 (IBT)
- In addition, students should have demonstrable evidence of engaging with education in school or college, either through practical experience as teachers and/or as a substantial element of their degree.

Curriculum: Following completion of the core modules students will be required to specialise in one of six named pathways. The modules required to complete each pathway are listed below.

	Module Code	Module Title	Credits
Compulsory	ED7310	Contemporary Issues in International Education	30
	ED7311	Introduction to Educational Research Methods	30
	ED7320	Dissertation	60
Optional			
	ED7314	^ Pedagogy (Lead Module) **	30
	ED7315	^ Pedagogy (Specialist Module)**	30
	ED7316	Innovation and Reform (Lead Module)**	30
	ED7317	Innovation and Reform (Specialist Module)**	30
	ED7321	Educational (Specialist Study)**	30
	ED7309	Leadership for Social Justice in Education (Lead Module)**	30

** Not all options will run in any particular year.

^ Required for Pedagogy Pathway

~ Required for Innovation and Reform Pathway

♦ Required for Leadership for Social Justice in Education pathway

Candidates who successfully complete the core taught modules, each of the required taught modules for their chosen specialist pathway, and submit a satisfactory dissertation will be awarded a Master of Arts in either:

International Education (Pedagogy) or

International Education (Innovation and Reform) or

International Education (Leadership for Social Justice in Education)

Appendix 2: Module specifications

See taught postgraduate <u>module specification database</u> (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).