

1. Programme Title(s):

MA/MSc/PGDip in Museum Studies

2. Awarding body or institution:

University of Leicester

3. a) Mode of study

Part-time

b) Type of study

Distance 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 for graduates who want to develop a career in the museums, galleries and heritage sector, based on leading museums studies research and practice
- Engage students in the critical development of museums studies as an expanding and maturing academic discipline
- Equip students with the professional knowledge, skills and values appropriate for the needs of a rapidly changing museums, galleries and heritage sector
- Prepare students for further academic research in the area of museums, galleries and heritage

- Produce a qualification which is recognised internationally by other academic bodies and by the museums, galleries and heritage sector
- Provide an inclusive, supportive, and yet challenging, learning environment with access to a range of academic support systems
- Enable wide access to the course of study through distance learning and flexible study arrangements
- Foster within students a motivation and aptitude for intellectual enquiry, critical assessment, creative innovation and a commitment to lifelong learning
- 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.
- Actively develop students' abilities to learn and communicate within a highly diverse and international student and staff body

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

- Demonstrate knowledge of, and be able to critically engage with major theoretical, methodological and professional themes at the forefront of contemporary museum studies
- Enable students to 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 based upon a comprehensive knowledge of museum and gallery studies research
- Locate, select and analyse information relevant to a research project
- Construct arguments and communicate effectively in a diverse and international academic setting
- Demonstrate a range of personal transferable skills, including in time and work management and in written communication
- Perform effectively and utilise their knowledge within professional settings.

Graduates from the MA in Museum Studies by Distance Learning should be able to:

- Plan, execute and write up an extended research project on a museum related topic

Graduates from the MSc in Museum Studies by Distance Learning should be able to:

- Plan, execute and write up an extended research project on science in museums, science museums and collections or utilise a technical or scientific methodology for the investigation of museums

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

University of Leicester Learning & Teaching Strategy 2011-2016

University of Leicester PG Programme Specification Guidance for Completion (updated October 2012)

University of Leicester Guide to Writing Intended Learning Outcomes

University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report

External Examiners' reports

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 museum practice and a range of museum-related 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, feedback, and tutorials Peer-group discussion online (optional) Summer school sessions (optional) Feedback on essays and other assignments Dissertation study guide and handbook Dissertation supervisions and feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments Contributions to online discussion activities Optional written 'tutorials' Dissertation
Concepts		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grasp of major theoretical, methodological and professional principles in contemporary museum studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials Resource-based learning Independent research Tutor support, feedback and tutorials Peer-group discussion online (optional) Summer school sessions (optional) Feedback on essays and other assignments Dissertation study guide Dissertation supervisions and feedback Self-reflection activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments Optional written 'tutorials' Contributions to online discussion activities Dissertation
Techniques		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mastery of range of techniques related to museum work, including museum marketing, audience development, collections management, preventive conservation, strategic resource development, project management, exhibition and interpretive planning, as well as research methods 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials Resource-based learning Research skills units and the Research Skills Guide and study skills training materials on Blackboard Independent research Tutor support, feedback and tutorials Peer-group discussion online (optional) Summer school sessions (optional) Feedback on essays and other assignments Dissertation study guide and handbook Dissertation supervisions and feedback Self-reflection activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments Contributions to online discussion activities Optional written 'tutorials' Dissertation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Critical analysis		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to apply concepts and techniques with independence, rigour and self-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, feedback and tutorials Peer-group discussion online (optional) Summer school sessions (optional) Feedback on essays and other assignments Dissertation study guide Dissertation supervisions and feedback Self-reflection activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments, including self-reflective statements Optional written 'tutorials', Contributions to online discussion activities Dissertation Assignments reflecting on personal 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 Ability to distinguish between relevant and non-relevant material Ability to write-up and deliver reports on findings to a professional standard 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials, particularly the Research Skills Guide and study skills training materials on Blackboard Resource-based learning Tutor support, feedback and tutorials Summer school sessions (optional) Feedback on essays and other assignments Dissertation study guide and Student Handbook Dissertation supervisions and feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments Optional written 'tutorials', Contributions to online discussion activities Dissertation
Appraisal of evidence		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to analyse and assess a variety of complex museological and practical museum issues and concepts Ability to mount and sustain an independent level of inquiry 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, feedback and tutorials Peer-group discussion online (optional) Summer school sessions (optional) Feedback on essays and other assignments Dissertation study guide Dissertation supervisions and feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments Optional written 'tutorials' Contributions to online discussion activities Dissertation Assignments reflecting on personal 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 relevant ethical issues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials Research skills units The Research Skills Guide (on Blackboard) Module assignment feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments Written 'tutorials' (optional) Contributions to online discussion activities Dissertation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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"> Tutor support, tutorials and feedback Self-directed learning, and progressive modes of assessment, culminating in dissertation supervision Summer School research skills sessions (optional) 	
Communication skills		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to communicate views, needs and concerns effectively in the context of international working relationships Ability to write cogently and coherently at an appropriate academic level Ability to write cogently and coherently at a level appropriate to museum, gallery and heritage contexts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Induction unit Research skills units The Research Skills Guide Study skills guidance on Blackboard, and at Summer School (optional) Peer-group discussion online (optional) Self-directed learning Assignment feedback Dissertation supervisions, study guide, and feedback Written 'tutorials' (optional) The preparation of ethics consent forms and information sheets for research participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments Written 'tutorials' (optional), Contributions to online discussion activities Dissertation
Data presentation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to present research clearly and effectively using appropriate digital media resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research skills units The Research Skills Guide Study skills guidance on Blackboard Student Handbook Self-directed learning Assignment feedback Dissertation feedback Written 'tutorials' (optional) and tutor feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments Contributions to online activities Written 'tutorials' (optional) Dissertation
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) 	<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 Tutorials and tutor 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tutor support Peer-group discussion online (optional) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments Written 'tutorials' (optional)

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peer assessment (where appropriate) • Knowledge of how and when to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials • Summer School tutorials and discussions (optional) • Written 'tutorials' (optional) • Dissertation supervision 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contributions to online discussions and activities • Dissertation
Managing learning		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to identify, find, 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 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Induction unit • Self-directed learning using module study guide and accompanying study materials, particularly research skills units, the Research Skills Guide and study skills training on Blackboard • Tutor support • Peer-group discussion online (optional) • Summer school sessions (optional) • Production of student file of press cuttings and other relevant material (optional) • Feedback on essays and other assignments • Dissertation study guide and handbook Dissertation supervisions and feedback 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments • Contributions to online discussions and activities • Dissertation
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 (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) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essays, projects, reports and other written assignments • Optional written 'tutorials' • Contributions to online discussions • Dissertation • Assignments reflecting on personal learning

10. Special features:

- Annual Summer School
- 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 exhibition and 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 discussion
- Case-study work
- Problem-solving
- Written and online communication skills
- 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	MU7505	Locating Museums: Communities and Contexts	30
	MU7506	Managing Resources in the Museum	30
	MU7507	Engaging Visitors and Audiences	30
	MU7508	Planning Projects and Designing Interpretive Exhibitions	30
	MU7509	Dissertation*	60

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

Qualifications Awarded:

- 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 museums, science museums and collections or utilises a technical or scientific methodology for the investigation of museums.

Appendix 2: Module Specifications

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