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

   a) MSc Risk, Crisis and Disaster Management (RCDM)/Postgraduate Diploma*/Postgraduate Certificate*

   * These awards are only available as exit awards, and are not available for students to register onto.

   b) HECOS Code

HECOS CODE	%
101040	10
100823	90

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 for the MSc Risk, Crisis and Disaster Management is 24 months

   The maximum period of registration for the MSc Risk, Crisis and Disaster Management is 48 months

5. **Typical entry requirements:**

   Candidates should normally have at least one of the following:

   - a good second-class (or above) Undergraduate honours degree from a recognised HEI
   - a postgraduate diploma from a recognised HEI
   - a relevant graduate level professional qualification.

   Applicants without an Undergraduate degree should have at least three years of relevant work experience. Relevant, in the case, can be defined involving management of risk, safety, security, disaster, development, or conflict. Students admitted on this basis of work experience are required to pass a written assessment (1,500 words). The assessment is marked by the Programme Leader as Pass or Fail at the 50% postgraduate threshold. Feedback is made available on request.

   Where English is not the applicants first language, applicants must satisfy the University of Leicester, School of Business English language requirements which can be found here https://le.ac.uk/study/research-degrees/entry-reqs/eng-lang-reqs/ielts-65.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning:

Accreditation of prior learning is a rarity for this programme. Exemptions of up to 30 credits are decided case by case based on evidence and prior achievement of the learning outcomes either for the module 3 (**Managing Risk, Crisis and Disasters**) or module 4 (**Emergency Planning Management**) within last five years. There will be no exemptions for the theory modules (**Theories of Risk, Crisis and Disasters** and **Disaster Risk Reduction and International Development**) and **Research Methods and Dissertation**. The Decision to exempt 30 credits is made by the Programme Leader.

7. Programme aims:

By the end of this programme I should have:

- an interdisciplinary understanding of risk, crisis and disaster management;
- an understanding of the main theories, models, frameworks, and techniques of management and leadership pertaining to risk, crisis, disaster and international development;
- the skill to apply my knowledge to real-life situations or scenarios with a view to making a significant contribution to disaster risk reduction, disaster risk management, sustainable development, risk communication and leadership;
- the ability to think critically to appraise data, information and opinions on matters pertaining to risk, crisis, disaster and international development;
- the aptitude to design and carry out a project (i.e. work based project or research dissertation) in a clear, objective and replicable manner, such that my peers and other can understand the methodology and findings;
- an education that will enable me to follow a variety of (current and future) careers, including higher degrees and research, and assist me with developing my skills and professional competence.

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

External reference points:

- QAA document on Master's degree characteristics 2015
- The United Nation's Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030
- The United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals 2015-2030
- The Civil Contingency Act 2004
- The United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change 2015-2020
- The European Commissions' Energy, Climate Change, Environmental Policies
- Health and Safety legislation

9. Programme Outcomes:

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

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies		
Knowledge		
Certificate Knowledge of a core of risk, crisis and disaster management subjects including systems thinking, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Sustainable Development Goals, the Climate Change Convention, gender/gender mainstreaming, human security and resilience topics.	**Certificate** Asynchronous lectures and e-seminars, tutorials, case studies, faculty mediated discussion forums, private study and directed reading using ReadingLists@Leicester.ac.uk Feedback: formative and summative.	**Certificate** Essays (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX, annotated bibliography (individual) (MN7631), critical review of an article (group) (MN7631), test (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX).
Diploma In addition to the core knowledge outlined above, knowledge of leadership, organisational culture, organisational behaviour, risk communication, health and safety, contingency planning topics.	**Diploma** As above	**Diploma** In addition to the above: reflective essay (individual) (MN7632), reports (individual) (MN7632, MN7636) and emergency response plan (group) (MN7636).
Masters In addition to the above knowledge of the research methods used in risk, crisis and disaster management research and what constitutes methodology. Ability to synthesise and integrate knowledge across the core risk, crisis, disaster management and development subjects.	**Masters** In addition to the above, the project process, research methods training.	**Masters** In addition to the above the research or work-related project proposal and project (MN7637).

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Concepts		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to explain the core concepts of risk, crisis, disaster and development management in an international context. Ability to analyse risk, crisis, disaster and development interfaces. Ability to critique risk, crisis, disaster and development management policies and planning in light of core concepts. Ability to construct a risk/vulnerability/hazard assessment and an emergency response plan for minimising the impact of risks, crises and disasters in an international context. **Masters** In addition to the above, ability to apply the core concepts and tools to analyse community focus or organisational case studies within their workplace context.	**Certificate and Diploma** Asynchronous lectures and seminars, tutorials, case studies, faculty mediated discussion forums, assignment feedback, private study and directed reading using ReadingLists@Leicester.ac.uk **Masters** In addition to the above, the project supervision (one-to-one).	**Certificate and Diploma** Essays (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX), annotated bibliography (individual) (MN7631), critical review of an article (group) (MN7631), tests (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX), reflective essay (individual) (MN7632), reports (individual) (MN7632, MN7636) and emergency response plan (group) (MN7636). **Masters** In addition to the above the project proposal and project (MN7637).

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Techniques		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to: demonstrate knowledge of key theories and concepts; select relevant material from academic readings and demonstrate familiarity with the conventions of academic writing and associated referencing techniques; undertake qualitative, numerical and statistical evaluation as a means to analyse risk, crisis, disaster and development problems. **Masters** In addition to the above, mastery of a range of methodological tools used to investigate topics in risk, crisis, disaster management and development. Ability to differentiate the conditions when either qualitative or quantitative data analysis should be used and/or be able to identify the conditions under which it is appropriate to combine different techniques.	**Certificate and Diploma** Asynchronous lectures and seminars, problem-solving activities, tutorials, case studies, online exercises, faculty-mediated discussion forums; assignment feedback (formative and summative), private study and directed reading using ReadingLists@Leicester.ac.uk **Masters** In addition to the above, the dissertation supervision process (one-to-one), asynchronous lectures and seminars to support the preparation of the research proposal.	**Certificate and Diploma** Essays (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX), annotated bibliography (individual) (MN7631), critical review of an article (group) (MN7631), tests (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX), reflective essay (individual) (MN7632), reports (individual) (MN7632, MN7636) and emergency response plan (group) (MN7636). **Masters** In addition to the above the research or work-related research proposal and dissertation (MN7637).
Critical analysis		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to reflect critically on theories and practices of risk, crisis, disaster and development and their management in an international context. **Masters** In addition to the above, demonstrate understanding of different cultural, environmental and organisational contexts and to appreciate theory and practice appropriate to these contexts.	**Certificate and Diploma** Asynchronous lectures and seminars, discussion forums, independent research, private study and directed reading using ReadingLists@Leicester.ac.uk **Masters** In addition to the above, the presentation of a substantial piece of research culminating in the project document.	**Certificate and Diploma** Essays (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX), annotated bibliography (individual) (MN7631), critical review of an article (group) (MN7631), tests (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX), reflective essay (individual) (MN7632), reports (individual) (MN7632, MN7636) and emergency response plan (group) (MN7636). **Masters** In addition to the above the project proposal and project (MN7637).

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Presentation		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to differentiate between relevant and non-relevant material; to write up and deliver written work to a professional standard. **Masters** In addition to the above, ability to organise research material in a manner appropriate to the medium that is to be assessed (i.e. professional report, research proposal or dissertation)	**Certificate and Diploma** Asynchronous lectures and seminars, faculty mediated discussion forums, private study and directed reading using ReadingLists@Leicester.ac.uk **Masters** In addition to the above, the presentation of a substantial project proposal culminating in the project.	**Certificate and Diploma** Essays (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX), annotated bibliography (individual) (MN7631), critical review of an article (group) (MN7631), tests (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX), reflective essay (individual) (MN7632), reports (individual) (MN7632, MN7636) and emergency response plan (group) (MN7636). **Masters** In addition to the above the project proposal and project (MN7637).
Appraisal of evidence		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to locate, organise and assess data, analyse complex ideas and understand and criticise different arguments. **Masters** In addition to the above, ability to mount and sustain an independent level of inquiry at an advanced level.	**Certificate and Diploma** Asynchronous lectures and seminars, group discussion forums, independent research, private study and directed reading using ReadingLists@Leicester.ac.uk **Masters** Proposal and project.	**Certificate and Diploma** Essays (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX), annotated bibliography (individual) (MN7631), critical review of an article (group) (MN7631), tests (individual) (MN7631, MNXXXX), reflective essay (individual) (MN7632), reports (individual) (MN7632, MN7636) and emergency response plan (group) (MN7636). **Masters** In addition to the above the project proposal and project (MN7637).

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(b) Transferable skills		
Research skills		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to demonstrate intellectual independence, through identifying a credible research project, drawing up a realistic time-table, reflecting on and 'writing up' results. **Masters** In addition to the above, ability to plan research projects based on focused research questions, conduct significant background research and literature surveys, collect and analyse data which is relevant to research questions, report on findings demonstrating an ability to critique the data from competing viewpoints, construct an informed critical argument at an advanced level.	**Certificate and Diploma** Research methodology module, supervision, independent research and group work. **Masters** In addition to the above, the project supervision process (one-to-one), independent research.	**Certificate and Diploma** Essays (MN7631, MNXXXX), reports (MN7632, MN7636), emergency response plan (MN7636), critical review of an article (formative and summative) (MN7631) and tests (MN7631, MNXXXX). **Masters** In addition to the above, the research proposal, ethics review and project (MN7637).
Communication skills		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to work collaboratively and responsibly in groups from distance. Knowing how and when to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others. Ability to contribute and comment on ideas in group discussion forums on Blackboard. Ability to demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in written expression of risk, crisis and disaster management issues and debates in a manner appropriate to the audience. **Masters** In addition to the above, ability to produce a research proposal and dissertation that is logically structured and written with clarity and precision.	**Certificate and Diploma** Asynchronous lectures and e-seminars, discussion forums, problem solving exercises through case study scenarios. **Masters** In addition to the above, the project supervision process (one-to-one), independent research.	**Certificate and Diploma** Critical review of an article and emergency response plan (groups) (MN7631, MN7636), contribution to discussion forums and assignments (MN7631, MNXXXX, MN7632, MN7636, MN7637). **Masters** In addition to the above the project proposal and project (MN7637).

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Data presentation		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to locate, organise and marshal evidence, and articulate it accurately in a written and visual format, in a manner appropriate for the required audience. **Masters** Ability to organise research data into graphical and statistical summaries where relevant.	**Certificate and Diploma** Asynchronous lectures, case study exercises, private study and directed reading using ReadingLists@Leicester.ac.uk **Masters** In addition to the above, the project supervision process (one-to-one), independent research and seminars designed to support the preparation of the project proposal.	**Certificate and Diploma** Essays (MN7631, MNXXXX), tests (MN7631, MNXXXX), reflective essay (MN7632), reports (MN7632, MN7636) and emergency response plan (MN7636). **Masters** In addition to the above the project proposal and project (MN7637).
Information technology		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to construct and present quantitative and qualitative data clearly, effectively using IT sources where appropriate. **Masters** In addition to the above, ability to use, if necessary, data analysis software that is relevant to a dissertation (e.g. SPSS, NVivo, Stata).	**Certificate and Diploma** Asynchronous lectures, case study exercises, private study and directed reading using ReadingLists@Leicester.ac.uk **Masters** In addition to the above, the project supervision process (one-to-one), independent research and seminars and masterclasses designed to support the preparation of the project proposal.	**Certificate and Diploma** Essays (MN7631, MNXXXX), tests (MN7631, MNXXXX), reflective essay (MN7632), reports (MN7632, MN7636) and emergency response plan (MN7636). **Masters** In addition to the above the project proposal and project (MN7637).

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Problem solving		
Certificate, Diploma and Masters Ability to refine problems into researchable questions. Ability to identify and locate relevant data and source material. Ability to use material to address problem and come up with answers or solutions.	**Certificate and Diploma** Asynchronous lectures on research methods, interactive module material text and independent research. **Masters** In addition to the above, the project supervision process (one-to-one).	**Certificate and Diploma** Essays (MN7631, MNXXXX), tests (MN7631, MNXXXX), reflective essay (MN7632), reports (MN7632, MN7636) and emergency response plan (MN7636). **Masters** In addition to the above the project proposal and project (MN7637).
Working relationships		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to work collaboratively and responsibly in groups from distance. **Masters** In addition to the above, knowing how and when to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others; ability to contribute and comment on ideas in group discussion forums.	**Certificate and Diploma** Asynchronous lectures and e-seminars, group work. **Masters** In addition to the above, the establishment of a working relationship with the project supervisor (or the resolution of any problems through consultation with the Personal Tutor, Module Coordinator, Programme Leader and the Distance Learning Hub).	**Certificate and Diploma** Group discussion forums (MN7631, MNXXXX, MN7632, MN7636), group exercises (MN7631, MN7636) and group assignments (MN7636). **Masters** In addition to the above the project proposal and project (MN7637).
Managing learning		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to plan and construct responses to a brief, drawing upon a range of appropriate sources. Ability to reflect upon behaviour and skills with a view to personal and professional development. **Masters** In addition to the above, ability to identify a credible research project, construct a feasible research timetable, carry out independent research.	**Certificate and Diploma** Independent research, asynchronous lectures, group work, directed reading using ReadingLists@Leicester.ac.uk , exercises, group discussion forums, peer to peer feedback, problem solving exercises. **Masters** In addition to the above, the project supervision process (one-to-one).	**Certificate and Diploma** Assignment essays (MN7631, MNXXXX), reports (MN7632, MN7636), emergency response plan (MN7636) and tests (MN7631, MN7637). Group and individual exercises (MN7631, MNXXXX, MN7636), discussion within forums (MN7631, MNXXXX, MN7632, MN7636), case study exercises (MN7631, MNXXXX, MN7632, MN7636). **Masters** In addition to the above the project proposal and project (MN7637).

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Career management		
Certificate and Diploma Ability to reflect on motivation, strengths, interests and skills with a view to personal and professional development.	**Certificate and Diploma** Independent research, asynchronous lectures, group work, directed reading using ReadingLists@Leicester.ac.uk , exercises, group discussion forums, peer to peer feedback, problem solving exercises.	**Certificate and Diploma** Group and individual exercises (MN7631, MNXXXX, MN7636), discussion within forums (MN7631, MNXXXX, MN7632, MN7636), case study exercises (MN7631, MNXXXX, MN7632, MN7636).
Masters In addition to the above, if appropriate, ability to research an area which may be relevant to the student's career preferences.	**Masters** In addition to the above, the project supervision process (one-to-one).	**Masters** Project (MN7637).

10. **Special features**

- The programme attracts students who have careers in similar/same fields and look to this MSc as a way of enhancing and developing skills to lead them to a higher level of management. The programme is therefore designed to promote independent learning to help students to manage their busy work, life and studies.
- The course will be delivered electronically and thus, makes significant use of innovative and interactive e-learning approaches, such as the use of video lectures, Collaborate software for e-seminars, discussion forums on Blackboard, Skype for meetings and ReadingLists@Leicester.ac.uk
- For this programme, having a first degree is not an essential pre-requisite. There have been many students (since 1997) who have graduated from this programme, although they did not have a previous first degree (some of whom left school at 16). Some of these students have proceeded to MPhil/PhD. This programme strives to improve *access to education* through high-quality tutoring and teaching of those with limited education (but often exceptional careers). The School of Business's pre-course introduction to studying flexible learning at higher education and formative sessions on **academic writing and language skills** as part of Module 1 will help the students with no academic background or first degree to prepare for distance learning and develop their academic writing skills.
- To support their career planning and career management, students will work with Leicester's Career Development Service. Guest speakers from the sector will be invited to prepare students with the essential subject specific skills and knowledge that are typically required for risk, crisis, disaster and development managers.
- Students are able to attend the University of Leicester's School of Business' Masterclasses throughout their studies. The Leicester Masterclass is an annual week-long event that is open to all students and alumni. The Masterclass is programme and module agnostic, drawing on key contemporary business and management themes and issues which have relevance to all School of Business students. The week is an immersive face to face experience which utilises multi-format delivery and is designed to contribute to the development of core practical and networking skills to assist the student through their studies and support them with independent research. Students who are unable to attend the Masterclasses in person will be able to access the tailored Mini Module for this programme via Blackboard.

11. Indicators of programme quality

Academic quality will be maintained by adhering to the School of Business' practice and University of Leicester's regulations. Programmes are carefully planned and reviewed internally on a yearly basis through the ADR mechanism. External examiners of programme content and marking will provide external validation and comparison to programmes offered by competitors. Coordination and alignment between the programme teaching team and professional services ensures a consistent and high-quality academic experience for the students.

12. Scheme of Assessment:

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study.

13. Progression points

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study.

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

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes of study.

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 exampapers@Leicester [log-in required]

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

There will be two intakes each year: February and October.

Module sessions will always run from February to May, June to September, October to January, February to May and June to January.

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

Module code	Module title	Credits
MN7631	Theories of Risk, Crisis and Disasters	30
MN7638	Disaster Risk Reduction and International Development	30
MN7632	Managing Risk, Crisis and Disasters	30
MN7636	Emergency Planning Management	30
MN7637	Research Methods and Project	60

Appendix 2: Module specifications

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