Programme Specification (Postgraduate)
For students entering in 2020/21
Date created: January 2019

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

   MA/MSc/PGDip/PGCert/single module studies in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries

2. **Awarding body or institution:**

   University of Leicester

3. **a) Mode of study:**

   Part-time

   b) Type of study:

   Flexible Learning

4. **Registration periods:**

   The minimum period of registration for the MA/MSc is 24 months

   The maximum period of registration for the MA/MSc is 48 months

   The minimum period of registration for the PGDip is 18 months

   The maximum period of registration for the PGDip is 36 months

   The minimum period of registration for the PGCert is 8.5 months

   The maximum period of registration for the PGCert is 26 months

   The minimum period of registration for a single 30 credit module is 4 months

   The maxiumum period of registration for a single 30 credit module is 12 months

   Students can apply for entry to the MA/MSc, PGDip or PGCert; it is then possible for students to switch between programmes during the course of their studies. It is also possible to register for a single module, for which students will receive the award of credit.

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:**

Accreditation of Prior Learning will be accepted from students who already hold 30 credits from this programme provided that students return to their studies within 5 years. We will not accredit prior learning from any other programme. The available maximum period of registration for a returning student who holds 30 credits will be allocated on a pro-rata basis (according to the students intended award).

Students who graduate with a PGCert (60 credits) or PGDip (120 credits) or who have 90 credits on this programme, may return within five years to this programme under resumption of studies regulations to register for a higher award (i.e. PGDip or MA/MSc). Such students would rescind their existing award, and their maximum period of registration will be the time remaining for their intended award (i.e. maximum period minus time already taken).

7. **Programme aims:**

The programme in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries aims to support students to identify, analyse, and develop socially-engaged practice in museums, galleries, and similar cultural and heritage work. This course takes as its starting point that museums and practitioners have a role in shaping society's understandings of contemporary issues, upholding values of inclusivity and accessibility, and ensuring that museums benefit their communities.

More specifically, the programme aims to:

1. give students the knowledge, expertise and skills to effectively and strategically advocate for socially purposeful and socially engaged museum and gallery practice;
2. expose students to international examples and debates around values-driven museum work and encourage students to reflect on their own values in relation to those of a given institution;
3. enhance students' abilities to think critically, present complex ideas, form sophisticated arguments, and produce professional work.
4. provide students with professional mentoring and access to expertise from leading professionals in the sector
5. offer opportunities to put notions of socially engaged practice into action in museum, gallery, or heritage settings, and reflect on the outcomes of such work;
6. develop expertise in establishing effective partnerships for socially engaged practice
7. foster professional skills in museum-specific research methodologies, and enable students to apply research thinking and research approaches to practice;
8. equip students with the necessary knowledge and skills to undertake independent academic research as evidenced in the successful production of a dissertation

For single module studies – Module 1
Programme aims 1, 2, and 3

For single module studies – Module 2
Programme aims 1, 2, 3 and 5

For single module studies – Module 3
Programme aims 2, 3, and 7

For the Postgraduate Certificate – Modules 1 and 2
Programme aims 1, 2, 3 and 5

For the Postgraduate Certificate – Modules 1 and 3
Programme aims 1, 2, 3 and 7

For the Postgraduate Certificate – Modules 1 and 4
Programme aims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

For the Postgraduate Certificate – Modules 2 and 3
Programme aims 1, 2, 3, 5 and 7

For the Postgraduate Certificate – Modules 2 and 4
Programme aims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

For the Postgraduate Certificate – Modules 3 and 4
Programme aims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

For the Postgraduate Diploma
Programme aims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7

For the Master of Arts and Master of Science
All programme aims (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8)

8. Reference points used to inform the programme specification:

- [University of Leicester Learning Strategy](#)
- University of Leicester Periodic Developmental Review Report
- External Examiners' reports (annual)
- University of Leicester Employability Strategy
- University of Leicester Transferable Skills Framework and Checklist
- Student evaluation
- Interviews with sector professionals
- University of Leicester Guide to Writing Intended learning Outcomes
- Checklist for Accessible Curriculum Design

9. Programme Outcomes:

The following matrix breaks down the Programme Aims into specific Intended Learning Outcomes that can be demonstrated in particular modules (the modules are referred to as M1 = Module 1; M2 = Module 2, and so on, and are listed in the 'How Demonstrated' column).

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(a) Discipline specific knowledge and competencies		
Knowledge		
Identify and discuss values-driven museum work and reflect on your own values in relation to those of a given institution *ILO relevant to: single module studies; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Mentor contacts (M4 only) Project work (M4 and M5 only) Supervisions (M5 only)	Self-reflective statement (M1) Reflective activities (M1, M2, M3, M4) Discussion activity assessment (M1) Case study assessment (M1) Presentation (M2) Essays (M1, M2) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4) Statement of learning (M4) Dissertation thesis (M5)
Develop expertise in establishing effective partnerships for socially engaged practice *ILO relevant to: PGCert*; PGDip; MA; MSc* **If PGCert includes Module 4*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Mentor contacts (M4 only) Project work (M4 only) Assignment feedback	Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4)
Concepts		
Effectively and strategically advocate for socially purposeful and socially engaged museum and gallery practice *ILO relevant to: single module studies*; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc* **Except Module 3*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Mentor contacts (M4 only) Assignment feedback	Self-reflective statement (M1) Discussion activity assessment (M1) Presentation (M2) Essays (M1 and M2) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4)

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Techniques		
Learn strategies which assist in developing genuine and reciprocal relationships with communities *ILO relevant to: single module studies*; PGCert*; PGDip; MA; MSc* **If Module 2 and/or Module 4 is taken*	Lectures Seminars Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Mentor contacts (M4 only) Project work (M4 only) Assignment feedback	Design of a learning resource (M2) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4)
Put notions of socially engaged practice into action in museum and gallery settings *ILO relevant to: single module studies*; PGCert*; PGDip; MA; MSc* **If Module 2 and/or Module 4 is taken*	Lectures Seminars Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Mentor contacts (M4 only) Project work (M4 only)	Design of a learning resource (M2) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4) Statement of learning (M4)
Develop and reflect upon existing and new working relationships within the sector *ILO relevant to: single module studies*; PGCert*; PGDip; MA; MSc* **If Module 1 and/or Module 4 is taken*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Mentor contacts (M4 only) Project work (M4 only)	Self-reflective statement (M1) Discussion activity assessment (M1) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4) Statement of learning (M4)
Create and support rich and meaningful learning opportunities and experiences around contemporary social issues for visitors and participants *ILO relevant to: single module studies*; PGCert*; PGDip; MA; MSc* **If Module 2 and/or Module 4 is taken*	Lectures Seminars Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Project work (M4 only) Mentor contacts (M4 only) Assignment feedback	Design of a learning resource (M2) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4)

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Critical analysis		
Identify and critique issues relating to audience agency in museums and galleries *ILO relevant to: single module studies*; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc* **Except Module 3*	Lectures Seminars Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Mentor contacts (M4 only) Project work (M4)	Case study assessment (M1) Design of a learning resource (M2) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4)
Presentation		
Show 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 findings to a professional standard *ILO relevant to: single module studies; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Guided independent study including directed reading Supervisions (M5 only) Assignment briefings and feedback Research skills resources Academic writing skills resources	Case study assessment (M1) Presentation (M2) Design of a learning resource (M2) Essays (M1, M2, and M3) Critical review (M3) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4) Statement of learning (M4) Dissertation thesis (M5)
Appraisal of evidence		
Develop skills in museum-specific research methodologies, and apply research thinking and research approaches to practice *ILO relevant to: single module studies*; PGCert*; PGDip; MA; MSc* **If Module 3 and/or Module 4 is taken*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Research skills resources Mentor contacts (M4 only) Supervisions (M5 only)	Essay (M3) Critical review (M3) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Statement of learning (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4) Dissertation thesis (M5)

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
(b) Transferable skills		
Research skills		
Access, retrieve, organise and present information from a variety of sources *ILO relevant to: single module studies; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Research skills resources Supervisions (M5 only) Assignment feedback	Case study assessment (M1) Essays (M1, M2, and M3) Critical review (M3) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Dissertation thesis (M5)
Demonstrate critical thinking and analytical skills *ILO relevant to: single module studies; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Supervisions (M5 only) Research skills resources Assignment feedback Project work (M4 only)	Self-reflective statement (M1) Discussion activity assessment (M1) Case study assessment (M1) Essays (M1, M2, and M3) Critical review (M3) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Statement of learning (M4) Dissertation thesis (M5)
Sustain a complex argument on a focused topic in a coherent and lucid fashion, and present a properly researched, referenced and well-structured dissertation *ILO relevant to: MA; MSc*	Lectures Guided independent study Research skills resources Supervisions (M5 only)	Dissertation thesis (M5)

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Communication skills		
Present complex ideas and sophisticated arguments clearly and effectively in both verbal and written forms *ILO relevant to: single module studies; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Guided independent study including directed reading Academic writing skills resources Supervisions (M5 only) Assignment feedback Research skills resources	Self-reflective statement (M1) Discussion activity assessment (M1) Case study assessment (M1) Design of a learning resource (M2) Essays (M1, M2, and M3) Critical review (M3) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4) Statement of learning (M4) Dissertation thesis (M5)
Data presentation		
Write and present work to a professional standard and to deadlines *ILO relevant to: single module studies; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Guided independent study including directed reading Academic writing skills resources Supervisions (M5 only) Assignment feedback Research skills resources	Self-reflective statement (M1) Case study assessment (M1) Design of a learning resource (M2) Essays (M1, M2, and M3) Critical review (M3) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4) Dissertation thesis (M5)
Information technology		
Demonstrate mastery of digital media skills *ILO relevant to: single module studies; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Academic writing skills resources Supervisions (M5 only) Assignment feedback Research skills resources	Discussion activity assessment (M1) Case study assessment (M1) Design of a learning resource (M2) Essays (M1, M2, and M3) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Dissertation thesis (M5)

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Problem solving		
Effectively solve practical and intellectual problems *ILO relevant to: single module studies; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Mentor contacts (M4 only) Project work (M4 only) Supervisions (M5 only) Assignment feedback Research skills resources	Design of a learning resource (M2) Essays (M1, M2, and M3) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4) Dissertation thesis (M5)
Working relationships		
Work with others in gathering, analysing and discussing information *ILO relevant to: single module studies*; PGCert*; PGDip; MA; MSc* **If Module 1 and/or Module 4 is taken*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Supervisions (M5 only) Research skills resources	Discussion activity assessment (M1) Reflective learning journal (M4) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4)
Managing learning		
Organise and manage study time *ILO relevant to: single module studies; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc*	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Guided independent study including directed reading Academic writing skills resources Supervisions (M5 only) Research skills resources	Discussion activity assessment (M1) Case study assessment (M1) Design of a learning resource (M2) Essays (M1, M2, and M3) Project summary (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4) Dissertation thesis (M5)

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop and manage a timetable for a research project *ILO relevant to: MA; MSc*	Lectures Guided independent study Supervisions (M5 only) Research skills resources	Dissertation thesis (M5)
Career management		
Demonstrate the ability to reflect upon individual professional strengths and identify areas for development *ILO relevant to: single module studies; PGCert; PGDip; MA; MSc*	Lectures Mentor contacts Assignment briefing and feedback (M1 and M4 only) Guided independent study including directed reading Career Development Programme for distance learners	Self-reflective statement (M1) Reflection activities (M1, M2, M3, M4) Discussion activity assessment (M1) Reflective learning journal (M4) Mentor write-ups (M4) Statement of learning (M4)

10. Special features

- Flexibility - Incremental credit accumulation, so students can start by taking just one module and build up to a qualification
- Flexible delivery - online provision as well as options for live teaching via the web and face-to-face delivery
- Designed and taught by leading academics within RCMG who are known internationally for their work on the social role of museums and who continue to direct and shape new museum practice around the world
- Delivered with museum partners who are at the leading edge of socially engaged practice
- A 'project in practice' work-based module to develop professional skills and 'real-world' outputs
- A leading University flexible learning programme in terms of its accessible curriculum
- A Graduate Network focused on lifelong training and networking (Museum Studies Connect)

11. Indicators 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.

Museum partner quality assurance mechanisms.

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.

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 award where appropriate.

MA/MSc/PGDip students will usually be expected to complete the modules in the same sequentially (Module 1 to Module 4/5). PGCert students can choose any combination of the 30 credit modules to study, provided that they do not take Module 4 first. As each module has a start date twice per year, PGCert students who progress without study breaks or suspensions may experience gaps in their study of up to 7 months depending on their module choices. Students will usually be expected to complete each module before progressing to the next. We will not allow students on the MA/MSc/PGDip programmes to continue onto their third module until they have completed two modules (60 credits).

Rules relating to re-sits or re-submissions:

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

14. **External Examiners reports**

The External Examiner for the existing programme is Dr. Theano Moussouri, and the most recent External Examiner report can be found attached.

15. **Additional features** (e.g. timetable for admissions)

- Flexible routes towards an award, including taking a single module, and returning to study within a set period of time.
- Optional face to face (non-core) teaching in Leicester each year. All students who register for this programme will be invited to all Summer Schools taking place while they are a registered student. All students will be invited to at least one Summer School, including those who only study with us for one module (these individuals will be invited to the Summer School following their registration free of charge, even if they have already completed their studies with us.)

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

Module code	Module title	Credits
MU7545	Module 1 - Exploring Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries	30
MU7546	Module 2 - Engaging Audiences: Education, Learning and Participation	30
MU7547	Module 3 - Research and Evaluation for Socially Engaged Museum and Gallery Practice	30
MU7548	Module 4 - Project in Practice: Developing Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries	30
MU7549	Dissertation	60

Appendix 2: Module specifications

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