



## Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2021/22

Date created: n/a

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Version no. Choose an item.

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

MSc in Social Science Research

PG Diploma/PG certificate in MSc in Social Science Research \*

#### 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	%
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### 2. Awarding body or institution

University of Leicester

### 3. a) Mode of study

Full-time or part-time

#### b) Type of study

Campus-based

### 4. Registration periods

The normal period of registration for the MSc in Social Science Research is 12 months for FT/ 24 months for PT

The maximum period of registration for the MSc in Social Science Research is 24 months for FT / 48 months for PT

### 5. Typical entry requirements

Students undertaking the programme as part of a 1+3 ESRC award must be accepted by one of the pathway Schools/Departments as a PhD Student and have been successful in the funding selection process for the Midlands Graduate School ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership.

### 6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

Exemptions may be granted for specific modules of the programme. The decision to grant any exemptions will be based on the evidence of prior achievement of the learning outcomes associated with the relevant module(s) from which exemption is sought. Normally the prior learning must have been achieved within the last five years. The maximum amount of APL permitted is half of the taught components of a degree programme.

Applications for APL will be assessed by the Programme Director and the relevant Academic Pathway Lead. Applicants should provide documented evidence of prior learning together with a covering statement of the module(s) for which they seek exemption and a rationale. No mark will be awarded for module(s) covered by APL; the candidate's overall result (Pass, Merit, Distinction) will be decided on the basis of marks awarded in non-APL modules taken on the programme.

## **7. Programme aims**

The programme is designed to meet the ESRC's compulsory core training requirements for all ESRC-funded students and to produce graduates with rigorous research and analytical skills, appropriate to progression to PhD research or as high-level researchers in their chosen field of employment (e.g. as researchers within public service, marketing or non-governmental organisations).

The programme aims to enable graduates to:

- gain a developed understanding of the epistemological and ontological debates that frame and motivate social science research and its methodology;
- an advanced understanding of the diverse methods and practices of social science research;
- develop the ability to provide critical reflection on established research and to apply these criticisms reflexively to their own research practice;
- develop as creative and rigorous researchers;
- be sensitive to ethical questions in research that informs their research practice;
- apply these insights both to general questions in social science research and in relation to their pathway discipline.

For ESRC (1+3) students, the programmes will fulfil a condition of the University's membership of the Midlands Graduate School ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership.

## **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

## **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

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Knowledge of generic and advanced social science research methods and principles of social science research design.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>In-seminar discussion; assessed essays; a group poster project (Research Design, Practice, and Ethics).</p>
<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, knowledge of discipline-specific research methods.</p>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, in Media &amp; Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations</p>
<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, the ability to design, execute and report on a piece of social science research in the pathway discipline.</p>	<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, individual supervision of dissertation research.</p>	<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, a research proposal (an assessment element in pathway modules) and the dissertation.</p>

ii) Concepts

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>An advanced and critical understanding of key concepts in social science methodology. Familiarity with ideas and debates in the epistemological and ontological assumptions of research practice.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>In-seminar discussion; assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).</p>
<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, advanced knowledge of concepts from the relevant pathway discipline and their application in research.</p>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, in Media &amp; Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations</p>

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, advanced knowledge of concepts from the relevant pathway discipline and their application in research.	<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, individual supervision of dissertation research.	<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, a research proposal (an assessment element in all pathway modules) and the dissertation.

iii) Techniques

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
<b>Certificate</b> 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 systems.	<b>Certificate</b> Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.	<b>Certificate</b> In-seminar discussion; assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).
Knowledge of, and the ability to describe and evaluate, a variety of qualitative and quantitative social science research techniques.	Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.	In-seminar discussion; assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).
Awareness of the ethics of social research and their implications for social science research design and research practice.	Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.	In-seminar discussion; assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).
<b>Diploma</b> In addition to the above, familiarity with research techniques in the pathway discipline.	<b>Diploma</b> Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.	<b>Diploma</b> In addition to the above, in Media & Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations
<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, familiarity with research techniques in the pathway discipline.	<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, individual supervision of dissertation research.	<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, a research proposal (an assessment element in all pathway modules) and the dissertation.

iv) Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Ability to analyse critically a variety of social science research methods and their application. An awareness of the relationship between theory and method.</p> <p>Ability to recognise the limitations of research approaches and to apply concepts and techniques critically.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>In-seminar discussion; assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).</p>
<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>Familiarity with key debates in methodology in the pathway discipline.</p>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, in Media &amp; Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations</p>
<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>Familiarity with key debates in methodology in the pathway discipline.</p>	<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, individual supervision of dissertation research.</p>	<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, a research proposal (an assessment element in all pathway modules) and the dissertation.</p>

v) Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Ability to differentiate between relevant and non-relevant material; to present written work to a professional academic standard.</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>In-seminar discussion; assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).</p>
<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>Ability to differentiate between relevant and non-relevant material; to present written work to a professional academic standard.</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, in Media &amp; Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations</p>

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, ability to organize research material in a manner appropriate to the medium that is to be assessed (i.e. the research proposal and dissertation)	Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.	<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, a research proposal (an assessment element in all pathway modules) and the dissertation.

vi) Appraisal of evidence

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
Ability to analyse and assess the adequacy of data to answer specific research questions.	<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.  <b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, individual supervision and conduct of dissertation research.	<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> In-seminar discussion; assessed essays.  <b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, the dissertation.
Ability to draw reasonable conclusions based on evidence.	<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.  <b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, individual supervision and conduct of dissertation research.	<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> In-seminar discussion; assessed essays.  <b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, the dissertation.
Ability to evaluate the reliability and validity of data collection methods and analyses.	<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.  <b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, individual supervision and conduct of dissertation research.	<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> In-seminar discussion; assessed essays.  <b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, the dissertation.

**b) Transferable skills**

i) Research skills

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
Ability to apply knowledge of theoretical, practical and ethical dimensions of research to research practice.	<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p> <p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, individual supervision and conduct of dissertation research</p>	<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>In-seminar discussion; assessed essays.</p> <p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, a research proposal (an assessment element in all pathway modules) and the dissertation.</p>
Ability to locate, collect, organise and analyse data sets of varying complexity and develop appropriate critical interpretation skills in relation to a range of data types.	<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p> <p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, individual supervision and conduct of dissertation research</p>	<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>In-seminar discussion; assessed essays.</p> <p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, a research proposal (an assessment element in all pathway modules) and the dissertation.</p>

ii) Communication skills

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Effective writing and presentation style in dealing with complex data sets and methodological questions in a manner appropriate to the audience.</p> <p>Ability to work collaboratively and responsibly in a group.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>In-seminar discussion; assessed essays.</p>

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, ability to demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in written expression of discipline-relevant issues and debates.</p>	<p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p>In-seminar discussion; assessed essays.</p>
<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, ability to demonstrate clarity, fluency and coherence in written expression of discipline-relevant issues and debates.</p>	<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, individual supervision for the dissertation.</p>	<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, a research proposal (an assessment element in all pathway modules) and the dissertation.</p>

iii) Data presentation

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Ability to present research clearly and effectively in appropriate forms including data visualisation and written accounts of data and data analysis.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).</p>
<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>Ability to present research clearly and effectively in appropriate forms including data visualisation and written accounts of data and data analysis.</p>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, in Media &amp; Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations</p>
<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>Ability to manage and organise data.</p> <p>Ability to use graphical and statistical methods to summarise data when appropriate to do so.</p>	<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, individual supervision and conduct of dissertation research.</p>	<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, the dissertation.</p>



iv) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Ability to use appropriate computer software to present written work and support of academic study.</p> <p>Ability to use on-line resources to locate and access data.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).</p>
<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>Ability to use appropriate computer software to present written work and support of academic study.</p> <p>Ability to use on-line resources to locate and access data.</p>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, in Media &amp; Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations</p>
<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, ability to construct and present quantitative and qualitative data clearly, using relevant statistical and data analysis software as appropriate.</p>	<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, individual supervision and conduct of dissertation research.</p>	<p><b>MSc</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, the dissertation.</p>

v) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p>Ability to identify appropriate quantitative and qualitative approaches to the analysis of data and solve problems in the selection and refinement of interpretations of complex data.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).</p>

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
Ability to identify appropriate quantitative and qualitative approaches to the analysis of data and solve problems in the selection and refinement of interpretations of complex data.	<b>Diploma</b> Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.	<b>Diploma</b> In addition to the above, in Media & Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations
Ability to identify appropriate quantitative and qualitative approaches to the analysis of data and solve problems in the selection and refinement of interpretations of complex data.	<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, individual supervision and conduct of dissertation research.	<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, the dissertation.

vi) Working relationships

<b>Intended Learning Outcomes</b>	<b>Teaching and Learning Methods</b>	<b>How Demonstrated?</b>
Ability to know how and when to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others.	<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> Seminars and group work.  <b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, establishing an effective working relationship with the dissertation supervisor and relevant academic colleagues (e.g. personal tutor, module and programme leaders); the conduct of dissertation research	<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> Seminars; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).  <b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, the dissertation.
Ability to contribute to and comment on ideas in group discussions.	<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> Seminars and group work.  <b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, establishing an effective working relationship with the dissertation supervisor and relevant academic colleagues (e.g. personal tutor, module and programme leaders); the conduct of dissertation research	<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> Seminars; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).  <b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, the dissertation.

vii) Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>Ability to plan and construct responses to a brief, drawing upon a range of appropriate sources, and meet submission deadlines.</p>	<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).</p> <p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, in Media &amp; Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations</p>
<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>Ability to manage self-guided learning.</p>	<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).</p> <p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, in Media &amp; Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations</p>
<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>Ability to make use of a variety of learning methods to deal with different research questions and data analysis methods.</p>	<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).</p> <p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, in Media &amp; Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations</p>
<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>Ability to reflect upon behaviour and skills with a view to personal and professional development.</p>	<p><b>Certificate and Diploma</b></p> <p>Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.</p>	<p><b>Certificate</b></p> <p>Assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).</p> <p><b>Diploma</b></p> <p>In addition to the above, in Media &amp; Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations</p>

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above: ability to identify a suitable research topic; construct a viable research design and a feasible research timetable; carry out independent research and reflect upon the research findings and the research process.	<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, individual supervision and conduct of dissertation research.	<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, the dissertation.

viii) Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> Ability to relate the knowledge and expertise acquired in the programme with a current or future personal career plan.	<b>Certificate and Diploma</b> Lectures, seminars, directed reading, independent study, formative and summative assignment feedback.	<b>Certificate</b> Assessed essays; a group poster project (Foundations in Qualitative Research).  <b>Diploma</b> In addition to the above, in Media & Communication, History, and Health Sciences pathways: oral presentations
<b>MSc</b> Ability to use the MSc research project as a basis for the design and realisation of a PhD project.	<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, individual supervision of the dissertation.	<b>MSc</b> In addition to the above, the dissertation

## 10. Special features

The programme follows the requirements of the ESRC for Masters as the first year of a 1+3 award. The core modules will be delivered by the School of Media, Communication and Sociology and pathway modules by the relevant schools. The complexity of the programme requires collaboration and administrative support across a range of stakeholders which are outlined in the supporting document on programme administration.

This programme has been developed primarily as a vehicle for students in receipt of an ESRC award for PGR studies at the University of Leicester and under the auspices of the Midlands Graduate School, ESRC Doctoral Training Partnership led by Warwick University. Students with a 1 +3 award from the ESRC will be registered as PGR students in the relevant School/Department and for the MSc in Social Science Research. The programme will be led by the School of Media, Communication and Sociology with pathways provided by partner schools/departments. The pathway titles follow those assigned to them in the DTP, and these are not necessarily the same as the Leicester department/school where they are based, see table below

Pathway Title	Host Department/School
Communication and Media	Media, Communication and Sociology
Economic and Social History	History, Politics and International Relations
Health and Well Being	Health Sciences
Human Geography	Geography, Geology and Environment
Museum Studies	Museum Studies

The programme complements the existing MSc in Social Research currently offered by MCS. An advantage of hosting the programme in MCS is that the existing teaching team delivering this cognate Masters programme in Social Science will contribute to the Masters in Social Science Research. Two of the core modules in Social Research will be core on the Masters in Social Science Research. In addition, an optional advanced Quantitative Methods module on the Masters in Social Research will also be core on the Masters in Social Science Research. This represents 60 credits of overlap between the two programmes. The fourth core module (20 credits), the pathway options (40 credits) and the dissertation module (60 credits) on the proposed Masters in Social Science Research are non-overlapping with the existing provision in the Masters in Social Research.

The contributing academic staff within the programme incorporate their research specialisms into the teaching and relevant high-level research and teaching skills appropriate to a research-intensive Master's programme.

### **11. Indicators of programme quality**

The core modules of the programme draw on the established quality of the teaching team in Media, Communication and Sociology and specifically on those involved in the delivery of the Masters in Social Research. The quality of the MSc in Social Research has been recognised by the external examiner and by students. Pathway modules are drawn from existing provision, their quality has been recognised by external examiners and by students, including those who have continued to doctoral study.

### **12. Criteria for award and classification**

This programme follows the standard scheme of taught postgraduate award and classification set out in [Senate Regulations](#) – see the version of *Senate Regulation 6 governing taught postgraduate programmes of study* relevant to year of entry.

### **13. Progression points**

As defined in [Senate Regulations](#) - 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 they 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 [Senate Regulations](#) - 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 [exampapers@Leicester](mailto:exampapers@Leicester) [log-in required]

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

n/a

## Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2021/22

Date created: May 2020 Last amended: 26/02/2021

Version no. Choose an item.

### 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.

The MSc in Social Science Research consists of four core 20 credit modules and 40 credits of pathway specific modules in one of Communication and Media, Economic and Social History, Human Geography, Museum Studies and Health and Wellbeing. A supervised research based dissertation worth 60 credits will be supervised in the appropriate pathway school/department.

MSc in Social Science Research (Communication and Media)

#### Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	60 credits	40 credits	Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	20 credits	Choose an item.
Dissertation/project	60 credits	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

180 credits in total

**Level 7/Year 1      2021/22**

## Core modules

<b>Delivery period</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Semester 1	SY7044	Research Design, Practice and Ethics	20 credits
Semester 1	SY7045	Philosophy of Social Science Research	20 credits
Semester 1	MS7202	Mass Communication Theory	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 credits
Term 3	MS7012	Dissertation	60 credits

**Notes**

MS7012 is compulsory only for degree of MSc

## Option modules

<b>Delivery period</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Semester 2	MS7225	Researching Media and Public Communication	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7226	Digital Media, Online Persuasion and Behavioural Change	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7227	Digital Media, Online Persuasion and Behavioural Change	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7206	Global Affairs: Actors, Communication and Culture	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7287	Critical Approaches to Data Analytics and the Digital Economy	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7282	Global Communications and Development	20 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.



## MSc in Social Science Research (Economic and Social History)

### Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	60 credits	40 credits	Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	20 credits	Choose an item.
Dissertation/project	60 credits	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

180 credits in total

### Level 7/Year 1      2021/22

#### Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7044	Research Design, Practice and Ethics	20 credits
Semester 1	SY7045	Philosophy of Social Science Research	20 credits
Semester 1	HS7011	Historical Research, Historical Writing	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 credits
Term 3	HS7000	Dissertation	60 credits

**Notes**

HS7000 is compulsory only for degree of MSc

Option modules

<b>Delivery period</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Semester 2	HS7052	Heritage in the Workplace	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7053	After the Holocaust- History and memory in post-war Germany	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7055	Conservation, Heritage and the Urban Environment	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7145	Landscapes and Identities in Medieval and Early Modern England	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7059	Global Cities: the View from Asia	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7060	Directed Reading	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7061	American Freedoms	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7320	Global History	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7321	Religious Conflict and Coexistence	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7322	Patients & Practitioners	20 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.

## MSc in Social Science Research (Human Geography)

### Credit breakdown

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

180 credits in total

### Level 7/Year 1      2021/22

#### Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7044	Research Design, Practice and Ethics	20 credits
Semester 1	SY7045	Philosophy of Social Science Research	20 credits
Semester 1	GY7411	Contemporary Critical Geographies	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 credits
Semester 2	GY7412	Creative Geographies in Practice	20 credits
Term 3	GY7420	Dissertation	60 credits

## Notes

GY7420 is compulsory only for degree of MSc

MSc in Social Science Research (Health and Wellbeing)

## Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	60 credits	40 credits	Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	20 credits	Choose an item.
Dissertation/project	60 credits	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

180 credits in total

**Level 7/Year 1      2021/22**

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7044	Research Design, Practice and Ethics	20 credits
Semester 1	SY7045	Philosophy of Social Science Research	20 credits
Semester 1	MD7463	Fundamentals Applied Health Research	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 credits
Term 3	MD7460	Dissertation	60 credits

## Notes

MD7460 is compulsory only for degree of MSc

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	MD7464	Qualitative Research Methods QSH	20 credits
Semester 2	MD7465	Human Factors and Ergonomics for Patient Safety	20 credits
Semester 2	MD7466	Measuring and Monitoring in Healthcare	20 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.

MSc in Social Science Research (Museum Studies)

## Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	40 credits	40 credits	Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	30 credits	10 credits	Choose an item.
Dissertation/project	60 credits	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

180 credits in total

**Level 7/Year 1      2021/22**

## Core modules

<b>Delivery period</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Semester 1	SY7044	Research Design, Practice and Ethics	20 credits
Semester 1	SY7045	Philosophy of Social Science Research	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 credits
Term 3	MU7008	Research	60 credits

**Notes**

MU7008 is compulsory only for degree of MSc

## Option modules

<b>Delivery period</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Semester 1	MU7001	Developing Professional Practice	15 credits CB
Semester 1	MU7545	Exploring Socially-Engaged Practice	30 credits DL
Semester 1	MU7521	Locating Heritage	30 credits DL
Semester 1	MU7550	The Museum and Change	15 credits DL
Semester 1	MU7553	Engaging Audiences	15 credits DL
Semester 1	MU7530	Interpreting Heritage	30 credits DL
Semester 2	MU7499	Practice (Placement)	10 credits CB
Semester 2	MU7498	Specialisms	10 credits CB

## 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.

In semester 1 candidates select 30 credits of optional modules. All distance learning modules will be available to take during semester 1. In semester 2 and during the summer period students complete the dissertation and take either MU7498 or MU7499. Distance Learning modules are offered to campus based students as part of a blended learning approach available on this pathway.

## Part-time Structure

The provision of a part-time route within the DTP was a key element of the DTP commitment to widening participation in the initial funding bid. The ESRC expects DTPs to facilitate part-time study and to judge part-time applications on an equal basis as those for full-time study. In the Midland Graduate School DTP part-time awards are offered on all pathways and in all institutions.

ESRC guidelines stipulate that part-time award holders cannot hold a full-time job, giving them more flexibility to attend timetabled teaching sessions than is usually assumed for part-time students.

Students are allowed to transfer from FT to PT at three interval points throughout the academic year: January, April, July.

If a student transfers to PT in January, the period of study would be 2 years as per programme structures below (with the only exemption that the 1<sup>st</sup> semester of 2<sup>nd</sup> year they would take 0 credits). Following successful completion of programme, they would proceed to PGR studies in October of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Year.

If a student transfers to PT in April, the remaining time for their studies will be calculated as double compared to the FT period (i.e. the period for their dissertation will be extended to February of the following academic year with continuation to their PhD studies the following October).

If a student transfers to PT in July the remaining time for their studies will be calculated as double compared to the FT period (i.e. the period for their dissertation will be extended to December of the following academic year with continuation to their PhD studies the following January).

## MSc in Social Science Research (Communication and Media) Part-Time

### Credit breakdown

Level 7/Year 1      2021/22

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	40 credits		Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	20 credits	Choose an item.

60 credits in total

### Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7044	Research Design, Practice and Ethics	20 credits
Semester 1	MS7202	Mass Communication Theory	20 credits

### Notes

n/a

### Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 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.

**Level 7/Year 2      2022/23**

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	20 credits		Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	40 credits	Choose an item.
Dissertation/project	60 credits	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

120 credits in total

## Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7045	Philosophy of Social Science Research	20 credits
Term 3	MS7012	Dissertation	60 credits

**Notes**

MS7012 is compulsory only for degree of MSc

Option modules **(student need to select one option from the following)**

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 credits

**Notes**

Students need to select both SY7047 and SY7046 over the course of the programme. The order is optional.

**Option modules (student need to select one option from the following)**

<b>Delivery period</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Semester 2	MS7230	Critical Approaches to Consumer Culture	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7234	Gender Politics in Contemporary Media	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7241	Media Solidarities and Human Rights	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7225	Researching Media and Public Communication	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7226	Digital Media, Online Persuasion and Behavioural Change	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7227	Digital Media, Online Persuasion and Behavioural Change	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7206	Global Affairs: Actors, Communication and Culture	20 credits
Semester 2	MS7287	Critical Approaches to Data Analytics and the Digital Economy	20 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.

MSc in Social Science Research (Economic and Social History) Part-Time

**Credit breakdown**

**Level 7/Year 1      2021/22**

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	40 credits		Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	20 credits	Choose an item.

60 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7044	Research Design, Practice and Ethics	20 credits
Semester 1	HS7011	Historical Research, Historical Writing	20 credits

**Notes**

n/a

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 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.

**Level 7/Year 2      2022/23**

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	20 credits		Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	40 credits	Choose an item.
Dissertation/project	60 credits	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

120 credits in total

## Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7045	Philosophy of Social Science Research	20 credits
Term 3	HS7000	Dissertation	60 credits

**Notes**

HS7000 is compulsory only for degree of MSc

Option modules **(student need to select one option from the following)**

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 credits

**Notes**

Students need to select both SY7047 and SY7046 over the course of the programme. The order is optional.

**Option modules (student need to select one option from the following)**

<b>Delivery period</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Semester 2	HS7052	Heritage in the Workplace	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7053	After the Holocaust- History and memory in post-war Germany	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7055	Conservation, Heritage and the Urban Environment	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7145	Landscapes and Identities in Medieval and Early Modern England	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7059	Global Cities: the View from Asia	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7060	Directed Reading	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7061	American Freedoms	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7320	Global History	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7321	Religious Conflict and Coexistence	20 credits
Semester 2	HS7322	Patients & Practitioners	20 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.

MSc in Social Science Research (Human Geography) Part-Time

**Credit breakdown**

**Level 7/Year 1      2021/22**

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	40 credits		Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	20 credits	Choose an item.

60 credits in total

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7044	Research Design, Practice and Ethics	20 credits
Semester 1	GY7411	Contemporary Critical Geographies	20 credits

**Notes**

n/a

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 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.

**Level 7/Year 2      2022/23**

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	20 credits	20 credits	Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	20 credits	Choose an item.
Dissertation/project	60 credits	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

120 credits in total

## Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7045	Philosophy of Social Science Research	20 credits
Semester 2	GY7412	Creative Geographies in Practice	20 credits
Term 3	GY7420	Dissertation	60 credits

**Notes**

GY7420 is compulsory only for degree of MSc

Option modules **(student need to select one option from the following)**

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 credits

#### Notes

Students need to select both SY7047 and SY7046 over the course of the programme. The order is optional.

MSc in Social Science Research (Health and Wellbeing) Part-Time

#### Credit breakdown

Level 7/Year 1      2021/22

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	40 credits		Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	20 credits	Choose an item.

60 credits in total

#### Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7044	Research Design, Practice and Ethics	20 credits
Semester 1	MD7463	Fundamentals Applied Health Research	20 credits



**Notes**

n/a

## Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 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.

**Level 7/Year 2      2022/23**

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	20 credits		Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	40 credits	Choose an item.
Dissertation/project	60 credits	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

120 credits in total

## Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7045	Philosophy of Social Science Research	20 credits
Term 3	MD7460	Dissertation	60 credits

**Notes**

MD7460 is compulsory only for degree of MSc

Option modules **(student need to select one option from the following)**

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 credits

**Notes**

Students need to select both SY7047 and SY7046 over the course of the programme. The order is optional.

Option modules **(student need to select one option from the following)**

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	MD7464	Qualitative Research Methods QSH	20 credits
Semester 2	MD7465	Human Factors and Ergonomics for Patient Safety	20 credits
Semester 2	MD7466	Measuring and Monitoring in Healthcare	20 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.

## MSc in Social Science Research (Museum Studies) Part-Time

### Credit breakdown

Level 7/Year 1      2021/22

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.	40 credits		Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	20 credits	Choose an item.

60 credits in total

### Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 1	SY7044	Research Design, Practice and Ethics	20 credits
Semester 1	SY7045	Philosophy of Social Science Research	20 credits

### Notes

n/a

### Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 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.

**Level 7/Year 2      2022/23**

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	Choose an item.			Choose an item.
Optional	Choose an item.	30 credits	30 credits	Choose an item.
Dissertation/project	60 credits	Choose an item.	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

120 credits in total

## Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Term 3	MU7008	Dissertation	60 credits

**Notes**

MU7008 is compulsory only for degree of MSc. Students will begin preparation for their dissertation during year 1.

Option modules **(student need to select one option from the following)**

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Semester 2	SY7047	Quantitative Research Methods	20 credits
Semester 2	SY7046	Foundations in Qualitative Research	20 credits

**Notes**

Students need to select both SY7047 and SY7046 over the course of the programme. The order is optional.

**Option modules**

<b>Delivery period</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>
Semester 1	MU7001	Developing Professional Practice	15 credits CB
Semester 1	MU7545	Exploring Socially-Engaged Practice	30 credits DL
Semester 1	MU7521	Locating Heritage	30 credits DL
Semester 1	MU7550	The Museum and Change	15 credits DL
Semester 1	MU7553	Engaging Audiences	15 credits DL
Semester 1	MU7530	Interpreting Heritage	30 credits DL
Semester 2	MU7499	Practice (Placement)	10 credits CB
Semester 2	MU7498	Specialisms	10 credits CB

**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.

**Appendix 2: Module specifications**

See taught postgraduate [module specification database](#) (Note - modules are organized by year of delivery).