Programme Specification   **FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2022/23**

Date created: 03/03/2021   **Last amended:** 16/04/2021   **Version no.** 1

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

MA in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries

MSc in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries

PGDip in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries

PGCert in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries

Single module studies in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries

HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%
100918	100

2. **Awarding body or institution**

University of Leicester

3. **a) Mode of study**

Part-time

b) Type of study

Distance learning

4. **Registration periods**

Master of Arts/Master of Science (180 credits)

The normal period of registration for the MA/MSc is 24 months
The maximum period of registration for the MA/MSc is 48 months

Postgraduate Diploma (120 credits)

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma is 18 months
The maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma is 36 months

Postgraduate Certificate (60 credits)

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Certificate is 8.5 months
The maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Certificate is 14.5 months

Short course (15 credits)

The normal period of registration for the Short Course (15 credits) is 2 months
The maximum period of registration for the Short Course (15 credits) is 3 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.

For students on the PGCert, a 'study break', to be taken between modules, of 6 months is allowed. For students on the PGDip or Masters, a 'study break' to be taken between modules, of

either 6 or 12 months is allowed. Students on a Short Course are not allowed study breaks of this kind, but time is built in to the maximum periods of registration to allow for mitigating circumstances processes which may approve later deadlines.

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

All applicants must satisfy the University's English language requirements as detailed in the Senate Regulations.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

Accreditation of Prior Learning will be accepted from students who already hold 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 15 credits already will be allocated on a pro-rata basis (according to the student's intended award).

Students who graduate with a PGCert (60 credits) or PGDip (120 credits) or who have a number of 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 aims to

- Support students to identify, analyse, and develop socially-engaged practice in museums, galleries, and similar cultural and heritage work.
- Provide an inclusive, supportive, and yet challenging, learning environment with access to a range of academic support systems.
- Foster within students a motivation and aptitude for intellectual enquiry, critical assessment, creative innovation and a commitment to lifelong learning.

- Prepare students for further academic research in museum studies and related fields including history, natural sciences, education and communication.
- Provide opportunities to develop a variety of personal transferable skills relevant to the needs of a range of employers, and develop students' abilities to identify, reflect upon and communicate these to a range of employers and professional colleagues within museums, galleries, heritage and wider sectors.

All our graduates (MA/MSc/PGDip/PGCert) should be able to:

- Demonstrate knowledge of and be able to critically engage with major theoretical, methodological and professional themes in contemporary museum studies as defined in the learning outcomes and content of individual modules.
- Demonstrate the knowledge, expertise, and skills to effectively and strategically advocate for socially purposeful and socially engaged museum and gallery practice.
- Demonstrate the intellectual skills appropriate to postgraduate study.
- Work both independently and collaboratively.
- Demonstrate a range of personal transferable skills including communication skills.
- Perform to a high professional standard in order to secure employment or advance careers.
- Construct arguments and communicate effectively in English, within an international academic and professional community.

Graduates from our PGDip in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries should in addition be able to:

- Contextualise socially engaged practice within specialist areas of museum and gallery practice such as museum education, digital media, heritage, and exhibition design through a selection of optional modules and articulate the ways in which the values and ethical underpinnings of socially engaged practice apply in these areas.

Graduates from our MA in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries should in addition to the above be able to:

- Plan a response to research questions by formulation of aims, objectives and methodologies based on a comprehensive understanding of museum studies research as it relates to socially engaged practice
- Locate, select and analyse information relevant to a research project
- Plan, execute and write up an extended research project on a museum-related topic.

Graduates from our MSc in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries should in addition to the above be able to:

- Plan a response to research questions by formulation of aims, objectives and methodologies based on a comprehensive understanding of museum studies research as it relates to socially engaged practice
- Locate, select and analyse information relevant to a research project
- Plan, execute and write up an extended research project on science in museums, science museums and collections, or utilise a technical or scientific methodology for the investigation of museums.

8. **Reference points used to inform the programme specification**

- 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

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Advanced knowledge of socially engaged practice in museums, galleries and related heritage and cultural organisations	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Assignment feedback	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)
Understanding of values-driven museum work and the ability to reflect on and articulate own values in relation to this work	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Assignment feedback	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)
Appreciation and sensitivity of the ethical implications of establishing partnerships for socially engaged practice	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Assignment feedback	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)

ii)   Concepts

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Grasp of major theoretical, methodological, and professional principles in socially engaged museum practice	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Assignment feedback	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)
Understanding of theoretical underpinnings of anti-racism and anti-oppression movements and their relation to museum and gallery practice	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Assignment feedback	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)

iii)   Techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Learn strategies to develop genuine solidarity with and ethically-based reciprocal relationships with communities	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)
Create and support rich and meaningful learning opportunities and experiences around contemporary social issues for visitors and participants	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)

iv)   Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop a sophisticated self-reflexive professional practice	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Supervisions (MA/MSc only) Assignment feedback	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only) Reflective statements
Identify and critique issues relating to power and agency in museums, galleries, and related cultural or heritage organisations	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Supervisions (MA/MSc only) Assignment feedback	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only) Reflective statements

v)   Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
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 oral reports on findings to a professional standard	Assessment briefings Study and Research Guidance resource Module assignment feedback Supervisions (MA/MSc only) Research project feedback (MA/MSc only)	Assessed presentation Module assignments Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)

vi)   Appraisal of evidence

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to analyse and assess a variety of complex museological and practical museum issues and concepts	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Supervisions (MA/MSc only) Assignment feedback	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)
Ability to mount and sustain an independent level of inquiry at an advanced level	Lectures Seminars Tutorials Fieldwork Guided independent study including directed reading Supervisions (MA/MSc only) Assignment feedback	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)

b) **Transferable skills**

i)   Research skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to define and describe a problem and its parameters and develop methods for its solution, including a realistic timetable and taking into account relevant ethical issues (MA/MSc only).	Study and Research Guidance resource Self-directed learning Progressive modes of assessment Research project supervision (MA/MSc only)	Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)
Knowledge of a range of research methods.	Study and Research Guidance resource Self-directed learning Progressive modes of assessment Research project supervision (MA/MSc only)	Module assignments Practice module Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to analyse and draw appropriate conclusions from research data.	Study and Research Guidance resource Self-directed learning Progressive modes of assessment Research project supervision (MA/MSc only)	Module assignments Practice module Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)
Ability to research and critically engage with online sources.	Study and Research Guidance resource Self-directed learning Progressive modes of assessment Research project supervision (MA/MSc only)	Module assignments Practice module Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)

ii) Communication skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to communicate views, needs and concerns effectively in the context of international working relationships.	Study and Research Guidance resource on BlackBoard. Presentation feedback Module assignment feedback Research project supervision (MA/MSc only) Research project feedback (MA/MSc only)	Presentations Module assignments Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)
Ability to deliver oral presentations to a professional standard.	Study and Research Guidance resource on BlackBoard. Presentation feedback Module assignment feedback Research project supervision (MA/MSc only) Research project feedback (MA/MSc only)	Presentations Module assignments Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)
Ability to write cogently and clearly at levels appropriate to academic, museum and public contexts.	Study and Research Guidance resource on BlackBoard. Presentation feedback Module assignment feedback Research project supervision (MA/MSc only) Research project feedback (MA/MSc only)	Presentations Module assignments Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)

iii)   Data presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to present research clearly and effectively using appropriate digital media resources	Study and Research Guidance resource on BlackBoard. Self-directed learning Presentation feedback Assignment feedback Research project feedback (MA/MSc only)	Module assignments Presentations Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)

iv)   Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to make use of digital resources for conducting academic research, locating resources, and assessing these resources for utility and reliability.	Use of online learning environment Self-directed learning Research project supervision (MA/MSc only) Independent research	Module assignments Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only).
Ability to use online resources set up by the School and the University (e.g. Blackboard, the Digital Library).	Use of online learning environment Self-directed learning Research project supervision (MA/MSc only) Independent research	Module assignments Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only).

v)   Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Independently approach the subject and form research objectives in relation to a particular 'problem' (MA/MSc only).	Study and Research Guidance resource on BlackBoard. Self-directed learning Presentation feedback Assignment feedback Research project feedback (MA/MSc only)	Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only).

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Critically select and apply methods for addressing research questions.	Study and Research Guidance resource on BlackBoard. Self-directed learning Presentation feedback Assignment feedback Research project feedback (MA/MSc only)	Module assignments Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only).
Critically select and analyse a range of material for addressing research questions.	Study and Research Guidance resource on BlackBoard. Self-directed learning Presentation feedback Assignment feedback Research project feedback (MA/MSc only)	Module assignments Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only).

vi)   Working relationships

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Know how and when to draw on the knowledge and expertise of others	Tutorials Live seminars (and other interactive sessions) The Practice module Research project supervision (MA/MSc only)	Tutorials and supervisions contributions Contributions to online discussions Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)
Ability to contribute and comment on ideas in group-based teaching sessions	Tutorials Live seminars (and other interactive sessions) The Practice module Research project supervision (MA/MSc only)	Tutorials and supervisions contributions Contributions to online discussions Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)
Peer assessment (where appropriate)	Tutorials Live seminars (and other interactive sessions) The Practice module Research project supervision (MA/MSc only)	Tutorials and supervisions contributions Contributions to online discussions Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only)

vii)   Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to identify, find, categorise and organise research material.	Study and Research Guidance resource on BlackBoard. Assessment feedback Research project feedback.	Module assignments Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only).
Effective time and work management skills.	Study and Research Guidance resource on BlackBoard. Assessment feedback Research project feedback.	Module assignments Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only).
Ability to use digital resources to assist and organise research.	Study and Research Guidance resource on BlackBoard. Assessment feedback Research project feedback.	Module assignments Research project: report/dissertation/media presentation (MA/MSc only).

viii)   Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to reflect upon individual professional strengths and identify areas for development	Tutorials Career Development Programme	Self-reflective assignments Research project supervisions Personal tutorials
Gain the necessary skills and knowledge to succeed in the competitive job search environment	Tutorials Career Development Programme	Self-reflective assignments Research project supervisions Personal tutorials

10. Special features

- Flexibility - Incremental credit accumulation, so students can start by taking just one module and build up to a qualification
- Flexible and blended delivery - online provision as well as options for live teaching via the web and face-to-face sessions
- Optionality - students can choose to specialise in areas that suit their own interests
- Designed and taught by leading academics who are known internationally for their work on the field of museum studies and who continue to direct and shape new museum practice around the world
- A 'practice' work-based module to develop professional skills and encourage 'real-world' outputs
- 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.

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 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.

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](#) [log-in required]

16. 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 (on online) each year. All students who register for this programme will be invited to all Summer Schools taking place while they are a registered student.

Appendix 1: Programme structure (programme regulations)

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

MA/MSc in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits

180 credits in total

Postgraduate Diploma in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Postgraduate Certificate in Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

60 credits in total

Level 7/Year 1   2021/22

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Other	MU7561	Exploring Socially Engaged Practice in Museums and Galleries	15 credits
Other	MU7562	Ethical Practice: Access, Liberation, and Organisational Change	15 credits
Other	MU7563	Activist Practice: Methods of Empowerment	15 credits
Other	MU7564	Museums and Transformation: Evidencing Need and Assessing the Impact of Socially Engaged Practice	15 credits

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Other	MU7552	Objects and Collections: Care, Management, Curation	15 credits
Other	MU7573	Cultural Management and Marketing	15 credits
Other	MU7554	Lifelong Learning	15 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Other	MU7555	Museums and the Natural Environment	15 credits
Other	MU7556	Heritage	15 credits
Other	MU7557	Digital	15 credits
Other	MU7559	Practice	15 credits

Level 7/Year 2   **2022/23**

Option modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Other	MU7552	Objects and Collections: Care, Management, Curation	15 credits
Other	MU7573	Cultural Management and Marketing	15 credits
Other	MU7554	Lifelong Learning	15 credits
Other	MU7555	Museums and the Natural Environment	15 credits
Other	MU7556	Heritage	15 credits
Other	MU7557	Digital	15 credits
Other	MU7559	Practice	15 credits

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
Other	MU7549	Dissertation	60 credits

Notes:

- Note that the given year refers to the module start date; the module may run into the following academic year.
- Module MU7561 may be taken as a stand-alone short (taster) course leading to the award of 15 credits.
- Modules MU7561, MU7562, MU7563 and MU7564 may be taken leading to a Postgraduate Certificate (no other combination of modules shall lead to the award of Postgraduate Certificate)
- Students wishing to undertake the PGDip or Masters degree will undertake any four of the elective modules upon completion of Modules MU7561, MU7562, MU7563 and MU7564.
- Students may graduate with a Master of Science Degree where the dissertation concerns a science collection or museum, or where the nature of the investigation can be termed 'scientific'.

Updates to the programme

Academic year affected	Module Code(s)	Update

Appendix 2: Module specifications

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