

Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2025/26

Date created: 09/03/2021

Last amended: 21/06/2024

Version no. 1

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

MSc Security and Risk Management

Postgraduate Diploma Security and Risk Management

Postgraduate Certificate Security and Risk Management

[HECOS Code](#)

HECOS Code	%
100652	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

The normal period of registration for the MSc Security and Risk Management is two years

The maximum period of registration for the MSc Security and Risk Management is four years

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma Security and Risk Management is two years

The maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Diploma Security and Risk Management is four years

The normal period of registration for the Postgraduate Certificate Security and Risk Management is one year

The maximum period of registration for the Postgraduate Certificate Security and Risk Management is two years

5. Typical entry requirements

Candidates should normally have either a first or a second class honours degree from a British university or its equivalent. Special consideration will be given to those who have no first degree but an acceptable professional qualification coupled with practical experience. An applicant who has at least five years' practical/professional experience and borderline qualifications may be considered or asked to complete the Department's entry assessment in support of their application. The entry assessment is a 1000 word essay. At present the title is: *Discuss what the benefits and limitations of victim crime surveys are to a range of stakeholders including the police, politicians, industry and the public.* The assignment titles are changed annually.

Where English is not the first language of the candidate, the successful applicant must have either IELTS 6.5 or TOEFL 250 (computer) or 600 (paper).

Students must have internet access in order to register on this programme.

Students who have completed the International Security Management Institute (ISMI) level 6 Certified Security Management Professional Diploma will be eligible for entry to the PG Cert. The admissions team will review applications on a case by case basis.

6. Accreditation of Prior Learning

Applications are reviewed on a case by case basis should module exemption be requested and in accordance with University regulations relating to prior certified learning. Accreditation for module exemption must be at the same level and with sufficiently similar learning outcomes.

At present we have no formal AP(E)L agreements in place for the course. However, requests for any AP(E)L in relation to course entry or module exemption would be considered on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with the regulations as set out below.

7. Programme aims

The programme aims to

- Provide a leading, coherent, dynamic Masters programme delivered in an intellectually coherent manner and stimulating format to distance learning students;
- Provide managers in the public and private sectors, responsible for crime prevention and security, with a thorough knowledge and understanding of security and crime risk analysis and management, and to assist them in developing their skills and professional competence;
- Engage students in an interdisciplinary study of Security and Risk Management which incorporates theory and research from, not exhaustively, law, sociology, politics, international relations, psychology and management studies;
- Enable students to recognise and critically assess the historical and contemporary development of theoretical perspectives on security, crime, terrorism, risk and crime prevention;
- Equip students to explain and critically assess key concepts in security and risk management, whilst providing them with knowledge about the related challenges facing organisations, nation-states and individuals;
- Encourage students to become adept at independently sourcing, synthesising and interpreting academic and non-academic evidence, policy and legislation;
- Prepare students to become skilled researchers who can select, deploy and critically reflect upon research methods and methodologies;
- Support students to conceive of, design and execute a substantial, independent piece of criminological/ security/ risk management related research;
- Facilitate opportunities for students' development of transferable skills for their future career development and/or prepare them to apply for doctoral study.

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 Education Strategy](#)
- [University Assessment Strategy \[Login required\]](#)
- 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?
Demonstrate and reproduce advanced knowledge of organisational risks and risk management strategies, with a particular emphasis on the threat of workplace crime.	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, independent study and research.	All assessed assignments throughout course and dissertation*.

ii) Concepts

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate, analyse and critique principles and concepts of crime prevention/ reduction, criminological theory, risk management and management theory and their application to the specific context of security and risk management.	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, independent study and research.	All assessed assignments throughout course and dissertation*.

iii) Techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate mastery of research methods, incl. information management**	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, independent study and research.	E-tivity on data analysis and critique of journal article (mod 3); e-tivity on research process and research proposal (mod 5) and final dissertation*.

iv) Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate the ability to explain and assess concepts and techniques with independence, rigour and reflexivity.	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, independent study and research.	Written essay assignments (mod 1,2 and 4); critique of journal article (mod 3); presentations (mod 2 and 6); policy document (mod 6) and dissertation*.

v) Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate and explain research material in a manner appropriate to the medium that is to be assessed; to write assignments to a high standard, and to collate and present research findings in the dissertation*.	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, independent study and research.	Essays, infographics, presentations, research proposal, policy document and dissertation*.

vi) Appraisal of evidence

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate an ability to analyse and assess a variety of complex management and organisational issues in the context of security and risk management. Ability to mount and sustain an independent level of inquiry at an advanced level	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, independent study and research.	All assessed assignments throughout course and dissertation. However, student appraisal of evidence should be particularly developed in the research proposal (mod 5); the poster presentation/ policy document (module 6) and in the dissertation*.

b) Transferable skills

i) Research skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate ability to manage self-directed learning timetable and meet deadlines – especially developed in the dissertation process.	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, independent study and research.	Completing assessments to time throughout the programme and managing an original research project at the dissertation stage*.

ii) Communication skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate ability to communicate effectively in context of tutorials and study schools; ability to write cogently and clearly.	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, independent study and research.	Verbal skills through group tutorials, study school tutorials and in the assessed presentation (mod 2). Written skills across variety of assessments – essay, infographics/ posters, written policy documents and and dissertation*.

iii) Data presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate ability to present research clearly and effectively**.	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, workshops, independent study and research.**	All assessed assignments through course and dissertation*.

iv) Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Operate the use of IT to support studies effectively including competence in aspects of VLEs, use of IT in word processing, use of the internet and specialist packages in data analysis**.	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, independent study and research**.	Expectation of use of IT for word processing throughout all modules and and dissertation*. Specialist packages in data analysis will be assessed in the two research methods modules and the dissertation.

v) Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Demonstrate ability to critique and analyse theoretical, methodological and empirical problems posed by literature and practice relating to security and risk management.	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, workshops, independent study and research.	Throughout the programme through written essay assignments (Mod 1,2 and 4), critique of journal article (Mod 3), research proposal (mod 5) and policy proposal (mod 6): though it would be expected these skills would be most developed by the dissertation stage of the course.*.

vi) Working relationships

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Knowing how, when and where to draw on the knowledge and expertise of University staff and students. Ability to access and work with outside agencies where appropriate (dissertation research*)	Liaising with tutors, discussion boards, independent research, dissertation supervision*.	Not formally assessed except for dissertation outcome*.

vii) Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to manage self-directed learning timetable and meet deadlines – especially developed in the dissertation process.	Course material, directed readings, electronic forums, independent study and research.	Completing assessments to time throughout the programme and managing an original research project at the dissertation stage*.

viii) Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Most students will have careers in similar/same field and look to the MSc as a way of enhancing and developing skills to lead them to a higher level of management.	<p>Embedding of transferable skills into the programme.</p> <p>Continued professional development (CPD).</p>	<p>Through demonstration of reflection in relation to transferable skills at modules 3 and 5.</p> <p>Voluntary participation in the Leicester Award or other CPD activity.</p>

10. Special features

10a. Research-inspired Education

Students on this programme will advance through the four quadrants of the University of Leicester Research-inspired Education Framework as follows:

RiE Quadrant	Narrative
<p>Research-briefed</p> <p>Bringing staff research content into the curriculum.</p> <p>Research-based</p> <p>Framed enquiry for exploring existing knowledge.</p> <p>Research-oriented</p> <p>Students critique published research content and process.</p> <p>Research-apprenticed</p>	<p>Our programme provides students with a thorough understanding of security and risk management through a variety of different lenses. It draws upon a wide range of theoretical perspectives and practical methodologies which can be applied to diverse organisational contexts, in order to better understand an evolving security landscape.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research briefed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our students will be exposed to challenging learning, which is inspired and informed by our cutting-edge research. All of our teaching staff on the programme are engaged in research, allowing them to use their experiences and findings in their teaching. • Research based <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our students take part in a variety of activities which are based on real world security issues. They will learn to apply their knowledge of security and risk management practices to a range of different organisational contexts. • Research oriented <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our students will be challenged to critically appraise a range of research articles that have been published in a range of formats. They will learn to recognise the limitations of various methodological approaches and the requirements for ethical practice. • Research apprenticed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Our students will be guided through the research process by an experienced researcher. Training will be provided on both qualitative and

Experiencing the research process and methods; building new knowledge.	quantitative research methodologies, providing an excellent foundation on which to undertake their own ethical research
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As part of studying at a research-intensive university, students on this programme have the following extra or co-curricular opportunities available to them to gain exposure to research culture:

Our well-renowned Scarman and Neustadt lectures take place each year and students at every level across our School are invited to attend. The topics of these important lectures change each time in order to ensure that our students are exposed to a range of cutting-edge contemporary issues, presented by leading figures in their fields.

Our School also holds a monthly research seminar series, whereby staff showcase their latest collaborative research projects to staff and students alike. This provides another opportunity for our students to hear about our interdisciplinary research outside of the traditional classroom.

Teaching on this programme will be research-informed (it draws consciously on systematic inquiry into the teaching and learning process itself) in the following way:

The School supports all staff involved in teaching to gain an accredited Higher Education teaching qualification, in which they demonstrate their use of teaching theory to support their own practice and reflect on their current teaching and continuing professional development.

All programme module convenors attend an annual education away day, which supports teaching activities across the School. Our monthly 'Learning over Lunch' programme provides more frequent opportunities for staff to share ideas regarding engaging teaching approaches. This programme of events supports staff to deliver educational best practice through the sharing of ideas from teaching conferences, talks from external educational speakers, and a platform for staff to share evaluations of their own teaching practice.

11. Indicators of programme quality

- A clear process in place for annual programme and module review
- Departmental expertise in delivering a range of successful distance learning programmes
- Consistently excellent External Examiners' reports relating to the quality of the programme and of student work
- Consistent positive feedback from students
- Academic Audit.

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.

The progress of each student shall be considered by a Board of Examiners at the end of the taught component of the programme. The Board of Examiners shall determine whether a student is permitted to progress to the dissertation or research project. Where the structure of a programme is such that a student has already begun work on his/her dissertation or research project, the Board of Examiners shall determine whether the student may continue with this work.

The following additional progression requirements for this programme have been approved:

- Students must pass Module 1: Exploring and Understanding Risk & Security (30 credits) in order to qualify for the award of PgC.

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/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 [log-in required]

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

n/a

Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2025/26

Date created: 22/03/2021

Last amended: 23/06/2021

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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.

MSc Security and Risk Management

Credit breakdown

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	n/a	n/a	120 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	n/a	60 credits

180 credits in total

Level 7/Year 1 2025/26

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
September	CR7719	Exploring and Understanding Risk and Security	30 credits
January	CR7720	Managing Security in the workplace: Approaches, Regulation and Governance	30 credits
April	CR7721	Research Methods 1	15 credits
July	CR7722	Cybercrime	15 credits

Notes**Level 7/Year 2 2026/27**

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
August	CR7723	Research methods 2	15 credits
October	CR7724	Terrorism	15 credits
January	CR7725	Dissertation	60 credits

Notes

N/A

Postgraduate Diploma in Security and Risk Management

Status	Year long	Semester 1	Semester 2	Other delivery period
Core taught	n/a	n/a	n/a	120 credits
Optional	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Dissertation/project	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

120 credits in total

Level 7/Year 1 2025/26

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
September	CR7719	Exploring and Understanding Risk and Security	30 credits
January	CR7720	Managing Security in the workplace: Approaches, Regulation and Governance	30 credits

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
April	CR7721	Research Methods 1	15 credits
July	CR7722	Cybercrime	15 credits

Level 7/Year 2 2026/27

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
August	CR7723	Research methods 2	15 credits
October	CR7724	Terrorism	15 credits

Postgraduate Certificate in Security and Risk Management

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

Delivery period	Title	Credits
September	Exploring and Understanding Risk and Security	30 credits

Delivery period	Title	Credits
January	Plus any other combination of the above modules that result in 60 credits being successfully completed.	
April		

Appendix 2: Module specifications

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