Programme Specification (Postgraduate)

FOR ENTRY YEAR: 2023/24

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

MA Urban Conservation

Postgraduate Diploma in Urban Conservation*
Postgraduate Certificate in Urban Conservation *
* These awards are only available as exit awards, and are not available for students to register onto.

HECOS Code

HECOS Code	%
100312	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 MA Urban Conservation (part time) is two years.

The maximum period of registration for the MA Urban Conservation (part time) is four years.

5. Typical entry requirements

The standard entrance requirement is a 2:1 honours degree or equivalent in a relevant subject in thehumanities, social sciences or natural sciences, e.g. Archaeology, History, Geography and Geology.
Non-standard entrants will be assessed based on professional or voluntary experience in conservation, heritage and/or planning. Normally, applicants should have a minimum of six months full-time or one-year part-time experience. In the case of non-standard entrants, other types of relevant work experience will also be considered based on interview and/or portfolio of work. Entry will be determined by evidence of the ability of the applicant to benefit from and successfully complete the programme. The English language requirement for students whose first language is notEnglish is IELTS 6.5 or equivalent.

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 taughtcomponents of a degree programme.

Applications for APL will be assessed by the Director of the Centre for Urban History and one other member of CUH academic staff. 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 candidates 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 aims to provide students with academic knowledge and professional experience in urban conservation and heritage. Students will be familiarised with approaches to the conservation of cities drawn from history, architecture and engineering as these are applied in both policy and research contexts. They will be supported in gaining practical experience of conservation assessments and contemporary policy in urban conservation together with research skills in either policy-related or scientific aspects of the field. The programme aims to equip students with the knowledge and skillsnecessary to work in urban conservation and/or to undertake doctoral research. It is recognised bythe Institute for Historic Building Conservation as an appropriate training in the field.

8.   Reference points used to inform the programme specification

- QAA Benchmarking Statement
- Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Education 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
- ESRC Postgraduate Training and Development Guidelines (5th edition, 2015)

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 the history of cities and their built environment; the principles, policies and techniques of urban conservation; critical and scientific approaches to conservation.	Online discussion, online virtual field study, directed reading, dissertation supervision, independent reading and research.	Summative and formative assessment including written essays, practicals, reports, online oral presentations, individual and group projects, examinations, anda dissertation.

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ii)   Concepts

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to apply and debate keyconcepts in conservation- related studies.	Online discussion, online virtual field study, directed reading, dissertation supervision, independent reading and research.	Essays, online oral presentation, projects,dissertation

iii)   Techniques

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to apply techniques of structural and historical analysis; awareness of skills of project management, budgeting, etc; ability to select and apply appropriate research methodologies.	Online discussion, dissertation supervision, directed reading	Practical demonstration, examination, online oral presentation,reports, essays, dissertation

iv)   Critical analysis

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to apply theory, argument and critical conceptsto academic research and professional practice.	Online discussion, online virtual field study directed reading, dissertation supervision.	Online oral presentation, essays, reportsdissertation, online interaction with group and supervisor.

v)   Presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to present material to ahigh standard in a variety of formats (written, oral, statistical, etc.).	Online presentation and discussion, independent research and dissertation supervision.	Essays, reports, oral presentations,dissertation.

vi)   Appraisal of evidence

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to analyse policy andresearch, and to select evidence appropriate to the context. Ability to develop and maintain a rigorous independent enquiry at an advanced level.	Online discussion, research seminars, independent research, fieldwork, dissertation supervision.	Essays, reports, online practicals, oral presentations, interactions with supervisor, dissertation.

b) **Transferable skills**

i)   Research skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Develop a critical awareness ofthe research environment in urban conservation studies including scholarly journals. Ability to carry out an effective literature review and search for primary and secondary sources. Awareness of political and policy issues affecting research.Awareness of the ethical and legal dimensions of research. Awareness of the changing landscape of research in different fields affecting urban conservation.	Online discussion, workshops, directed reading, fieldwork, dissertation supervisionand research.	Summative and formative assessment including essays, individual and group projects,presentations, dissertation.

ii)   Communication skills

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to write clearly and concisely in a style appropriateto the context (e.g. report, academic essay). Ability to develop ideas andarguments effectively in speaking and writing. Command of scholarly andpolicy protocols, e.g. referencing.	Online discussion and presentations, dissertation preparation and supervision.	Essays, reports, individual onine oral presentations , dissertation.

iii)   Data presentation

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to select, organise andanalyse qualitative and quantitative data.	Online discussion, workshops, directed reading.	Essays, reports, online oral presentations,practicals, dissertation.

iv)   Information technology

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to use information technology to search for technical, professional and scholarly sources.	Library induction online, weekly support session.	Essays, reports, presentations,practicals, dissertation.

v)   Problem solving

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to find remedies for practical and intellectual problems, individually and in group contexts.	Online discussion, online virtual fieldwork, independent and directed reading.	Essays, reports, presentations,practicals, dissertation.

vi)   Working relationships

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to contribute positivelyto group activity. Ability to organise and managegroup activity.	Online group presentations and projects,workshops, online fieldwork.	Group project report, reports.

vii)   Managing learning

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to work independentlyand manage own learning. Meeting deadlines, takinginitiative, planning ahead.	Online discussion, study skills, student support service.	Submission of work on time and toa good standard.

viii)   Career management

Intended Learning Outcomes	Teaching and Learning Methods	How Demonstrated?
Ability to construct an effectiveCV and plan for next stage of career, including developing links with potential employers, supervisors, etc.	Engagement with careers service,tutors and professional practitioners.	Ability to achieve a viable transition from the course to thenext career stage.

10. Special features

The programme draws on multi-disciplinary expertise across the humanities, social and naturalsciences as well as the practical experience of conservation professionals in government and voluntary agencies. It is also distinctive in providing a variety of outcomes – policy-related, professional and academic – within a single programme.

11. Indicators of programme quality

The programme is based on an academic unit with an established international reputation, the Centre for Urban History, which has a tradition of outstanding research and postgraduate education.In its development, the programme received strong endorsement from a panel of external representatives, including the Churches Conservation Trust, English Heritage and Leicester City Council, at a workshop funded by the Employer Engagement initiative. It has subsequently been recognized by the main professional body in the field, the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) as providing an appropriate training for membership of the association and professional practice in conservation. The programme involves as Visiting Lecturers and participants, professionals from Historic England and Leicester City Council among other organizations. Student evaluations from the course are an important means by which the quality of the programme is monitored and maintained.

12. Criteria for award and classification

This programme follows the University's regulations governing taught postgraduate programmes

13. Progression points

As defined in Senate Regulation 6: Regulations governing Taught Postgraduate Programmes of Study

The MA is composed of 180 credits.
Students are required to have completed 120credits before proceeding to the Dissertation.

Modules may be taken singly by occasional students and for the purposes of continuing professional development. Students wishing to take only 60 or 120 credits will be eligible for a Certificate or Diploma respectively. Students wishing to complete the Masters must undertake a Dissertation. Students are required to take all modules in order to qualify for IHBC membership.

In cases where a student has failed to meet a requirement to progress he or she will be required towithdraw 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

Course regulations allow for candidates to resubmit coursework for individual modules once only.The mark for resubmitted work is capped at 50%.

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)

The course has been designed to allow for the development of a distance-learning version at a later stage. Modules may also be taken individually as part of continuing professional development (CPD).

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 Urban Conservation

Level 7/Year 1   2023/24

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
October	HS7513	The City in History	30 credits
January	HS7511	Conservation, Heritage and the Urban Environment	30 credits

Level 7/Year 2   2024/25

Core modules

Delivery period	Code	Title	Credits
October	HS7512	How Buildings Work: Architectural History and Structural Engineering	30 credits
January	HS7514	Conservation in Practice	30 credits
May	HS7510	Dissertation	60 credits

Notes

Part-time students take one module per semester and complete the dissertation module between May and September in their second year

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).