

MA Education (including pathways)

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Awarding institution	Bath Spa University
Teaching institution	Bath Spa University
School	School of Education
Main campus	Newton Park
Other sites of delivery	
Other Schools involved in delivery	N/A
Name of award(s)	MA Education (Early Childhood Studies) MA Education (Leadership and Management)
Qualification (final award)	MA
Intermediate awards available	PgCert. Education (60 credits) – completion of Trimester 1 PgDip. Education (120 credits) – completion of Trimesters 1 and 2
Routes available	Single
Duration of award	1 year full time 2 years part time
Sandwich period	No
Modes of delivery offered	Campus-based, low residency

Regulatory Scheme[1]	Taught Postgraduate Framework
Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body accreditation	N/A
Date of most recent PSRB approval (month and year)	N/A
Renewal of PSRB approval due (month and year)	N/A
UCAS code	N/A
Route code (SITS)	
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (including date of publication)	BA Hons. Education Studies Feb 2015 cross referenced with Masters Degree Characteristics statement 1 Aug 2016 BA Hons. Early Childhood Studies March 2022 which includes level 7 characteristics
Date of most recent approval	August 2018
Date specification last updated	January 2021

[1] This should also be read in conjunction with the University's Qualifications Framework

Programme Overview

The MA Education Programme at Bath Spa University provides you with critical insights into the key educational issues of the day. It supports you to study at an advanced level the key theories and practices of education internationally, equipping you to take on significant leadership roles in a range of related fields. You will learn how to question the policies and organisations involved in defining the purposes, content and outcomes of education. You will choose to study on one of our four distinctive pathways:

1. Early Childhood Studies
2. Leadership and Management

All the pathways provide a sound foundation for doctoral study. An overview of each pathway is provided below.

MA Education: (Early Childhood Studies) is designed to provide you with opportunities to examine and critique a range of topics in early childhood from birth to eight years. The award has a particular focus on cultural and social perspectives of early childhood and interrogates a number of taken-for-granted assumptions about the nature of childhood.

MA Education: (Leadership and Management) is designed for those who are interested in becoming, or are presently working as, middle and senior managers and leaders in schools or other educational organisations in a variety of global contexts. Drawing on internationally based research, this course offers a critical and culturally based understanding of leadership as a socially constructed and ethical practice.

Programme Aims

1. To develop confident, well informed and resourceful educational practitioners who are capable of analysing and questioning the aims, values and outcomes of education in local and global contexts;
2. To engage students with a wide range of reading and debates across the foundation disciplines of education: sociology, psychology, philosophy and history;
3. To encourage the development of reflection as a skill to support continuing professional development;
4. To transform students' understanding of their role in social and educational change through an understanding of global issues and debates;
5. To develop the ability to explore international education issues from an intercultural and interdisciplinary perspective;
6. To equip students to understand the role, range and purpose of educational research and enquiry
7. To enable participants to develop, plan and conduct an in-depth study of a topic that has professional relevance for them and offers an original contribution to knowledge.
8. To develop knowledge, skills and understanding that supports professional development and career progression or doctoral study in related educational contexts

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

(NB These ILOs are at level 7 of the FHEQ)

A Subject-Specific Skills and Knowledge

You will demonstrate:

A1. Acquisition and understanding of knowledge in the field of education, including the various theoretical positions, traditions and paradigms.

A2 Critical reflection on, and evaluation of, your own practice and that of others as well as the ability to provide an evidence base in support of claims made for evolving competencies.

A3 A comprehensive understanding of current issues in education informed by scholarship and research, and the capacity to identify its significance and relevance in educational settings within national and global contexts.

A4 A comprehensive knowledge and understanding of theoretical underpinnings relevant to education as presented in published research and policy literature.

B Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

You will demonstrate:

B1 The ability to articulate a clearly structured and cohesive original argument.

B2 The ability to design and manage a research project which is ethically compliant and academically rigorous

B3 Synthesis of ideas and information in an innovative format and apply them to new cases or research questions

B4 Development of personal effectiveness, self-awareness and self-management

C Skills for Life and Work

You will demonstrate:

C1 Autonomous learning (including time management) that demonstrates the development of initiative, personal responsibility and decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations and the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.

C2 Team working skills necessary to succeed in the global workplace, with an ability to work both in and lead teams effectively, as well as the ability to act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.

C3 Communication skills that show the ability to communicate clearly to specialist and non-specialist audiences knowledge at, or informed by, the forefront of the academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice, and the conclusions drawn from dealing with complex issues systematically.

C4 IT skills and digital literacy that demonstrate the ability to develop new skills to a high level and to approach complex issues systematically and creatively

Intermediate awards

PgCert Intended Learning Outcomes

A1, A4, B1, B4, C1, C4

PgDip Intended Learning Outcomes

A1, A2, A4, B1, B4, C1, C3, C4

Programme Content

This programme comprises the following modules

Key: Core = C

Required = R

Required* (either EDU7101-30 or EDU7102-15 & EDU7103-15) = R*

Optional = O

Not available for this status = N/A

If a particular status is greyed out, it is not offered for this programme.

Subjects offered with pathways

MA Education				Pathway	
Level	Code	Title	Credits	Early Childhood Studies	Leadership and Management
7	EDU7100-30	Education and Society	30	C	C
7	EDU7101-30	Research Methods in the Social Sciences	30	R*	R*
7	EDU7104-60	Dissertation	60	C	C
7	EDU7107-30	Early Childhood: Education, Culture and Society	30	R	n/a
7	EDU7129-30	Perspectives on Play and Creativity	30	R	n/a
7	EDU7109-30	Leadership in Practice	30	n/a	R
7	EDU7110-30	Leading, Mentoring and Coaching	30	n/a	R
7	EDU7102-15	Research and Professional - Part 1	15	R*	R*
7	EDU7103-15	Research and Professional - Part 2	15	R*	R*

Required*: Part time students take EDU7102-15 and EDU7103-15, Full time students take EDU7101-30

Assessment methods

A range of summative assessment tasks will be used to test the Intended Learning Outcomes in each module. These are indicated in the attached assessment map which shows which tasks are used in which modules.

Students will be supported in their development towards summative assessment by appropriate formative exercises.

Please Note: If you choose an optional module from outside this programme, you may be required to undertake a summative assessment task that does not appear in the assessment grid here in order to pass that module.

Work experience and placement opportunities

If you are currently employed as an educational professional, many of the learning tasks and assessments set during your award can be adapted to being undertaken within your professional context. Most pathways will include visiting speakers from and visits to a range of educational contexts; however there is no requirement for you to undertake work experience or placements during your studies. Whilst there are no specific work experience or placement opportunities incorporated into this course, there will be opportunities to reflect on professional experience and to discuss real life situations within the seminars. It may be possible for informal visits to be arranged to visit schools and / or other educational settings.

Additional Costs Table

Module Code & Title	Type of Cost	Cost
N/A		

Graduate Attributes

	Bath Spa Graduates...	In MA Education, this means...
1	Will be employable: equipped with the skills necessary to flourish in the global workplace, able to work in and lead teams	Graduates will have the confidence, skills and understanding to work as a professional within a school, educational organisation or other institution in both national international contexts
2	Will be able to understand and manage complexity, diversity and change	Graduates will have an understanding of the changing policy context in education and the complexity organisations and individuals face when undergoing change. They will understand processes of change and how it can be managed.
3	Will be creative: able to innovate and to solve problems by working across disciplines as professional or artistic practitioners	Graduates will hold a strong interdisciplinary perspective to solve educational problems and be able to establish networks that cross disciplinary boundaries
4	Will be digitally literate: able to work at the interface of creativity and technology	Graduates will develop an ability to use technologies in the development of their own practice and that of others.
5	Will be internationally networked: either by studying abroad for part of the their programme, or studying alongside students from overseas	Graduates will draw on the international networks made available at Bath Spa University to extend partnerships on a global level and to access international research and scholarship. They will study and liaise with international students using digital networking and conferencing tools.
6	Will be creative thinkers, doers and makers	Graduates will develop creative responses to day- to-day interactions and to the longer-term global challenges facing educators.
7	Will be critical thinkers: able to express their ideas in written and oral form, and possessing information literacy	Graduates will critically examine educational issues and challenge orthodox common sense ideas about education.
8	Will be ethically aware: prepared for citizenship in a local, national and global context	Graduates will be aware of the complexities of education within different cultures and contexts and the imperative of having a moral purpose and operating within ethical guidelines.

Modifications

Module-level modifications

Code	Title	Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect
EDU7 110- 30	Leading, Mentoring and Coaching	Assessment change	Approved by Chair's action on 2/12/2020	2021/22
EDU7 100- 30	Education and Society	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7 101- 30	Research Methods in Social Science	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7 102- 15	Research and the Professional Part 1	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7 104- 60	Dissertation	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7 107- 30	Early Childhood: Education, Culture and Society	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7 108- 30	Perspectives of Outdoor Play	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7 109- 30	Leadership in Practice	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7 110- 30	Leading, Mentoring and Coaching	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7 107- 30	Early Childhood Education, Culture and Society	Removal of possible field trip within additional costs.	Curriculum Approval Panel, December 2023	2024/25

Programme-level modifications

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Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect
EDU7108-30 Perspectives of Outdoor Play removed	Curriculum Approval Panel, December 2023	2024/25
EDU7112-30 Education Policy discontinued	Curriculum Approval Panel, December 2023	2024/25
EDU7129-30 Perspectives on Play and Creativity added	Curriculum Approval Panel, December 2023	2024/25

Attached as appendices:

1. Programme structure diagram
2. Map of module outcomes to level/programme outcomes
3. Assessment map
4. Module descriptors

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Appendix 1: Programme Structure Diagram - MA Education (including pathways)

Full time study		
Level 7		
Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
Core Modules		
EDU7100 -30 Education and Society	N/A	EDU7104-60 Dissertation
Required Modules		
EDU7107-30 Early Childhood: Education, Culture and Society (Early Childhood Studies pathway) EDU7109-30 Leadership in Practice (Leadership and Management pathway)	EDU7101-30 Research Methods in the Social Sciences (all F/T pathways) EDU7129-30 Perspectives on Play and Creativity (Early Childhood Studies pathway) EDU7110-30 Leading, Mentoring and Coaching (Leadership and Management pathway)	N/A
Rule Notes: EDU7101-30 is Required for both pathways on the full time route.		

Part time study		
Level 7 Year 1		
Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3
Core Modules		
N/A	N/A	N/A
Required Modules		

Part time study		
EDU7107-30 Early Childhood: Education, Culture and Society (Early Childhood Studies pathway)	EDU7129-30 30 Perspectives on Play and Creativity (Early Childhood Studies pathway)	EDU7102-15 Research and Professional - Part 1 (all pathways)
EDU7109-30 Leadership in Practice (Leadership and Management pathway)	EDU7110-30 Leading, Mentoring and Coaching (Leadership and Management pathway)	EDU7103-15 Research and the Professional - Part 2 (all pathways)
Rule Notes: EDU7102-15 and EDU7103-15 are Required for both pathways on the part time route		
Level 7 - Year 2		
Core Modules		
EDU7100-30 Education and Society	EDU7104-60 Dissertation - continued	EDU7104-60 Dissertation - continued
Rule Notes: EDU7104-60 continues across trimester 2 and trimester 3		

Appendix 2: Map of Intended Learning Outcomes

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,O)[2]	Intended Learning Outcomes											
				Subject- specific Skills and Knowledge				Cognitive and Intellectual Skills				Skills for Life and Work			
				A1	A2	A3	A4	B1	B2	B3	B4	C1	C2	C3	C4
7	EDU7100-30	Education and Society	C	X			X	X			X	X			
7	EDU7101-30	Research Methods in Social Science	R*	X			X	X			X	X			X
7	EDU7102-15	Research and Professional - Part 1	R*	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	X
7	EDU7103-15	Research and Professional - Part 2	R*	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	X
7	EDU7104-60	Dissertation	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
7	EDU7107-30	Early Childhood: Education, Culture and Society	R	X			X	X			X	X			X
7	EDU7129-30	Perspectives on Play and Creativity	R	X	X		X	X			X	X		X	X
7	EDU7109-30	Leadership in Practice [C]	R	X			X	X			X	X			X
7	EDU7110-30	Leading, Mentoring and Coaching [O]	R	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

[2] C = Core; R = Required; O = Optional

Appendix 3: Map of Summative Assessment Tasks by Module

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C, R,O) [3]	Assessment method												
				Coursework						Practical					Written Examination	
				Reflection	Dissertation	Essay	Journal	Portfolio	Proposal	Performance	Practical Project	Practical skills	Presentation	Set exercises	Written Examination	In-class test (seen)
Core modules for all pathways																
7	EDU7100-30	Education and Society	C			1x							1x			
7	EDU7101-30	Research Methods in Social Science	R*			2x										
7	EDU7102-15	Research and the Professional - Part 1	R*			1x										
7	EDU7103-15	Research and the Professional- Part 2	R*			1x										
7	EDU7104-60	Dissertation	C			1x										
7	EDU7107-30	Early Childhood: Education, Culture and Society	R			1x						1x				
7	EDU7129-30	Perspectives on Play and Creativity	R			1x			1x							
7	EDU7109-30	Leadership in Practice [C]	R			1x										
7	EDU7110-30	Leading, Mentoring and Coaching [O]	R			1x										

[3] C = Core; R = Required; R* = Required*; O = Optional