

Master's in Professional Learning: SpLD/ Dyslexia

- Does your work involve vulnerable learners?
- Would you like to develop the skills to support learners with SPLD/Dyslexia?
- Would you like the opportunity to apply to the British Dyslexia Association for their sought after Approved Teacher Status (**ATS**) or Associate Membership (**AMBDA**)?
- Would you like to top up your previous ATS qualification to AMBDA level?
- Would you like to be able to combine this with working towards a Professional Master's Degree?
- Would you like to apply for Government funding to help cover your costs? The course is eligible for TDA Funding

The current focus upon standards, literacy and the inclusion of vulnerable learners within mainstream educational institutions means that there is increasing pressure upon professionals to develop the skills to identify and support a range of specific learning needs in literacy and study skills across the curriculum. Acquiring these specialist skills can open the door to many career opportunities within and beyond the school and college context.

From 2008, Bath Spa University has offered a professional master's pathway in SPLD/Dyslexia which focuses upon identification, assessment and practical support for learners of all ages with SpLD/Dyslexia. This can be followed as a part-time or full-time option. The modules combine direct academic teaching and study at master's level at the University with the optional development of practical competence required by the British Dyslexia Association (BDA) through professional placement supervised by expert tutors.

Module One: TT7364 Identifying and Supporting Learners with SpLD/Dyslexia

The *first phase* of the pathway provides 60 M-level credits on submission of the academic assignments. It develops the ability to carry out assessments to compile an individual learning profile to underpin the development and teaching of individualised programmes for learners with SpLD/Dyslexia across a range of contexts. Methods and strategies to develop the inclusive practices which can support learners across the curriculum are also explored.

This Module: **Identifying and Supporting Learners with SpLD/Dyslexia** offers a PG Certificate as a stand-alone award and is accredited by the BDA at ATS level.

It can be combined with a *second phase* comprising the 30 Module: **TT7365: Assessment Methodology for SpLD/Dyslexia** to obtain the Associate Membership of the BDA (AMBDA – BDA accreditation in process). This will develop the ability to undertake full diagnostic assessments for dyslexia to inform programmes and appropriate support, such as Examination Access Arrangements.

This can be taken as a stand alone module by suitably experienced students, whose prior learning may enable them to apply for pre-entry accreditation.

Submission of the (optional) professional practice portfolio alongside academic practice-based assignments will obtain dual accreditation enabling suitably qualified teachers and speech and language therapist professionals to gain the sought after BDA Approved Teacher Status (ATS), on completion of Module One, or AMBDA (Module 2)*.

Along with research training modules (30 credits) or an independent study (30 credits) these two modules can also form part of the pathway to a PG Diploma (120 M level credits) and, with dissertation (60 M level credits), a Master's in Professional Learning: SpLD/Dyslexia (See page 4 of Career-based opportunities at Bath Spa University for a visual representation of these pathways).

TT7364: Module One: Identifying and Supporting Learners with SpLD/dyslexia This module consists of two master's level units of 30 M level credits, each, amounting to 60 hours face to face tuition, assignments plus a commitment to independent study time. The total of twenty 3 hour sessions (60 hours) is likely to run as Tuesday or Thursday twilight sessions (5 to 8 pm) at the Newton Park campus.

- Semester One – October to December 2011 – will focus upon the identification of the learning differences underpinning SpLD/dyslexia and their impact upon the development of literacy.
- Semester Two – January to March 2012 - will focus upon the experience and evaluation of programmes and methodologies to support the development of literacy and cross curricular study skills for learners with dyslexia.

TT7365: Module Two: Assessment Methodology for SpLD/dyslexia

This module comprises 36 hours face to face tuition, professional practice based assignments, plus a commitment to private study. It is likely to be delivered through three full day workshops (Saturday October 1st, Friday October 21st, Saturday January 7th) and seven twilight sessions on Wednesdays between October 2011 and January 2012.

Course applicants (with the exception of speech and language therapists) should have qualified teacher status and two years of teaching experience.

For further details please contact: **Dr. Tilly Mortimore** t.mortimore@bathspa.ac.uk
For guidance on how to register and other general information, please contact **Zara Johnson** QA Project Manager for CPD on z.johnson@bathspa.ac.uk or CPD Admin on cpdadmin@bathspa.ac.uk Tel: 01225 875593

Fees: for DfES Qualified UK Teachers (QTS) 2010-2011: £540 for a 60 credit module or £270 for a 30 credit module. The normal university fees for UK/EU residents are £1,420 per 60 credits for 2009/10. Government funding is available for teachers of learners up to KS4. *There will be an additional Professional Practice fee of £360 for TT7364 payable to Bath Spa University to cover tutoring and support for the Professional Practice element of BDA accreditation at ATS level. A further professional practice fee (Currently £360) will be required for the AMBDA top up of TT7365.