MA Education (including pathways)

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

C1 Work Independently - Act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks in a professional context.

C2 Work with Others - Plan for and actively engage in inclusive collaboration with others to tackle and solve complex problems and develop original insights.

C3 Communicate with Impact - Communicate complex ideas clearly, effectively and impactfully with specialist and non-specialist audiences.

C4 Demonstrate Digital Fluency - Use digital skills productively, critically and ethically to enhance creativity and communication in a professional context.

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

MA Education				Pathway	
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

Graduate Attribute	While at Bath Spa, I will develop my ability to:	This programme will help me to do this through:
Confidently Self-Aware	Reflect on and recognise my unique skills, strengths, and values and be able to apply and articulate them in a range of different contexts.	*Continuous self-reflection during discussions in class, group work, reading tasks and course assessment*
Emotionally Attuned	Be mindful of how my actions and emotions impact those around me so I can better navigate difficult situations and build effective interpersonal relationships.	*Supportive and collaborative learning environment where students can collaborate and develop their communications skills*
Inclusive Collaborator	Contribute independently to collaborative projects while working effectively with others, valuing diversity and respecting individual differences.	*Awareness of the importance of diversity in professional practice. The integration of discussions and tasks during and/or outside lectures to facilitate learning autonomy and collaboration.*
Adaptable Innovator	Embrace challenges, taking risks where needed and applying individual and collective problem solving.	*Emphasis on creative thinking and adaptability in the context of education to improve professional practice*
Critical Thinker	Keep an open mind, ask curious questions and think creatively to gain a deeper and broader understanding of global perspectives and the world around me.	*Critical engagement with the literature, asking curious questions and reflection on professional practice*
Forward Thinker	Set goals, plan ahead and utilise resources to support my personal ambitions and achieve my own version of success.	*Linking the assignments to professional practice and understanding their practical implications. The dissertation can also be designed to support their own personal/professional goals*
Ethical Leader	Act with empathy, making decisions grounded in ethical principles while advocating for sustainability and positive social change.	*Knowledge and training around research ethics*

Graduate Attribute	While at Bath Spa, I will develop my ability to:	This programme will help me to do this through:
Responsible Self-Starter	Be accountable for my actions and decisions while demonstrating creativity, proactivity, and a focus on solutions.	*The dissertation and multiple assignments can be designed to create direct links to professional practice*
Compassionately Resilient	Respond to setbacks with a reflective and positive attitude, flexibility and a self-caring approach.	*Discussions and coursework offer opportunities to reflect on practice and find solutions to setbacks utilising all available skills and resources*
Digitally Resourceful	Utilise and responsibly leverage existing and emerging technologies to solve problems and communicate.	*Modules require students to engage with technology to support their learning and assessment. They also have access to additional technological tools to support their research activities.*

Modifications

Module-level modifications

Code	Title	Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect
EDU7110-30	Leading, Mentoring and Coaching	Assessment change	Approved by Chair's action on 2/12/2020	2021/22
EDU7100-30	Education and Society	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7101-30	Research Methods in Social Science	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22

Code	Title	Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect
EDU7102-15	Research and the Professional Part 1	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7104-60	Dissertation	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7107-30	Early Childhood: Education, Culture and Society	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7108-30	Perspectives of Outdoor Play	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7109-30	Leadership in Practice	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7110-30	Leading, Mentoring and Coaching	Assessment change	Curriculum Committee 16 June 2021	2021/22
EDU7107-30	Early Childhood Education, Culture and Society	Removal of possible field trip within additional costs.	Curriculum Approval Panel, December 2023	2024/25
EDU7101-30	Research Methods in Social Science	Updates to Teaching and Learning activities and formative assessment items	SQMC March 2025	2025/26
EDU7103-15	Research and the Professional Part 2	Frmative assessment change	SQMC March 2025	2025/26

Programme-level modifications

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

Nature of modification	Date(s) of approval and approving bodies	Date modification comes into effect
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		

Full time study		
Level 7		
Trimester 1	**Trimester 2**	**Trimester 3**
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		
EDU7107-30 Early Childhood: Education, Culture and Society (Early Childhood Studies pathway) EDU7109-30 Leadership in Practice (Leadership and Management pathway)	EDU7129-30 30 Perspectives on Play and Creativity (Early Childhood Studies pathway) EDU7110-30 Leading, Mentoring and Coaching (Leadership and Management pathway)	EDU7102-15 Research and Professional - Part 1 (all pathways) 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

Part time study
Level 7 Year 1

Trimester 1	Trimester 2	Trimester 3

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

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,O)[2]	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	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]	Coursework						Practical					Written Examination		
				Reflection	Dissertation	Essay	Journal	Portfolio	Proposal	Performance	Practical Project	Practical skills	Presentation	Set exercises	Written Examination	In-class test (seen)	In-class test (unseen)
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											

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,O) [3]	Coursework						Practical					Written Examination		
				Reflection	Dissertation	Essay	Journal	Portfolio	Proposal	Performance	Practical Project	Practical skills	Presentation	Set exercises	Written Examination	In-class test (seen)	In-class test (unseen)
7	EDU7103-15	Research and the Professional-Part 2	R*			1x											
7	EDU7104-60	Dissertation	C			1x (And 1x Ethical Approval pass/fail)											

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,O) [3]	Coursework						Practical					Written Examination		
				Reflection	Dissertation	Essay	Journal	Portfolio	Proposal	Performance	Practical Project	Practical skills	Presentation	Set exercises	Written Examination	In-class test (seen)	In-class test (unseen)
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											

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)	In-class test (unseen)
7	EDU7110-30	Leading, Mentoring and Coaching [O]	R			1x											

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