



Definitive Programme Document

Professional Doctorate in Education

Awarding institution	Bath Spa University
Teaching institution	Bath Spa University
School	Institute for Education
Department	Postgraduate Programmes
Main campus	Newton Park
Other sites of delivery	Corsham Court
Other Schools involved in delivery	n/a
Name of awards	Professional Doctorate in Education
Qualification (final award)	EdD
Intermediate awards available	MEd (Leadership, Policy and Research Methods in Education)
Routes available	Single
Duration of award	Up to 6 years part time
Sandwich period	No
Modes of delivery offered	Part time, campus-based
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)	tbc
Relevant QAA Subject Benchmark Statements (including date of publication)	Doctoral Degree Characteristics Statement (2015)
Date of most recent approval	n/a
Date specification last updated	March 2018

Programme Overview

The programme enhances your portfolio of opportunities as a professional in education who wants to engage in practice-led and practice-based research. It is rooted in education as an academic discipline and a profession and will support you in developing a framework within which your expert knowledge base can grow. It is offered as a part-time course with distance learning/low-residency modular components. You must successfully pass the Part A taught modules of the programme before moving on to Part B. If you successfully pass Part A and do not wish to move on to Part B, you may be awarded a Masters in Education (MEd), provided your work meets the criteria set down in the Taught Postgraduate Framework.

Employability is embedded throughout the programme, and you will benefit from sector specialist input to the modules. This is a distinguishing feature of the course and will allow you to access a network of specialist agencies while engaging with the course, encouraging you to establish new contacts within and across the sector.

Opportunities for your research, personal and professional development are provided throughout the programme and we encourage you to log your needs and achievements using recognised tools such as the Researcher Development Framework on the Vitae website (www.vitae.ac.uk/researchers-professional-development/about-the-vitae-researcher-development-framework).

Programme Aims

- 1 To enable students to critically reflect on their professional contexts and to explore and understand the research and values that inform practice
- 2 To provide students with a detailed understanding of research techniques and the skills to apply them through an independent empirical investigation
- 3 To enable students to relate theoretical concepts to the professional field
- 4 To enable students to develop a critical understanding of ethics in research and to give due regard to ethical considerations in their own research and that of others.

Programme Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs)

A Subject-specific Skills and Knowledge

- A1 The creation and interpretation of new knowledge through original research or other advanced scholarship of a quality to satisfy peer review, extend the forefront of the discipline, and merit publication
- A2 A conceptual understanding that enables you to evaluate research methodologies and develop critiques of them, and to apply research techniques appropriate to advanced academic enquiry and original educational research
- A3 A systematic understanding of knowledge at the forefront of professional practice in education, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights in your field of study

A4 A comprehensive understanding of the ethical considerations involved in educational research.

B Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

- B1 The ability to conceptualise and design a project for the generation of significant new knowledge, applications and/or understanding
- B2 The ability to implement a project for the generation of significant new knowledge, applications and /or understanding.
- B3 The ability to make informed judgments on complex issues in specialist fields related to education, often in the absence of complete data, and using an innovative approach to tackling and solving problems
- B4 A detailed understanding of key theoretical and paradigmatic considerations when conducting research in education and the implications for questions of truth, evidence and generalisation

C Skills for Life and Work

- C1 The qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring you to exercise your personal responsibility and initiative in complex and unpredictable situations, in professional or equivalent environments
- C2 The ability to communicate your ideas clearly and effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences
- C3 Team working skills necessary to succeed in the global workplace, with an ability to work in, and to lead, teams effectively, as well as the ability to act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level
- 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

Programme content

This programme comprises the following modules

Key:

Core = C

Required = R

Optional = O

Not available for this status = N/A

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

Subject offered as single programme

Level	Module Code	Module Credits	Module Title	Status
7	ED7021-30	30	Understanding educational research	C
7	ED7022-30	30	Advanced educational research methods	C
7	ED7023-30	30	Educational research proposal	C
7	ED7024-30	30	Policy and professionalism in education	C
7	ED7025-30	30	Leadership and pedagogy	C
7	ED7107-30	30	Critical studies in early childhood	O
7	EDU7100	30	Education and society	O
7	EDU7105	30	Education and globalisation	O
8	ED8026-30		Dissertation	C

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.

You will be supported in your 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.

Graduate Attributes

	Bath Spa Graduates...	In 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	the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of personal responsibility and largely autonomous initiative in complex and unpredictable situations, in professional or equivalent environments
2	Will be able to understand and manage complexity, diversity and change	the ability to adjust project designs in the light of unforeseen problems
3	Will be creative: able to innovate and to solve problems by working across disciplines as professional or artistic practitioners	the general ability to conceptualise, design and implement a project for the generation of new knowledge, applications or understanding at the forefront of the discipline
4	Will be digitally literate: able to work at the interface of creativity and technology	demonstrating the ability to use digital technology in their own practice and that of others
5	Will be internationally networked: either by studying abroad for part of their programme, or studying alongside students from overseas	engaging with the wider academic community, through attendance at seminars and presentation of papers and/or posters at conferences
6	Will be creative thinkers, doers and makers	contributing substantially to the development of new techniques, ideas or approaches
7	Will be critical thinkers: able to express their ideas in written and oral form, and possessing information literacy	the ability to communicate their ideas and conclusions clearly and effectively to specialist and non-specialist audiences
8	Will be ethically aware: prepared for citizenship in a local, national and global context	conducting research and scholarship in an ethically aware manner

Modifications

Module-level modifications

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

Programme-level modifications

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

Attached as appendices:

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

APPENDIX 1 Programme structure diagram

The programme is designed to be completed within a minimum of three years and a maximum of six years and comprises two parts, PART A a taught component and PART B a dissertation phase (see Table 1 below).

Part A contains six taught modules which are completed in the first three years. Within this taught component, three modules are concerned with educational research, and are offered in the following order:

ED7021-30 Understanding educational research
ED7022-30 Advanced educational research methods
ED7023-30 Educational research proposal

And a further two on topics related to education and professional development

ED7024-30 Policy and professionalism in education
ED7025-30 Leadership and pedagogy

The sixth taught module is chosen from a list of options reflecting the expertise of staff. A module on critical studies in early childhood is provided as an example.

ED7107-30 Critical studies in early childhood

It is also possible to choose a module from programmes in schools of study other than IfE, provided they are at level 7 or above. There is provision for students to be awarded accreditation of prior learning. Applications for this are assessed on a case by case basis. Normally exemption is permitted from ED7021-30 *Understanding educational research* or ED7107-30 *Optional module* only.

We have put the optional module towards the end of PART A to allow students to choose an option which will inform the direction they want their research to take. At this stage too, we would expect to have identified a supervisory team for each student during the course of the optional module. The supervisory team will support the students through the final taught module and into the dissertation phase.

PART B

Students undertake an independent research study of 50,000 words on a topic, chosen in consultation with the programme director.

ED8026-30 Dissertation

This research component takes place over two years, with scope for an additional year to complete, making a maximum of three years for Part B overall.

The Part B dissertation is undertaken in line with BSU policy on PhD supervision, and each student is allocated a supervisory team formed of Director of Studies and supervisor/s. The supervisory team is approved by BSU's Higher Degrees Research Committee in line with BSU policy on PhD supervision. Students must successfully pass the Part A taught modules of the programme before moving on to Part B.

The dissertation will be examined by viva voce and in accordance with Bath Spa University policy and procedures. The work is required to make a distinct contribution to knowledge in the professional context, to be original, and to demonstrate an ability to relate to the existing body of research within the field.

PART A	Year 1	Policy and professionalism in education	Understanding educational research
	Year 2	Leadership and pedagogy	Advanced educational research methods
	Year 3	Optional module	Educational research proposal
PART B	Year 4-6	Dissertation	

Table 1: Outline of Programme Structure: Professional Doctorate in Education

APPENDIX 2: Map of module outcomes to level/programme outcomes



Please indicate (☐) in the relevant boxes the modules in which level/programme Intended Learning Outcomes are being assessed.

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,O) 1	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	ED7021-30	Understanding Educational Research	C			/	/			/	/	/	/	/	/
7	ED7022-30	Advanced Educational Research Methods	C		/	/	/			/	/	/	/	/	/
7	ED7023-30	Educational Research Proposal	C		/	/	/	/		/	/	/	/	/	/
7	ED7024-30	Policy and Professionalism in Education	C			/	/			/	/	/	/	/	/
7	ED7025-30	Leadership and Pedagogy	C			/	/			/	/	/	/	/	/
7	ED7107-30	Critical Studies in Early Childhood	O			/	/			/	/	/	/	/	/
7	EDU7100-30	Education and Society	O			/	/			/	/	/	/	/	/
7	EDU7105-30	Education and Globalisation	O			/	/			/	/	/	/	/	/
8	ED8026-30	Dissertation	C	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/	/

¹
C = Core, R = Required, O = Optional

Appendix 3: Assessment Map

Please indicate in the relevant boxes which summative assessment methods are used in each module and, where appropriate, the assessment length. Please delete or add columns and/or rows as necessary. An illustrative example, which should be deleted, is provided in the first line.

The titles 'Coursework', 'Practical' and 'Examination' are the headings under which the University is required to return data for the Key Information Set (KIS) and should not be changed. The specific headings under those are the ones given in the KIS guidance issued to Schools by Student Services; please amend them as necessary to fit the summative assessment diet on this programme and the most appropriate of the KIS data headings.

Level	Module Code	Module Title	Status (C,R,O) ¹	Assessment method														
				Coursework						Practical				Written Examination				
				Composition	Dissertation	Essay	Journal	Portfolio	Report	Performance	Practical Project	Practical skills	Presentation	Set exercises	Written Examination	In-class test (seen)	In-class test (unseen)	
7	ED7021-30	Understanding Educational Research	C			1 x 5,000 words												
7	ED7022-30	Advanced Educational Research Methods	C			1x 5,000 words												
7	ED7023-30	Educational Research Proposal	C			1x 5,000 words												

7	ED7024-30	Policy and Professionalism in Education	C			1 x 5,000 words											
7	ED7025-30	Leadership and pedagogy	C			1x5,000 words											
7	ED7107-30	Critical Studies in Early Childhood	O			1 x 5,000 words											
7	EDU7100-30	Education and Society	O			1x 6,000 words							1x 1500 words				
7	EDU7105-30	Education and Globalisation	O			1x 4,000 words 1x 3,500 words											
8	ED8026-30	Dissertation	C		1x50,000 words												

