



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MA Montessori Education

Course Code: MMOED

2023/24

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

MA Montessori Education (MMOED)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2023/24 Postgraduate Entrants

Confirmed at November 2022

General Information

Award	Master of Arts Montessori Education
Contained Awards	Postgraduate Diploma Montessori Education Postgraduate Certificate Montessori Education
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification and Credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 180 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
Course Lengths and Standard Timescales	Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length of the course is confirmed below and modes of delivery will be confirmed prior to the start date in line with Government guidance: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 year (fulltime, distance learning)• 2 years (part time, distance learning)
Part Time Study	PT delivery is usually at half the intensity of the FT equivalent course, although there may be flexibility to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration. Some modules may be delivered in a different sequence to that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent.
Location(s) of Delivery	Distance Learning
Entry Requirements	Admissions criteria are confirmed in your offer letter. Details of how the University recognises prior learning and supports credit transfer are located here: www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/studenthub/recognition-of-prior-learning Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .

Course Fees

Course fees and any additional course costs are confirmed in your offer letter. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.

Timetable Information

Timetables for Semester 1 will be made available to students during induction week via:

- i) The Student Portal (MyBeckett)
- ii) The Leeds Beckett app

Any difficulties relating to timetabled sessions may be discussed with your Course Administrator.

Policies, Standards and Regulations

(www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations)

There are no additional or non-standard regulations which relate to your course.

Key Contacts

Your Course Director	Nathan Archer
Your Academic Advisor	Assigned on enrolment
Your Course Administrator	education@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Entry requirements:

A first degree and experience within a Montessori Education setting.

It is anticipated that the MA students would likely be:

- a) Those already working in Montessori settings as leaders of practice
- b) Those wishing to move into Montessori practice who hold a first degree
- c) Those wishing to develop a research career specialising in Montessori education

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to enable students to:

- Evaluate and challenge relevant theories, theories, paradigms and concepts within the context of contemporary Montessori education.
- Use information and communication technology effectively through written work and presentations.
- Assess and critically evaluate the literature and other evidence as appropriate, in research and enquiry.
- Be able to select and apply appropriate research techniques and methodologies to enable the successful completion of a major piece of independent research.
- Adopt and develop an effective and autonomous approach to their own learning and continuing professional development exercising initiative and personal responsibility in planning workload and time to meet deadlines

Course Learning Outcomes

At the end of the course, students will be able to:

1	Explore and critique educational theory, research, policy, and practice.
2	Take a critical and reflective approach to diverse problems and issues in Montessori education, including (but not limited to) issues of culture, race, gender, and class.
3	Develop and articulate their own perspectives on Montessori education, informed by a critical evaluation of relevant theoretical and practical perspectives.
4	Make sound judgments in use of literature and forming arguments and competently communicate or present their conclusions.
5	Demonstrate independence and originality in approaching and undertaking a research task in education and produce an extended critical account of such activity.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The course supports the University position that an inclusive environment is one that is (i) non-discriminatory, appropriate, and transparent to each student we recruit; (ii) respects and values the perspectives and experiences each individual can offer; (iii) promotes values and practices associated with inclusive attitudes and behaviours in others.

The course will be normally delivered online using small group tutorials, seminars, and lectures, with support from the VLE and from visiting speakers. There are also opportunities for students to participate in peer-led discussions and presentations. In addition, the course leader runs weekly on-line drop-in sessions. In these

ways, the course develops a *community* in which everybody can choose to be visible, valued and respected for their unique individuality.

It encourages and enables students to be curious about others and engage in respectful discussion, debate, collaborative work and research, with other people and to explore their ways of viewing the world.

Course materials and activities represent a range of cultural perspectives and/or practices by, for example, including photographs of a diverse population, and avoiding stereotypical views.

We ensure that all students feel welcomed into the course, and do we work to ensure that all students feel welcoming towards 'others' on the course, by for example, encouraging communication between students using on-line platforms; offering opportunities for students to link with each other to give peer-group learning sets.

We ensure (through such things as the Course and Module handbooks, the weekly on-line drop-in sessions,) that our students know who to ask for specialist help.

We take account of different learning preferences, learning styles, and disabilities when designing the way a module/course is delivered and that materials are presented appropriately; that a range of teaching styles are used; that guidance on academic writing and referencing are given; that feedback is supportive.

Our assessments take account of these differences, as opportunities are given for some variation in assessment types, consistent with the demands of students studying such a course.

The scheduling of postgraduate Master's assessment and postgraduate timetabling consider, for example, the needs of part-time students, students with particular caring responsibilities or their religious calendars. For example, teaching sessions are normally held at weekends, and tutorials are often held in twilight sessions, or at particular times of the week to suit the needs of professionals employed full-time or part-time. Care has also been taken to arrange sessions so that they do not conflict with other religious occasions. Assessment deadlines are set in consultation with students to ensure that they are sensitive to their employment needs as well as consistent with university requirements.

Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 7			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Montessori Education for Sustainability (40 credits)			Y
Children's Cultural Worlds (20 credits)	Y	Diverse Childhood Identity and Inequality (20 credits)	Y
Research Methods (20 credits)	Y	Montessori for Social Justice (20 credits)	Y

Level 7	
Dissertation (60 credits)	Y

The information relates to the 2023/24 delivery year.

For the Master's degree, the Dissertation module must be taken and passed.

Distinction – the award of a distinction may be made to those students who have demonstrated excellent performance against the attainment of an average of 70% or more in assessments contributing to the final award.

Merit – the attainment of an average of 60% or more in assessments contributing to the final award.

INDICATIVE STRUCTURES

Year 1 (part-time mode)	
Semester 1	Semester 2
Montessori Education for Sustainability (40 credits)	
Children's Cultural Worlds (20 credits)	Diverse Childhood Identity and Inequality (20 credits)
	Montessori for Social Justice (20 credits)
Year 2	
Research Methods (20 credits)	
Dissertation (60 credits)	

Year 1 (full time mode)	
Semester 1	Semester 2
Montessori Education for Sustainability (40 credits)	
Children's Cultural Worlds (20 credits)	Diverse Childhood Identity and Inequality (20 credits)
Research Methods (20 credits)	Montessori for Social Justice (20 credits)
Dissertation (60 credits)	

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules undertaken by students on the course. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director, but applicants should note that the specific option choices students make may influence both assessment and workload balance.

A standard module equates to 200 notional learning hours, which may be comprised of teaching, learning and assessment, any embedded placement activities and independent study. Modules may have more than one component of assessment.

Assessment

On this course students will be assessed through a broadly even mix of coursework, written assignments and oral presentations. There is a major independent study module which will require the production of a dissertation of 12,000 – 15,000 words.

Workload

Overall Workload	
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	186 hours
Independent Study	1614 hours
Placement	0 hours

Learning Support

If you have a question or a problem relating to your course, your Course Administrator is there to help you. Course Administrators work closely with academic staff and can make referrals to teaching staff or to specialist professional services as appropriate. They can give you a confirmation of attendance letter, and a transcript. You may also like to contact your Course Rep or the Students' Union Advice team for additional support with course-related questions.

Student Services

If you have any questions about life at University, call into our Student Services Centre at either campus or contact Student Advice directly. This team, consisting of trained officers and advisers are available to support you throughout your time here. They will make sure you have access to and are aware of the support, specialist services, and opportunities our University provides. They also work on a wide range of projects throughout the year all designed to enhance your student experience and ensure you make the most of your time with us. Student Advice are located in the Student Services Centre in the Leslie Silver Building at City Campus and on the ground floor of the Priestley Building at Headingley Campus. The team can also be contacted via email at studentadvice@leedsbeckett.ac.uk, telephone on 0113 812 3000, or by accessing our online chat link, available on the student homepage.

Support and opportunities

Within MyBeckett you will see two tabs (Support and Opportunities) where you can find online information and resources for yourselves. The Support tab gives you access to details of services available to give you

academic and personal support. These include Library Services, the Students' Union, Money advice, Disability advice and support, Wellbeing, International Student Services and Accommodation. There is also an A-Z of Support Services, and access to online appointments/registration.

The Opportunities tab is the place to explore the options you have for jobs, work placements, volunteering, and a wide range of other opportunities. For example, you can find out here how to get help with your CV, prepare for an interview, get a part-time job or voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.