



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

**BA (Hons) International
Tourism Management**

Course Code: ITOUR

2024/25

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

BA (Hons) International Tourism Management (ITOUR)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2024/25 Undergraduate Entrants

Confirmed at December 2023

General Information

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|---|---|
| Award | Bachelor of Arts with Honours International Tourism Management |
| Contained Awards | Bachelor of Arts International Tourism Management Diploma of Higher Education International Tourism Management Certificate of Higher Education International Tourism Management |
| Awarding Body | Leeds Beckett University |
| Level of Qualification and Credits | Level 6 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 120 credit points at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 of the UK Credit Framework for Higher Education (360 credits in total). |
| Course Lengths and Standard Timescales | Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3 years (full time, campus based)• 4 years (full-time, campus based with a placement year) |
| Location(s) of Delivery | The teaching on your course will take place at Headingley campus. |
| 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: https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/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.

Template last updated: August 2022

Policies, Standards and Regulations (<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>)

At Level 4, the curriculum does not follow usual university regulations by following a modular structure. Instead, students will be assessed against the Level Learning Outcomes through six pre-mapped projects. Learning and teaching in these projects will be based around looking at tourism in an unfiltered way and from the perspectives of the many groups involved in the industry. Building a solid foundation for your degree will be paramount and will include understanding the contexts of tourism, acquiring, and developing skills to support your studies and the fostering of a creative and critical mindset.

Key Contacts

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|----------------------------------|---|
| Your Course Director | Dr Lisa Gorton |
| Your Academic Advisor | An Academic Advisor drawn from the course team will be allocated to you upon arrival. |
| Your Course Administrator | Julie Nunns |

Sandwich or Other 'In Year' Work Placement Information

Summary

This course offers the opportunity to take a 'sandwich' year – a year of paid employment in industry which will build your skills and industry experience. This is taken between the second and third year of your degree, typically making your course four years in total.

Students who choose the sandwich route find it helps with both their studies and securing graduate-level employment after completing their degree. It can build your confidence, network of contacts, and of course your CV. The central employability team and the course team work together to develop and advertise lots of placement opportunities for you and provide support in helping you find the right placement. Typical placements on offer include working at attractions, hotels, tour operators, destination management organisations and airlines.

Length

Students on sandwich mode will undertake a 46-week placement in between their second and final year of study. Students can also complete a credit-bearing module attached to the placement year where learning is assessed by producing an analytical report about the host organisation's operations. Students on the full-time mode may engage with up to 80 hours of experiential and/or work-based learning which may include working or volunteering in an appropriate organisation. This may occur in blocks of time or accumulated over a longer period; this takes place in the last year of the course and is assessed by a critical reflection of achievement within an optional module entitled "Future Prospects."

Location

Students may be placed with various local, regional, national, or international organisations.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Recognition by The Institute of Travel and Tourism (ITT)

The School of Events Tourism and Hospitality Management is recognised as a Centre of Excellence by the Institute of Travel and Tourism (ITT). Recognition signifies that the School is a leading provider of tourism education, research, consultancy, and publications. To celebrate student achievement, The ITT awards an annual Student of the Year prize. Students can access student membership of the ITT and benefit from access to guest speakers, industry expertise and can apply to become a Student Ambassador of the ITT.

Course Overview

Aims

In this course, we believe that higher education should be a positive experience that helps you grow as a person. We want to inspire you to be curious, motivated, and eager to develop yourself, so our course creates an environment where you can explore your interests and passions in the field of tourism. We want you to question the way things are done and produce innovative and creative ideas that improve tourism for everyone involved. You will learn to evaluate the social and ethical impact of tourism and create strategies for sustainable development. You will have practical experiences in planning and managing sustainable tourism, including measuring its impact.

We want you to understand that the global tourism industry is dynamic and interconnected. It is also complicated and challenging at times. To thrive within such an industry, we will help you develop your ability to collaborate with diverse stakeholders, to generate creative and innovative concepts, and to communicate complex ideas to different audiences.

We will help you develop important skills like creativity, communication, entrepreneurship, critical thinking, and collaboration. You will analyse and evaluate the complexities of tourism and propose innovative and sustainable solutions. When you do this, we want you to find a balance between the needs of the industry, local communities, and the environment. Our course encourages you to think differently and imagine a better world for tourism.

We think it has never been more important to find new ways of thinking and doing in tourism, so we want our graduates to be as resilient, entrepreneurial, and resourceful as possible. In this way, you can play your full part in bringing about positive change to the world of tourism. We value your wellbeing and we devote time in our curriculum to building your resilience and we support you to take charge of your own learning and development. Through a continual journey of self-reflection and evaluation, you will create a personal and professional development plan that will help you grow intellectually, personally, and professionally. A diverse team of leading academics, ex-industry practitioners and educationalists will be on hand to support this journey towards a growth mindset, as we all navigate new territories for tourism together.

By the end of this course, you will be equipped with the knowledge, skills, and mindset to make a positive impact in the world of tourism and to continue growing throughout your life.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

- demonstrate a critical understanding of the multi-faceted and interdependent nature of the global tourism industry, its diverse stakeholders, and the socio-economic and environmental impacts of tourism in different contexts
- demonstrate enhanced cross-cultural competency by their ability to work effectively in diverse teams and communicate complex ideas to a variety of audiences, drawing on a nuanced understanding of cultural contexts
- demonstrate a range of interdisciplinary skills including creative idea generation, communication, entrepreneurship, critical thinking, and collaboration to identify, propose and implement appropriate processes, solutions or innovations that contribute towards positive change within the tourism industry
- demonstrate a commitment to ongoing personal and professional development that regularly incorporates self-reflection and evaluation. A long-term growth mindset will be displayed with evidence that students have developed resilience, agility, and flexibility as new life-long learners
- identify, design, and use appropriate and innovative research methods, technology, and digital tools effectively to analyse and evaluate a wide range of tourism data, drawing appropriate conclusions, reaching informed decisions, and enhancing existing knowledge and practice
- demonstrate a nuanced and in-depth understanding of the complex ethical and social responsibilities of tourism planning and management practitioners, including the ability to appreciate and respect diverse ethical stances of all involved in tourism.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

In this course, we believe that learning should be a transformative experience that changes how you see the world of tourism. We will encourage you to question your assumptions and beliefs about the global tourism industry and consider new knowledge that you will construct through discussions and exchanges with others who have diverse backgrounds and views. You will gradually extend and deepen your understanding of the industry as you face different challenges and opportunities.

Transformative learning means not just gaining knowledge, but also taking action based on what you have learned. You will have the chance to apply your new perspectives and knowledge to real-life situations. In addition, we will use Problem-based learning (PBL). PBL is a way of learning that focuses on real-life problems. We will use it to help you develop skills in solving problems, learning on your own, and working with others. At times, you will work in small groups to investigate and propose solutions to problems that are relevant to you. PBL can also help you adopt a more open-minded and flexible perspective that can be applied to different disciplines and methods.

The course also values interdisciplinary learning. We will bring together different subjects like geography, economics, management, psychology, and more to understand tourism from various angles. Guest speakers from different industry sectors will share their insights too, giving you a broader view. You will also learn about research methods and how to conduct interdisciplinary research in tourism. We will introduce you to innovative tools and techniques for analysing tourism data so that your decisions are well-justified and

ethically sound. Throughout the course, you will have lots of opportunities for feedback and guidance to help you improve your skills.

We want you to reflect on your own growth and development throughout the course. You will engage in self-directed activities, such as study groups and online courses, to expand your knowledge. Field trips, internships, volunteering opportunities and community engagement will expose you to different tourism contexts. You will also develop your reflective practice skills through feedback and journaling. In your final year, you will work on a team-based capstone project that highlights your problem-solving abilities across multiple areas of tourism. We have made the assignments real and fair for everyone. They won't favour any specific culture or gender, and we'll explain them clearly. You'll be able to use your own experiences and what you know to do well in them.

Overall, this course is designed to help you learn, grow, and have influence in the world of tourism.

Learning will be in person. Students are expected to attend timetabled face-to-face learning and teaching activities. Live lectures will be recorded.

Your Modules and Course Structure

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Where option modules exist, these are listed as indicative of a typical year. There may be some variance in the availability of option modules. Students who are required to undertake repeat study may be taught alternate modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes. Details of delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Our BA (Hons) International Tourism Management degree has a unique structure that is different from traditional courses. We designed it this way with a few important reasons in mind:

- 1. Thriving at university:** We want to support our students' mental health and wellbeing. Research shows that many students struggle with mental health issues, so we have created a structure that prioritizes wellbeing and helps you feel connected and supported.
- 2. Breaking down barriers:** We aim to move away from learning in separate modules where it can be hard to see how things connect. Our new structure encourages a more integrated approach, where you can see how different topics and skills relate to each other.
- 3. Developing skills:** We believe that developing skills is crucial for your future success. We have carefully designed the curriculum to focus on skill-building. You will have opportunities to practice collaboration, problem-solving, and creativity, amongst many others. Plus, we have removed high-stakes assessments in the first year, so you can feel comfortable trying new things and learning from mistakes.
- 4. Employability focus:** We want to prepare you for the working world. Throughout the course, you will have chances to network, meet industry experts, and work with industry partners. We also offer credit-bearing opportunities like work experience and volunteering, as well as critical action weeks where you can work on meaningful projects with charities and community partners. If taken, all these opportunities will make you a stand-out graduate when you take your first steps onto the career ladder.

Our learning approach in the first two years revolves around four projects each year, lasting six weeks each. There are also two supporting strands of skills development which are threaded throughout the entire year. The four projects are based on real-world challenges in the tourism industry, like climate change and social media. You will receive a detailed scheme for each project, outlining what you need to know and do. Each project will have a dedicated session to explain the requirements and provide criteria for success.

We see assessment as a way to improve your learning journey. You will receive extensive feedback tailored to each project, and there will be debriefing sessions where you can share your experiences and reflect on what you have learned. By organizing learning in this way, we aim to give you practical opportunities to build knowledge and apply your skills. You will receive clear guidance, timely feedback, and reflective sessions to enhance your learning experience and help you succeed in your studies.

In your final year of study, you get to choose which areas you would like to specialise in from a wide-ranging choice that encompasses niche areas of tourism like gastronomy tourism or leadership skills within adventure tourism. Alternatively, you can further build your entrepreneurial talents or examine more closely the ethics of tourism. Every student gets the chance to work alongside industry on a real-life project, helping you bridge the gap between studies and the world of work, exactly when you need it most.

| Level 4: Indicative Projects (subject to change to reflect the external environment) |
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| The Human Factor |
| Tourism For All |
| Influencing Tourism |
| Tourism in a Changing Climate |
| Well Connected 1 |
| The Research Skills Lab 1 |

| Level 5 | | | |
|--|-------------------|--|-------------------|
| Semester 1 | Core (Y/N) | Semester 2 | Core (Y/N) |
| Destination Development (20 credits) | Y | The Tourism Design Challenge (20 credits) | Y |
| Technology in Tourism (20 credits) | Y | Managing Risk in an Uncertain Tourism World (20 credits) | Y |
| Well Connected 2 (20 credits) | Y | Well Connected 2 (continued) | Y |
| The Research Skills Lab 2 (20 credits) | Y | The Research Skills Lab 2 (continued) | Y |

| Level 6 | | | |
|--|------------|---|------------|
| Semester 1 | Core (Y/N) | Semester 2 | Core (Y/N) |
| Tourism Futures (20 credits) | Y | <i>One option from:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individual Project (20 credits) Future Prospects (20 credits) | N |
| <i>One option from:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food And Drink Tourism (20 credits) Tourism In The Global South (20 credits) Practical Workplace Solutions* (20 credits) | N | <i>One option from:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Entrepreneurship (20 credits) Leadership Through Adventure (20 credits) Storytelling For Brand Experiences (20 credits) | N |
| Consultancy Project (40 credits) | Y | Consultancy Project (continued) | Y |

*(for sandwich route only)

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities by Level

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules and typical option module choices 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

Level 4 is assessed by practical assessments.

Level 5 is assessed by a broadly even split of coursework and practical assessments.

Level 6 is assessed by a broadly even split of coursework and practical assessments.

Workload

| Overall Workload | Level 4 | Level 5 | Level 6 |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--|
| Teaching, Learning and Assessment | 288 hours | 288 hours | 234 hours |
| Independent Study | 912 hours | 912 hours | 878 hours |
| Placement | 0 hours | 0 hours | 80 hours (optional placement/work based learning module) |

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.