



Course Specification MSc Acoustics

Course Code: MACOU

2024/25

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

MSc Acoustics (MACOU)

Applicant Course Specification for 2024/25 Postgraduate Entrants

Confirmed at February 2024

General Information

Award	Master of Science Acoustics
Contained Awards	Not applicable as this is a 60 credits top-up award
Awarding Body	Leeds Beckett University
Level of Qualification and Credits	Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, with 60 credit points at Level 7 of the Higher Education Credit Framework for England.
Course Lengths and Standard Timescales	<p>Start dates will be notified to students via their offer letter. The length and mode of delivery of the course are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 year, part-time, campus based
Location of Delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.
Entry Requirements	<p>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/</p> <p>Admissions enquiries may be directed to: AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk.</p>
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 will be made available to students during induction week via:

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

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

Policies, Standards and Regulations

<https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/our-university/public-information/academic-regulations/>

The course follows the Academic Regulations.

Your Key Contacts

Course Director	Hayley Robinson-Mitchell
Academic Advisor	Confirmed at induction
Course Administrator	Patricia Stead p.a.stead@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

There is no professional accreditation associated with this course.

Course Overview

Aims

The aim of the course is to provide acousticians with an enhanced level of knowledge which supports a career path focused on the ability to engage in research and practice development. It is anticipated that such a practitioner will have the ability to make a significant contribution to their organisation, the community, the advancement of the acoustics profession and wider society. Students during their study will have added to their existing technical knowledge and skills an ability to critically engage with current research in the field.

Students completing the course will be able to:

- Critically analyse, examine and deal with complex acoustic issues, formulating sound judgments using the evidence available and then communicate their decisions to specialist and non-specialist audiences;
- Act autonomously to plan and implement tasks in an organised and professional manner;
- Advance their knowledge and understanding of environmental, building and occupational acoustics;
- Demonstrate a critical awareness of current practice and be able to apply research methodology to contribute to practice development;
- Take an active part in public consultations and debates within the acoustic profession.

Students will already be qualified to professional level as a result of their studies for the Diploma in Acoustics and Noise Control. Their studies for this MSc top-up award will add value by concentrating on skills in:

- The critical evaluation of research by others;
- The ability to contribute to research projects in collaboration with colleagues and other partners;
- The confidence to lead in the proposal, design and implementation of new research proposals;

From the outset of their studies all students will be encouraged to join IOA (if they are not already members), and to take/integrate their research activities into a professional CPD programme.

Course Learning Outcomes

- 1 Critically evaluate and synthesise theory and good practice, and use recent research evidence to develop practice;
- 2 Demonstrate the ability to operate effectively in complex and unpredictable situations within professional contexts;
- 3 Demonstrate critical awareness of topical and current issues surrounding the acoustics practitioner;
- 4 Contribute to the formulation and implementation of small-scale research projects which aim to improve the evidence base for the measurement, assessment and regulation of the noise environment;
- 5 Apply a critical awareness of the impact of and approaches taken by other professionals to engaging effectively in working with them.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

Learning will be in predominantly face to face, on campus and will be supplemented with online learning. Online lectures and tutorials will be a mix of recorded and live.

This top-up course comprises a 20 credit taught module (Applied Research Methods) and a 40 credit Dissertation module (Research and Practice Development). Research and Practice Development is a dissertation module which students pursue by independent study with support from:

- An allocated dissertation supervisor.
- Access to a wide range of online resources via the Leeds Beckett library. A designated subject librarian is available to advise on resources and search methods.
- Online support material on topics such as maths, writing skills and research methodology, organised within the Skills for Learning section of the Library website.

In preparation for their research projects and project applications students within the Applied Research Methods module will be introduced to the constructs and techniques that underpin sound and ethical research practice. Students, in an IT Lab setting and using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences software (SPSS), will also receive tuition on the application and use of various Quantitative data analysis tests, underpinned by the completion of a number of practical tasks. Individual and group work will also be utilised as the students examine the use of different Qualitative techniques in data analysis, refinement and interpretation.

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. Both modules are core.

Semester 1	Semester 2
Applied Research Methods (20 credits)	Research and Practice Development (40 credits)

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules. A standard 20 credit module equates to 200 notional learning hours, comprising teaching, learning and assessment, and independent study.

Assessment

Modules are assessed through coursework.

Workload

Overall Workload in hours	
Teaching and Learning	34
Independent Study and Assessment	566
Total	600

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 Representative 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. 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 and Wellbeing. 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 voluntary role, take part in an international project, or join societies closer to home.