



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MSc Audio & Acoustics

Course Code: MAUDA

2024/25

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Award and Title MSc Audio & Acoustics (MAUDA)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 24/25 Postgraduate Entrants

Confirmed at FEB/2024

General Information

Award	Master of Science Audio & Acoustics
Contained Awards	Post Graduate Certificate Audio & Acoustics Post Graduate Diploma Audio & Acoustics
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 and mode of delivery of the course is confirmed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 year (full time, campus based)• 2 years (part-time, campus based)
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. Please note that the work placement option is not generally available to PT students.
Location(s) of Delivery	The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be 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.

Policies, Standards and Regulations (www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/academicregulations)

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

Key Contacts

Your Course Director	Richard Stevens
Your Academic Advisor	Richard Stevens
Your Course Administrator	Bethwyn Osborne MusicCourseAdmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

N/A

Course Overview

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

1. Provide opportunities for graduates with honours degrees (or equivalent qualifications) to pursue advanced study in the field of audio and acoustics and develop wider skills appropriate to the holder of a Masters level award.
2. Produce individuals who have a critical and balanced appreciation of the practical and theoretical issues associated with audio and acoustics, including design, measurement, evaluation and management.
3. Provide a forum for the exchange and critical analysis of information relating to the field of audio and acoustics, thereby developing the experience and skills of the students themselves and contributing to the body of knowledge in relation to the cognate area.
4. Engage students in planning and implementing professional tasks which demonstrate advanced problem solving and autonomous decision making in complex situations.
5. Enable students to communicate a range of information and content in an appropriate format which reflects scholarly and professional contexts.
6. Empower students to make effective use of reflective strategies for the development and evaluation of self-managed learning and professional practice.

Course Learning Outcomes

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

1. Demonstrate a critical awareness of theoretical issues associated with the measurement, design and evaluation of audio and acoustic systems.
2. Deal with complex problems through measurement, design and evaluation that demonstrate a systematic understanding of knowledge and skills associated with audio and acoustic professional practice.
3. Demonstrate originality and synthesis in the application of theory and techniques, drawn from earlier studies, through the production of a final project, a significant piece of high-level independent work.
4. Evidence the ability to undertake effective self-directed learning and professional practice in a range of appropriate contexts.
5. Demonstrate the ability to critically appraise and apply appropriate research techniques relevant to the field and to communicate these findings through a range of formats appropriate to both scholarly and professional contexts.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The course takes a systematic approach to audio and acoustics. Fundamentals of Audio and Acoustic Engineering are delivered in the first semester allowing students to apply this learning in the more specific modules of the 2nd semester and the Final Project. The *Research Practice* module runs alongside the other modules in both semester 1 and 2 and is designed to support student's development of academic writing and research methodologies. This supports the work in other modules and prepares the ground for work done in the *Final Individual Project*. *Interfaces and Interactivity* and *Spatial Audio Applications* allow students to be a little more creative and both are taught in an open, explorative workshop approach.

Teaching and learning, for the most part, takes place in a supportive workshop style where practical demonstrations and worked examples help to explore complex topics. Experiential learning is important on the course and students are encouraged to listen to audio systems and acoustic environments and also to work independently in setting up and evaluating audio systems. Theoretical content is delivered mostly through seminar-based delivery but will always be followed up with applied demonstration of this theory. A supportive environment is also encouraged by lots of opportunity for discussion, both in taught sessions and also in one-to-one meetings with academic staff.

State of the art acoustics facilities, including anechoic and reverberation chambers, allow students to put key measurement standards and guidance into practice in professional level environments. The delivery of the course in a busy city centre environment allows plenty of opportunity to get out of the classroom and to experience and make measurements of real world noise problems. The Leeds School of Arts Building features a plethora of audio systems and acoustic environments to experience and discuss.

In-keeping with a Masters level approach students are expected to undertake much of their learning in their own time. Guided activities will be provided throughout for students to develop their skills in their own time and the VLE will be used to provide key reading and supporting documents for students to work through.

Weekly schedules are planned in detail and provided to students in module handbooks, helping them to plan their paths and progress through the course.

This course is delivered in person and all lectures and seminars are live. Some one-to-one or small group tutorials may be conducted online at the discretion of the tutor.

Your Modules

This information is correct for students progressing through the programme within standard timescales. Option modules listed are 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 module delivery will be provided in your timetable.

Level 7: Full Time			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Audio & Acoustic Engineering (40 Credits)	Y	Negotiated Skills Development (20 Credits)	Y
Research Practice (20 Credits)	Y	Audio, Acoustics, Wellbeing & the Environment (20 Credits)	Y
Interfaces & Interactivity (20 Credits)	Y	Spatial Audio Applications (20 Credits)	Y
Semester 3	Core (Y/N)		
Final Project (40 Credits)	Y		

Level 7: Part Time Year 1			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Audio & Acoustic Engineering (40 Credits)	Y	Negotiated Skills Development (20 Credits)	Y
		Audio, Acoustics, Wellbeing & the Environment (20 Credits)	Y
Level 7: Part Time Year 2			
Semester 1	Core (Y/N)	Semester 2	Core (Y/N)
Interfaces & Interactivity (20 Credits)	Y	Spatial Audio Applications (20 Credits)	Y
Research Practice (20 Credits)	Y		
Semester 3	Core (Y/N)		
Final Project (40 Credits)	Y		

Assessment Balance and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

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

On this course students will be assessed predominately by coursework, featuring some oral based assessment. There is a major independent study module which will require the production of a dissertation of 10,000 words.

Workload

Overall Workload	
Teaching, Learning and Assessment	160 hours
Independent Study	1,640 hours
Placement	NA

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.