



LEEDS
BECKETT
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Course Specification

MA Sport Development and Management

Course Code: MASDM

2026/27

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

MA Sport Development and Management (MASDM)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at 11/2025

General Information

Award	Master of Arts Sport Development and Management
Contained awards	Postgraduate Diploma Sport Development and Management (Level 7) Postgraduate Certificate Sport Development and Management (Level 7)
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: • 12 months (full time, campus based) • 24 months (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 from that defined within this information set but the modules offered within each level are consistent. Please note that a work placement option is not generally available to PT students.
Location(s) of delivery	The majority of teaching will be at Headingley campus but on occasion may be at City 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 are confirmed in your offer letter. A breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course. Fees enquiries may be directed to Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk .

Policies, Standards and Regulations

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

Exemption to Academic Regulation 2.3 'Standard Minimum Entry Requirements'; course entry requirements include IELTS 6.5 with no skills below 6.0, or an equivalent qualification.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional body

None

Timetable

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.

Key Contacts

Your course director

Dr Sara Ward

Your course administrator

SchoolOfSportPGAdmin@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course Overview

The MA Sport Development and Management is aimed both at recent graduates in Sport Development, Sport Management and related disciplines as well as people working in the sector. This includes sport and physical activity development professionals and those working in related areas who wish to diversify and develop their employability across a broader range of disciplines. The course is particularly relevant to recent graduates and current professionals who wish to broaden, deepen and internationalise their expertise and understanding of sport development and management. The course has a dual focus on increasing participation and the use of sport and physical activity as tools for the pursuit of social change in a range of settings, both in the UK and internationally. The applied and varied diet of assessment is designed to enable students to exploit their existing areas of interest and expertise or, should they so wish, explore new contexts. The course covers an exciting and contemporary range of subjects, including sport for development, strategic management, social theory, global sport policy and leadership. Engagement with this programme will enhance students' problem solving, creativity, decision making and leadership skills. The course will provide essential personal and career development for all students, including acting as a platform for progression to doctoral study.

Aims

The aims of the programme are to:

1. Provide current and prospective members of the sport development workforce with the opportunity to develop a higher critical appreciation of issues in the development of sport at local, national and global levels.
2. Enable students to develop advanced professional practice in sport development and management.
3. Develop students' ability to influence policy and practice at a strategic level in a range of sport and physical activity contexts.

Course learning outcomes

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

1	Analyse and address complex issues and problems in the management of sport and physical activity development.
2	Critically evaluate research, insight and advanced scholarship within sport development and management.
3	Demonstrate originality in the application of knowledge and techniques to create and interpret sport development and management policies and practices.
4	Integrate advanced learning in sport for development, sport and social theory, sport policy, strategic management, leadership and related disciplines in order to develop your professional practice.
5	Appreciate and critique the use of sport as a tool for development in local and global contexts.
6	Undertake higher level research in sport development and management in order to advance the subject area and influence professional practice.

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The learning and teaching on this programme places the student at the centre of the experience by fostering an inclusive, supportive, caring and challenging environment. The teaching and learning approaches adopted within modules are designed to sensitise students to contemporary issues in sport development and management, and to challenge their own assumptions and practices in those contexts. Across seven taught modules and the Independent Project, students will experience a range of teaching styles and delivery methods. Classroom-based workshops and seminars will be augmented by work-based activity, site visits and substantial independent study. There will be opportunities to undertake classes with students of related Master's courses, offering the opportunity for wider experiences to be shared and analysed. Guest speakers will augment core delivery by tutors, providing context for the advanced theory addressed across the curriculum. Modules will normally be delivered in weekly 2-3-hour blocks.

Due to the existing connections to the MSc Sport Business Management degree (which will see students sharing modules such as Strategic Management and the Independent Project), students on the MA Sport Development and Management will also have access to existing modules validated and delivered by the Sport Business Management course as elective options. This increases not just the range of modules available to students on the course, but also adds flexibility for students which may be particularly welcome to those students in full time employment.

The blend of teaching and learning methods in modules will involve a combination of face-to-face facilitated learning, key lectures in substantive areas, complemented by seminars and workshops, online learning, self-study through directed reading and independent study tasks as well as experiential learning, providing the opportunity for students to gain or develop essential industry experience. Teaching is typically live, face-to-face with some live online delivery, and that lectures are recorded where possible for future reference.

The delivery of taught sessions is highly focused around student engagement with the provided course content, while the assessments provide flexibility in terms of student choice of topics pertinent to their personal and professional interests.

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

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Applied Social Theory in Sport	20	Semester 1
Sport Management Research Skills	20	Semester 1
Strategic Management	20	Semester 1
Advanced Leadership in Sport	20	Semester 2
Global Sport Policy and Governance	20	Semester 2
Sport for Development	20	Semester 2
Independent Project	40	Semester 2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	160	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Global Perspectives in Sport Marketing	20	Semester 1
Innovations in Physical Education	20	Semester 1
Sports Events: Impacts, Issues and Policy	20	Semester 1
Professional Practice in the Sport Industry	20	Semester 1 and 2
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	20	

Level 7 – Part Time

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Applied Social Theory in Sport	20	Semester 1 – Year 1
Global Sport Policy and Governance	20	Semester 2 – Year 1
Sport for Development	20	Semester 2 – Year 1
Sport Management Research Skills	20	Semester 1 – Year 2
Strategic Management	20	Semester 1 – Year 2
Advanced Leadership in Sport	20	Semester 2 – Year 2
Independent Project	40	Semester 2 – Year 2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	160	

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Global Perspectives in Sport Marketing	20	Semester 1 – Year 1
Innovations in Physical Education	20	Semester 1 – Year 1
Sports Events: Impacts, Issues and Policy	20	Semester 1 – Year 1
Professional Practice in the Sport Industry	20	Semester 1 and 2 – Year 1
Number of credits of option modules a student should choose	20	

Assessment 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

Level 7

On this course students will be assessed predominantly by coursework with some practical assessments.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	230 hours
Independent study	1570 hours
Placement	0 hours

Nb: These hours will be dependent upon the option modules chosen and the choice of assessment mode taken