



LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY

Course Specification

MSc Health and Safety

Course Code: MSCHS

2026/27

leedsbeckett.ac.uk

MSc Health and Safety (MSCHS)

Applicant Facing Course Specification for 2026/27 Entrants

Confirmed at November 2025

General Information

Award	Master of Science Health and Safety
Contained awards <i>*Not accredited</i>	Postgraduate Diploma Health and Safety Master of Science Health and Safety Studies* Postgraduate Diploma Health and Safety Studies* Postgraduate Certificate Health and Safety*
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: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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 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 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/>

Standard regulations apply to this course except where noted below.

Modules must be passed for the accredited award

In order to meet the requirements of the accrediting body, the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH), and achieve the award with accreditation, all modules that make up the 'Professional' element of the course must be passed for achievement of the target award. This also applies to the contained award of Postgraduate Diploma Health and Safety. These modules are Ergonomics, Health and Safety Practice, Hazardous Industries, Professional Practice and Development, Occupational Health and Wellbeing and Sensible Risk Management.

Contained awards

Additional contained awards are available for students who meet the University's requirements for these awards, but do not meet IOSH requirements for the target award of MSc Health and Safety or the contained award of Postgraduate Diploma Health and Safety as follows:

- MSc Health and Safety Studies*
- Postgraduate Diploma Health and Safety Studies*
- Postgraduate Certificate Health and Safety*

*These awards are not accredited by IOSH, but those attaining these may be able to obtain Certified Membership, subject to IOSH membership criteria at the time of application, if they can demonstrate individually that they meet IOSH requirements.

Recognition of prior learning

An entry with Advanced Standing route allows students who already hold an IOSH-Accredited Postgraduate Diploma in Health and Safety to enrol on and complete the 60 credit 'Research' modules as a top-up award.

Fitness to Practise

The course is authorised to use the University Fitness to Practise Policy and Procedure. Details can be found here. Students are expected to act in a professional manner at all times in line with the Policy.

Professional Accreditation or Recognition Associated with the Course

Professional body

Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) www.iosh.co.uk

Accreditation/recognition summary

<https://iosh.com/health-and-safety-professionals/become-a-member/membership-categories/>

This course has been accredited by the Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH) and on successful completion, students will meet the academic requirements for Certified membership, subject to IOSH membership criteria at the time of application. The qualification must have been completed within five years at the time of application to IOSH.

In order to meet the requirements for the IOSH-accredited target award of MSc Health and Safety or the contained award of Postgraduate Diploma Health and Safety, students must pass all modules that are designated 'Professional' – see the Policies, Standards and Regulations section for details.

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 Ikpe Ibanga I.E.Ibanga@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Your course administrator Patricia Stead P.A.Stead@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course Overview

Aims

The aim of the programme is to provide a Safety Practitioner with an enhanced level of knowledge which supports a career not only as a Health and Safety Practitioner, but as a practitioner and manager of the Health and Safety process in both the private and public sectors, and with 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 Health and Safety profession and wider society. Students during their study will have acquired key knowledge, and developed the advanced skills that are associated with, pragmatic competent risk management strategies and techniques. Students successfully completing the programme will also have fulfilled the required professional body learning outcomes, as required by the accrediting professional body, IOSH, and will be eligible for Certified Membership and the opportunity to progress to Chartered Safety Practitioner status.

Such practitioners will have developed the ability and attitudes to critically identify, evaluate, develop, and deliver occupational health and safety issues in a range of settings, contributing to and securing enhanced personal and team practice through research, the continuation of personal professional development, and lifelong learning.

Course learning outcomes

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

1	Synthesise and respond to the complexity of legal/ethical issues within their risk management practice
2	Demonstrate the ability to operate effectively in complex and unpredictable situations within professional contexts
3	Demonstrate critical understanding of the dynamic nature of safety management
4	Critically evaluate and synthesise theory and good practice, and demonstrate an ability to engage in research and practice development
5	Apply a critical awareness of the impact of approaches taken by other professionals in attempting to solve common professional problems
6	Demonstrate critical awareness of topical and current issues surrounding the Health and Safety Practitioner

Teaching and Learning Activities

Summary

The main modes of delivery are lectures and tutorials on campus complemented by substantial use of the virtual learning environment (VLE). There is a range of learning activities including group and self-study exercises. A key feature of the course is flexibility to meet students' needs with particular reference to attendance for tuition which will be concentrated on two days per week. This is achieved through delivering lectures asynchronously for some modules via the VLE supported by timed (synchronous) online course-specific tutorials on the days of attendance. The modules identified for this are: Ergonomics and Sensible Risk Management.

Given the need to comply with the IOSH curriculum, there is some overlap with the curriculum for BSc (Hons) Safety Health and Environmental Management in respect of some modules so lectures covering core content for the following modules is shared with Levels 5 and 6 students on that course, but Level 7 students then attend course-specific tutorials to enable them to develop their learning to a more advanced level: Health and Safety Practice; Occupational Health and Wellbeing; Professional Practice and Development; and Hazardous Industries. For the students this gives the possibility of engaging with a wider range of students during class discussions.

The VLE is used in various ways across all modules including the structured provision of online resources and some tutor support. Students are also required to make use of the various electronic communication tools including discussion boards thereby fostering their cohort identity and allowing continued engagement when offsite. Students are expected through their engagement with the VLE and their own independent study to work with a wide range of academic, professional and technical learning resources. Examples include interactive learning tools that can foster development of critical thinking skills, and reports of enquires which can be studied to provide opportunities to compare proposed solutions and examine their effectiveness. The case studies used allow students to develop a deeper knowledge of failure of safety management systems and of those using the safety management systems, and to consider critically developments that have arisen from recommended improvements. In relation to access to research information, students are specifically encouraged to register on the IOSH website to gain access to the IOSH research area.

Some freely available video content will also be used in conjunction with prepared question sets that stimulate student reasoning. These questions sets will be designed to encourage students to investigate specific aspects such as political concerns, technological advances, or advances in the detection of adverse consequences. Use of electronic resources also enables students to develop their digital literacy skills, including those required by Safety Managers when undertaking or delegating the management of Health and Safety processes in the workplace. In some instances, students will be set specific tasks which require the use of online tools. For example, in relation to chemical risk assessment, students are shown how to access and input information about a particular chemical into the HSE website to develop a chemical risk assessment, which they then have to save and present to the class during a later learning session. The promotion of the best practice approach makes the course an ideal vehicle for utilising the blended learning approach and also enables the course team to easily integrate national and international approaches to risk management. The best practice approach will allow students to develop individual critical thinking, as they compare what is normally the accepted to going beyond legal compliance. Utilising the best practice approach also allows the course team to help students utilise many external learning resources, to examine a wide variety case studies to develop critical thinking and provide opportunity to compare and reflect upon improvements that were suggested.

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

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Ergonomics	20	1
Health and Safety Practice	20	1
Hazardous Industries	20	1
Applied Research Methods	20	1
Professional Practice and Development	20	2
Occupational Health and Wellbeing	20	2
Sensible Risk Management	20	2
Research and Practice Development	40	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	180	

Part time

Year 1

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Health and Safety Practice	20	1
Hazardous Industries	20	1
Professional Practice and Development	20	2
Occupational Health and Wellbeing	20	2
Sensible Risk Management	20	2

Year 2

Module title	Credits	Semester/ teaching period
Ergonomics	20	1
Applied Research Methods	20	1
Research and Practice Development	40	2
Number of credits of compulsory modules	180	

Assessment and Scheduled Learning and Teaching Activities

The assessment balance and overall workload associated with this course are calculated from core modules. They have been reviewed and confirmed as representative by the Course Director.

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

Modules are assessed by coursework, examination, practical assessments and a dissertation.

Workload

Overall Workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	261 hours
Independent study	1539 hours
Placement	-