



**LEEDS
BECKETT
UNIVERSITY**

Course information for applicants

This information applies to the course as it will be delivered to students starting the course in 2027/28.
Information provided here was confirmed on 24/09/2026

General information

Programme code

MPUBP

Target award

If you complete this course successfully you will be eligible for the award of:
MA Public Policy

Delivery mode

- ☒ On campus
☐ Distance learning

Where you will study

The majority of teaching will be at City campus but on occasion may be at Headingley campus.

Awarding body

Leeds Beckett University

Regulator

Office for Students

Level of qualification

Level 7 of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications

Course duration

If you are made an offer of a place on the course, your offer letter will include the start date.

This course can be studied:

- 12 months full-time
24 months part-time

Note: There are September and January starts.

Part-time study

This course can be studied part-time.

If you study the course part-time, it will usually take twice as long to complete compared with the equivalent full-time course. The modules may be delivered in a different sequence than on the full-time course, but you will study the same modules at each academic level. With the agreement of the course team, you may be able to increase your pace of study to shorten the overall course duration.

As a part-time student, you will not usually have the option of a work placement.

Work placement

This course does not include a placement year.

Entry requirements

Admissions criteria are available on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have previous relevant qualifications or experience, you could be exempt from certain parts of your course. Recognition of prior learning (RPL) allows you to start your course at a point appropriate to the learning and skills that you may have developed in a professional, vocational or community setting.

Find out more here: <https://www.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/student-information/course-information/recognition-of-prior-learning>

If you have questions about entry requirements and admissions, contact AdmissionsEnquiries@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Course fees

Course fees and a breakdown of any additional costs is included on the online prospectus entry for this course.

If you have questions about fees for this course, contact Fees@leedsbeckett.ac.uk

Timetable

You will receive your full timetable for the year during induction week.

What you will study

Course aims

The aims of the programme are to develop in students:

1. Provide students with knowledge of the origins, evolution and contemporary dynamics of policy making and challenges to it.
2. Provide students with an understanding of the concepts, theories and methods used in the study and practice of public policy.
3. Transform students into sophisticated, independent and critical thinkers in the field of public policy.
4. Support students in their transition to postgraduate study so that all students will become confident in their academic and professional abilities and be able to apply their knowledge and skills within complex situations.

5. Provide students with a thorough understanding of research, both as a practice and as a product, and be fully prepared for further development in either an academic or professional environment.
6. Enable students to apply their knowledge of public policy with originality within advanced academic contexts.

Teaching and learning activities

Teaching will be delivered via blended learning, with in person seminars, and additional online learning resources provided via our Virtual Learning Environment. Teaching methods will focus on small group discussion and debate, supported by mini lectures where appropriate, and supplemented by sessions in IT labs to develop skills using appropriate software. The students' experience of the delivery of this course is through a range of teaching methods and learning activities. While the lecturers and tutors are there to disseminate knowledge and facilitate learning, there is an emphasis on students' collaboration in the learning experience. Students are encouraged to set their own tasks, within clearly identified structures, to meet the learning outcomes and assessment criteria. Similarly, reading lists are less prescriptive and encourage students to locate their own resources. The VLE (My Beckett) is used to provide materials, but is also a forum for discussion, assessment and the sharing of resources and feedback.

The range of learning activities not only provides an opportunity for students to develop communication skills via different media, but also accommodates different learning styles amongst students.

The course ensures that teaching and learning contexts are (i) non-discriminatory and tailored for each student with a reasonable adjustment plan; (ii) respectful and valuing the perspectives and experiences each individual can offer; (iii) promoting the values and practices associated with inclusive attitudes and behaviours in others.

Course structure

This information is correct for students progressing through the course within standard timescales. If you have to repeat study or take time out during your course, you may be taught alternative modules which meet the overall course learning outcomes.

The option modules listed may vary. Those listed here are likely to be offered in a typical year.

*Semesters will be confirmed on a year-by-year basis unless otherwise indicated.

September Starters

Level 7

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
MA Dissertation & Research Design	60	Both Semesters
Policy Challenges	20	1 or 2*
Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights OR The Politics of Public Policy*	20	1 or 2*
Developing & Managing Projects	20	1 or 2*
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	120	

*Only one of the core modules, Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights or Theorising Human Rights will run in a given year, depending on staff deployment.

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Gendering the International	20	1 or 2*
Housing Needs	20	1 or 2*
Policies for Health in the 21st Century	20	Both Semesters
Transforming Punishment & Rehabilitation	20	1 or 2*
Useable Pasts	20	1 or 2*
Contemporary Criminal (in)Justice	20	1 or 2*
Planning for Environmental Sustainability	20	1 or 2*
Critical Perspectives in Youth & Community Work	20	1 or 2*
Total number of credits of elective modules a student must enrol on:	60	

Full time students will study two option modules in Semester 1 and one option module in Semester 2.

In Year 1 part-time students will study 1 core and 1 option module in Semester 1 and 2 core modules in Semester 2.

In Year 2, part-time students will study 1 core module (MA Dissertation & Research Design) and 1 option in Semester 1 and 1 option in Semester 2.

January Starters

Level 7

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
MA Dissertation & Research Design	60	Both Semesters
Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights or Theorising Human Rights*	20	1 or 2*
Developing & Managing Projects	20	1 or 2*
Policy Challenges	20	1 or 2*
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	120	

*Only one of the core modules, Global Policymaking: Environment & Human Rights or Theorising Human Rights will run in a given year, depending on staff deployment.

Option modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Contemporary Criminal (in)Justice	20	1 or 2*
Policies for Health in the 21st Century	20	Both Semesters
Planning for Environmental Sustainability	20	1 or 2*
Critical Perspectives in Youth & Community Work	20	1 or 2*
Gendering the International	20	1 or 2*
Housing Needs	20	1 or 2*
Transforming Punishment & Rehabilitation	20	1 or 2*
Useable Pasts	20	1 or 2*
Total number of credits of elective modules a student must enrol on:	60	

Full time students will study one option module in Semester 1 and two option modules in Semester 2.

In Year 1 part-time students will study 2 core modules in Semester 1 and 1 core module and 1 option module in Semester 2.

In Year 2, part-time students will study 1 core module (MA Dissertation & Research Design) and 1 option in Semester 1 and 1 option in Semester 2.

Assessment and feedback

The balance of assessment may change depending on which option modules you choose.

Level 7

On this course students will be assessed mostly through by coursework, with some timed and practical assessments.

Workload

You can expect to spend a total of 100 hours learning per 10 credits.

Overall workload	Level 7
Teaching, learning and assessment	158 hours
Independent study	1842 hours
Placement study	-