



**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 29/07/2026

General information

Programme code

PGDHS

Target award

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

PGDip Health and Safety

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.

Professional accreditation or recognition

Professional body

Institution of Occupational Safety and Health (IOSH)

Summary of the accreditation or recognition

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 Postgraduate Diploma Health and Safety, students must pass all modules that are designated 'Professional', i.e., all modules.

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:

9 months full-time

16 months part-time

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 course are to:

Synthesise and respond to the complexity of legal/ethical issues within their risk management practice;

Demonstrate the ability to operate effectively in complex and unpredictable situations within professional contexts;

Demonstrate critical understanding of the dynamic nature of safety management;

Critically evaluate and synthesise theory and good practice;

Apply a critical awareness of the impact of approaches taken by other professionals to engaging effectively in working with them;

Demonstrate critical awareness of topical and current issues surrounding the Health and Safety Practitioner.

Teaching and learning activities

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 one day 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 day 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/access to online resources and some tutor support. Students will also be required to make use of the various electronic communication tools including discussion boards thereby fostering their cohort identity and allowing continued engagement when off site. Active engagement with the VLE will be fostered by the course team who have a great deal of experience in using all learning environments and the integration of the learning acquired. The course team has a good range of techniques that encourages students to engage in online activity. Students will be 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 the effectiveness of proposed solutions. The selected case studies allow students to critically consider what developments may have arisen from recommended improvements. This allows the students to develop a deeper knowledge of failure of safety management systems and failure of those using the safety management systems. In relation to access to research information, students will be specifically encouraged to register on the IOSH website to gain access to the IOSH research area.

Some freely available video content is also used in conjunction with prepared question sets that stimulate student reasoning. These questions sets may be designed to encourage students to investigate political concerns, technological advances, or advances in the detection of adverse consequences. Use of electronic resources will also enable students to develop their digital literacy skills, including those required by Safety Managers when undertaking or delegating management Health and Safety processes in the workplace. In some instances, students will be set specific tasks which will require the use of online tools. For example, in relation to chemical risk assessment, students will be shown how to access and input information about a particular chemical into the HSE website to develop a chemical risk assessment, which they then will 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 will also enable 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 will compare what is normally the accepted to going beyond legal compliance. Utilising the best practice approach will also allow 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.

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.

Full-time, one year

Compulsory modules

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Ergonomics	20	Semester 1
Health and Safety Practice	20	Semester 1
Hazardous Industries	20	Semester 1
Professional Practice and Development	20	Semester 2
Occupational Health and Wellbeing	20	Semester 2
Sensible Risk Management	20	Semester 2
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	120	

Part-time, three semesters

Compulsory modules

Year One

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Health and Safety Practice	20	Semester 1
Hazardous Industries	20	Semester 1
Professional Practice and Development	20	Semester 2

Occupational Health and Wellbeing	20	Semester 2
Sensible Risk Management	20	Semester 2
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	100	

Year Two

Module title	Credits	Semester/teaching period
Ergonomics	20	Semester 1
Total number of credits of compulsory modules:	20	

January cohorts follow a similar delivery.

Assessment and feedback

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

Level 7

This course is assessed by a broadly even mix of coursework, examinations and practical assessments. There is a major independent study module which is assessed by a dissertation.

Workload

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

Typically, a student on this course can expect to divide their time like this:

Overall workload	
Teaching, learning and assessment	220 hours
Independent study	980 hours