COURSE SPECIFICATION

MSc Educational Leadership and Management (Top-up) (DL)

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Course Title	MSc Educational Leadership and Management (Top up)
Final Award	MSc
Exit Awards	PgCert , PgDip
Course Code / UCAS code (if applicable)	*P3746PTD*
Mode of study	Part time
Mode of delivery	Distance Learning
Normal length of course	1 year
Cohort(s) to which this course specification applies	from September 2026 intake onwards
Awarding Body	University of Portsmouth
Teaching Institution	University of Portsmouth
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
School/Department/Subject Group	School of Education, Languages and Linguistics
School/Department/Subject Group webpage	SELL
Course webpage including entry criteria	https://www.port.ac.uk/study/courses/msc-educational-leadership-and-management-degree-apprenticeship
Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Body accreditations	*None*
Office for Students Conditions of Registration	*https://www.officeforstudents.org.uk/for-providers/registering-with-the-ofs/registration-with-the-ofs-a-guide/conditions-of-registration/*
Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level	*Level 7*

This course specification provides a summary of the main features of the course, identifies the aims and learning outcomes of the course, the teaching, learning and assessment methods used by teaching staff, and the reference points used to inform the curriculum.
This information is therefore useful to potential students to help them choose the right course of study, to current students on the course and to staff teaching and administering the course.

Further detailed information on the individual modules within the course may be found in the relevant module descriptors and the Course Handbook provided to students on enrolment.

Please refer to the Course and Module Catalogue for further information on the course structure and modules.

Educational aims of the course

- To provide a coherent course of studies for students who wish to develop a detailed knowledge and understanding of management issues in education and training organisations.
- To meet the developing needs of those holding, or aspiring to hold, senior positions in such organisations.
- To provide a challenging and stimulating experience of study.
- To ensure that the scholarship and professional expertise of staff informs the curriculum.
- To provide students with the skills and knowledge to undertake research and scholarship on specific issues in Educational Leadership and Management and in their own professional practice
- To contribute to the support of students in improving their own professional knowledge and practice

Course Learning Outcomes and Learning, Teaching and Assessment Strategies

The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) sets out a national framework of qualification levels, and the associated standards of achievement are found in their Framework for Higher Education Qualifications document.

Office for Students Conditions of Registration

The Course Learning Outcomes for this course are outlined in the tables below.

A. Knowledge and understanding of:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
A1	A full critical awareness of a full range of research methods necessary to complete a dissertation	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
A2	Complex issues from literature, current research and other data	*Lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
A3	The potential for new hypotheses and/or insights/and/or practices and ongoing study and research.	*Lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
A4	Critically reflect upon the development of their personal and professional development.	*Lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*

B. Cognitive (Intellectual or Thinking) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
B1	Synthesise, interpret and analyse information relevant knowledge n from different sources.	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
B2	Evaluate and integrate information from different sources, developing alternative lines of enquiry where appropriate.	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
B3	Critically assess problems and situations, researching information needed to establish their critical features	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
B4	Evaluate appropriate methods to illustrate problem solving processes	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
B5	Assess and reflect on the effectiveness of strategy, including factors that have an impact on outcomes within the confines of the boundaries of knowledge	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*

C. Practical (Professional or Subject) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
C1	Being able to think critically and be creative: manage the creative processes in self and others; organise thoughts, analyse, synthesise and demonstrate critical awareness critically appraise	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
C2	Being able to solve complex problems and make decisions: establish criteria, using appropriate decision-making techniques including identifying, formulating and solving business problems; the ability to create, identify and critically evaluate current research and advanced scholarship evaluate options; the ability to implement and review decisions	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
C3	Effective communication: demonstrate a practical understanding of networking, listening, oral and written communication of complex ideas and arguments, using a range of media, including the preparation of business reports	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
C4	The ability to recognise the need for and initiate change and to be able to manage change from a local and international perspective	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*

D. Transferrable (Graduate and Employability) skills, able to:			
LO number	**Learning outcome**	**Learning and Teaching methods**	**Assessment methods**
D1	Evaluate a range of strategies and resources to explore problems via a proactive and independent approach	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
D2	The ability to apply subject-specific academic and professional skills in order to conduct research and enquiry into business and management issues either individually or as part of a team through research design, the collection and analysis of qualitative and/ or quantitative data, synthesis and reporting	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
D3	High personal effectiveness: critical self-awareness, self-reflection and self-management; time management; conflict resolution, displaying commercial acumen, the ability to continue to learn through critical reflection on practice and experience	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
D4	Soft skills: understanding the needs of others and empathy towards them; sensitivity to diversity in people and in different situations whilst acting wit social responsibility, ethical values and behaving with integrity	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*
D5	Take a lead role in making things happen whilst championing values of global social responsibility, n, sustaining motivation and effective working relationships	*lectures, seminars, group work, use of directed resources on VLE.*	*Dissertation*

Academic Regulations

The current University of Portsmouth Academic Regulations: Examination & Assessment Regulations will apply to this course. Approved course exemptions can be found here.

Support for Student Learning

The University of Portsmouth provides a comprehensive range of support services for students throughout their course, details of which are available at the MyPort student portal.

Evaluation and Enhancement of Standards and Quality in Learning and Teaching

The University of Portsmouth undertakes comprehensive monitoring, review and evaluation of courses within clearly assigned staff responsibilities. Student feedback is a key feature in these evaluations, as represented in our Policy for Listening to and Responding to the Student Voice where you can also find further information.

Reference Points

The course and outcomes have been developed taking account of:

- University of Portsmouth Connected Curriculum
- University of Portsmouth Vision
- Office for Students Conditions of Registration
- University of Portsmouth Code of Practice for Work-based and Placement Learning
- Quality Assurance Agency UK Quality Code for Higher Education
- Quality Assurance Agency Qualification Characteristic Statements
- Quality Assurance Agency Subject Benchmark Statement: Business and Management
- Quality Assurance Agency Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
- Requirements of Professional and/or Statutory Regulatory Bodies: **BERA**
- Vocational and professional experience, scholarship and research expertise of the University of Portsmouth's academic members of staff
- National Occupational Standards

Changes to your course/modules

The University of Portsmouth has checked the information provided in this Course Specification and will endeavour to deliver this course in keeping with this Course Specification. However, changes to the course may sometimes be required arising from annual monitoring, student feedback, and the review and update of modules and courses.

Where this activity leads to significant changes to modules and courses there will be prior consultation with students and others, wherever possible, and the University of Portsmouth will take all reasonable steps to minimise disruption to students.

It is also possible that the University of Portsmouth may not be able to offer a module or course for reasons outside of its control, for example, due to the absence of a member of staff or low student registration numbers. Where this is the case, the University of Portsmouth will endeavour to inform applicants and students as soon as possible, and where appropriate, will facilitate the transfer of affected students to another suitable course.

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