

The MSc in Education offers a unique opportunity to study in one of the country's leading centres for educational research. The course is also distinctive because it offers exciting opportunities for students to work in a truly inter-disciplinary environment. This scheme is aimed at practitioners, administrators and students who want to engage in the advanced level study of education. Alumni include senior administrators and a wide range of practitioners. It offers the opportunity to examine leading edge theories and research evidence in order to understand the social impact of educational policies and practices in a variety of education settings.

The Cardiff Educational Research Group has a reputation for its emphasis on the study of lifelong learning. It views education as a 'cradle to the grave' process that takes place in variety of social contexts including school, home, work-places and wider community. For experienced professionals it will provide a theoretical and substantive foundation from which they may critically evaluate contemporary educational structures, institutions and practices.

Teaching

The MSc is taught by internationally renowned scholars in one of the foremost education research groups in the UK. Modules include:

- Principles and Practice of Research Design
- Critical Debates in Education
- Managing Educational Institutions
- Psychological Perspectives in Teaching and Learning
- Sociology of Childhood: policies, practices and perspectives
- Leadership and Policy in Education
- Dissertation (20,000 words)

Past dissertation titles include:

- The effects of age on second language acquisition.
- Why girls choose to participate in sport, a comparative study.
- A study of errors produced by Greek learners of English in written discourse.
- Professional women, a study of gender and higher education.
- Do Deputy Heads want to be Heads? An investigation into the attitudes of Primary Deputy Heads in Mid Glamorgan towards Headship.
- An evaluation of attitudes: academic versus vocational qualifications.

Programme Elements

To obtain the masters degree students must successfully complete taught courses to the value of 120 credits and a 20,000 word dissertation. The programme is divided into the following elements:

Course Modules: These modules provide a systematic introduction to the specific challenges and approaches found within the field of Education. They provide a thorough grounding in core social science skills.

Dissertation: The dissertation is a crucial element of the degree allowing candidates to specialise on an Educational topic of their choosing. This stage of the MSc gives students the opportunity to apply the methodological and analytic skills developed in the taught element of the scheme to a specific topic.

Academic Staff

Professor Phil Brown

Professor Amanda Coffey

Dr Sara Delamont

Dr Gabrielle Ivinson

Dr Martin Jephcote

Dr Raya Jones

Professor Sally Power

Dr Emma Renold

Dr Dean Stroud

Dr Chris Taylor

Professor Valerie Walkerdine

Period of Study

The masters can be taken either part-time or full-time. The period of study for full-time students is twelve months (October - September). The taught coursework takes place over two semesters (October - June). The dissertation is begun in the second semester but is completed during the summer months. The summer is a period of independent research with one to one supervision. Part-time students can take the masters over two years, completing the dissertation in the second year.

Admission Requirements

Candidates should normally have an upper second class degree but strengths in other areas will be considered; or an equivalent qualification. In addition, applicants will be considered if they can demonstrate, through some recent and relevant experience, that they have the ability to undertake the course. Where English is not the applicant's first language, we do require a minimum IELTS score of 7 or above (including a score of at least 6.5 in the reading and writing element).

Applications are considered on a rolling basis. There is no deadline.