



As prospective students on the MSc Education Programme we look forward to welcoming you in September. We appreciate that at this stage in the application cycle you may have questions that will help you make a decision on your plans for next year and, if you have accepted your offer, to plan for your arrival. Do please get in touch if you have any questions: jean.dourneen@bristol.ac.uk



Programme Structure

Students on the MSc Education programme have one core unit on Research Methods in Education entitled '[Introduction to Educational Inquiry](#)' (IEI) in preparation for their dissertation.

All other units are optional enabling students to tailor their units to their needs and interests. New for 2017 we have a new unit entitled [Big Ideas in Education](#). This unit will be delivered in the Autumn term and will introduce students to the multidisciplinary field of education. It will offer an introduction to the history of Educational research, provide an overview of different traditions of research and knowledge in the field, and explore how these traditions to contribute to understanding educational debates of contemporary significance. It has been designed on the basis of feedback from students on the MSc Education programme and is recommended for students on this programme, particularly those coming from non-Education background.

Next month you will be contacted and asked to indicate your provisional choices for Autumn term units. Full-time students will need to take a further 40 credit points (two units) alongside the Introduction to Educational Inquiry unit. We recommend the Big Ideas in Education being one of these. To support your response to this request you are advised to start looking at the units available in the Autumn term. The easiest way to view the units and have sight of the teaching timetable slots is to go to the Provisional Teaching Timetables on the [New Student](#) web pages. Each unit has a link which takes you to the formal unit specification on the University Unit Catalogue where you can view the learning outcomes, assessment methods and further information on the content of the unit.

Indicating provisional choices will help inform our planning for your arrival but be rest assured that these will be treated as provisional and changes will be possible in the initial two weeks of teaching (up to 6th October 2017). This will enable you the opportunity to talk to Unit Tutors and your Personal Tutor when you arrive to finalise your decision.

Preferences for Spring/Summer term units will not be collected at this time. A separate process for this is conducted at the end of October/beginning of November for all students.

I have already obtained Masters level credits, can I import these?



You may be permitted to transfer up to 60 credits into a programme of study under the [Recognition of Prior Learning](#) (RPL) scheme. There are two ways in which 'recognition' can be considered:

1. Recognised Prior '**Certified**' Learning is the achievement of learning that has been formally assessed and certificated from previous study with a higher education organisation.
2. Recognised Prior '**Experiential**' Learning is the non-certified acquisition of relevant skills and knowledge, gained through relevant experience, which is capable of being evaluated.

In next months mailing you can expect a link to an online form to collect the details of any RPL requests. These will then be considered for approval by the relevant Admissions Officer.

The MSc Education permits the full 60 credits to be imported. This alongside the compulsory Introduction to Educational Inquiry unit leaves just 40 credits (two units) of taught units to complete alongside the dissertation.

Please be advised that the [Postgraduate Government Loan](#) requires completion of the full programme i.e. 180 credits. Those importing credits will not be eligible for this loan. Students who successfully import credits will receive a pro-rata fee discount for the credits awarded in their final free paying year of study.

Pre-Reading

The design of the MSc Education programme permitting students the freedom to tailor their programme of study means that there is no set Reading List. You can however find details of some suggested introductory texts [here](#).

Checklist of things to do before arriving

- **Apply for Accommodation** - The Accommodation Office is accepting [applications](#) from offer-holders who are commencing study in September 2017. University accommodation is very popular and the deadline is TODAY. Please see their [website](#) for more information.
- **Accept your offer** - The earlier we know the more preparation we can do for your arrival. If you have not already done so please [respond](#) to your offer of study.
- **Apply for a Visa (*International Students only*)** - If you are an international applicant now is the time to apply for your Tier 4 visa. Unconditional offer holders who have paid a [deposit](#) can request a Certificate of Acceptance of Studies (CAS) number. The University of Bristol has an excellent [International Office](#) and our colleagues there have vast experience in offering applicants advice and support. Contact details are available on the link above and we would recommend making use of their expertise.
- **Meet Any Conditions of Offer** - We appreciate that conditional offer-holders will meet their conditions at different points throughout the application cycle. Please ensure that as soon as you have the documents to satisfy a condition of offer that you get in touch [with us](#). We will then update your application accordingly.

Choosing to study with us will be one of the most enriching and rewarding experiences of your lives. We look forward to welcoming you into the School community in September. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to contact us if you need any further advice or support.

With best wishes,

Jean Dourneen
Graduate School of Education

ed-masters-admiss@bristol.ac.uk
+44 117 3314491
Follow @GSOEBristol on Twitter