



Dear Applicant

I just wanted to say how pleased I am that you're joining us on the programme soon and to keep you updated on what's happening here. The Summer Term is a busy time at the Graduate School of Education (GSoE) – apart from programme related sessions (such as dissertation seminars) you will also be able to engage in a wide range of exciting events!

Programme Structure

For those of you studying full-time, during the Autumn and Spring term with us we will be working with you on the following units:

- [Understanding Educational Research](#) (developing concepts & practices to enable participants to develop a reasoned evaluation of published educational research)
- [Philosophy and Research Design in the Social Sciences](#) (providing foundation knowledge and skills for the design of research in the social sciences, including an appreciation of philosophical, practical and ethical issues)
- [Introduction to Qualitative Research Methods in the Social Sciences](#) (To develop a critical understanding of the potential of various qualitative methodologies and key epistemological and methodological problems raised in qualitative methodologies)
- [Introduction to Quantitative Research Methods in the Social Sciences](#) (to provide a philosophical appreciation of the underpinnings of quantitative research methods)

For those of you studying part-time, of course, we will be working with you on a selection of these units in the autumn term. These units (and those that follow in later terms) are designed to provide the foundation for you to conduct a dissertation research project. The current MSc Educational Research students are working on their dissertations having completed the taught research methods units. Their research topics are wide-ranging and drawn from their own interests. All are on their way to becoming independent researchers and furthering their careers. In short, when you come to the Graduate School of Education you will be joining a community of learners who are committed to learning about research and you will meet a range of people from across the world; some who will have similar experiences and views to your own, and some who will not. We believe the diversity of our academic community is a key strength and we encourage you to find out as much as you can about other education cultures and other contexts from your peers throughout your time on the programme.

Introducing the Staff who deliver the core Research Training units:

[Professor Bill Browne](#)

[Dr Cassie Earl](#)

[Dr George Leckie](#)

[Dr Lisa Lucas](#)

[Dr Angeline Mbogo-Barrett](#)

[Dr Sue Timmis](#)

[Dr Liz Washbrook](#)

[Dr Amanda Williams](#)

Bristol life

During the summer months Bristol comes alive with events and activities for people of all ages to enjoy. It's a busy and vibrant city that is safe and has one of the lowest unemployment rates in the whole of the UK – so it's not only a great place to study but you can plan your life after your Master's degree too! Find out more here

<http://www.bristol.ac.uk/city/>

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 of the end of this month (**31 July 2017**) is fast approaching.
- **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.

I look forward to welcoming you into the Graduate School of Education community in September.

With best wishes,

Dr Malcolm Reed
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MSc Educational Research
Graduate School of Education

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