



Why choose this course?

- This course will support your learning in career guidance, and contribute to your professional development
- It's offered by the International Centre for Guidance Studies (iCeGS) – a centre for excellence at the cutting edge of research and professional development within the career guidance sector.
- You will have the flexibility to complete this online course at your own pace (up to a maximum of six years), which means you can fit your study around your other commitments

MA Education: Guidance Studies



About the course

We've developed this course for anyone who is interested in, and has current experience of, careers guidance to support lifelong learning. For example practitioners, researchers, teachers or managers working in the following areas:

- Schools, colleges and guidance services for young people
- Services to support information, advice and guidance for adults
- Connexions services
- Training providers
- British Forces' education and guidance services
- University guidance and careers services
- Guidance research services

During this course you will develop an in depth knowledge of theory, practice and policy. You will continue your professional development (CPD) by reviewing your own practice, developing research skills and keeping up to date with the latest developments in guidance.

You will be allocated a personal tutor who will be an expert in the field and will work with other students through online discussions and virtual classroom sessions.

You can start this course in January or September.



What our students say

“Completion of each module increased my confidence, not just in my ability to complete the course, but in my professional stance as a Personal Learning Advisor. Gaining an understanding of the different guidance theories and modules provided an informed insight as to how to assist my clients with their enquiries, and how to deal with their different attitudes to guidance... It has been one of the most rewarding personal learning experiences I have had.”

Val Bromage, Learning Centre Manager and Personal Learning Advisor, Ministry of Defence

“By doing the MA I was able to research and write about things that I was passionate about, ie careers education in the HE curriculum and the role of guidance. I was fortunate enough to be able to present my research findings on careers education in HE at the iCeGS event and also an AGCAS Research Conference. My research was also highlighted in a book aimed at practitioners.”

Julie Blant, Deputy Director, Postgraduate Careers Service, Nottingham University Business School

The MA Education: Guidance Studies and the Postgraduate Certificate in Telephone Guidance

These are the outline details of the MA programme.

What you'll cover for the MA Education: Guidance Studies

You will focus on the things that interest you, but most students will complete these three modules:

- **Guidance Theory and Professional Practice (30 credits)**
You'll explore new and developing career theory as well as traditional theories. You will look at how theory can support professional practice. You will also have the opportunity to reflect on your own practice.
- **Evidence Based Practice (30 credits)**
This module will give you an understanding of qualitative and quantitative research techniques and reporting research findings.
- **Guidance in Context (30 credits)**
You'll look at the developing role of guidance in support of lifelong learning and its relationship to work and learning.

You may want to consider taking these modules:

- **Negotiate Module (30 credits)**
This module gives you the chance to develop your own area of study and agree your own learning outcomes and assessment questions. You will be fully supported by your tutor along the way.
- **Studying at Masters Level (30 credits)**
This module is an introduction to postgraduate study.
- **Principles of Leadership and Management (30 credits), and Advanced Professional Practice (30 credits)**, these two modules are related to the broad educational field.
- **Independent Studies (60 credits)**
You can take this module after completing the Postgraduate Diploma Stage to achieve the MA. Supported by your tutor, you will explore in depth an area of your own choice within the guidance studies field.

To achieve each level of the award you need to get 60 credits by combining 30 credit modules. For example your programme could look like this, other combinations are possible:

- **Postgraduate Certificate in Education: Guidance Studies (60 credits after completion)**
Guidance Theory and Professional Practice
Guidance in Context
- **Postgraduate Diploma in Education: Guidance Studies (120 credits after completion)**
Evidence Based Practice
Advanced Professional Practice
- **MA Education: Guidance Studies (180 credits after completion)**
Independent Study (60 credits) with an approved focus on Guidance Studies

Postgraduate Certificate in Telephone Guidance

This programme will be available for those working within the field of telephone guidance and guidance at a distance. After you have completed the Postgraduate Certificate you can, if you wish, progress to the Postgraduate Diploma stage of the Masters programme. You will study two modules:

- **Approaches to guidance from a distance: theory (30 credits)**
- **Approaches to guidance from a distance: practice (30 credits)**

Applying

You will usually need an undergraduate degree, or equivalent qualifications, and be working in a guidance related field. However we also welcome applications from people who have guidance related qualifications or extensive relevant experience.

You will need to apply online at www.derby.ac.uk/applyonline

Please contact us to find out more. Information about fees can be obtained from <http://www.derby.ac.uk/online/how-much-does-it-cost>

Get in touch

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