University of Birmingham

Management of Special Education in Developing Countries MA

The **Management of Special Education in Developing Countries** is a full-time programme for teachers, administrators and non-governmental organisation staff who are working in special education in developing countries and who wish to develop their management or leadership expertise. Although most students are not from the EU, this course is also suitable for UK/EU students.

Study here and find out why the University of Birmingham was awarded The Times and The Sunday Times University of the Year 2013-14 (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/news/latest/2013/09/20-sep-Birmingham-announced-as-University-of-the-Year.aspx)

Course fact file

Type of Course: Continuing professional development, taught

Study Options: Full time

Duration: 1 year

Start date: September

Contact

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The School of Education (/schools/education/index.aspx)

Details

The Management of Special Education in Developing Countries programme is for teachers, administrators and NGO staff who are working in special education in developing countries and who wish to develop their management or leadership expertise. The programme combines modules in Special Education with modules in International Studies in Education, using theory and practice from both in order to enable participants to improve management practice in the national context in which they work. A research dissertation also enables participants to put together management and special education in a uniquely relevant way for them.

This **International Studies in Education (/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/international-studies-education.aspx)** programme has been taught at the School of Education for 50 years, and the School has one of the largest **SEN departments (/schools/education/departments/disability-inclusion-special-needs/index.aspx)** in the UK. In consultation with tutors, you will choose modules totalling 100 credits from those available in the International Studies in Education and Special Education programmes, with a minimum of two modules from either field. You will also need to take the Practioner Inquiry in Education (PIE) module. A research dissertation will enable you to put together management and special education in a way which is uniquely relevant way for you.

Modules

In consultation with tutors, students choose modules from those available in International Studies in Education and Special Educational Needs programmes, with a minimum of two modules from either field.

International Studies in Education

Students can choose from the following modules:

Autumn:

- **Education as an International Issue (/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/modules/education-as-an-International-Issue.aspx)** (strongly recommended)
- **Education Observation, Evaluation and Supervision (/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/modules/education-observation-evaluation-and-supervision.aspx)**

Spring:

- **Citizenship, Human Rights and the Environment (/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/modules/citizenship-human-rights-and-the-environment.aspx)**
- **Personal and Professional Skills for Education Managers (/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/modules/personal-and-professional-skills-in-educational-**

management.aspx)

- **Curriculum Design in Global Contexts (/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/modules/curriculum-design-in-global-contexts.aspx)**
- **Leadership for School Improvement (/postgraduate/courses/taught/edu/modules/leadership-for-school-improvement.aspx)**

Special Educational Needs

Students can choose from the following modules:

Autumn:

- Special Educational Needs of Children with Autism
- SEBD Identification, Assessment and Provisions

Spring:

- Curriculum and Approaches for Pupils with Autism
- SEND: Cross Cultural Issues in SEND
- SEND Practice Based Research

Each module is taught in either term one or term two of the academic year. Teaching takes place during three-hour sessions, once per week per module. Teaching methods include seminars, small group discussions, and presentations by participants. Assessment is through written assignments (normally one major essay per module) and other means, and can be based on your interests. Dissertation topics are negotiated with supervisors and the research and writing process takes place over the whole year, but mainly during the summer months.

Fees and funding

Fees Home/EU 2015-2016

- Code 234B MA £6,210

The fee shown above is the annual fees for students starting their courses September in 2015.

Fees overseas 2015-2016

- Code 234B MA £14,140

The fee shown above is the annual fee for students starting their courses September in 2015.

Please view our **Fees for International Students (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/international/students/finance/fees.aspx)** page for further details.

Learn more about **fees and funding (/postgraduate/pgt-fees/index.aspx)**

Scholarships and studentships

The Florence Congleton Scholarship

The Florence Congleton Scholarship is to support an African woman who is on a postgraduate taught programme in the School of Education. **More information on the Florence Congleton Scholarship (/schools/education/scholarships/florence-congleton-scholarship-award.aspx)**

Other scholarships may be available. International students can often gain funding through overseas research scholarships, Commonwealth scholarships or their home government. More details may be found on the **international scholarships (/International/students/finance/index.aspx)** page.

For further information contact the School directly or the Student Funding Office via **online enquiries (http://www.studenthelp.bham.ac.uk)** .

Entry requirements

Please refer to the **School of Education entry requirements (/postgraduate/courses/cpd/edu/progression-admission-requirements.aspx)** webpage.

International students

We accept a range of qualifications, our **country pages (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/international/students/country/index.aspx)** show you what qualifications we accept from your country.

VISA Requirements

Obtaining a visa can be a lengthly process. Please allow sufficient time to obtain your visa. **Find out more on the visa requirements and process (/International/students/visas/index.aspx)**

English language requirements

You can satisfy our English language requirements in two ways:

- by holding an **English language qualification (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/index.aspx)** to the right level
- by taking and successfully completing one of our **English courses for international students (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/requirements/requirements-pg/international/english-courses.aspx)**

How to apply

When clicking on the Apply Now button you will be directed to an application specifically designed for the programme you wish to apply for where you will create an account with the University application system and submit your application and supporting documents online. Further information regarding how to apply online can be found on the **How to apply pages (http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/courses/postgraduate/apply-pg/index.aspx)**

Apply now (https://pga.bham.ac.uk/lpages/COS048.htm)

Related links

Scholarships and bursaries (/schools/education/scholarships/index.aspx)

Learning and teaching

The course permits a choice of modules from the International Studies in Education, and Special Educational Needs, courses. Students attend regular lectures and seminars for the first two terms, have personal dissertation supervision for the third term, and are assisted to access a wide range of library and online learning resources. The course is assessed by coursework assignments and a dissertation, and topics can be chosen to match the interests, expertise and needs of students. Some students do fieldwork for their dissertation in another country, but this is not a requirement. It is helpful if students have experience of working with disabled children in different countries, and bring relevant materials, which are not available online, for their coursework, e.g. printed project evaluations, reports in local languages, health education materials, photos and videos.

Employability

The MA in Management of Special Education in Developing Countries is ideal for graduates who wish to develop their management or leadership expertise within special education. Upon completion of this course, you will have experience in managing a variety of learning needs within your school and support colleagues to take a more inclusive approach in their own pedagogy.

With this Master's degree, graduates will become eligible to apply for a range of international posts in relation to SEN, Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR), and project management. Sites such as 'Devnet' and 'UN Jobs' provide many examples of relevant opportunities. The degree does not give qualified teacher status in the UK or elsewhere, but is a valuable additional qualification for those who have a relevant first degree (e.g. international studies, psychology, social work, development studies, public policy), and/or a teaching or health care qualification.

There is the opportunity to work towards a further professional qualification in the field of Education both within schools and in other settings, including progression to a PhD. The excellent careers advice provided by personal tutors has encouraged many of our graduates to successfully apply for leadership roles related to inclusion and diversity in schools and other educational settings. These include: lecturers, policy developers, head teachers, special educational needs coordinators and managers of community and charitable organisations.

Alumni **Snib Musonda (/schools/education/alumni/profiles/musonda-snib.aspx)** talks about her time as a student on the Management of Special Education in Developing Countries programme and also her current role.

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