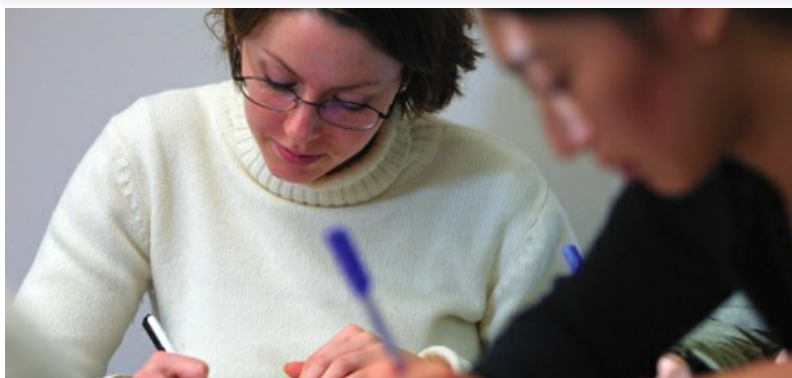


Social Research (Education) MA



This programme aims to provide students with a solid foundation in a broad range of social science research methods as well as basic research skills.

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

Study Options: Full time, part time

Duration: 1 year full-time, 2 years part-time

Start date: September/October

Contact

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Details

This programme aims to provide students with a solid foundation in a broad range of social science research methods as well as basic research skills.

Students will acquire a general overview of the philosophy of social research, and understand how this informs research design, methods of data collection and analysis. They will also develop an ability to use a range of research methods, to communicate research findings effectively and an understanding of the potential use of and impact of their research within and beyond academia.

Programme content

The core modules you will take are:

- Introduction to Social Science Research (20 credits)
- Research Design (20 credits)
- Research Methods 1 (20 credits)
- Research Methods 2 (20 credits)

You will then take a minimum of four elective modules from the following list (10 credits each):

- From Multiple Linear to Logistic Regression
- Overseas Research Methods
- Introduction to Geographical Information Systems
- Documentary Research
- Factor Analysis
- Narrative Research
- Policy Evaluation
- Secondary Data Analysis in Social Research
- Advanced Qualitative Data Analysis (using NVivo)
- Handling Cluster Randomised Samples

- Researching Language and Literacy

In addition, you will write a 14,000-word dissertation (60 credits).

Fees and funding

Standard fees ([/postgraduate/pgt-fees/fees.aspx](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/pgt-fees/fees.aspx)) apply

Overseas Fees

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](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/postgraduate/pgt-fees/index.aspx))

Scholarships and studentships

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](http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/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

Learn more about **entry requirements** (<http://www.birmingham.ac.uk/students/pg/requirements>)

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.

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/COSo15.htm>)

Learning and teaching

Many core elements of the programme are delivered by the College of Social Sciences, so you will be undertaking the modules with other students from across the College. However, your dissertation will be undertaken and supervised within the Department. In addition, there is an induction programme during the first two weeks of the term, which is compulsory, but non-assessed and a programme of skills training which is delivered at University-level, mainly by the Staff Development Unit, throughout the year. You are encouraged to attend all the modules in the programme which are appropriate to you. You must discuss your skills training needs with your designated supervisor in the first week of the first term.

For more details of the modules please see www.socsci.bham.ac.uk/study/pg/socres

This MA is recognised by the ESRC for the provision of research methods training as Year 1 of a '1+3' programme of doctoral study. It is also available as a stand-alone Masters. Home/EU students may enter into a departmental competition to be nominated for the ESRC open competition for '1+3' or '+3' funding (the '1+3' award covers the MA and provides three years' further funding for PhD research; for '+3' funding you must already have an ESRC-recognised research methods MA degree or equivalent).

Employability

The University of Birmingham has recently been ranked 9th in the UK, and 55th in the world, for post-qualification employability in a global survey of universities commissioned by the International Herald Tribune. Over the last five years, an impressive 98.3 % of Education postgraduates have been in work and/or further study six months after graduation.

Birmingham's Education graduates choose to work in variety of education roles in schools and administrative roles in public and private sector organisations. Work in retail, sales and administration are also popular options. Some chose to continue their education and apply for professional courses such as teacher training or undertake a PhD.

What type of career assistance is available to postgraduate researchers in Education?

The College of Social Sciences, to which the School of Education belongs, has specially designated careers advisors and careers consultants who can provide guidance for postgraduate researchers on career paths, CVs, training opportunities, application and interviews. The University's central Careers' Service also runs workshops and offers personally tailored advice and guidance including 1-1 careers advice and 1-1 CV advice. The Career's Service runs CV writing workshops especially for postgraduates in the College of Social Sciences, giving advice on how to compile CVs for both employment and for academic roles.

The University also has dedicated careers advisors who run workshops and provide networking opportunities with potential employers. These are especially popular with international postgraduate researchers.

