



Programme Specification

A statement of the knowledge, understanding and skills that underpin a taught programme of study leading to an award from
The University of Sheffield

1	Programme Title	Doctor of Education (Caribbean)
2	Programme Code	EDUR29
3	JACS Code	X300
4	Level of Study	Postgraduate
5	Final Qualification	EdD
6	Intermediate Qualification(s)	MA Educational Studies
7	Teaching Institution (if not Sheffield)	Not applicable
8	Faculty	Social Sciences
9	Home Department	Educational Studies
10	Other Department(s) involved in teaching the programme	None
11	Mode(s) of Attendance	Distance-learning
12	Duration of the Programme	2-4 years for each of Parts 1 and 2 (4-8 years in total)
13	Accrediting Professional or Statutory Body	Not applicable
14	Date of production/revision	November 2006, March 2016

15. Background to the programme and subject area

The Department of Educational Studies in the School of Education is internationally renowned for the excellence of its teaching and the high quality of its research and offers a range of research degree courses. The EdDs offered by the department have a strong reputation in the UK and The Republic of Ireland. The success of the programme in Trinidad where it was first offered in 2003 has been such that the Department has been invited to set up, and now runs, courses in St Lucia and in Jamaica. Students are required to produce work of the same high quality and standard as attained by those following the traditional PhD route.

The University of Sheffield's Department of Educational Studies has been involved in the development of continuing teacher professional development in the Caribbean since 1987. Since then, we have established a name for ourselves, and many students have graduated from our Masters' of Education Programmes. The EdD has been, therefore a natural progression of the Department's work in the region.

The programme is designed to meet the needs of professionals working in a wide range of education and training related areas in the Caribbean. It aims to provide students with both a thorough grounding in the philosophy, principles and practice of educational research, and a critical understanding of key contemporary and global issues affecting all types and sectors of education and training.

The programme has been developed on the principle of commitment to educational research and the desire to relate that research to the issues that practising educators face in their own professional contexts. The programme has been developed with flexibility to give students the opportunity to pursue the enquiries that are relevant to them in the Caribbean context.

16. Programme aims

The Programme aims to:

1. Offer a structured programme that incorporates taught components alongside sustained research leading to doctoral level qualification.
2. Provide systematic research training
3. Provide a broad and flexible research-based programme relevant to a range of professional and managerial careers

17. Programme learning outcomes

Knowledge and understanding:	
On completion of the MA Educational Studies, students will be able to demonstrate:	
K1	An understanding of relevant ideas, perspectives and theories in relation to issues of development and their links to education in developing countries.
K2	Knowledge of critically different perspectives and an understanding of the relationship between education, culture and society in a global context.
K3	A critical understanding of a range of research approaches that can be applied in specific educational contexts.
On completion of the EdD, in addition to the above, students will be able to demonstrate:	
K4	An understanding of the processes involved in designing, managing and writing up a research project;
K5	An understanding of a substantial body of knowledge at the forefront of an area of education or professional practice.

Skills and other attributes:	
On completion of the MA Educational Studies, students will be able to demonstrate:	
S1	An ability to examine and critically evaluate contemporary theoretical and empirical issues in education.
S2	An ability to explore critically issues related to education, culture and society.
S3	An ability to demonstrate critical reflection about the field of educational research;
S4	An ability to produce a piece of written work which demonstrates an ability to synthesise research and practice, review relevant literature and develop a coherent and sustained argument.
On completion of the EdD, in addition to the above, students will be able to demonstrate:	
S5	An ability to conceptualise, design, implement and write up a research project (which involves the skills of reviewing literature, research design, choosing appropriate methods, data analysis and writing a thesis).
S6	An ability to create and interpret new knowledge through original knowledge and advanced scholarship.

18. Teaching, learning and assessment

Development of the programme learning outcomes is promoted through the following teaching and learning methods:

The programme consists of two parts. Part I is the taught element of the programme. In Part II, students undertake an independent research study on an approved topic. The Part II research thesis is undertaken with supervision by a member of staff.

In Part I, students attend six weekend study schools over two years. Study schools incorporate lectures (which are used to impart knowledge), seminars (an interactive forum, tutor or student-led, in which students explore key aspects of knowledge and understanding), workshops (tutor guided, students engage in a range of activities focused on a specific topic e.g. research methods) and tutorials (to support academic progress).

The following table demonstrates how these methods relate to the learning outcomes:

	Lectures	Seminars	Workshops	Part I Tutorials	Part II Research Supervision
K1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
K2	✓	✓	✓	✓	
K3	✓	✓	✓	✓	
K4	✓	✓	✓		✓
K5					✓

S1	✓	✓	✓	✓	
S2	✓	✓	✓	✓	
S3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
S4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
S5	✓	✓			✓
S6					✓

Opportunities to demonstrate achievement of the programme learning outcomes are provided through the following assessment methods:

In Part I, students complete essays for each of the six modules. In Part II, students complete a research thesis on an approved topic. It should be a substantial contribution to the knowledge and understanding of education and will be examined through a viva examination to ensure the highest research standards.

Part I Essays Part II Thesis

K1	✓	
K2	✓	
K3	✓	
K4		✓
K5		✓
S1	✓	
S2	✓	
S3	✓	✓
S4	✓	✓
S5		✓
S6		✓

19. Reference points

The learning outcomes have been developed to reflect the following points of reference:

University of Sheffield Mission Statement

University of Sheffield Learning and Teaching Strategy

Department of Educational Studies' Research Strategy

Department of Educational Studies' Learning and Teaching Strategy

Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (Masters and Doctoral level descriptors)

20. Programme structure and regulations

The six modules undertaken in Part I examine key issues in education to promote critical discussion of the literature and to encourage research in three areas. The first (new) module focuses on contemporary debates in Education, with a particular emphasis on island specific concerns and draws on recent theoretical literature. A further (existing) module draws on theoretical, historical and philosophical sources to explore issues of development and their links to education in developing countries and a third (new) module explores different perspectives on the relationship between education, culture and society and considers how research might meaningfully contribute to current debates in the local, regional and global contexts. There are also three modules which focus on educational research and explore contemporary issues and debates in the field. These

modules examine the roles and responsibilities of the researcher and explore methodological and practical issues involved in research projects in education in preparation for Part II. Students may exit the programme at the end of Part I and be awarded a MA Educational Research.

On completion of Part 1 students move on to Part II in which they complete a 50,000 word thesis on an approved topic. In Part II, students undertake a research thesis on an approved topic. The Part II research thesis is undertaken with supervision by a member of staff and should be a substantial contribution to the knowledge and understanding of education and will be examined through a viva voce to ensure the highest research standards. Part II can be undertaken over a period of 2 to 4 years.

Detailed information about the structure of programmes, regulations concerning assessment and progression and descriptions of individual modules are published in the University Calendar available on-line at <http://www.shef.ac.uk/calendar/regs>.

21. Student development over the course of study in the subject

In Part I modules, the students are supported in the development of skills, knowledge and understanding through carefully staged tasks which promote independent learning. In addition to the development of discipline-based knowledge and understanding, modules are also designed to develop a range of intellectual and transferable skills. The development of key skills is targeted in the first year of the programme and students are taught critical reading and writing skills, how to conduct a literature search and how to write assignments. In the second year of the programme, students are introduced to the skills needed to undertake a research study in Part II which include reviewing literature, research design, choosing appropriate methods, data analysis and writing a thesis. In Part II of the course, students work independently on a research study with the supervision of a tutor.

22. Criteria for admission to the programme

Candidates should normally hold a good Honours Degree and a Masters' Degree in a related area. All applicants are considered on the basis of relevant qualifications and experience.

Detailed information regarding admission to the programme is available at <http://www.shef.ac.uk/prospective/>

23. Additional information

This specification represents a concise statement about the main features of the programme and should be considered alongside other sources of information provided by the teaching department(s) and the University. In addition to programme specific information, further information about studying at The University of Sheffield can be accessed via our Student Services web site at www.shef.ac.uk/ssid