

Module Synopses

Masters of Arts in Education

Awarded by Canterbury Christ Church University

Total numbers of Modules – 6

Module & Description	Hours	Credits
1. Deconstructing Education This module explores how humans learn through a critical examination of pedagogical and andragogical theories, with a focus on lifelong learning. Students will compare approaches to developing and assessing knowledge and skills, while challenging dominant educational practices by contrasting them with alternative formal and informal approaches, examining them through diverse theoretical lenses and paradigms, and questioning the ideological foundations and evidence that underpin them.	45	30
2. Challenging Social Inequities through Education This module takes a sociological perspective to examine how education reinforces or challenges inequalities linked to class, poverty, race, gender, sexuality, and disability. Using an interdisciplinary, intersectional lens, students explore how overlapping forms of disadvantage create barriers to educational success and labour market outcomes, and how curriculum, policy, school structures, and teaching practices can challenge stereotypical assumptions about learners. A key focus is on how professional development and engagement with social justice can empower educators to promote equity and support all learners' progression. Students are encouraged to reflexively consider how stereotypes and social expectations have shaped their own aspirations. By the end of the module, they will understand how to design curricula that build skills for equitable participation in future labour markets while fostering agency and a love of lifelong learning.	45	30

Module & Description	Hours	Credits
3. Professional Knowledge and Understanding of Learners with Special Educational Needs This module critically examines the knowledge, strategies, and skills required to support learners with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), exploring how professional collaboration and inclusive practices enable learners to reach their full potential within moral, statutory, and legal frameworks. Through case studies, real-world examples, and theoretical perspectives, students will also critically assess barriers to inclusion – such as curriculum accessibility, resource constraints, teacher training, and attitudes towards disability – and develop practical skills to overcome these challenges in inclusive educational settings.	45	30
4. Research Methods and Dissertation This module provides students with a comprehensive understanding of research methodologies and methods relevant to education, enabling them to adopt a critical and reflective stance towards the design, analysis, and interpretation of educational research. Students will learn to evaluate the strengths and limitations of diverse research approaches, engage meaningfully with complex contemporary issues, and select appropriate methodological frameworks with particular attention to ethical and practical considerations when researching with children and vulnerable groups. Through critical engagement with educational literature and debates, students will strengthen their ability to conduct independent, ethically sound research, gaining transferable skills in critical thinking, problem-solving, and evidence-based decision-making that will prepare them for their dissertation and for reflective professional practice.	45	30
5. Industry, Careers and Enterprise – Client Project This industry-focused and practice-led interdisciplinary module invites students to work collaboratively, applying their advanced degree knowledge and skills to creatively address complex societal challenges. Students will innovate, harness technology, and develop as active change-makers in the workplace and beyond.	45	30

Module & Description	Hours	Credits
6. Dissertation This module enables students to undertake an independent, in-depth research project on a topic of their choice within education. With support from an experienced supervisor, students will formulate a research question, conduct a thorough literature review, select appropriate methodologies, analyse findings, and present their results with academic rigour, originality, and critical thinking. In doing so, they will also develop valuable transferable skills in advanced research, project management, and academic writing, preparing them for doctoral study and enhancing their professional careers as emerging experts in their chosen area.	45	30