

Presentation pattern October to September

Module description

The dissertation module builds on students' previous learning from Stages 1 (EE811) and Stage 2 (EE812) by extending their repertoire of skills in empirical research design as it applies to leadership and management topics. The module not only provides insight into the nature of educational research, methodological approaches, ethics, and researcher – participant relationship, it also provides students with the tools to reflect and examine their own practice and conceptualisations about research through a research topic of their interest.

The module provides the opportunity for students to carry out a small scale empirical study in their workplace (or approved setting) that contributes to their understanding of ways to support organisational development and/or effectiveness. The topic for the students' research study is chosen in consultation with their tutor, and must be within the practical scope of the M.Ed degree programme.

On completion, students will be in a position to progress with their post-graduate studies for example on to EdD or PhD programmes.

Person specification

The person specification for this module should be read in conjunction with the [generic person specification](#) for an associate lecturer at The Open University.

As well as meeting all the requirements set out in the generic person specification, you should have:

- a relevant higher degree at least at masters' level and preferably at doctoral level
- secure knowledge of research methodological approaches to investigation and enquiry
- knowledge of education policy and practice in a range of settings;
- knowledge of and expertise in the field of leadership and management
- knowledge and practical experience of insider and/or practitioner based research literature and methods
- experience of teaching masters level students online,
- ability to develop students' critical understanding and knowledge and ability to develop students' understanding of the research process
- experience of postgraduate supervision (preferably in online/ distance learning environments)
- experience of marking, assessing and giving feedback on dissertations
- evidence of encouraging dialogue, student interaction and innovative practice with regard to interactive online tuition
- evidence of a commitment to engage with other module colleagues in collaborative team teaching within online tutorials
- ability to organise and take part in webinars on specific research topics (eg. ethics/ data collection/ data analysis)
- ability to contribute to the development of a 'community of practice' and collaborative engagement, within the tutorial and module team.

It would be an advantage to have:

- commitment to reading new articles in the field of educational research and leadership and management and to sharing this knowledge with colleagues and students
- commitment to participating in peer discussion about teaching and learning – specifically online pedagogy

- commitment to facilitating peer support amongst students
- knowledge and practical experience of insider and/or practitioner based research literature and methods

Module related details - a full explanation can be found on the website

Credits awarded to the student for the successful completion of a module:	60
Number of assignments submitted by the student:	2
Method of submission for assignments:	2
Level of ICT requirements:	3
Number of students likely to be in a standard group:	12
Salary band:	7
Estimated number of hours per teaching week:	4

There is an expectation that ALs will also first mark and verify their own students' EMA submissions for which they will receive additional payment. Similarly, they will be invited to 2nd mark the EMA submissions from students who are not in their own Tutor Group and for which they will also receive additional payment, should they have capacity and choose to volunteer for this additional work